



Nepean Christian School   
In Christ We Grow

# PROSPECTUS



*“ We love this school, such a warm, friendly environment and a thoughtful focus on specifically Christian education. Caring about my kids’ character as much as their academic achievements. ”*

NICOLE MANNYX, PARENT WITH CHILDREN  
IN YEAR 5 AND YEAR 3

## WHO IS NEPEAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL?



Nepean Christian School is Western Sydney's best kept secret. A Kindergarten to Year 12 school of up to 650 students, halfway between Mulgoa and Glenmore Park, it is nestled on the banks of Mulgoa Creek and surrounded by Cumberland woodland. It's a haven for students to enjoy a peaceful bushland setting surrounded by native wildlife.

Nepean Christian School was established by a community of Christian parents in 1984, as a school that builds strong values and ensures a sense of belonging for all children. Our heart is to nurture all students, regardless of ability, skill or interest. Here, all students are loved and valued for who they are, not just what they can do.

We are a rich, diverse, learning community, where Christian faith permeates all aspects of school life, including how we bring learning to life and in the relationships that we share.

Families are at the heart of our school. We believe the relationship between you and your school is pivotal to your child's growth. We are about developing young men and women to enjoy all of God's good gifts; to love learning and to work together to build community.

It's the little things that set us apart, like knowing every child by name and teachers who care about your children as individuals. It's in the community that's built on cooperation rather than competition. It echoes in the laughter, the friendships and the engagement.

We believe that these things make us a place of learning like no other and we'd love you to join our community.

## WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL?

Nepean Christian School is a welcoming community that accepts people of all faiths as well as no particular faith position. We believe that all people should experience God's love and hear the Christian message. However, in coming to Nepean Christian School, it is important to understand that Christian faith is central to the school's identity and belief. It's woven into every part of the community. Parents need to feel comfortable that learning is framed within a Christian worldview. All our teachers are Christians and active in their local churches.

You can find out more about what our school believes by looking at the Statement of Faith on our website.

## WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SCHOOL?

Nepean Christian School was set up by families, and families are at the heart of who we are. We don't just enrol students, we welcome whole families into our community. Our school is not just about children; it's about mums and dads and grandparents, all having a sense of belonging. Our school is governed by Christian parents. We are here to celebrate with families in the good times and walk alongside in the tough times. We journey together as partners in loving and teaching your children. We welcome parents through our school gates and into our classrooms. We invite mums and dads on camps and excursions. We encourage regular communication between you and your child's teachers.

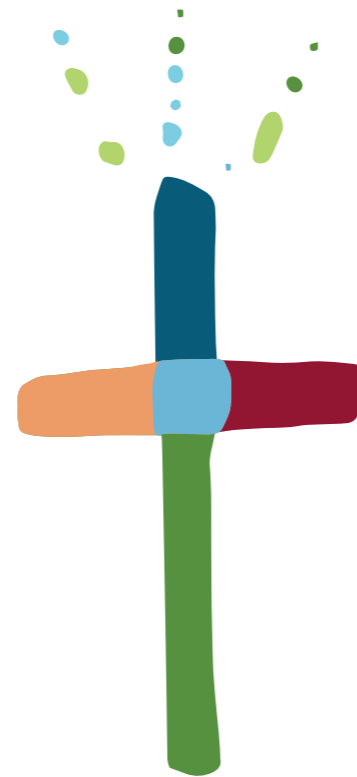
We're not an institution: we're a family. From the moment that you walk around the school, you sense the difference. That difference is community.



## WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT A SMALL SCHOOL?

Done well, a small school ensures that children don't 'fall through the cracks.' At Nepean Christian School every child is known and teachers develop strong relationships with families.

But schools need to be large enough to offer good facilities and good subject choices. At Nepean Christian School, we think we've found the 'sweet spot'. With up to 650 students there are two classes in every grade. Class sizes are kept small with a maximum of 24 students in our early years. We have all the specialist facilities that you would expect in a much larger school.



## HOW DO WE CARE FOR KIDS?

With bullying on the rise and many children having had poor experiences in schools, the ways that children are looked after is important. Discipline is built around our Code of Conduct that emphasises wisdom, bringing happiness to others, obedience and kindness. We don't tolerate bullying or unkindness but work hard with students and families to build confident, and resilient students who reflect the school's values. Our expectations are high.

At the same time we have a well-knit pastoral care program and excellent communication with home. The individual care in primary school is extended to pastoral care groups in high school. The school also has a chaplain and counsellor.



## DO YOU TEACH THE SAME CONTENT AS OTHER SCHOOLS?

Nepean Christian School is a registered and accredited school with the NSW Education Standards Authority. We therefore teach from the same curriculum as all other schools. What is different is how we teach. Learning is more than just sitting at a desk. We call our philosophy; head, hand and heart learning.

**Head learning** teaches the curriculum, with an emphasis on the highest levels of literacy and numeracy. Our NAPLAN and other testing shows how well we do this. However, we know that kids learn best when they are able to put things in real life contexts and engage in learning through doing. This is **hand learning**. We often refer to it as living your learning or slice of life adventures. Learning at Nepean Christian School is filled with practical opportunities, camps and excursions. However, we believe that education is more than just what students know and what they can do, but also how they use their learning to love and serve others. We call this **heart learning**. Head, hand and heart go together to grow children to become equipped to make a difference in our world.



## DO YOU HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS FOR CHILDREN TO CHOOSE?

Students have an enormous range of subjects to choose from. In addition to the normal subjects of English, Maths, Science and so forth, students can choose Wood Technology, Design & Technology, Computing, Food Technology, Introduction to Hospitality, Horticulture, Music, Drama, Visual Arts, Commerce, Physical Activity and Sports Science (PASS) and Extension History.

In Year 11 & 12, the range is just as great. We offer all levels of English and Maths up to Extension 2; Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Ancient History, Modern History, History Extension, Legal Studies, Business Studies, Industrial Technology, Design & Technology, Computing, Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Family & Community Studies (CAFS) & PDHPE.

The school is also in partnership with other schools to offer a range of vocational courses including Hospitality, Carpentry, Childcare, Automotive, Electrotechnology and Entertainment.

French is taught from Primary to high school. From Kindergarten onwards, students have specialist French lessons.

We also have an extensive music program. Music lessons begin at Kindergarten. By Year 2 they have their first instrument and in Year 3 they begin to learn to read music. By Year 4 they've advanced to a concert band instrument such as a clarinet or a saxophone.

All parts of the French and Music programme are covered in school fees.





## WHAT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES DOES THE SCHOOL OFFER?

Nepean Christian School offers an enormous number of extra-curricular opportunities from primary to high school. These include debating and public speaking, chess, STEM, school newspaper, craft, Lego club, choir and concert band.

Every second year, the school puts on a school musical that engages students in both the high school and the primary. Our concert band also goes on tour every second year.

We have a broad range of special interest camps including a ski trip, science camp, art camp and writer's camp.

There are also some fantastic camps and excursions that are all covered in school fees including flying to Hobart in Year 10 to study Port Arthur and ten days in Vanuatu, engaging with the local community and working with our sister-school in Port Vila.

The opportunities for a wonderful head, hand and heart education await you.

## MEET OUR PRINCIPAL

Dr Cameron Nunn has been the principal since 2015. He's been involved in Christian Education since 1987. Cameron has a PhD from Macquarie University in convict history. He also has two Masters degrees in Educational Leadership and English teaching. Cameron was awarded the NSW Premier's History Teacher's scholarship in 2010 and did research study in London. He has been a curriculum writer for the International Baccalaureate, working in The Hague. He is the author of a number of novels and textbooks and has been nominated for literary and research awards.

Cameron's passion is building community among students and families. He loves working with students and continues to teach English in the high school. Cameron would love to meet your family and take you on a tour of our wonderful school.



*A Community*

unlike any other you've experienced.

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