

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON
SCHOOLS ETHOS STATEMENT

The Anglican Diocese of Grafton engages in school education in recognition that God is concerned for the development and wellbeing of the whole person.

Schools in the Diocese are diverse in nature and character, as is the Anglican Church itself. In response to their communities they offer excellence in teaching and learning, pastoral care, worship and service. They are coeducational centres of learning and active participants in the mission of the Church, encouraging young people to consider a personal response to the Christian faith.

Anglican Schools operate on the basis of a Christian belief in God and a Christian way of life according to the principles and traditions of the Anglican Church by:

- Developing and nurturing Christian and spiritual awareness and growth within a community that draws together pupils, staff and parents;
- Providing a balanced and dynamic educational program that challenges students to develop their unique potential through participation in intellectual, spiritual, cultural, aesthetic and physical pursuits;
- Valuing a spirit of inquiry and intellectual endeavour and encouraging students to become critical thinkers, capable of making reasoned and informed decisions;
- Supporting the development of the whole person and encouraging each child to develop self-confidence, high self-esteem and respect for others;
- Affirming the dignity and worth of all people, aspiring to be inclusive, open and responsive to diverse needs and abilities
- Encouraging students to be socially aware, to understand and serve the needs of others in the community and to exercise social, ethical, civic and environmental responsibility; and
- Fostering compassionate and respectful relationships within a safe, disciplined, caring, Christian learning community.

Anglican schools promote opportunities to develop spiritual lives through religious education programs, worship, and community service programs.

- Religious education programs encourage young people to think, question, challenge, investigate and reflect in their guided search for spiritual meaning and truth.
- Worship services in the Anglican tradition provide young people with opportunities to develop and express their spiritual nature.
- Community service learning programs through Anglican agencies and other bodies enable young people to learn and serve others, especially those in need, in a spirit of mutuality.

Through these opportunities, young people are equipped to make informed decisions about matters of personal faith and ethical behaviour.

Anglican schools provide an environment to nurture the whole person as a sound foundation for life.