



# Faith

## Our values and our Christian Faith



**At St Peter's Woodlands our values are underpinned by the long-held Christian faith of this school.**

We are a school that prides itself on fostering a caring, respectful and inclusive community. The Christian Faith in the Anglican Tradition is the foundation to who we are and why we strive for the extraordinary.

### Our Vision

**The St Peter's Woodlands vision is to nurture our students to be happy, creative and educated young people who care for others and make a positive difference in the world.**

Our vision is founded on our faith. We seek to serve the needs of children so they develop physically, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually, recognising their specific strengths and gifts and how they might be expressed and utilised for the good of the world.

### Our Mission

**Our mission is to be a welcoming and dynamic learning community; delivering extraordinary educational outcomes. This is enhanced by spiritual approaches to our educational vocation.**

**Missional** – We wonder how we effect change in the world. We respond to need through loving service.

**Intellectual** – We pursue excellence in academic inquiry. Each student has diverse opportunities to excel.

**Pastoral** – We seek ways to show care. We value each person's needs.

**Incarnational** – We acknowledge God is present in the world. We appreciate the spiritual in every day.

**Hospitable** – We value inclusivity. We respect and celebrate different faiths, cultures and identities.

**Faithful** – We will express our faith. We provide opportunities for worship and reflection.





## Objectives

The school Constitution, found on our website, outlines the school's objectives in accordance to Faith. The following excerpts are of particular importance in our approach.

To encourage a desire to serve God and humanity, a respect for truth and a lasting set of moral values, the greatest possible understanding of oneself and of the worth of each individual's contribution to society.

– Section 2.1 (b)

Admit as a student any child regardless of his or her religious faith, race, culture or disability, so long as that child and the family of that child are supportive of the ethos and philosophy of this Anglican School.

– Section 2.2 (a)

## Our Faith in Practice

We embed Faith in every aspect of the school, it is threaded through the core day as well as given explicit focus.

### Chapel Worship

Each week Chapel worship takes place in a variety of ways. Parents and caregivers are always welcome to attend. During the year, each year level presents a Chapel service connecting their classroom learning with a spiritual theme. Other regular services include communion, chaplain-led services, chapel-choir services, guest speaker services and staff-presented services. Occasionally sub-schools will have their own

chapel service, and on those days other year levels will either meet in the Piltangka Plaza or in their classrooms for Chapel. As an Anglican school, students and their families also have access, if they desire, to rites of passage such as Baptism, Admission to Communion (offered in Year 3), Confirmation (offered in Year 6) as well as weddings and funerals for extended community members.

### Our Values Song

I wonder all about this amazing world  
we share.  
Why it is the way it is?  
What can we do to care?  
We need faith and courage to stand for  
what is good,  
And respect to treat each other in the way  
we should.  
So we can make a difference through the  
things we do to serve,  
Learning more, each and every day.



## Classroom Connections

Our Christian values and beliefs are reinforced in the classroom through our Religion and Values Education (RAVE). This curriculum is embedded into Units of Inquiry where specific theological connections are made within the multidisciplinary units. Bulletin prayers and bible stories are used as well.

## Key Faith Texts

*"Three things will last forever – faith, hope and love - and the greatest of these is love."* – **1 Corinthians 13:13**

*Jesus said: "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify God. - Matthew 5:16*

*Jesus said: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength; and love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:30-31*

## Quotes From Students

"I am empathetic by putting myself in other people's shoes and connecting." – **Years 5/6**

"I am a problem solver when there's someone being excluded and I try to include them." – **Year 5/6**

"I listen to others to understand their situation better." – **Years 5/6**

"I am a responsible citizen by caring for others not just myself and supporting the community." – **Year 5/6**

"I treat other people the way I want to feel."  
– **Years Reception to Year 4**

"I try and understand what others are going through."  
– **Years Reception to Year 4**

Our service-learning program is a practical expression of our faith and values and participation instills in the students a sense of gratitude and generosity.



## WONDER

**We are inquisitive, share happiness and express gratitude.**

The spiritual value of awe and wonder leads us to explore and ask questions and have gratitude about our lives and the world.

## COURAGE

**We try our best, are honest and resilient and stand up for what is right.**

The spiritual value of courage is what is needed to stand up to injustice and end oppression - in short making the world a fairer place.

## RESPECT

**We care and serve, whilst seeking to understand ourselves and others.**

The spiritual value of respect means we value every person as a child of God and uphold our responsibility to care for the planet and its creatures, valuing the many faiths, cultures and identities that make up our community

## SERVICE

**We help others, contribute to the community and strive to be good citizens.**

The spiritual value of service means that we discover our true selves when we grow in our gifts as servant leaders who make a difference in the world.

## Our Values Prayer

Loving God,  
Please guide all of us at SPW,  
As we wonder about our amazing world,  
As we live with courage and respect,  
And as we offer service to those in need.  
Amen

