

Murraylands Christian College - Strathalbyn



Prospectus 2011

An inter-denominational, co-educational college providing a challenging, diverse and enjoyable education, in a Christian environment.

MURRAYLANDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE - Strathalbyn

An inter-denominational, co-educational College,
A ministry of Emmanuel Christian Outreach Inc

Foundation 1991

Early Learning Centre – Year 13

School Colours

Royal Blue and Gold

Address

28 East Terrace, Strathalbyn, 5255
P.O. Box 642, Strathalbyn, 5255

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Principal

Ken Allen

RN. RM. BappSc. B.Ed. M.Ed, MACEL

Assistant Principal

Bruce Hicks - Dip T, B.Ed, M.Ed

Member of
Association of Independent Schools of South Australia
Christian Schools Australia

MURRAYLANDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

STAFF

Staff Member	Qualifications
Ken Allen	RN, RM, B App Sc B.Ed,M.Ed, MACEL
Pauline Bennier	Dip T
Geoff Bondor	B.Ma.Ed, B.Theol, Grad.Cert.Ed, M.Ed
Bruce Cameron	
Pam Coulson	B. Early Ch. Teaching, B.Sp.Ed. Masters. Sp.Ed
Nigel Croser	B.A (Hons) Grad Dip T MACE.
Brian Drury	B.Ed, Assoc Dip Information Sys. Man, Dip Comp Programming, Cert IV Workplace Assessment, Mast. Library & Info Management
Stacey Drury	B. App. Sc; Disability Studies, P.G. Ed JP/P
Merrill Farnell	Cert. ESOL, BA, Dip T, AUA, Assoc. Dip Arts & Ed, Adv Diploma Workplace Training and Assessment Systems (current) M.Ed (HRS)
Marie Fergusson	
Veronica Greenfield	Cert 3 Special Ed Support
Bronwyn Hammat	Dip T, (Sec) B.Ed
Ian Hand	B.Ed, Cert Ind Met, Dip. Work Place Care Assessment, Lay Preacher
Rebecca Hansford	B/A, B.Ed
Peter Hay	OAM
Mark Healey	B Com, B Ed
Bruce Hicks	Dip T, B.Ed, M.Ed
Emma Jones	B. Teaching, B Ed
Phillip Jones	B.Ed, B. Teach
Leah Kats	BA, B Ed Sec
Graeme Klix	Dip Ch Min, BA Ch Counseling M A Social SC Christian Counseling
Narelle Kluge	BA, B Ed
Michelle Lienert	Cert. 2 Administration
Leah Lock	B Ed Primary
Cameron Lock	B Ed Primary, Cert III Justice Studies, Dip. Justice Admin
Karen Marshman	Cert. 2 Administration
Anthony Martin	B.Sc, Grad Dip Ed Sec, B. Theology
Ryan McGowan	B.Ed, UpLs
Gail Megaritis	Cert III Spec. Ed. Support, EN
Noel Morrison	Dip T, Grad Dip Counseling, MScS Counseling
Yvonne Mueller	B Sc, Grad Dip Ed, Dip T Sec
John Newell	
Theresa Okkerse	Dip. T
Chris Pettitt	BA Fine Art, Grad Dip Ed
Graham Pope	Dip. Accounting, Cert Bank Finance, Adv. Dip. Accounting, Certificate Securities Institute
Ian Price	Dip. T, B.Ed, Cert 4. Environ St & Adventure Tourism
Lesley Revell	RN
Renee Saldanha	B. Ed JP/P
Elly Sands	B. Ed
Scott Sands	B. Ed
Barbara Short	Dip T
Nick Simons	B.Sc Grad Dip.Ed
Gregg Smith	BECE
Liz Thiele	

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Murraylands Christian College. It is our hope that you will find participation in the College community a rewarding experience for your whole family and that your children will benefit from being part of the college ministry.

Murraylands is a Christian Community College which seeks to support parents in the task of fulfilling the Biblical commandment to bring up children to know and honor God. The College offers an education that is consistent with the Word of God and the principles of the Christian Faith.

Our History

Murraylands Christian College was developed in response to the direct leading of God to serve the local Christian community. Leaders of a local Strathalbyn church, Emmanuel Christian Fellowship, (a Bethesda Movement Church), were instrumental in pioneering the College and praying it into existence. Planning began in 1986 and the College opened for service in February 1991, being then known as Strathalbyn Christian School Inc. Since that time the School grew and was blessed in both resource development and expanded student numbers, qualifying for High school status in 1998. To commemorate its "*coming of age*" and entering a new phase of development and service, the school changed its name to Murraylands Christian College, effective as of the 1st January 1998.

Our Heart

The College was born out of a desire to see young people grow up in a Christ-centered environment where they could be nurtured in their faith through a balanced education catering for the whole person (body, soul and spirit). Children should be educated for life and prepared for eternity from infancy through to young adulthood and equipped with social and other skills which will help them become satisfied, effective and fulfilled.

The College aims to complement and support the work of both parents and the local church in developing the Christian character of young people, equipping them with appropriate academic, physical and leadership skills so that they can make an impact for Christ within their community.

We trust you will enjoy being part of our College community and pray that, through your involvement, your family will be greatly blessed.

In Christ Jesus,

Ken Allen
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

Recognising that *Children are gifts from God*, Murraylands Christian College exists as a ministry arm of Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Inc, to provide a *balanced education* which imparts *Christian values* and develops the *leadership potential* of all students.

The fact that children are recognised as a gift from God predicates everything we undertake as a school. Each student is seen as a unique, irreplaceable and important bearer of the Father's image (Gen 1:27). A walking miracle of immense potential and worth. Our privilege is to co-operate with parents and the Holy Spirit to see that the God-given giftings and calling of each child fulfilled as much as we are able. We believe that as a gift, each child has a unique destiny in, life and that teachable skills in interpersonal relationships will facilitate a successful fulfillment of that destiny.

By ***“Balanced education”***: A curriculum which caters for the development of the whole person (spirit, soul & body). One which embraces a good range of contemporary skills and subject matter to equip a student for a range of different employment and career pathways after leaving college.

By ***“Christian Values”***: An active, ongoing relationship with Christ and all that this implies. Together with adoption by each student of the moral code & ethical principles espoused in the Bible and by the Christian lifestyle in particular.

By ***“Leadership potential”***: The inculcation of the qualities and interpersonal skills given in the College constitution.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

It is important in a Christian School that all parents understand our curriculum is based on a 'Biblical World View' and that it is our hope that all students attending our school may recognise and know the power of God's saving grace.

Our statement of faith is essentially Evangelical and broadly accepted by the wider Body of Christ.

Please take the time to read it and give it your thoughtful consideration. Your full support of the essentials of faith outlined in the document is of critical significance, as our desire is to support the ministry of the family, not to create conflicts within it which may arise from conflicting beliefs.

A brief summary of the principles of faith embraced by the school includes:

- (a) The Holy Scriptures – their inspiration and infallibility.
- (b) The God head – comprised of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- (c) The Lord Jesus Christ – His eternal co-existence with the persons of the Godhead, His incarnation, His vicarious death and resurrection for our sanctification and justification, His ascension, his personal return to Earth.
- (d) The work of the Holy Spirit producing:
 - Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - The fruit of the Holy Spirit which is the manifestation of the character of Christ in the believer.
 - The gifts of the Holy Spirit for the fulfilling of the ministry of Christ in, and flowing out from, the church.
- (e) The work of the Lord Jesus Christ producing:
 - The Spirit filled Christian life
 - Divine healing on the basis of His atoning death and resurrection.
 - Liberty from bondages originating in Satan.
- (f) The observation of the ordinances of baptism The Lord's Supper.
- (G) The essential spiritual unity of the Universal Church comprised of all believers regardless of organisational affiliation.
- (h) The involvement of every believer in the life and outreach of the church under Scriptural leadership.

ADMISSION OF NEW STUDENTS

First Priority: will be given to a child where a brother or sister is already attending the school.

Admission will be subject to:

A position being available in the relevant grade.
Financial membership being up-to-date and no outstanding monies are owing to the school in reference to the child/children already attending.

The admission order of students in this first priority category will be determined by the date on which the school office received the original application.

Second Priority: will be given to a child where **either one or both parents is/are committed Christians, and the Principal considers that both parents will support the six requirements as outlined below.**

Admission will also be subject to:

A position being available in the relevant grade,
Financial membership being paid before the child is finally granted a position in the school.

The admission order of students in this second priority category will be determined by the date on which the school office received the application.

Interview with the Principal:

For the interview, both parents and the prospective student are required to attend. Where applicable, reports from the student's previous school are also required. During the course of the interview, the Principal (or Assistant Principal)

will inform the prospective parents that, as stated in the Prospectus, they are required to:

1. Accept the Statement of Faith,
2. Support the aims and Objects of the School,
3. Support the School Policies and Statements on uniforms, student conduct and discipline, and curriculum,
4. Agree to assist with practical help when possible for the improvement of the school facilities.
5. Accept that devotional times are incorporated into the daily routine and are compulsory for all students.
6. Accept that all children will be encouraged to personally commit or rededicate their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ.

ADMISSION OF NEW STUDENTS

The Principal (or Business Manager) will remind the parents of the current fee structure as outlined in the Handbook.

He will give the parents an opportunity to ask any questions.

He will advise that:

1. It is of **paramount importance** that there is harmony between the home and the school in regards to standards, outlook and values, and that the home and the school must work together in bringing up the children '*in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*'
2. If the parents do not hold the six requisite qualifications above, that it would be wise, particularly for their child's sake, to seek another school for their children, and in the case of monies having already been paid to the school, that the monies will be refunded.

Screening & Testing:

Murraylands Christian College will do all that it can to assist children and parents to see their child reach to maximum potential. All screening and testing is undertaken with the best of intentions to further assessment and provide a basis for future efforts. No guarantees can be given that these tests will diagnose any given disorder. We can not give any guarantees that children will achieve any set standard or will be diagnosed with any special needs while attending our programs of learning.

Christian Counseling:

Christian counseling is an important ministry within a Christian School. One that is shared by all the staff at various levels and at various times. There are however limits to the amount of time that individual staff members can attend to those in need. This will necessitate the need from time to time for guest or specialist counseling at the college by our Chaplain / Pastor or qualified counselor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Communication:

Newsletters are sent home every second week with the youngest family member. Please check your child's bag for the newsletter. Parents are encouraged to receive the newsletter by email.

Parents are welcome to use the newsletter as a means of communicating to the school community. Information or contributions must be left with the Receptionist no later than the Wednesday preceding the newsletter you wish your material to be included in. All articles will require the Principal's approval.

Discipline:

Our school has a detailed discipline policy which outlines our approach to the training of students. Your complete understanding of our policy is important as we expect and require your support in all disciplinary actions. Please see a detailed Discipline Policy later in the hand book.

Behaviour Code:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Seek to honor the Lord in all that I think, do and say. | Matthew 22:37 |
| 2. Learn all I can. | 2 Timothy 2:15 |
| 3. Respect my fellow students. | Matthew 22:39 |
| 4. Respect adults. | Exodus 20:12 |
| 5. Respect the Truth. | Exodus 20:16 |
| 6. Respect the property of others as well as my own. | Luke 12:48 (b) |
| 7. Look after our school. | Genesis 2:15 |
| 8. Earn the school a good name. | Romans 2:6 |
| 9. Be in the right place at the right time | Proverbs 3:6 |
| 10. Move and Play safely. | Proverbs 3:6 |

Excursions/Outings/Camps/Concerts:

The education act requires that parents give **written** consent before a child goes on a school trip. School trips and excursions include performances at a distance from the school, excursions to places of interest outside Strathalbyn, camps and generally any outing for any purpose including picnics and hikes. Generally speaking excursion consent forms are sent home by the organizing teacher prior to the day of the planned outing. Excursion costs are not normally covered by the school and parents are required to meet the costs of travel and entry on excursions.

Local excursions in and around Strathalbyn are covered by the local excursion consent form in the Enrolment forms. This allows the school to access events or activities that occur within the town without having to try to notify all parents about the opportunity.

GENERAL INFORMATION (continued)

Special Education / Lap Programme:

This programme is coordinated by a trained Special Education teacher. Our school is blessed with a number of parents who desire to contribute to the education of children other than their own. The Learning Assistance Programme (LAP) has been established within our school community to assist both the forward and the slower learner. Time is taken to encourage and broaden understandings, whether this is to foster organizational skills or help with a specific difficulty. This service ensures that no child slips through the system having had needs unmet

Infectious Diseases:

For information on the following, Check with the school's first aid officer, Chicken Pox Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Conjunctivitis, Head Lice, Impetigo (School Sores), Influenza Ring worm and other diseases. There is a booklet outlining incubation periods, treatment and isolation procedures in the office. Generally children with infectious diseases should be excluded from the school during the acute, phase of their illness.

Lost Property:

All property brought to the school should be clearly marked with the owner's name. Lost property will be placed in the office and can be claimed from the school secretary. Parents are encouraged to make regular checks on the clothing their children bring home, especially the school windcheaters. The Lost Property box is emptied at the end of each term and the college can not be held responsible for lost items.

Stationery Requirements:

Stationery supplies are available through the school. All stationery bought from the school is on a cash only basis. The school offers an ordering facility which is made available at the end of each year.

School Bus System:

Children attending this school are permitted to travel on the Education Departments' buses, provided that there is room on the appropriate bus. Parents wishing to use the DECS Buses should contact the Eastern Fleurieu Primary Campus for details. We also have our own bus services which run from Murray Bridge via Callington, Mt Barker via Wistow, Ashbourne through to Meadows, Victor Harbor, via Port Elliot and Goolwa and Mt. Compass. Details of the routes, costs and time-tables are available from the office.

GENERAL INFORMATION (continued)

Reporting:

- TERM 1** An acquaintance night will be held early in term 1 to introduce parents and staff.
Classroom programmes will be outlined.
Parent- teacher interviews are held towards the end of this term.
- TERM 2** School reports are sent home.
- TERM 3** Parent- teacher interviews are held towards the end of this term.
- TERM 4** End of year reports are sent home.

Parent / teacher interviews can be requested at anytime during the year.

Medication:

Parents are expected to:-

- 1 Keep children at home if regular adherence to medication is crucial**
- 2 Inform the class teacher by phone or letter of required treatment at school.**
- 3 Clearly mark medication with the child's name and correct dosage.**

NB Any medication brought to school for administration should be kept securely in the office and administered by the first aid officer.

Parent participation and involvement:

All parents are encouraged to take an interest and be involved in their child's education and participate in school activities where ever possible by:-

- *Reading newsletters.
- *Making responses to issues discussed in newsletters.
- *Reading diaries and responding to diary notes.
- *Attending parent/teacher discussions and interviews.
- *Helping in the classroom or with reading supervision.
- *Helping of during excursions.
- *Helping at working bees.
- *Attending School functions.
- *Coaching sporting teams.
- *Electives, making games.
- *Sport, supervision of camps.
- *Covering books.
- *Supporting the college on discipline issues.

Working Bees and Cleaning:

Assistance around the college grounds is appreciated wherever possible. A maintenance levy is incorporated in the family levy for each year. This helps employ staff to carry out routine maintenance of the college buildings and grounds.

ATTENDANCE

Punctuality:

Every endeavour should be made by parents to have children at school punctually. As a matter of courtesy, if your child is late a note should be written to the teacher or make a telephone call.

School Times:

1st Bell	8.45 am
2nd bell	9.00 am
3rd bell	10. 25 am (secondary recess)
4th bell	10.45 am (end of secondary recess)
5th bell	11.10 am (primary recess)
6th bell	11.30 am (end of primary recess)
7th bell	1.00 (primary and secondary lunch)
8th bell	1.40 pm (end of lunch)
9th bell	3.15 pm end of day

Absence from School:

1. If your child is absent for any reason please telephone the college office on the day and also send in a written note when the student returns to college with an explanation.
2. Encourage a “healthy” attitude to good attendance by not condoning unnecessary absences.
3. All children are under compulsion to attend school from their sixth birthday to their 16th.
4. Students who are in receipt of ‘Centrelink’ payments for Youth Allowance must have any absence verified. A maximum absence of 5 days per term is allowed.

Holidays:

Parents need to read the newsletter (see communication) for advice regarding school holiday dates. If possible, holidays should be strictly confined to these given dates. However, it is not always possible for some parents to take holidays during school times. Parents taking children out of school during term time will still be expected to pay terms fees as the school’s running costs still continue. If you require work for your children to do during holidays taken in term time please give the class teacher at least two weeks to prepare it.

STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE

Uniform:

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform whenever they are under the care of the college and to maintain a neat and tidy appearance at such times. Students incorrectly attired will be issued an infringement notice, to which you are required to respond.

We believe the uniform encourages students to take pride in their appearance.

It eliminates competition in what students wear, and it is the most economical way to dress students for their school life. Information concerning the purchase of uniform items can be obtained from the school.

It is essential that you assist us in working to maintain our uniform dress code.

Jewelry and Make-Up:

- Make-up is not to be worn at school
- In regard to Jewelry:

Boys

- Boys are discouraged from wearing earrings because of sporting injuries.
- No other jewelry, except a watch, is to be worn by boys.

Girls

- Girls may wear a watch.
- Maximum of one plain stud or one gold or silver sleeper in each ear.
- Sleepers must be plain, thin and no more than 10mm in diameter and must be able to be opened easily.

PLEASE NOTE: Medic alert bracelets do not qualify as jewelry.

Hair Styles:

The general rule in regard to hair styles for both boys and girls is that they should not be extreme or designed to draw attention. Boys are to remain clean shaven at all times. Girls or boys with long hair should have their hair neatly **tyed** back. Hair colour is not to be changed so that it is noticeably different to natural colouring. And any ribbon, etc worn in a girl's hair should be the **school colours or fabric.**

Hats:

The school has a '**no hat no play**' policy which is enforced during terms one and four. Please ensure that your child has a school hat; **non**-uniform hats and caps are not permitted. Hats should be **clearly labeled** and may be left in the classroom at the end of the day. Primary students have a 'no hat, no play' rule for all four terms.

Non Uniform Items:

Non uniform items will be taken to the office for recording and parents may pick up non uniform items at the end of the day. After this time all care but no responsibility can be given for items that are held by the office.

MURRAYLANDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE UNIFORM (Secondary)

BOYS - WINTER UNIFORM

Jumper	Woollen royal v/neck with Gold logo.
Shirt	Blue M.C.C.
Tie	Royal with gold stripe
Trousers	Grey pleated melange
Belt	Black
Socks	Blue/ White
Shoes	Plain black lace-ups
Blazer	Royal monogrammed or
Spray Jacket	Navy Blue

GIRLS- WINTER UNIFORM

Jumper	Woollen royal v/neck with gold logo.
Shirt	Blue M.C.C.
Tie	Royal with gold stripe
Skirt / slacks	Winter tartan
Socks	White
Stockings	Navy
Shoes	Plain black lace-ups
Blazer	Royal monogrammed or
Spray Jacket	Navy Blue
Scarf	Navy blue

BOYS - SUMMER UNIFORM

Shorts	Navy pleated
Trousers	Grey pleated mélange
Belt	Black
Shirt	Blue M.C.C.
Jumper	Woolen royal v/neck with gold
Socks	Navy/white
Shoes	Plain black lace-up
Sandal	Navy
Hat	Navy bucket hat with light blue trim and logo

GIRLS- SUMMER UNIFORM

Dress	Summer Tartan
Jumper	Woolen royal v/neck with gold logo
Socks	White
Shoes	Plain black lace-up
Sandal	Navy
Hat	Navy bucket hat with light blue trim and logo

BOYS - SPORTS UNIFORM

Shorts	Navy (summer)
Sports Top	Light blue polo top with navy collar & logo
Track suit	Navy blue micro-fibre with logo (winter)
Rugby Top	Navy with logo
Socks	White
Shoes	Sports shoes

GIRLS - SPORTS UNIFORM

Shorts	Navy (summer)
Sports Top	Light blue polo top with navy collar & logo
Track suit	Navy blue micro-fibre with logo (winter)
Rugby Top	Navy with MCC logo
Socks	White
Shoes	Sports shoes

MURRAYLANDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE UNIFORM (Primary)

BOYS - WINTER UNIFORM

Jumper Woollen royal v/neck with gold logo.
 Shirt MCC blue striped shirt
 Skivvy White
 Trousers Navy double knee
 Belt Black
 Socks Navy
 Shoes Plain black lace up
 Spray Jacket Navy Blue

GIRLS- WINTER UNIFORM

Jumper Woollen royal v/neck with gold logo.
 Shirt MCC blue shirt
 Skivvy White
 Slacks Winter tartan
 Pinafore Winter tartan R – 5
 Skirt Winter tartan 6 & 7
 Socks White
 Stockings Navy
 Shoes Plain black lace-up.
 Spray Jacket Navy Blue
 Scarf Navy Blue

BOYS – SUMMER UNIFORM

Shorts Navy pleated
 Trousers Navy pleated
 Belt Black
 Shirt Short sleeved (as above)
 Jumper Woollen
 Socks Navy
 Shoes Plain black lace-up.
 Sandal Navy / Brown
 Hat Slouch/ Legionnaires

GIRLS – SUMMER UNIFORM

Dress Summer Tartan
 Jumper Woollen
 Socks White
 Shoes Plain black lace-up.
 Sandal Navy / Brown
 Hat Slouch/ Legionnaires

BOYS – SPORTS UNIFORM

Shorts Royal blue (summer)
 Sports Top Blue sports top with royal blue trim with school logo
 Track suit Royal blue pants and top with logo (winter)
 Socks White
 Shoes Sports shoes

GIRLS – SPORTS UNIFORM

Shorts Royal blue (summer)
 Sports Top Blue sports top with royal blue trim with school logo
 Track suit Royal blue pants and top with logo (winter)
 Socks White
 Shoes Sports shoes

STAFFING 2011

Our school is blessed with a dedicated staff. A friendly Christian team who keep our school running efficiently and happily. They welcome your interest and support and provide a service to your family.

Our team for 2008 is:-

ADMINISTRATION:

Principal	Ken Allen
Assistant Principal's	Bruce Hicks
Principal's Assistant	Peter Hay
Senior Secondary Coordinator	Merrill Farnell
Primary Coordinator	Gregg Smith
Business Manager	Graham Pope
Administration Officer	Karen Marshman
Administration Officer	Lynette Colbatch
Finance Officer	Michelle Lienert
Finance Officer	Anabelle Neumann

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE:

Teacher	Christine Rollins
Aide	Veronica Greenfield
Aide	Liz Thiele

PRIMARY TEACHERS:

Reception	Barbara Short / Emma Jones
Year 1	Therese Okkerse / Stacey Drury
Year 2	Rebecca Hansford
Year 3	Cameron Lock / Leah Lock
Year 4/5a	Phillip Jones
Year 4/5b	Scott Sands/ Mark Healey
Year 6	Mark Healey/Pauline Bennier

SECONDARY:

Year 6/7	Bronwyn Hammat / Ian Price
Year 7	Elly Sands / Tony Martin
Year 8a	Brian Drury
Year 8b	Ryan McGowan
Year 9b	Ian Hand
Year 9	Christine Pettitt
Year 9	Renee Saldanha
Year 10	Nicholas Simons
Year 11	Narelle Kluge
Year 11	Geoff Bondor
Year 12	Merrill Farnell /Bruce Hicks

LIBRARIAN:

Nick Simons
Assistant – Marie Fergusson

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Teacher	Pam Coulson / Nick Simons
Teacher Aide	Veronica Greenfield / Gail Megaritis

SCHOOL FEES 2011

Fees:

In addition to the fees a basic family levy of \$330 is charged per family per annum and a fund raising levy of \$135 per family per annum. Please note that where financial hardship can be demonstrated fees can be negotiated to a level that is affordable to each family. Fees are payable by the fourth week of each term. Please contact the Bursar if you wish to arrange an alternative payment plan. Inquiries regarding fees, building funds, tuition grants and school card are welcome and should be directed to the School Bursar. Full payment in advance of annual fees attracts a 4% discount on the annual fee.

Building Fund:

The first of our School's Corporate Objectives is; To create a learning environment which gives the maximum opportunity for children in our care to realize their unique God-given potential in all areas of their professional development. Achieving this objective, in part, relies on the development of an attractive fully functional set of facilities and buildings to accommodate our growing student population. You can help be a part of the programme through your donations to the building fund. Donations to this fund are tax deductible.

Fundraising Levy:

The fundraising levy charged to families is instead of having numerous fundraising activities during the year to support the college. Because the ELC is an unfounded centre a fundraising event is held once a term. Other out of school projects may occasionally be permitted.

Book Levy:

An annual book levy of \$50 is charged for the rental of textbooks at secondary level. These texts are expensive and are supplied to your child at a fraction of their purchase cost. The levy is charged so that we can update texts regularly and replace them when they are worn. Please encourage your children to take good care of these books, lost or damaged books will be charged to your account at full cost.

MURRAYLANDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE FEES 2011

FEE SCHEDULE – HIGH SCHOOL – PER YEAR

Year 11 – 12	Per Year	Full Fee \$2466	School Card	\$1480
Year 8 -10	Per Year	Full Fee \$2374	School Card	\$1425

FEE SCHEDULE – HIGH SCHOOL – FULL FEE

	1 st child No Discount	2 nd child 20% discount	3 rd child 40% discount	Onwards 40% discount
Year 11-12 Per Term	\$616.50	\$493.20	\$369.90	\$369.90
Year 8-10 Per Term	\$593.50	\$474.80	\$356.10	\$356.10

FEE SCHEDULE – HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL CARD

	1 st child No Discount	2 nd child 20% discount	3 rd child 40% discount	Onwards 40% discount
Year 11-12 Per Term	\$370.00	\$296.00	\$222.00	\$222.00
Year 8-10 Per Term	\$356.25	\$285.00	\$213.75	\$213.75

FEE SCHEDULE – PRIMARY SCHOOL – PER YEAR

Year R – 7	Per Year	Full Fee \$1920	School Card	\$1160
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FEE SCHEDULE – PRIMARY SCHOOL – FULL FEE

	1 st child No Discount	2 nd child 20% discount	3 rd child 40% discount	Onwards 40% discount
Year R – 7 Per Term	\$480.00	\$384.00	\$288.00	\$288.00

FEE SCHEDULE – PRIMARY SCHOOL – SCHOOL CARD

	1 st child No Discount	2 nd child 20% discount	3 rd child 40% discount	Onwards 40% discount
Year R – 7 Per Term	\$290.00	\$232.00	\$174.00	\$174.00

FEE SCHEDULE – EARLY LEARNING CENTRE – PER YEAR

ELC	Per Year	\$600.00
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LEVY SCHEDULE

Family Levy	Per Year	\$345 per family	A proportion of these levies is directed at our support of the Early Learning Centre
Fund Raising Levy	Per Year	\$140 per family	

COURSE OF STUDY PRIMARY REC—YEAR 6

The Primary School curriculum attempts to achieve a balance between traditional classroom learning and allowing each student to work on a level at which he or she can achieve. The curriculum includes set topics for each year level, is sequential and ensures that concepts are reinforced over successive years. All children are regularly tested and, if deemed necessary, given assistance from the Special Education Teacher and her Assistants. The focus is on building self-esteem, self-confidence and self-discipline so that each child may achieve his or her potential.

English:

Areas of study include Speaking and Listening, Writing, Grammar, Handwriting, Spelling, Poetry and Library. Students discuss, read and write a variety of text types including narratives, recounts, procedures, reports, explanations and expositions.

Mathematics:

Children work in a variety of ways including whole class instruction, group activities and working independently. Activities involve abstract and real life problem solving, using concrete materials, doing practical activities, and using worksheets or activity books. Mathematics is divided into five strands: Exploring, Analysing and Modeling Data, Pattern and Algebraic Reasoning, Spatial Sense and Geometric Reasoning, Measurement and Number.

Technology:

Children are given an understanding of the use of technology in society; develop knowledge of past and present technologies and future possibilities. They are given the skills to use computers to gather, store, retrieve and process information.

Science:

Children learn to be responsible stewards of God's creation. They develop skills of observation, classification, communication, measuring, predicting and inferring. Science is divided into the following strands: Earth and Beyond, Energy and Change, Life and Living and Natural and Processed materials. Each year level has set themes to study within these strands.

Bible and Christian Living:

A Bible focus is integrated across the curriculum and influences the choice of resources selected. Daily Devotions begin and end each day as well as Bible lessons. Activities include discussing, reading and listening to Bible stories, praying, singing, drama, puppetry, learning memory verses, worksheets, individual and group projects and craft activities. Classes take turns to lead the worship at fortnightly Assemblies and also perform during Church Services at the Nursing Home. Visiting speakers from a different number of denominations are invited to our Assemblies.

Society and Environment:

Children develop an awareness of religious, social, legal and economic systems in Australia and other countries in the past and present. Set topics for each year level are presented within the following strands: Time, Continuity and Change, Place, Space and Environment, Culture and Beliefs, Resources and Social Systems. Activities include making models, worksheets, researching, projects, having visiting speakers and going on excursions.

Arts:

This includes weekly lessons in Music, Art and Craft and Drama. Children can also elect to join the Choir. Art and Craft work is entered in a variety of shows. There are many opportunities for performance within the school and community. Parents may also choose to pay for private music tuition in guitar, piano or wind instruments at school.

Physical Education:

This includes fitness and class instruction. All children participate in an internal sports day and Year 3 to 6 students may be selected for the Santos Interschool Sports Team. There are visiting sports clinics and interschool competitions in a variety of sports.

Health:

Lessons develop an awareness of self-worth, respect for others, the structure and growth of the body, good hygiene, safety and food to enhance health. Drug education lessons progress from medicine safety with young students to passive smoking, tobacco facts, being caffeine conscious, advertising and drugs, decision making and considering alcohol. The Life Education Van also provides lesson materials and instruction.

Lote: (Languages other than English)

A Teacher and a Japanese Assistant take classes. Strands include oral, reading, writing and culture. Teaching and learning strategies include whole class instruction, class and school cultural activities, singing and games.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline starts with the conviction of the school community that certain behavior

is right and certain behaviour is wrong. This conviction rests firmly on God's Word, which also provides the benchmark as to the rightness and wrongness of behaviour.

The goal of discipline is not merely outward conformity to right behaviour. It has a training aspect. The goal is that students might willingly cooperate with our God, who desires to transform us to be more like Him, and with those whom he has put in authority over them, towards their own discipline.

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

1. **Respect God** – In all you do seek to honor and obey God. Matthew 22:34-40 “Love the Lord with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your strength.
2. **Respect those in authority** – Follow their instructions, speak politely, seek their help in learning. Titus 3:1 “Remind your people to submit to rulers and authorities, to obey them and be ready to do good in every way.”
3. **Respect fellow students** – treat others with respect, politeness and consideration. Practice self-control even when provoked. Appreciate the gifts and talents of others. Do not bully another person – physically or verbally. Thess: 5:11 “Therefore encourage one another and build up one another.”
4. **Respect the property of others** – Don't steal or damage other people's Property. Exodus 20:15 “You shall not steal”.
5. **Respect the truth.** - 1 Peter 2:1 “Rid yourself, then, of all evil; no more lying or hypocrisy or jealousy or insulting language.”
6. **Learn all you can** – Listen attentively, work hard, do not disrupt the learning of others, ask questions and seek help when unsure, complete class and homework to the best of your ability Proverbs 23:12 “Pay attention to your teacher and learn all you can”.
7. **Obey school and class rules** – e.g. be punctual, wear correct school uniform. James 4:7 “Whoever knows what is right to do and fails to do it; for him it is sin”.
8. **Respect the school** – exercise good stewardship of school property by helping keep your classroom and the grounds clean. Behave well, set a good example to those younger than you and help establish a culture of servant leadership. 1 Timothy 4:12 “Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but be an example for the believers in your speech, your conduct, your love, faith and purity.”

OUTWORKING OF DISCIPLINE POLICY

1. Home-school partnership. Children learn best what is right and wrong when they see consistency between home and school, and when there is an open two-way communication between teachers and parents (e.g. Through diary notes, phone calls, and face-to-face conversations). Consequently parents will be informed of disciplinary measures- (in level 3 and above CONSEQUENCES) -taken at the school. The Assistant Principal has responsibility of managing and maintaining the outworking of the Discipline policy.
2. Prayer. Staff are encouraged to pray for and with students when appropriate.
3. Encouragement. Within the context that good behaviour is the expected response to God's goodness, and that encouragement is not to be a reward sought for its own sake, teachers will seek opportunities to encourage students towards Godly behaviour. This may involve verbal and non-verbal encouragement, granting of privileges, encouragement certificates given out at assembly, etc.
4. Consequences. Students must learn that actions, good and bad, have consequences. They need to see that justice is done, and that it is tempered with mercy.

At Murraylands the following methods for re-directing student behaviour will be employed

AS CONSEQUENCES.

STEP ONE- VERBAL WARNING

STEP TWO -CONSEQUENCES WITHIN THE CLASSROOM

These may include separating the student from peers, paper pickup in the yard, window cleaning, removal of privileges, etc.

STEP THREE - LUNCHTIME DETENTION (1.10 – 1.35 PM)

This step will not be taken lightly, and is a consequence of willful and blatant disregard of behavior expectations, with steps one and two having been implemented without effect. Parents will be notified via a diary note, letter or phone call. If a student records three detentions within a term, a meeting **may** be called between the student, his/her parents and teachers to discuss the issue. A written contract of Behavior expectations **may** be negotiated. Cooperation from the student will be expected. After School Detention will apply for those students who accrue four or more detentions in a term.

STEP FOUR –EXCLUSION (internal suspension)

“Exclusion” Students who have failed to respond to other correction will be excluded from other students for a period determined by the classroom teacher in conjunction with the Assistant Principal. Exclusion may also be applied for serious breaches of the school rules particularly where disrespect for others and endangerment is involved. Exclusion may include removal from the classroom to work in isolation, being prevented from mixing with other students during breaks, or exemption from outings or out of school activities and any special events within the school programme.

STEP FIVE – ON REPORT

“On Report”: Students whose behaviour is considered to breach the enrolment conditions of the college will be placed on report. Such report notifies the Assistant principal of the nature of the breach. The Assistant principal will then become involved in the college’s response. The principal may elect to suspend the enrolment of any student placed on report in order to conduct an enrolment review. Any student receiving three or more reports within a ten week period will have their enrolment suspended.

STEP SIX - SUSPENSION

“Suspension” is applied where a student has breached the enrolment conditions and is applied for the period required to review the Student’s enrolment. This will include an interview with the student’s parents, the Principal and or Assistant Principal, the teacher(s) making the report, and a board member.

“Provisional enrolment”: A student may be returned to the school community following a suspension. However such continuation of enrolment is likely to be provisional i.e. there will be conditions which will need to be met by the student, their parents, or both in order for the enrolment to remain current.

STEP SEVEN – ENROLMENT CANCELLATION

“Cancellation of enrolment”: Students who fail to demonstrate a willingness to work within the scope of the school’s expectations will have their enrolment at the college cancelled. This is a final measure to be applied when the school reaches an impasse with a student.

PRIVACY POLICY

This statement outlines the School's policy on how the School uses and manages personal information provided to or collected by it.

The School is bound by the National Privacy Principles contained in the commonwealth Privacy Act.

The School may, from time to time, review and update this Privacy Policy to take account of new laws and technology, changes to Schools' operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing school environment.

What kind of personal information does the School collect and how does the School collect it? The type of information the School collects and holds includes (but is not limited to) personal information, including sensitive information, about:

- Pupils and parents and/or guardians (Parents') before, during and after the course of a pupil's enrolment at the school;
- Job applicants, staff members, volunteers and contractors; and
- Other people who come into contact with the School.

Personal Information you provide:

The School will generally collect personal information held about an individual by way of forms filled out by Parents or pupils, face-to-face meetings and interviews, and telephone calls. On occasions people other than Parents and pupils provide personal information.

Personal Information provided by other people:

In some circumstances the School may be provided with personal information about an individual from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional or a reference from another school.

Exception in relation to employee records:

Under the Privacy Act the National Privacy Principles do not apply to an employee record. As a result, this Privacy Policy does not apply to the School's treatment of an employee record, where the treatment is directly related to a current or former employment relationship between the School and employee.

How will the School use the personal information you provide?

The School will use personal information it collects from you for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and reasonably expected, or to which you have consented.

PRIVACY POLICY

Pupils and Parents: In relation to personal information of pupils and Parents, the School's primary purpose of collection is to enable the School to provide schooling for the pupil. This includes satisfying both the needs of Parents and the needs of the pupil throughout the whole period the pupil is enrolled at the School.

The purposes for which the School uses personal information of pupils and Parents include:

- To keep Parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling, through correspondence, newsletters and magazines; Day-to-day administration;
- Looking after pupil's educational, social and medical well-being;
- Seeking donations and marketing for the School;
- To satisfy the School's legal obligations and allow the School to discharge its duty of care.

In some cases where the School requests personal information about a pupil or Parent, if the information requested is not obtained, the School may not be able to enroll or continue the enrolment of the pupil.

Job applicants, staff members and contractors: In relation to personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors, the School's primary purpose of collection is to assess and (if successful) to engage the applicant, staff member or contractor, as the case may be. The purposes for which the School uses personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors include:

In administering the individual's employment or contract, as the case may be;
For insurance purposes; seeking funds and marketing for the School;
To satisfy the School's legal obligations, for example, in relation to child protection legislation.

Volunteers:

The School also obtains personal information about volunteers who assist the School in its functions or conduct associated activities, such as [alumni associations], to enable the School and the volunteers to work together.

Marketing and fundraising:

The School treats marketing and seeking donations for the future growth and development of the School as an important part of ensuring that the School continues to be a quality learning environment in which both pupils and staff thrive. Personal information held by the School may be disclosed to an organisation that assists in the School's fundraising, for example, the School's Foundation or alumni organisation.

Parents, staff, contractors and other members of the wider School community may from time to time receive fundraising information. School publications, like newsletters and magazine, which include personal information, may be used for marketing purposes.

PRIVACY POLICY (continued)

Who might the School disclose personal information to?

The School may disclose personal information, including sensitive information, held about an individual to:

- Another school;
- Government departments
- Medical practitioners;
- People providing services to the School, including specialist visiting teachers and sports coaches;
- Recipients of School publications, like newsletters and magazines;
- Parents; and
- Anyone you authorise the School to disclose information to.

Sending information overseas:

The School will not send personal information about an individual outside of Australia without:

Obtaining the consent of the individual (in some cases this consent will be implied); or Otherwise complying with the National Privacy Principles.

How does the School treat sensitive information?

In referring to 'sensitive information', the School means: information relating to a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion, trade union or other professional or trade association membership, sexual preferences or criminal record, that is also personal information; and health information about an individual.

Sensitive information will be used and disclosed only for the purpose for which it was provided or a directly related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise, or the use or disclosure of the sensitive information is allowed by law.

Management and security of personal information:

The School's staff are required to respect the confidentiality of pupils' and Parents' personal information and the privacy of individuals.

The School has in place steps to protect the personal information the School holds from misuse, loss, unauthorised access, modification or disclosure by use of various methods including locked storage of paper records and passworded access rights to computerised records.

BIKE POLICY

It is great for the environment to see a number of our students actively riding bikes to and from college.

Please ensure the following points are made to your children if they are travelling by this method.

- Bikes should be mechanically sound
- Helmets should be worn at all times while on the bike.
- Riders should dismount when they enter the college property.
- Riders must walk their bike to a storage area where they are advised to padlock the bike in the designated area.
- Riders are reminded that they are to abide by all general road rules that pertain to vehicles on the roadway. This includes remaining below 25km/hr whilst passing a school during school hours.
- Riders should not overtake moving vehicles of any sort unless directed to by the driver or officer of the law.
- Riders must obey pedestrian crossing patrol officers directions at all times.
- Riders who are in college uniform moving to or from the college are liable to discipline from the college administration if they bring the college into disrepute in any way.

Thank you for supporting the safe travel and use of bicycles for our students.

DRUG POLICY

Rationale:

Murraylands Christian College community acknowledges and accepts that it has important responsibilities in helping students to develop positive attitudes and behavior regarding drugs. The College opposes the inappropriate use of legal drugs and the possession and use of prohibited substances.

The College's Commitment:

Murraylands Christian College community commits itself to:

- The spiritual, health, social, and personal well being of its students.
- Support and encourage a comprehensive, factual educative program on drugs and other related substances through Health Education and professional development for teachers.
- Take strong, positive action to deter the use of drugs by students.
- Support a zero tolerance policy on the use of illegal drugs or substances.
- Support the development of preventative skills and techniques through curriculum, pastoral care, family and community partnerships and a positive and caring school environment.
- Support students and other members of the school community, in times of incident management, through the application of principles of natural justice and procedural fairness.
- An environment where the subject of drug use and the abuse is discussed and positive alternatives are put forward.
- Be encouraged and guided to behave and speak as is appropriate for people, who believe, follow and conform to Scriptures.
- An education that promotes a sense of high personal worth and a relationship with God. Out of this relationship with God grow positive attitudes that enable students to cope with health destructive pressures in the wider community.

The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Clearly state the College rules regarding the use of drugs by students and the consequences of any breach of those rules.
2. Provide a statement from the College to its community about the role of drugs in present day society and the use of drugs by students.
3. To set in place appropriate guidelines for the care of students who have for any reason breached the College rules.

The scope of the policy:

This Policy covers all students enrolled at the College (full time or part time) while they are:

1. On College premises.
2. At all College related activities on or off College grounds.
3. Traveling to or from the College, including public or College transport.
4. Representing the College including either in or out of College uniform.

For the purpose of the policy drugs are divided into the following broad categories:

1. Legal Medications:

(Over the Counter and Prescribed) including: pain relievers, stimulants and depressants.

2. Alcohol:

For the purposes of this policy this is defined as a prohibited drug because purchase under the age of 18 is illegal.

3. Nicotine:

This policy recognises that the sale of tobacco products to a person under the age of 18 is illegal, and therefore for the purposes of this policy, nicotine is a prohibited drug.

4. Narcotics:

This policy recognizes that these are illegal drugs (unless obtained on a prescription) and possession is a criminal offence.

5. Cocaine:

This policy recognizes that this drug is illegal and possession is a criminal offence.

6. Hallucinogens:

This policy recognizes that these are illegal substances and possession is a criminal offence.

7. Cannabis (Marijuana, hashish):

This policy recognizes that this is an illegal drug and that the possession and/or consumption is illegal regardless of distance to or from College.

8. Volatile substances:

This policy recognizes that while these are legal, possession by students (under the scope of this policy) is prohibited.

9. Steroids and other performance enhancing substances:

This policy recognizes that while some of these are legal, possession and/or use by students under the scope of this policy is prohibited.

The College rules in relation to drug use by students:

It is acknowledged that:

- From time to time students may have a need for the use of “over the counter” or prescribed drugs for medical reasons.

1. Legal Medications:

- When students are given “over the counter” or prescribed medication or analgesics to be taken during the day, the College should be notified in writing by parents and the medication or analgesic recorded, stored and dispensed by the Office Staff. For the safety of all students, no medication shall be carried by students unless there is otherwise specific negotiation with the Principal.
- When students have long-term medical or allergic conditions requiring medication the College must be notified in writing by a doctor or parents, as to the nature of the drug and its appropriate use.
- The College will not provide analgesics to students without prior consent of parents.

2. Inappropriate use of Drugs:

In the context of the definitions and statements made earlier in this policy, the College does not allow students:

- To use prohibited or illegal drugs.
- The inappropriate use of prescribed and/or “over the counter” medicines.
- The inappropriate use of solvents inhalants or other chemical agents.
- To consume alcoholic beverages.
- To smoke tobacco or other drugs.
- To possess drug related objects – e.g. syringes, pipes, “bongs” etc not prescribed for legal purposes.
- To use or possess steroids and other performance enhancing drugs.
- To attend school or attend authorized College activities while affected by drugs.
- To be present when drugs are being used by others
- To know that another student is in possession of an illegal drug or substance and not report it.

The College prohibits the possession, sale; supply, exchange or negotiation of the substances listed under Point 2 (above) when on College premises or on any occasion when the staff of the College have responsibility for an individual or group of students or while students are traveling to or from school.

Management and Intervention:

Analgesics and other medications – The management of medications will be guided by the Medication Management Policy. In the event of a suspected drug-related incident:

- The health and well-being of the student/s will be considered paramount.
- Follow up support for student well-being will be implemented.
- Consideration will be given to minimizing the harm to all members of the school community.

The Consequences of breaches to College rules regarding drugs:

In any instance that the above rules have been breached, the following action will be taken by the Principal or nominee.

1. The parent/s of the student/s will be informed of the type of inappropriate drug usage that has occurred or is suspected to have occurred.
2. If the drug/s are illegal within the terms of this policy, the Police will also be informed. Other College personnel will only be informed on a need to know basis.
3. A form of disciplinary action will be determined. It will take into account the principles and spirit of this policy in regard to:
 - The nature and type of inappropriate drug use.
 - The level of the student’s involvement.
 - Its potential for harm.

- Consistency with any broader College policies including the student Discipline Policy and Pastoral Care. The final decision regarding the form of disciplinary action will belong with the Principal or Acting Principal (in the Principal's absence).

The Consequences of Breaches of Rules Regarding Drugs During a School year.

One or more of the following actions or penalties

Inappropriate use of legal medication Possession or use of nicotine (tobacco Products) Possession of drug-related objects Possession of volatile substances	Detention or Suspension Probation Counselling
Inappropriate use of volatile substances and materials	Suspension Probation Counselling
Possession of use of alcohol Possession of use of steroids and performance enhancing substances. Illegal drug possession or use	Suspension Probation Counselling Expulsion
Illegal drug supplying or selling	Suspension Expulsion
Knowing about other student's involvement in the above and failing to report it.	Suspension Probation Detention

Definitions:

Detention:	Includes lunchtime detention.
Suspension:	Student does not either attend school for a specified period or is internally suspended (isolated from other students during the school day) for a specified period.
Probation	Student returns to school after suspension and teachers sign a behavior card each lesson. The Principal assesses the student's behavior after a week.
Counselling:	Counselling program negotiated with appropriate persons(s) or agency
Expulsion:	Student is removed from enrolment at the College.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES MOBILE PHONES

Mobile Phones

Mobile electronic devices are becoming part of every day life. Many parents allow and encourage communication with their children by mobile phones. This is of particular importance for safety to and from college or out of college hours for some families.

The college would encourage adequate communication at times which are least disruptive to the educational pursuits of college students.

At the beginning of each day students may bring mobile phones or other walkman like devices to the front desk for safekeeping. Otherwise these devices must remain in bags or lockers at the student's own risk.

The college has adequate phone systems and any urgent matters will be relayed to students. Any mobile phone found in class or in use during regular break times, will be taken to the office for safe keeping until parents can come to collect the item.

Mobile phones are not to be used as calculators in classes.

Walkmans

Walkmans are only permitted in class under certain circumstances (Yr 10-12 Art with teacher permission), otherwise they are not to be used during class or break time. The college is not able to police the music listened to and one of the important skills learned at college is good communication. The use of Walkmans in any form during college hours interferes with inter-relating to others.

Other Electronic Devices

Devices like game boys are discouraged at college. They are not permissible in class time in any form.

VOLUNTEER POLICY

The Principal or Departmental Head shall not appoint any person to a volunteer position who:

- Disagrees with the Statement of Faith and corporate objectives as expressed in the constitution of Murraylands College.
- Is known to promulgate gossip, rumor or evil report
- Is practicing sexual immorality according to biblical standards, or divination, occult or new age philosophies.

2. The Principal shall not discriminate with respect to age, gender or race.

3. By accepting this appointment you are taken to have given the College an assurance that you have not

- Been found guilty by a Court of sexual offence or an offence against the person of a student or child; or
- Been dismissed from any previous employment on the grounds that you are involved in improper conduct of a sexual nature with a student or child; or
- Retired or resigned from any previous employment following allegations that you were involved in improper conduct of a sexual nature with a student or child; or
- Been advised by any employer, that your name has been included on a list of those not to be employed in a child-related area of activity.
- If you cannot give this assurance, you should not sign the acceptance. You may, however, wish to speak with the Department Head about any relevant occurrence.

I _____ (name) hereby accept and confirm that I meet the above criteria.

_____ sign

_____ witness _____
name

Date: _____

WHAT TYPE OF SCHOOL ARE WE?

There are many different types of schools in the independent education system. Many of them have different reasons for functioning and most of them operate to assist the local community by offering a choice in the education of their children. Let's look briefly at some of the variety within the Non government Schools sector.

Religious system Schools

These include the Catholic, Lutheran and Anglican Schools' systems. These are supported through a central system of administration. The doctrinal direction of the system dictates the type of 'religious' emphasis offered in the school. They can have a variety of governmental systems, usually with a strong influence from the local church affiliated with the system. The school is ultimately owned and responsible to the system.

Philosophical Schools

Such schools as Montessori and Waldorf schools are based on certain teaching philosophies and teaching modalities. Religious education is usually on an open non-discriminatory basis.

Private Schools

There are a number of large private colleges in Adelaide. These are usually run and owned by a Board of management that has professional and business people involved.

Christian Schools

Christian schools fall into three basis categories. Christian Schools Australia, Christian Parent Controlled schools and Independent Christian Schools. The representation in the Christian School sector is roughly in thirds, with nearly 100,000 children Australia wide in each of these groups.

Christian Parent Controlled Schools (CPCS)

Schools that are founded and effectively owned by a group of committed parents to Christian schooling, often where a local church is unable to make commitment to schooling. Usually the governing of these schools is by parents that are currently at the school. This has the advantage of strong commitment if the parents stay with the school. They have in the past been linked together as an association. The CPCS schools relate similarly to their association like CSA Schools.

Independent Christian Schools

Can either be Church governed or parent controlled or a mixture of various methods of governance or ownership.

Christian Schools Australia (CSA)

Schools that are founded and governed by a local congregation or fellowship that can be from any of the denominational groups. They have the advantage of the church providing the long term vision and direction for the school. These schools have been linked together as an association in the past and the membership has been called Christian Schools Australia Ltd. CSA acts in a supportive role to the member schools. Murraylands Christian College is a member school.

Summary

Most of these Christian Schools have no denominational bias. The Christian beliefs and curriculum seeks to focus on the major Biblical issues without focusing on the denominational beliefs of the sponsoring church or parent community.

All of these independent schools receive funds from the State and Commonwealth Governments.

Each year, every independent school must report on and have their finances audited. They must also prove that the education that they offer is of satisfactory standard, to the Non Government Schools Registration Board.

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