

## FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENT OF BELIEF

To primarily assist teachers in the development of distinctively Christian Curriculum, the Board has provided the following statements of foundational belief. The promulgation of beliefs in conflict with this statement is inappropriate and will be dealt with under the controversial issues clause in the Constitution. Members of the Association are encouraged to discuss with the Board any form of wording they believe would assist the Association in articulating its Christian distinctives.

Foundational to the existence of the Association is the Holy Bible and the revelatory work of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the written revelation of God's Holiness and love and his provision of Jesus Christ, His only Son, as the only Saviour of the world. It is God's very breath; His absolute and effectual Word, sufficient and authoritative in all matters of faith and conduct. God's Word shows the nature of God; His Omnipotence, Omniscience, Omnipresence and Holiness, as it reveals His creation and preservation of the universe and all it contains.

This written Word of God allows us to understand who man is; God's special creation given perfect fellowship with his Creator, but estranged because of disobedience. To relate in truth to God, other men, and the world in which he dwells man needs to be reconciled to God.

God, in undeserved love for man, sent Jesus Christ, His one and only incarnate Son to live the perfect life, die and rise from the dead. The resurrected Christ now sits at the right hand of God as Lord, holding all things together, and through faith man is reconciled to God.

Personally receiving Christ as Saviour and Lord, and committing himself totally, redeemed man seeks to walk obediently, loving God with all his heart, soul, strength and mind and loving his neighbour as himself. This response will result in the application of Biblical Truth into every area of life rather than a retreat from the world.

Each child is recognised as unique, created in the image God, precious in His sight and requiring personal salvation to be placed in the family of believers which form the body of Christ.

Recognising Christ as Lord of all and the need to glorify Him in all we do, we seek to be obedient in the training up of our children. Therefore the Association establishes Christian schools which seek to honour Christ in all areas and activities.

Our Christian schools are established to educate the whole child and continue the nurture of the Christian home and church, challenging all students with the claims of Christ on their lives and equipping them to serve Christ.

The Christian school will be distinctive in that every aspect of it seeks to be centred on God's Truth, recognising the need for personal relationships with Christ, characterised by Christian love in action.

We recognise the need for committed Christian teachers to think the mind of Christ into every part of life. Therefore on-going teacher training is seen as vital in the development of Christian vision and direction. It is helpful for the teachers to see their roles as people called to serve the Lord, the students and the parents within a framework consistent with the objective and philosophy of the Association.

We base such teaching on the foundation that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom. We recognise that knowledge is incomplete without the Truth of God. We accept that faulty interpretation can give rise to differing understandings of reality. In particular we recognise the confusion surrounding the origins of matter and life. We believe that Scripture and creation are from the same infallible source but faulty interpretation of the Bible and/or science has brought about confusion and conflict.