

## MOUNTAINS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

### STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

#### Clause 1 - The Bible and Education

The Association as well as the College(s) itself, is to be ruled, directed and instructed at all times by the principles of the Bible, with particular attention to these defined herein:

##### 1.1. The Bible

The books of the Old and New Testament are the divinely inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God, the only absolute authority for all faith and conduct.

##### 1.2. God

There is one, holy, triune God, eternal, and unchanging, of infinite power, wisdom, justice and goodness, in whom are three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Each is truly God, yet without destroying the unity of the One and only God. This one true God is revealed in Scripture as Creator and Ruler of the universe in providence, redemption and judgement. In Christ he has declared and established His Kingdom over all powers in heaven and earth.

##### 1.3. Humanity

All people have been created in the image of God to enjoy true fellowship with Him by serving Him in loving obedience. Humanity's primary role is to exercise dominion over the world and in so doing bring praise and glory to God's name.

##### 1.4. Sin

Sin is disobedience to God. By disobeying God's command, Adam & Eve were alienated from God and brought God's curse upon all creation. Their sin was also imputed to all humankind. People continue to disobey God, and unless reconciled to God, they will face God's punishment. In this condition people are spiritually dead and unable to save themselves. They are blind to life's true meaning and purpose, misusing their knowledge and abilities, and adhering to human, rather than God-centred philosophies.



### 1.5. Christ

Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the ultimate revelation of God to mankind. He is truly God and truly man, was born of the virgin Mary, suffered and died, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and will return to judge the living and the dead. The Son of God has dominion over all rule and authority. By His death and resurrection, He redeems the life of the believer in its entirety, in order that he may know God, himself and the world in which he lives, and may seek to do God's will in all spheres of life.

### 1.6. Salvation by Grace through Faith

All those who repent and believe, as they are drawn through hearing the Gospel of Christ, are justified in God's sight - that is forgiven and accounted righteous before God - by the free and undeserved grace of God. This is possible only on the basis of Christ's perfect life, His death on the cross and His resurrection, and is made effective for each of us by faith in Christ. We are thus born again by the Holy Spirit, adopted into God's family, receive every blessing that God has to give and have eternal life. God continues His work of grace in the life of the believer - to enable us, as we diligently do our part, to grow in Christlikeness and to do what pleases Him and to preserve us to His heavenly kingdom.

### 1.7. The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity, is the divine source of truth. He convinces individuals of their sin, leads them to repentance and regenerates those who believe. He indwells the believer to witness to the reality of the presence of Christ and to guarantee our inheritance in Christ. It is the indwelling Spirit who renews us, who reveals more of Christ to us, who intercedes for us, who bestows the gifts of the Spirit on us and manifests the fruit of the Spirit on us.

### 1.8. The Church

There is one holy, apostolic church which consists of all true believers gathered in heaven and on earth with Christ as Head. Christians should meet together regularly in local assemblies under the authority of the Christian Scriptures in a bond of loving care and service to other Christians, teaching and admonishing each other in all wisdom.

### 1.9. Christian Perspective

While it may be true that people who reject God's word as the ordering principle in life may, by the providence of God, give many valuable insights into life in general, the religious direction of their thoughts remain radically opposed to that of those united to Christ. The College and the Association will express a distinctive Christian view of the world.



## Clause 2 - Christian Parents and Education

The College and the Association recognise and encourage members to seek to obey God's commandment to rear children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. This results in responsibility for education which takes place outside as well as inside the home. The College and the Association will seek to complement parents in the rearing of their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. The function of this education is to systematically train children to develop their whole person for the purpose of fulfilling their God-given destiny to know and love God and to serve Him within the context of the family, church and society.

## Clause 3 - Parental Responsibility and the State

It is recognised that parents have responsibility in the field of education for their children. It is proposed to adhere to the standards and provisions established by the Government, provided those standards or provisions do not contradict any clear direction from the Bible.

## Clause 4 - The Family

Along with the Church, families are a precious gift to the world, as the primary community in which parents are to teach their children how to love, serve, worship and grow in character.

Families are formed and sustained through the gift of marriage, an institution that is to be honoured, whether or not we are called into it ourselves. The Bible's teaching, as upheld throughout the history of the Christian church, is that marriage is the relationship between one man and one woman, entered into for life to the exclusion of all others, and is the proper context within which God's good gift of sexuality is to be enjoyed.

## Clause 5 - The Bible and Science

Creation and Scripture have been brought forth by the same God of Truth. Therefore, any seeming discrepancy between the Bible and science can only be due to human error, either in science or in the interpretation of Scripture. Notwithstanding this, the Association does not recognise the harmonising of the Bible with science at the expense of Biblical truth. This applies particularly to the question of origins. The Bible which is salvation history, should not be used as if it was a science textbook and science, with its focus on systematically explaining the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world, should not be used to explain ultimate questions such as the meaning and purpose of human life.



*Blackheath K-12*

## Clause 6 - The College Community

The College Community is composed of members of the Association, the Board (as defined in Articles 36 - 44 inclusive of the Articles of Association), teachers, students and their parents and caregivers.

5.1 Each member of the Association should seek to support his fellow Member in a spirit of Christian love and harmony.

5.2 All authority is under God, to whom all who exercise authority must give account. The teacher(s) are responsible to the Principal, the Principal to the Board and the Board to the Association. The authority of the teacher over the student is to be upheld by the whole college community. This authority is never to be exercised or maintained, for its own sake. It is only to be used for the effective nurture of the child.