



Oxley
COLLEGE

WHO WE ARE



OUR VISION

To be a school whose unique combination of **ENLIGHTENED ACADEMIC RIGOUR, CARE FOR THE WHOLE CHILD** and **CULTURAL RICHNESS IN A UNIQUE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS SETTING** makes for an education which is not surpassed in NSW.

ACADEMIC RIGOUR:

This means making sure that students strive, stretch themselves and stick to their tasks. It means having high expectations, working hard and rewarding effort. It means making students 'battle ready' for their lives in the highly competitive twenty first century.

ENLIGHTENED ACADEMIC:

This means an inspirational, liberal and non-denominational education based on critical thinking, creativity and open engagement. Not merely a narrow 'marks driven' education.

CARE FOR THE WHOLE CHILD:

This means valuing and caring for each child emotionally, ethically and socially, as well as academically. It means us really knowing every child who dons an Oxley uniform.

CULTURAL RICHNESS:

This means students receiving a high quality cosmopolitan experience in the arts and sport while still retaining the benefits of life in a caring, intimate setting away from the frenetic pace of a major city.

WHO WE ARE

MISSION

OUR

MISSION

TO (AND FROM)
OUR STUDENTS







AS YOUR
EDUCATORS

WE WILL

Excite you with the richness of what is known and inspire you with the possibility of what is yet to be discovered. Also help you think clearly, creatively and with passion.

AS YOUR
EDUCATORS

WE EXPECT

YOU TO

Seize each day at school. Approach learning with enthusiasm, open minded curiosity and real wonder.

WHO WE ARE

AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE WILL**

Care for you emotionally so you feel that school is a safe harbour where you are secure and respected for who you are.

AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE EXPECT** **YOU TO**

Care for the others within our School and respect their individual personalities and talents.





STORAI



VALU



AS YOUR
EDUCATORS

WE WILL

Engage you as often as possible about values, ethics and the biggest spiritual questions in life. This will be non-denominational, informed by the Christian tradition and will also draw from wisdom wherever it is found. Also give you opportunities to serve others.

AS YOUR
EDUCATORS

WE EXPECT

YOU TO

Seek to develop a well-founded ethical, moral and spiritual world view which will sustain you throughout your life. Also to 'give back' to others in our region, our country and our world.

AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE WILL**

Help you discover a rich variety of opportunities so that you can experience what it is to really strive and work hard at what is important. These opportunities will be inside and also outside the classroom - on the sporting field, in performance spaces and in the outdoors.

AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE EXPECT** **YOU TO**

Commit to stretching yourself and tenaciously finishing what you start. (To strive; stretch and stick.)





DRIVING





AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE WILL**

Help prepare you for the future in the exciting,
dangerous and uncharted twenty first century.

AS YOUR EDUCATORS **WE EXPECT** **YOU TO**

Approach your life in the twenty first century with
optimism, resilience, passion and wisdom.

OUR VALUES

JUSTICE

Civic strengths that support a healthy community life.

- Fairness
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Service

HUMANITY

Interpersonal strengths that involve caring for others and provide meaning.

- Kindness
- Love
- Respect
- Social awareness
- Appreciation of beauty and excellence
- Gratitude
- Humour
- Spirituality
- Respect for our natural environment

WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE

Cognitive strengths that entail the acquisition and use of knowledge.

- Creativity
- Curiosity
- Open-mindedness
- Love of learning
- Perspective
- Reflection

SOURCES

The wellspring from which the Oxley Values are taken is deep and lasting. Oxley is a college founded on Christian principles and these find expression in so many of the words here. Many of the values are explicitly from the Old or New Testament. Others are derived from two millennia of Christian philosophy. Oxley draws from wisdom wherever it is found and many of the values can be found highlighted in other faith traditions. Some of the philosophies and ideas in these values come from good people with a humanist or secular orientation.

LINKS TO THE VISION AND MISSION

The first and second values, of justice and humanity, find expression at Oxley every day and particularly in our Service Learning and Ethics programmes. The values of wisdom and knowledge are connected with our focus on enlightened academic rigour. The fourth value, of fortitude, also links to so much of what we do to 'strive, stretch and stick'. The last value – mindfulness – prompts us to find self-discipline and stillness in the middle of this extremely busy and connected world.

FORTITUDE

Emotional strengths that involve the will to succeed in the face of adversity, external or internal.

- Integrity
- Courage
- Persistence
- Enthusiasm
- Resilience
- Optimism
- Confidence

MINDFULNESS

Character strengths that protect against excess.

- Forgiveness
- Humility
- Self-discipline
- Patience *

* Adapted from the work 'Character Strengths and Virtues' by Chris Peterson and Martin Seligman, 2004.



to think
to dare
to dream

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