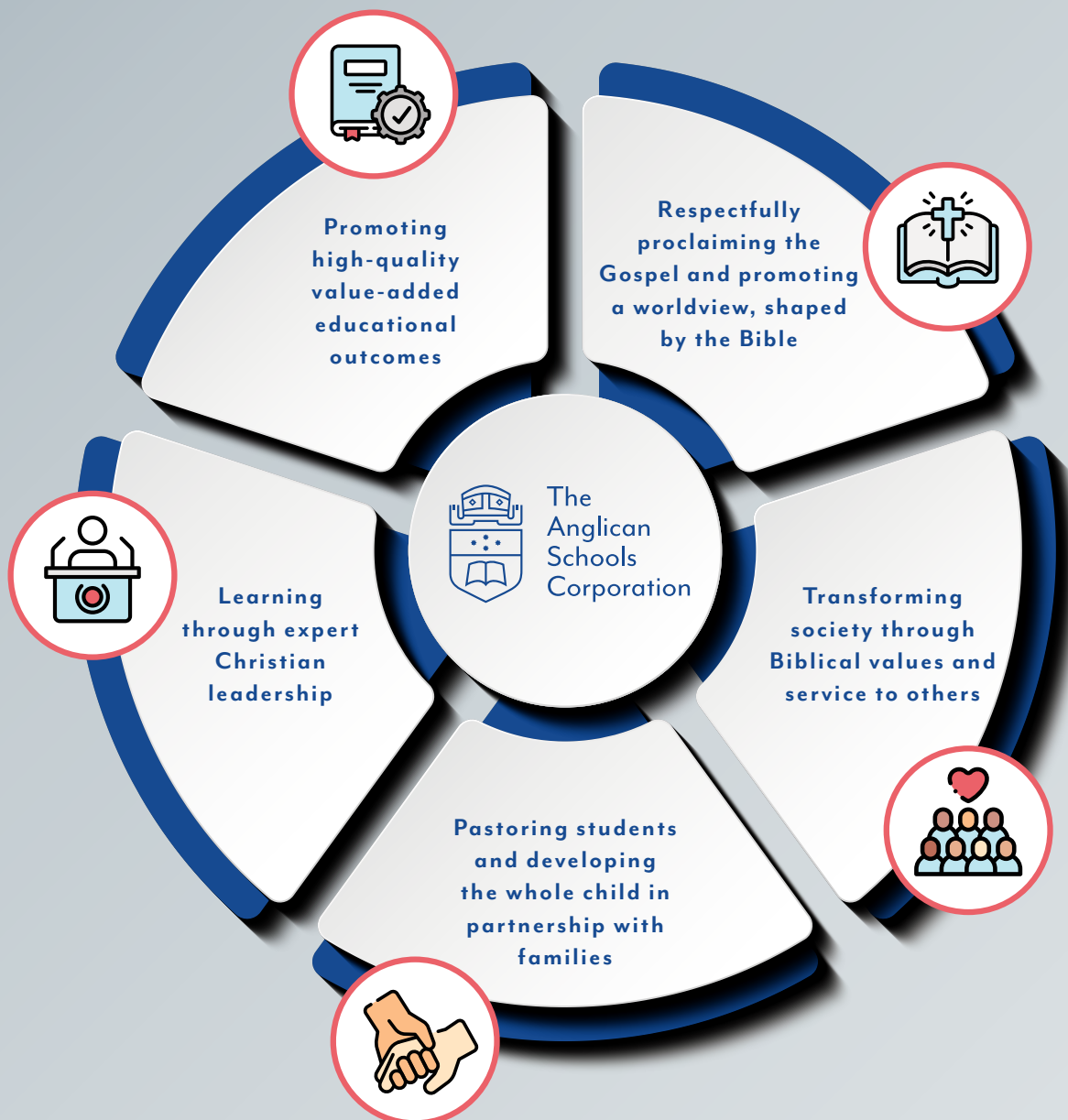




The  
Anglican  
Schools  
Corporation

# PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

A statement of Anglican Education



# THE PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

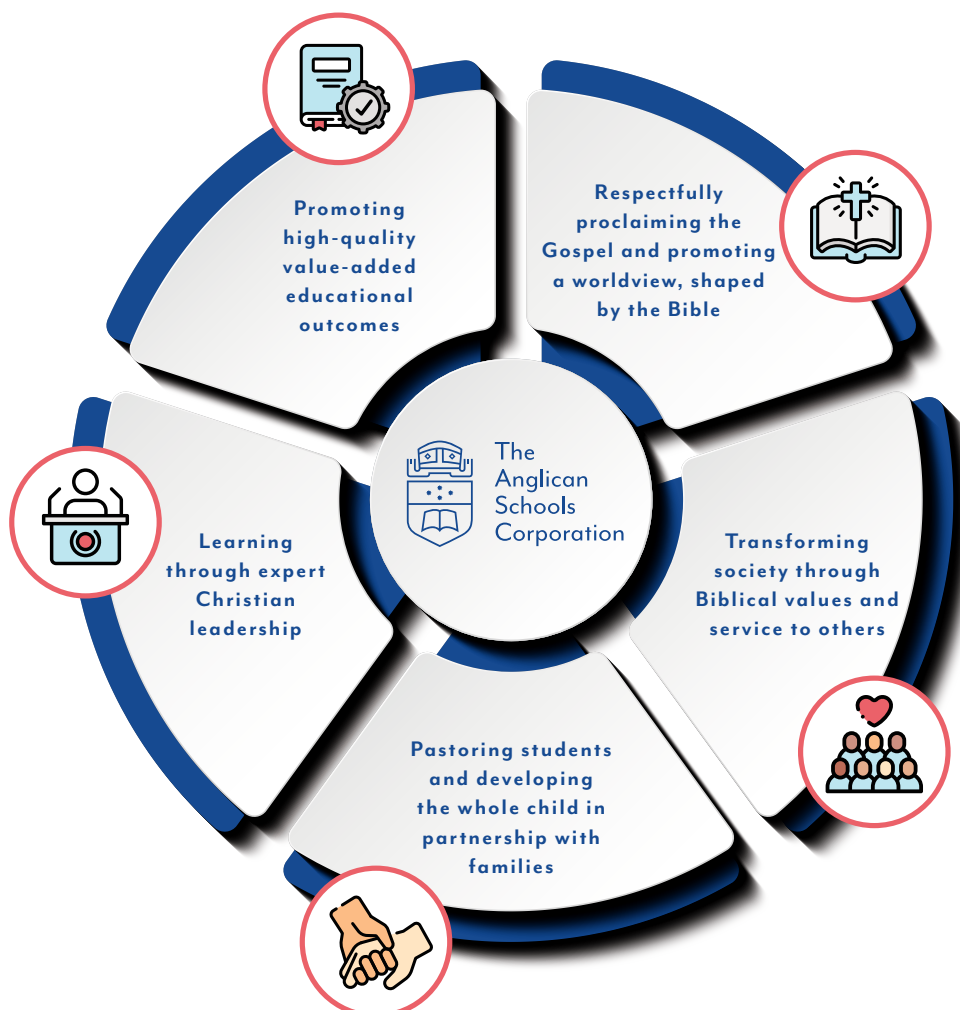
*The message of salvation in Jesus Christ underpins the operation of ASC schools. In this, God's sovereign purpose for creation is recognised: that through Jesus' death and resurrection, God reconciles the whole of creation to himself.*

(Colossians 1:20).

The Anglican Schools Corporation's (ASC) Philosophy of Education focuses on the character of Anglican Education and its outworking in contemporary Australian culture. As an organisation of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, the ASC Philosophy draws from the principles espoused by the Diocesan Statement on Education, the Diocesan Mission and the Outline of a Christian Approach to Education.

## THE PHILOSOPHY COVERS FIVE AREAS:

1. Promoting high-quality value-added educational outcomes
2. Respectfully proclaiming the Gospel and promoting a worldview, shaped by the Bible
3. Transforming society through Biblical values and service to others
4. Pastoring students and developing the whole child in partnership with families
5. Learning through expert Christian leadership





## 1. PROMOTING HIGH-QUALITY VALUE-ADDED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Anglican schools are committed to lifelong learning which honours God and where all achievement, be it academic, cultural, physical, creative, social or spiritual, is celebrated.

Teaching and learning encourages students to aspire to a level of attainment consistent with the gifts and abilities that God has given them. An engaging learning environment caters for all students, irrespective of ability, and the uniqueness of each child is acknowledged.

Teachers are lifelong learners who pursue ongoing professional learning in all aspects of Christian education, wellbeing and leadership.

### IN PRACTICE, ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

- Set high standards for teaching and learning, engagement and participation
- Foster a love of learning and an appreciation for and engagement in God's world
- Support students with diverse abilities to engage in the life of the school, showing hospitality to all
- Engage with the latest educational research and pursue innovative teaching and learning
- Expect teachers to demonstrate discernment and enthusiasm in serving Christ and their students



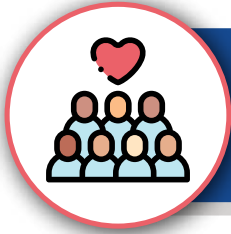
## 2. RESPECTFULLY PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL AND PROMOTING A WORLDVIEW, SHAPED BY THE BIBLE

The Biblical meta-narrative (the story of creation, the fall, redemption and restoration) is fundamental in promoting a Christian worldview, with the primary emphasis on the respectful proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which students will also observe through personal witness, approaches to learning, school operations and school priorities.

Biblical Studies is promoted throughout the school community as a foundation subject, compulsory for all, and where possible, taught by specialist teachers and integrated with the curriculum. Regular Chapels provide opportunity for worship, an acknowledgement of the school's dependence on God and occasions for students to consider the call to follow Christ.

### IN PRACTICE, ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

- Recognise the Bible as the inspired, authoritative Word of God, encouraging students to see the validity and transforming power of the Christian faith
- Share the Biblical meta-narrative, leading students to evaluate the implications for their own lives
- Foster Biblical literacy and an understanding of the Christian faith
- Encourage staff and students to articulate their own worldview, whilst interacting respectfully with alternative worldviews, learning from the experiences of others
- Maintain an open enrolment policy, with affordable fees for local families



### 3. TRANSFORMING SOCIETY THROUGH BIBLICAL VALUES AND SERVICE TO OTHERS

Values are of prime importance in Anglican schooling demonstrate the outworking of faith. Values demonstrated in God's word are part of His design for mankind generally and are concerned with human welfare. They are applicable to all students and are summarised in Jesus' command to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Matthew 22:37,39).

Kingdom values of humility, mercy, forgiveness, justice and service to others are counter-cultural. An Anglican school is a community based on faith-infused values with the power to speak to our culture and reflect the outworking of kingdom values across the whole life of the school, its operations and leadership.

#### IN PRACTICE, ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

- Communicate and promote the freedom of a life of faith in Christ
- Model kingdom values and a Bible-based lifestyle
- Promote and develop key values for their school community
- Value service, care and community connections
- Equip and encourage students to serve responsibly in the wider community, making meaningful connections with the marginalised, the weak and the poor.





## 4. PASTORING STUDENTS AND DEVELOPING THE WHOLE CHILD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES

Effective pastoral care is based on a Biblical understanding that we are all created in the image of God, are loved by God and are worthy of respect and dignity. Pastoral care in an Anglican school is based on the principles of justice, mercy, repentance and reconciliation with God and other people.

Anglican schools honour the family as the foundational unit of our society. The mutual responsibility and partnership between the school and home is recognised. Parents are the nurturers of their children, and in choosing an Anglican school agree to the Christian ethos of the school and entrust teachers with the care and formal schooling of their children.

### IN PRACTICE, ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

- Model accountability, repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation when “things go wrong”
- Have clear policies and procedures, with appropriate consequences, that are administered in love, acknowledging that while living under the grace of God, we are all fallen human beings
- Value each individual, understanding that every person is created by God in His image
- Recognise the mutual responsibility parents and teachers have in partnership in students’ education and communicate regularly through formal and informal channels about student progress and needs
- Demonstrate hospitality, inviting parents to be involved in school activities, including those who celebrate the Christian faith



## 5. LEARNING THROUGH EXPERT CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

The Principal in each school is central to the fulfilment of the school’s mission, in setting the tone, expectation and direction of the school and ensure the fulfilment of its objectives and plans. The Principal, as spiritual leader of the school, acts as the community’s pastor, ministering to the community in times of joy, sorrow and general spiritual need. The Chaplain (or equivalent), where this specific role exists, and the School Executive provide support to the Principal as spiritual leader.

Teachers are at the frontline of Christian education and are therefore challenged to grow professionally and spiritually. Staff in Anglican schools are expected to model servant leadership, a well-integrated intellectual and spiritual life, a concern for the wellbeing of others, and a commitment to service and quality teaching, as they seek to share the gospel with students and the wider community.

### IN PRACTICE, ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

- Appoint servant-hearted leaders, chosen for their professional competence, godly wisdom and humility
- Maintain high standards for all aspects of school operations through strong Christian leadership
- Incorporate Biblical theology into professional learning, applied to the educational context
- Establish and promote connections between the school, the community and local parishes
- Encourage lifelong learning and continual growth

# THE DIOCESAN POLICY STATEMENT ON EDUCATION

The mission and work of the Anglican Schools Corporation is underpinned by the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education which outlines that:

*“Christian education is the effort to make available to each generation – children, young people and adults – the knowledge of God and of ourselves as revealed in the Bible and expressed in the accumulated treasures of Christian life and thought. Through such Christian education by the gracious activity of the Holy Spirit personal growth is nurtured and the Christian Faith together with its cultural heritage is conserved, transmitted and renewed across generations.*”

*The great Biblical goal of presenting people mature in Christ encompasses the whole of life in every facet. The Christian life is the life of discipleship lived under the lordship of Christ through the authority of God’s word, which informs and molds our thinking and directs our approach to God, others and the world that God has made. It encompasses the development of personal knowledge and understanding, skills, character and virtues.”*

## THE DIOCESAN MISSION

*“To glorify God by proclaiming our saviour the Lord Jesus Christ in prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit, so that everyone will hear his call to repent, trust and serve Christ in love, and be established in the fellowship of his disciples while they await His return.”*

## OUR SCHOOLS

The Anglican Schools Corporation is an organisation established by the Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney which operates the following schools:



Arndell  
Anglican College



Claremont  
College



Danebank  
- An Anglican School  
for Girls



LEPPINGTON  
ANGLICAN COLLEGE  
*Life is our faith*

Leppington  
Anglican College



MACQUARIE  
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Macquarie Anglican  
Grammar School



Mamre  
Anglican School



Marsden Park  
Anglican College



Nowra  
Anglican College



Oran Park  
Anglican College



Orange Anglican  
Grammar School



PENRITH  
ANGLICAN COLLEGE  
TO SERVE CHRIST

Penrith  
Anglican College



Richard Johnson  
Anglican College



Roseville  
College



Rouse Hill  
Anglican College



Shellharbour  
Anglican College



St Luke's Grammar School  
- Dee Why and Bayview  
campuses



Thomas Hassall  
Anglican College



Wollondilly  
Anglican College



The  
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