



# CANBERRA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



NURTURE | LEARNING | CHARACTER

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*Staff, parents and students  
are proud of our school's  
academic, and individualised  
achievements.*



# Welcome

**Canberra Christian School is a co-educational primary school that has been delivering educational excellence to the Canberra community for over 35 years.**

Our low teacher-pupil ratio allows for smaller, more focused classes that promote students' talents and gifts. In our classes we encourage a growing faith in God while applying learning in the context of the real world.

Our school offers studies in Pre-Kindy through to Year 6 as well as an Early Learning Centre catering for two and three year old children.

It would be a pleasure to show you everything our school offers as our staff are committed to fostering a passion for and encouraging excellence in a warm and caring environment.

If you would like to discuss your child's future at our school, please contact the office or myself.

Christian regards

Bree Hills  
*Principal, BEd, MEd and CPPD*



### *We aim to:*

Nurture for Today

Promote Learning for Tomorrow

Develop Character for Eternity

## Our Mission & Vision

Canberra Christian School provides Christ centred education for the community. Our mission is to develop children of character in a faith nurturing environment that promotes academic excellence and a commitment to service.



## Pastoral Care

The purpose of our pastoral care program is to ensure that the academic, physical, moral, spiritual, emotional and social needs of all students are catered for in a meaningful way by the school.

Canberra Christian School is a private Christian school owned and operated by Seventh-day Adventist Schools (SNSW) Ltd. We actively enrich our curriculum through the application of the "Community of Faith and Learning" program.



# Our Learning Environment



**We are very fortunate at Canberra Christian School to have engaging school grounds which enable teachers to use both inside and outside locations to extend students learning.**



Our classrooms are well resourced and have ample space for students to work comfortably and move around freely. We have excellent ICT facilities including computers, iPads and ICT equipment which is readily available in each classroom.

The school is conveniently situated in a residential area in Mawson two kilometres from the Woden Shopping Centre.

The outdoor learning areas allow children to have access to excellent equipment and natural environments during lessons, recesses and playtimes.





# The Curriculum

**Teachers work hard to ensure that the national curriculum is delivered in exciting and memorable ways.**

Key skills are built upon from Foundation to Year 6 and children are encouraged to take an active part in their learning in a variety of ways. As part of the curriculum organisation teachers look at a number of different ways of providing excellent learning

*The vibrant curriculum helps to explain pupils' very successful achievements*

opportunities. Teachers at Canberra Christian School also set challenging targets for each pupil, and each pupil's progress is tracked by term with outcomes reported to parents.

The curriculum is further enhanced through numerous excursions, special theme weeks and guest visits which enable children to enhance their learning in very practical settings.

Our staff also recognise the individuality of every child's learning needs and offer a program designed to maximise students potential in all areas of learning. Children are placed on levels of work based on achievement outcomes rather than chronological age. This results in challenge and satisfaction being an integral part of each child's learning program. Our students therefore feel positive about their achievements in all academic areas.

Additionally, our specialised music program, together with our sport program, provide an excellent variety for students seeking a challenge inside and outside the regular classroom.





*Pupils thoroughly enjoy school and are very keen to learn.*

# Inclusive Environment

**Canberra Christian School is an inclusive school, with a wonderful ethos that is underpinned by excellent care, guidance and support.**

We believe that every child has the capacity to extend their learning beyond their expectations.

We have an excellent record of achievement for all our children and are proud of their successes.

We closely monitor the students with special educational needs and provide additional support when necessary, through in-class support and our successful intensive small group program. It is important for us to work closely with our families to meet all students needs.



# Our community



All staff and families of Canberra Christian School embrace and celebrate the diversity of our local community. We believe in working together with our families and our community to provide the best possible learning environment. We provide an extensive range of enriching activities including visits to museums, theme based locations and places of worship as well as having guest speakers and incursions.

Our school, in conjunction with parents and members of the community, organise a range of events that bring the school community together and raise valuable funds for our school.

Parents are encouraged to keep in close communication with the school via newsletters, email and our Smart phone App. Parents are invited to meet with their child's class teacher each semester to discuss progress and set targets for learning.



## PIP - (Primary School Only)

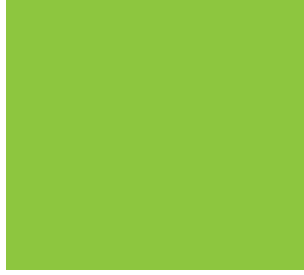
Our Parent Involvement

Program provides an opportunity for parents to assist in the running of the school either through voluntary work or by financial contribution.

This voluntary work is a wonderful way for parents to be involved in their child's education and school life while benefiting the students as well as the school. Parents have the option of either performing a minimum of 12 hours voluntary work or paying the PIP levy of \$250.00.

A list outlining the variety of ways parents can contribute is available through our weekly Newsletter.





# Excursions

Going on excursions each term/year is a highlight for both our students and families at Canberra Christian School.

Children look forward to the fantastic experiences and memories that are created outside of the traditional classroom environment.



From an educational point of view we place a high value on each excursion as we find that students visiting different educational facilities learn in a more hands-on and interactive manner than they typically would sitting in the classroom. And by seeing real-life applications of the lessons that they are learning in the classroom, children form a better understanding and appreciation of the importance and relevance of the educational content presented.

Excursions organised for each term are included in school fees except for our annual school trip that attracts a small cost after fundraising (approx \$20-\$50).

Some examples of excursions include: Cockington Green, Canberra Symphony, Canberra Zoo, Farmyard Nursery, Canberra Disposal, Overnight Trip to the Snow, Overnight Trip to Sydney, AIS, Big Splash, Stromlo Observation Centre, etc.

# Language, Culture, Music, Fun



## Beyond the Curriculum

### Music

Canberra Christian School provides a variety of opportunities for our students to develop their musical ability.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students have weekly music lessons with their classroom teacher.

They learn about rhythm, pitch, tempo and dynamics while singing and playing percussion instruments.

In Year 1 and 2, students are introduced to the Irish Tin Whistle and learn to follow music. Students in Year

3-6 receive group tuition with percussion and string instruments and are taught to play ensemble arrangements.

In addition to these regular programs, our school has introduced a choir and a very comprehensive dance program called "Every Chance to Dance".

Children also have the opportunity to receive private tuition lessons during school hours for Piano, Guitar, Violin, Drums or Flute. These are arranged direct between the family and the tutors who have been approved by the school.





*Students can take up activities such as Piano or Drumming, Choir or Band.*



## Sport

Sport, Health and Physical Education

are an integral part of the school's curriculum for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Student involvement is high and all ages and ability levels are catered for through school and district programs. There is an emphasis on participation, skills training and sportsmanship at all times. Each term there is a clear focus for both Fitness and Sport.

## Language

Language learning is an important part of the curriculum at Canberra Christian School.

Mandarin is the primary language taught for students in all years. The course objectives are to develop conversational skills, foundational vocabulary development

and a heightened cultural awareness.

## Kitchen Garden

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program is designed to develop in the students a practical understanding of the seasons, the weather and the environment. It gives them a coordinated approach to the fundamentals of how food is grown, harvested, prepared, cooked and served on their plate.

Students are involved from preparing the garden beds, planting the seeds/seedlings and nurturing them through to maturity and harvest. They also learn about recycling, including composting food scraps and other organic matter to make healthy soils and natural fertiliser. Once harvested the children are taught how to prepare and cook the produce in to healthy snacks and meals.







*Students in Pre-Kindy have the opportunity to also use the extended long day care hours of 8am until 6pm.*



# Pre-Kindergarten

**Canberra Christian School offers a Pre-Kindergarten program for 4-year-old children five days a week, Monday through to Friday.**

This program follows the preschool curriculum and offers students an opportunity to extend their learning through play, as well as formalised learning techniques.

If your child is a student at our ELC, they will be automatically enrolled in the Pre-Kindergarten Program when they turn 4. The

transition will be discussed with you before your child enters their first day as a Pre-K student.

Our highly acclaimed Pre-Kindergarten offers a head start in the classroom for your child. The program is designed to encourage each child's natural learning styles in a structured school environment. Children in the Pre-K class are encouraged to develop their pre-writing, mathematics, reading and personal skills in a fun, stimulating classroom environment with a dedicated teacher. Pre-K is also fully integrated with our years K-6 for school

assemblies, sport and school excursions which is a great preparation for starting school the following year.

Pre-K students are included in the long day care hours of 8am to 6pm and their Pre-K specific curriculum runs daily between the hours of 9.30am and 3pm.







## **Canberra Christian School's Early Learning Centre (ELC) opened in October 2014.**

The centre provides care and learning opportunities for children aged 2 and 3. The ELC is staffed by qualified Early Childhood teachers with a passion for seeing children grow to their full potential.

Children at the ELC have a fantastic opportunity to experience the wider community at the school and participate in whole school

events such as assembly and concert nights.

The fee for the ELC are charged at a daily rate for each day the child is scheduled to attend. The fees include all meals (morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and later afternoon tea). The ELC is also registered with the government as a child care provider so parents are able to claim childcare subsidy (CCS)

The ELC is closed for two weeks over the Christmas Holiday period.



*The ELC is open 5 days per week from 8am to 6pm.*



# Expectations of Children

Good behavior is a pre-requisite of effective learning and we expect all children to behave in accordance with the school rules and code of conduct.

Furthermore we have a strict summer and winter uniform policy and expect a high standard of dress from all our pupils, at all times.

All children aim for 100% attendance and to be on time to start the school day. We believe homework makes a positive contribution to the development of children and is an integral part of the work at the school.

When all these expectations are in place it gives all our students the highest chance of reaching their full potential.



*Pupils feel extremely confident in their learning and want to do their best.*

# Enrollment, Entry and Fees

**Enrollment enquiry interviews with the Principal may be requested through our front office.**

## **Enrollment procedures**

Complete and return an "Application for Enrollment" form along with a copy of their birth certificate and record of immunisation and current Visa or Australian Citizenship Certificate if born overseas. Upon receipt of the enrollment form the office will contact you to make an appointment to meet with the Principal, if you have not already done so.

Upon a position being offered to your child you will be sent a "Confirmation of Enrollment" letter. Once payment of the non refundable \$200 enrolment deposit is received, a position for your child is secure.

## **Payment of Fees**

ELC and Pre-K fees are invoiced two weeks in advance and are due for payment the following day.

Kindergarten to Year 6 fees are billed annually at the beginning of the year. A quarter of the annual fee is payable by the end of each term.

All fees must be finalised by the 30th November. All costs for class excursions excluding individual projects/events are included in the school's tuition fee. An updated fee statement will be issued at the start of each term.

## **Withdrawal of student**

Parents are advised that it is necessary to provide in writing a minimum of one term's notice of intention to withdraw a student from the school. If this notice is not given, a full term fee is charged in lieu of notice.



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