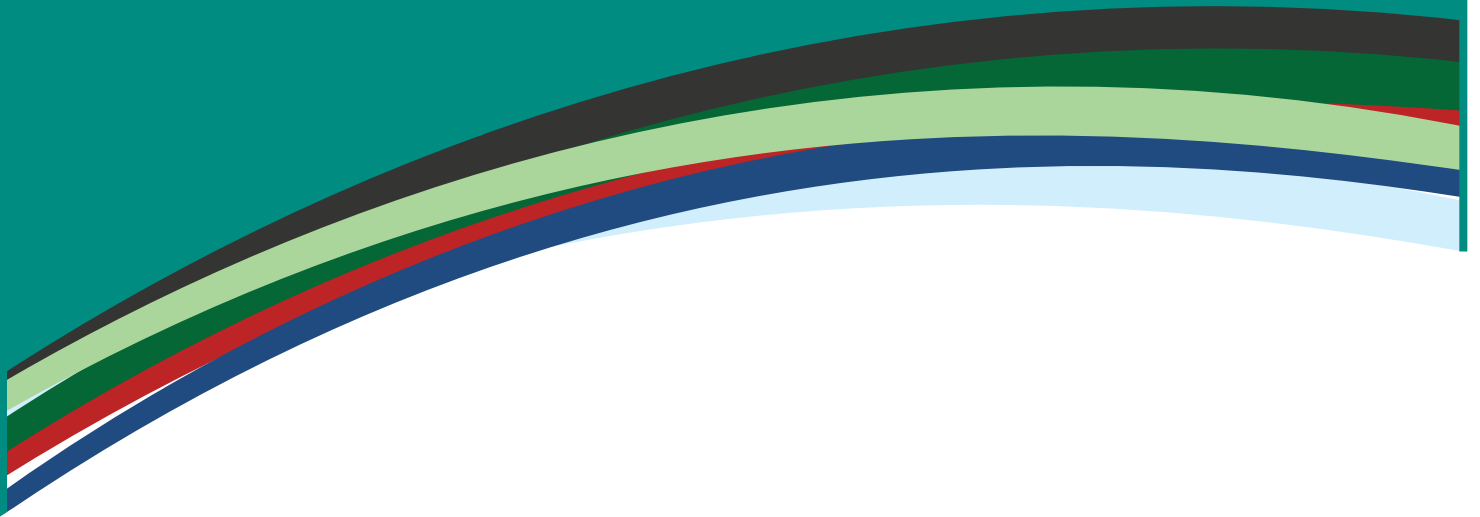




Trinity  
Christian  
School



# WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in Trinity Christian School.

Trinity is a Kindergarten to Year 12 Christian Parent-Governed School with a current enrolment of more than 1100 students. Our Vision is to provide students with a Christ-centred education in a learning community of love, nurture and service. The school emphasises a quality Christian education and the important role of parents in the nurture and education of their children.

The Trinity community recognises that the Bible places the responsibility for education of children upon parents' shoulders and that the school assists parents in this very important task. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in all aspects of school life.

The ultimate aim of Trinity Christian School is to help each child reach his or her full potential, to develop spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically through a wide variety of learning experiences. The curriculum is extensive, preparing students for life, further study and the work force. Children are encouraged to become actively involved in their world, being empowered through their education to make changes to society that will make it more caring and just.

Trinity Christian School fosters an atmosphere of love and discipline, it is an environment in which children feel secure, supported and accepted, enabling them to do their best with their God-given talents.

We appreciate your interest in our school and hope that this may be the start of a long-term partnership in the education of your child.

Yours in Christian Education



Andrew Clayton  
Principal







Year 11 and 12 Psychology students testing the Kindergarten students.



Some of the students who were involved in our school musical production of Seussical™.



Junior School students performing at Floriade.



Year 12 students doing an experiment in their science lesson.

# WHO WE ARE

Established in 1980, with 11 students and one teacher, using some classrooms at the Wanniasa High School campus, Trinity Christian School has kept growing and now has over 1,100 students. The school caters for boys and girls, from Kindergarten to Year 12 and is located in McBryde Crescent, Wanniasa, in the Tuggeranong Valley area of Canberra.

The vision of the school has remained unchanged:

“To provide a Christ-centred education in a learning community of love, nurture and service”

To this end, all staff are committed Christians and learning, whilst following the National Curriculum, takes place within the framework of a biblical perspective.

We are known as a school where each child is valued and teachers “go the extra mile” to ensure that the students in their care are encouraged and challenged to achieve their personal best. Teachers are encouraged to “search for the treasure” within each and every student.

Our NAPLAN results are consistently high and our Year 12 students have achieved excellent ATAR results for many years.

This is what a few of our students had to say:



“I like coming to Trinity, because I get to do a lot of different things. I have lots of friends and great teachers. I love to do spelling and learning different words and I also like devotion time and learning different things about God.”

Nessy, Year 2



“Trinity is a great learning environment. The iPads are very useful and help us do more work. I’ve been here since Year 2 and I don’t want to leave.”

Kogul, Year 7

“I’ve been here since Kindy so Trinity’s been my home. My memories and experiences of growing are here.”

Michael, Year 10



“The teachers are friendly and accepting. Trinity is heaps of fun and it’s great to be a part of.”

Chelsea, Year 8



“I like being at Trinity because of the general feeling of being in a place where you are safe. Being able to spend time with your friends and being able to just be yourself.”

Mitchell, Year 9



# EARLY LEARNING CENTRE



We are very pleased to announce that we are currently building an Early Learning Centre which will open in February 2016. Our Early Learning Centre will cater for 3 to 5 year olds, with a priority given to those eligible for preschool\*.

\*In the A.C.T. all children enrolled in a preschool program must be at least four years old before the end of April.

## The Preschool Program:

The preschool program will be run by qualified early childhood trained teachers, either from Mondays to Wednesdays or from Wednesdays to Fridays (9am to 3pm – school terms only). The Centre will be open from 8am to 6pm and an early learning program will run outside of preschool hours.

## The Vision

The vision of the ELC is the same as that of Kindergarten to Year 12 – to provide students with a Christ-centred education in a learning community of love, nurture and service.

“  
growing  
loving hearts,  
enquiring minds and  
generous spirits.”



## Cost:

The cost will be a daily rate of approximately \$100 per day, regardless of how many hours a day the child attends. The Centre will be open 50 weeks a year, only closing for a Christmas break. Parents will need to apply for CCB (Child Care Benefit) and/or CCR (Child Care Rebate) directly through Centrelink. Lunch, snacks and drink will be provided. The normal Trinity sibling discounted rates do not apply and fee concession rates are not available.



# JUNIOR SCHOOL

## ***Born to Make a Difference***

*Ephesians 3:20:*

“  
God can do *anything*, you know — far more  
than you could ever *imagine* or guess  
or  
request in your *wildest dreams!*”

There is a Chinese Proverb that states “If your vision is for one year, plant wheat. If your vision is for 10 years, plant trees. If your vision is for a lifetime, plant people.”

At Trinity Christian School our desire is to develop students for a lifetime of engagement and purpose. We desire to see students grow and develop their passion for life and to utilise the gifts and abilities that God has given them.

Scripture described Daniel as having a “spirit of excellence” (Daniel 5:12). Our hope for our students is that they will become fully engaged and, like Daniel, develop a spirit of excellence.

The Junior School is an exciting place where passion and enthusiasm permeates every area of our campus. The learning experiences in our school are designed to inspire and motivate young minds and bodies encouraging spiritual, cognitive, physical and social growth in each individual.

Children have an immense capacity to learn if their strengths and needs are identified and addressed. Every child is unique, with the potential to not only succeed in attaining individual excellence but to positively impact and make a difference in society using their gifts and talents to serve God.

Rob Wiseman  
Head of Junior School

## As a Junior School we are committed to:

- Teach the National curriculum within a biblical framework
- Know and understand our students
- Develop positive and engaging relationships with the whole family
- Identify potential in our students and provide appropriate challenges
- Provide an engaging and supportive learning environment.

## Core subjects are taught by the class teacher:

- English (literacy)
- Mathematics (numeracy)
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Creative and Performing Arts
- Christian Life Studies.

## Specialist teachers are utilised for:

- Library
- Computing
- Music
- Sport/PE/Gross Motor Skills
- German.



## Class Parents

Each Kindergarten to Year 5 class has one or two class parents whose role is to support the class teacher. The role may also include:

- Pastoral concern and care for the families in the class
- Pastoral concern for the class teacher
- Liaison between the class teacher and parents
- Organisation of minor class events.

*“ Luke 18:27:  
Impossible with man,  
possible with God. ”*



# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## *A Time of Change and Transition*

Early adolescence is a time of rapid change. Adolescents discover that as they reach these years they are undergoing rapid cognitive development. As their brain grows and changes, they become increasingly curious, begin to think abstractly, are inquisitive observers of the adults around them, become more aware of the differences between themselves and others and prefer active learning that is connected to 'real world' concepts.

While their brain develops 'behind the scenes', their body undergoes a spurt of growth and this creates some very visible changes in their physical appearance. During this time they often experience rapid and irregular physical growth with this growth sometimes causing awkward and seemingly uncoordinated movements. Hormonal changes can cause restlessness and fatigue – with regular patterns of sleep and a well-rounded diet key. The degree to which their body matures, comparative to their peers, can also have a profound impact on their self-esteem.

As their brain grows and their body develops, how they view and engage with their social world undergoes a significant shift. Early adolescents develop a strong need for peer approval and acceptance. Aspects of appearance and preference for hobbies and activities can become more closely aligned with their peers than with their parents. However, they still associate with their parents' belief and value systems and tend to associate with similar minded peers.

Education must be responsive to our understanding of this time of change and create an environment which facilitates a transition from child to adult.

## *Zone of Comfort*

In the Middle School we place an emphasis on our pastoral care structure to provide support for students as they navigate the adolescent years. Our students are quickly connected with a Pastoral Care teacher who meets with them every day and provides a familiar and friendly face for students. This teacher also acts as a 'first port of call' for parent questions and pastoral concerns. Our welfare team of Year Advisers also provide specific pastoral support for our students and their parents and oversee the transition of students into Trinity.

Students are also connected with a 'core class' – a group of 27 students with whom they spend the majority of their learning time. This provides them with an aspect of familiarity from their junior schooling and ensures that meaningful connections are facilitated with their peers.

Our peer support groups, camps, special pastoral activities, leadership initiatives and many other programs help to provide support and connection for students ensuring that their learning happens within a 'zone of comfort'.





*“ Education must be **responsive** to our understanding of this time of change and create an environment which facilitates a **transition** from child to adult. ”*

## ***Challenging New Opportunities for Growth***

We believe that every child learns the best and is most engaged when they are challenged. Yet we recognise that what is appropriately challenging for one student may be far too easy for or far too difficult for one of their peers. We focus on differentiation across all subjects – ensuring that every student is appropriately challenged and supported to achieve success in their learning. All of our classes are mixed ability with students provided opportunities to develop themselves as learners.

Our dedicated and gifted teachers use a variety of strategies to support the learning of students, and utilise the latest tools such as our iPad Program and Moodle (our online learning portal) to ensure our students are engaged as they explore the Australian Curriculum together.

We also endeavour to create new horizons for our students as they discover new practical based subjects such as Woodwork, Metalwork, Home Economics and Textiles as well as the traditional favourites of Art, Music, Drama, Computing and Sport.

Students can also involve themselves in a wide variety of extracurricular activities such as musicals, sporting teams, music tours, special interest lunch time clubs, gifted and talented programs and many more.

Simon Wagg  
Head of Middle of School

# SENIOR SCHOOL

The Senior School at Trinity Christian School is proud of the palpable atmosphere of love, nurture and service that pervades its corridors. Here we value each other, demonstrate understanding of each other and encourage acceptance of all students within our school.

To this end, we are rejoicing in the increasingly sound ATAR scores we are achieving - scores which, at the end of 2014, saw us take 3rd place of the colleges in the ACT in terms of the median ATAR achieved.

We relish diversity, however, and are aware that not all students have this academic bent and care to pursue other directions in their studies. We are therefore very excited to see the progress of our Vocational Education courses, and our new Trade Skills Centre where we will offer Childcare Studies and Community Service courses. Many of our students are looking forward to exploring these areas and following pathways into industry and service professions. In our Christian Life Studies courses too, we are pursuing the importance of outreaching to others through courses which will assist our community.



*“ To maximise  
the learning potential of  
every student. ”*

In line with this, we continue to win a swag of awards for food and textiles entered into the Canberra Show each year, and we offer so many opportunities for students to showcase their skills and talents in these areas and in the areas of sport and performing arts. The resounding success of our biennial musical productions, our frequent performances of short plays and Shakespearean dramas and our diverse music programme, all highlight our desire to encourage and nurture the God-given talents of all our students.

Our performances on the sporting field and the challenges and opportunities we offer to students in outdoor education and the Duke of Edinburgh programme also demonstrate acceptance and extension of students' desires to refine their skills and to continually compete 'higher, faster, stronger.'

The holistic development of students is our aim, and we seek to develop them within a Christ-like environment. If we can show all students that we act in God's love in loving them and nurturing them and their potential, then the Senior School has fulfilled its aims in bringing our students to a lifetime of contributing to their society, spreading the hope and love of God and sharing their talents with those around them.

Bernadette Mearns  
Head of Senior School

“ To teach **Christianly**, to  
**value unconditionally**  
and to **serve** unstintingly. ”



# CO-CURRICULAR

## SPORT

Sport is an important part of the National Curriculum and all students will attend Sport/PE/Gross Motor classes from Kindergarten to Year 11.

Athletics and swimming carnivals are held each year. Students also have the opportunity to try out for sports at Regional, State or National level. Students in Years 9 -12 have many elective sporting options from which they can choose.

Extra curricular sport opportunities are generally provided in the following sports:

- AFL
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Cross Country
- Diving
- Equestrian
- Futsal
- Indoor Rock Climbing
- Netball
- Oztag
- Snow Sports
- Soccer
- Squash
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Touch.

For more information on Sports at Trinity please see <http://www.tcs.act.edu.au/sport>

## DRAMA

Music, art and drama are part of the Creative and Performing Arts faculty (CAPA).

Drama is part of the National Curriculum from Year 6 Year 8.

Drama can be taken as an elective subject from Year 9 – 12.

Students can also participate in the school's bi-annual musical theatre production. Students from Year 4 or 5 onwards can audition for a role in the production. For more information on our last musical production please see <http://www.tcs.act.edu.au/community/news-events/109-seussical-tm-great-success> or our Facebook page for more photographs.

## MUSIC

Music, Art and Drama are part of the Creative and Performing Arts faculty (CAPA).

There are a number of musical opportunities for students at Trinity including:

- Bands – concert, jazz and worship
- Ensembles
- Choirs
- Private Tuition for various instruments
- School Musical Productions (every second year)
- Senior Band Tour (every other year)

For more information please see <http://www.tcs.act.edu.au/creative-performing-arts>

## CLUBS/GROUPS

In addition to choirs/bands/ensembles and various sporting groups, students have the opportunity to participate in a number of other clubs or groups, including but not limited to:

- Earth Club
- Chess
- Dance groups (Junior School)
- Student Representative Council
- Social Justice League
- ISCF
- Science/Maths/English Clubs
- The Cru Group
- Coders.

## MISSION TRIPS

Our students have participated in a number of mission trips to:

- Western Australian
- India
- Uganda.

We value mission trips at Trinity Christian School as they provide the opportunity to change lives, not only of the community that is visited but also of the participating team members. Going on a mission trip is a journey of valuable personal, emotional and spiritual growth. Students from Year 10, 11 and 12 can apply to be part of a mission team.



# STUDENT WELFARE

## PHILOSOPHY:

- At Trinity, our Student Welfare model is founded on the Biblical principles of grace, mercy, justice, kindness and humility (Micah 6:8).
- Student Welfare is integral to all aspects of each young person's schooling life at Trinity and therefore high quality pastoral care underpins everything we do.
- We seek to support each student's spiritual, cognitive, emotional and physical wellbeing and development
- We endeavour to ensure that each student is happy at school, has good friendships, is respectful, resilient and learns to the very best of their ability.
- We believe that each student is a gift from God and therefore the role of staff is to love, nurture and serve students with our actions and with our words. We love each and every student.
- We believe that for students to learn effectively, they require a safe, supportive environment where they can learn, make mistakes without embarrassment, develop the specific talents that God has given them and enjoy developing meaningful relationships with students and staff.
- We challenge each student to be the best they can be. Therefore we require students to display high levels of responsibility and respect in all aspects of school life including effort and behaviour in class, punctuality and uniform. Our desire is to grow our students into people of excellence.
- We believe that while success in life is important, it is far more important to leave a lasting and significant impact on the world, and that each student has unique skills to make a positive difference to their community in their own way.
- We believe the character of a student is just as important as the information they learn in classrooms. We therefore teach our students the importance of integrity, humility and honour. We challenge students to care for, respect and serve others. Staff endeavour to lead by example in displaying these characteristics at all times.
- We recognise that all young people will sometimes make mistakes in how they interact with others and how they behave. Trinity staff provide correction so that students learn from their mistakes and in the future, understand what is appropriate and have self-control. This correction guides students towards genuine Christ-like behaviour. We endeavour to provide students with an in-built moral compass, with Christ as our Guide.
- Student Welfare at Trinity takes place within the context of good relationships. We view the restoration of relationships to be of critical importance.



*“Nurturing students to be tomorrow’s leaders.”*

## STUDENT WELFARE AIMS:

For students to learn in a community of Love, Nurture and Service where:

- Students grow in knowledge of God and in their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Students are challenged to maximise their God-given potential.
- Students are urged to become people of excellence and integrity.
- Relationships are based on love and acceptance.
- Respect and responsibility are of critical importance.
- Students are well-behaved and attentive, engaged in learning.
- Students grow to become compassionate, kind, considerate and honourable role models in the wider community.
- Students grow to become confident, resilient leaders who lead positive lives of significance.
- The school and parents work in partnership, together supporting children throughout their school career.
- Any school response to student making poor decisions is appropriate and consistent, and where consequences are just and predictable.
- Students are urged to develop positive, constructive behaviours.



## WELFARE STRUCTURE:

At Trinity, Student Welfare is the responsibility of all staff :

- In the Junior School, excellent pastoral care is provided primarily by the class teacher within classes.
- In the Junior School, the Student Welfare Co-ordinator provides specialist care and oversees behaviour management and the wellbeing of students experiencing difficulties beyond the realm of the classroom teacher.
- In the Middle and Senior Schools, quality student welfare is provided principally by the Pastoral Care Group teachers on a daily basis. In the Middle School, Pastoral Care Groups are horizontal, while in the Senior School they are vertical, with a mixture of Year 9 to 12 students within each group. Pastoral Care Groups ensure that each student is known well by a member of staff.
- In the Middle and Senior Schools, dedicated Year Advisers oversee behaviour management and the wellbeing of students experiencing difficulties beyond the area of the classroom teacher or Pastoral Care teacher.
- Heads of School and the Deputy Principal (Welfare) provide oversight of student welfare and support the Welfare Team. They can be contacted if there is a significant concern.
- If students find themselves struggling with different issues, guidance and support may also be sought from the School Counsellor (Psychologist) and the School Chaplain.
- Student Leaders also provide excellent encouragement for students. These student leaders include School Captains in the Junior, Middle and Senior School; the SRC; Peer Leaders and Pastoral Care Group Captains in the Senior School.

*A place to discover and develop my God-given gifts.*

# ENROLMENT

There are several steps to enrolling your son/daughter at Trinity Christian School.

1. Submission of an Application for Enrolment, with accompanying fee and supporting documentation
2. Attendance at a Principal's Tour, Open Day Principal's Address or Parent Information Night\*
3. Individual family interview with the Principal and/or Head of School\*
4. Offer of a place
5. Return of Acceptance of Enrolment form and other paperwork, with accompanying acceptance fee.

Only once all the above steps have been completed is a student guaranteed a place at the school.

Applications can be submitted at any time of the year. Once an application is received, the student's name will be placed on a waiting list and parents/guardians will be contacted the year before entry, if there is a place available.

Submission of an Application does not guarantee a place, even if the application is received years in advance.

The following are taken into consideration before a place is offered:

- Balance of Christian/non-Christian families in the year level
- Siblings of existing families
- Children of existing staff members
- Children of former students
- Students transferring from another Christian School
- Date of application
- Boy/girl balance in the class
- Age and readiness of the child
- Ability of the school to provide extra support where required.

At times (when it is deemed necessary) there will be further discussion and/or testing to determine both the readiness of the child for the year level being sought and the ability of the school to cater for the child within its current level of resources.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to notify the school if their contact details change. Places cannot be kept on waiting lists if correspondence, emails or phone calls are unanswered.

Students entering Kindergarten must be five or older by 1 May of their Kindergarten year. Usually students starting school aged four will be assessed for their school readiness.

\*Subject to Principal's discretion in the case of families living interstate or overseas

*An exciting place where passion and enthusiasm is developed.*

# WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME**

At Trinity Christian School we rely on and greatly value the assistance given by parents. It is expected that families will contribute a minimum of 15 hours of voluntary work per family per year, or pay an extra fee if they cannot manage the hours.

A WWVP (Working with Vulnerable People) card is required for any activity that will involve contact with students.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

“Buddies” – Year 3, 4 and 5

Peer Leaders – Year 9 and 10

School Student Leadership for students in the last year of Junior, Middle or Senior School (Year 5, 8 and 12).

## **TCS ASSOCIATION**

The TCS Association is the governing body which has the legal responsibility of setting the direction of the school and electing the school Council. Christian parents who regularly attend church and can subscribe to the Statement of Faith may seek membership of the Association.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

A Council Chairman, Secretary and ordinary Councillors are elected from the Association membership for a 2 year period. The Council is responsible to the Association for the direction and governance of the school. Council operates within the Vision and Purposes of the school.

The Principal is accountable to the Council.

## **CAREER ADVICE**

Students in the Senior School have access to wonderful advice and support from the Careers Adviser in pursuing avenues of further study and/or employment.

### **AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIPS (ASBA) AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

Students in Years 11 and 12 have access to a number of ASBA or VET opportunities to equip them for the workforce.

See <http://www.tcs.act.edu.au/senior/careers> and <http://www.tcs.act.edu.au/senior/vet-courses> for more information.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

All students at Trinity Christian School have access to computers at various times – desktops, laptops or iPads, depending on their year level. Senior School students are also encouraged to bring their own device to work on at school. All Middle School students use iPads in the classroom.

Technology is a valuable learning tool but “pen and paper” work is also valued.