

## Special Character Policy Aidanfield Christian School

Purpose	Aidanfield Christian School is a non-denominational Christian school for five year olds to 15 year olds established as Canterbury Christian College in 1996. The school was founded to meet the educational needs of Christian families in Christchurch and to provide a quality educational environment where the Holy Spirit and the Word of God are able to directly influence the life and character of their children. All members of the school community are expected to support the special character of the school.
Mission Statement	To provide quality education based on a biblical Christian worldview enabling each child to fulfil their God-given destiny.
Personal Relationships	Christianity is based on a personal relationship with Christ rather than an intellectual understanding. The school will encourage the pupil to develop a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The school will provide an environment where pupils, parents and staff can experience godly relationships, and work towards showing the character of Christ in love, discipline, respect, honour and trust, developing a healthy self image as a child of God.
Word of God and Holy Spirit	The school community relies on the Holy Spirit and the Word of God recognising that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) All truth must be received as revelation made real by the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the individual.</li> <li>b) All knowledge should be measured against Biblical truth.</li> <li>c) That this will result in an ongoing unfolding relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.</li> </ul>
Teaching & Learning	God creates and equips each person for their unique role in His service. The school will encourage each pupil to give of their best and will acknowledge achievement in accordance with the pupil's effort. To achieve this, the school's approach to teaching and learning will acknowledge individual differences in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Prior learning</li> <li>b) Rates of learning</li> <li>c) Learning styles</li> <li>d) Modes of self-expression</li> <li>e) Cultural differences</li> <li>f) Family and church backgrounds</li> </ul>
School/Home/Church Relationship	The learning environment of the pupil includes the home, the church and the school. The school recognises the importance of their inter-relationship and will actively encourage, develop and support unity between them.
Parent Involvement	Education is ultimately the responsibility of parents and the special character is dependent on their involvement. Therefore parents are expected to be actively involved in school life. Opportunities exist in the classroom, in management, in administration and other school activities.
Bible-based NZCF-compliant Curriculum	To help individuals develop a biblical Christian worldview and to respond to its call towards service and mission, the school will provide a Bible-based curriculum that complies with the New Zealand Curriculum Framework.
Statement of Faith	The school's statement of faith reflects its Christian beliefs, which will permeate and guide all aspects of school life. This statement must be embraced by all members of management and staff, having been assented to by the wider school community.