

# Education Philosophy

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Christian Education is not education about Christianity but education for the whole person delivered from a Christian perspective. All our teachers are Christians, and a Christian worldview intentionally permeates all subjects and activities within the programme.

With respect to government mandated curricula, the extra-curricular and co-curricular programmes across SCEA schools seek to support and encourage students to continually grow and develop intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually, not in separate quadrants but holistically.

Holistic education involves more than the individual in isolation. We seek to develop in our students an appreciation of living in and making meaningful contributions to the community and society in general as responsible citizens.

We recognise that the whole school experience will be valued in different ways by individual students as they travel through the school. The academic, general education, trade courses, sport, arts, leadership, spiritual, pastoral and social programmes will all interest students and have different levels of engagement for different students and at different times in their development. We seek to provide opportunity for individual students to discover their strengths and interests and to be agents in directing their own learning and development goals.

We value excellence in teaching and learning, which we recognise as staff and students striving for continual improvement in all areas of endeavour to discover and develop their talents and abilities.

Staff will take responsibility to establish safe and encouraging learning spaces where students as individuals and in groups can discover how to learn through experimenting and taking risks. Students will experience success and failure as they become resilient and adaptable learners ready for our ever-changing world.

Teaching staff are encouraged to develop as reflective practitioners and mirror the curiosity and creativity we seek to foster in the students. We aim to shape life-long learners with a love of learning for its own sake and not just for employment.

Therefore, we teach skills and attitudes to thrive, not just survive. We desire to see our students taking responsibility for themselves as they enter adult life and to make a positive contribution to their society in accordance with their gifts and abilities.

We recognise the critical role of parents in the growth and development of their children. Therefore, we seek to establish a three-way partnership with students and parents to facilitate a proactive contribution by the teaching staff to the learning and development of each child.

While other faith positions are respected, the education students receive in SCEA schools is intended to inform them of the Christian faith to a degree that they can choose with knowledge and understanding their individual faith perspective. In senior years students will gain an understanding of how Christianity compares and contrasts to other world views/religions and how they impact on our history, culture and personal choices.

SCEA is non-denominational and the Christian studies and perspectives within the programme are designed to support students from any Christian church tradition.

