Children enjoy the benefit of being in a caring school that is serious about equipping students by giving due attention to the foundations as a strong basis for ongoing learning. Our teaching staff are also committed to presenting the curriculum from a biblical perspective.

Literacy

Reading is taught using evidence-based programs. Regular literacy blocks in each classroom are a vital part of the day. Our teaching staff receive ongoing professional development to ensure best practice in the classroom. Our K-4 students follow a guided reading program that produces excellent results.

There is a regular home reading program with graded books as well as an emphasis on reading for pleasure. Children are regularly assessed. Years 3 and 5 are assessed according to the NAPLAN assessment.

Numeracy

We understand the importance of sound numeracy skills and work hard at encouraging students to develop these to the best of their ability.

A daily numeracy block is the basis for a rich and engaging program. Ongoing assessment is the key to progress. Our staff use this information to ensure that all students' needs are met. Years 3 and 5 undertake the NAPLAN assessment for numeracy.

Further information

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Nowra Christian School

Grow up into Christ

Infants/Primary

information guide

Years K to 6

Big enough to challenge and equip, small enough to know and care.

Nowra Christian School

Grow up into Christ

Our K-6 children benefit from being under the care of dedicated Christian teachers whose commitment to Christ and to teaching our students combine to bring an outstanding level of motivation, care and expertise.

Teachers use the school's motivating environment, best teaching practices and a wide variety of resources to help meet children's educational needs in a well-planned and caring manner.

Learning Support

Our K-6 students are continually assessed by classroom teachers and our learning support team. In both numeracy and literacy, students receive intervention that is well resourced and appropriate for their particular needs. That intervention may involve working one to one or as part of a small group. Specifically designed programs like MultiLit help build skills in reading and our numeracy teaching centres on the program called Count Me in Too.

Enrichment

In all classes the teachers program to extend and enrich students. Teachers work on a stage basis in some key learning areas so that this extension and enrichment occurs. Whilst this objective is aimed at all class levels, there is more opportunity in the upper primary years. Our stage three classes are structured in a way that provides the most supportive yet challenging environment possible for the girls and boys as they prepare for their future schooling.

Music

Our school choirs have developed a reputation for quality Eisteddfod and community service performances. The upper primary students are given the opportunity to be a part of the school concert band. Music in a Christian school is most important and our children have opportunities to sing regularly, perform at assemblies and take part in musical productions.

Sport/PE

We are blessed with excellent facilities including large play areas, a full size gymnasium and fully-developed sports ovals. Our teachers are enthusiastic about sport and provide our students with many opportunities to develop their gross and fine motor skills. From the school level to the highest level possible, we have staff who encourage, train and support our students in a wide range of sporting opportunities. Our K-6 students compete successfully in zone and state level CSSA gala days and carnivals for cross country, swimming and athletics. We also engage regularly in local sporting gala days and interschool sport days.

The K-6 Department annually takes part in a compulsory learn-to-swim program. We are also committed to an ongoing healthy eating and exercise program.

Extra-Curricular Activities

During any given week our students can engage in a range of lunchtime interest activities. These activities include Drama Club, Library time, various sporting practices and games, Bible study groups for the older primary students, a quiet room, and working in the school garden.

The school also provides music tuition by way of private music tutors during the school day. Parents can, for a small cost, have their children taught to play an instrument such as the violin, keyboard, piano, flute and guitar. Some instruments are available from the school for hire, and as students become more competent they are encouraged to join the school concert band.

The Secondary Department of Nowra Christian School provides a diverse curriculum for students. This curriculum helps equip students for the world beyond school. The Register of School Achievement (ROSA) and Higher School Certificate results show that our students tend to earn outcomes that are well above state average.

The school is committed to pursuing academic excellence, with the teaching and learning experience being built on the foundation provided by biblical principles.

Our students find themselves in a caring school that is small enough to recognise the individuality and needs of every student, while being big enough to provide a range of challenges that equips the students for life beyond school. They are secure in the knowledge that their teachers and their peers are working together, with the parents, in a community where they are known and not 'lost in the crowd'. For Year 7 students, the move from Primary to Secondary is eased by the support of caring, Christian teachers who understand the challenges of this important time. All of our students have the chance to benefit from the challenges provided by the classroom, the school's camping program and varied opportunities to serve, perform and compete.

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Grow up into Christ

Junior Secondary

information guide

Years 7 to 10

Big enough to challenge and equip, small enough to know and care.

Nowra Christian School

Grow up into Christ

We believe that our students gain eternal benefits from completing their school studies in an environment where they are well known and cared for and where the values and beliefs of their families are upheld. The school has set in place structures which allows each student to be in a small and caring environment where their needs are met, while at the same time having access to a curriculum range that does not limit their post-school possibilities.

Subjects

Year 7 & 8 (Stage 4)

Students in Years 7 and 8 undertake a wide range of subjects including Biblical Studies, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music, Personal Development Health/Physical Education (PDHPE), Science, Technology and Visual Arts.

Years 9 & 10 (Stage 5)

Our Years 9 and 10 program has a core program that includes Biblical Studies, English, Geography, History, Maths, Personal Development Health/Physical Education (PDHPE), and Science. Students also elect to study electives for either 1 or 2 years, giving them the option to explore up to four different elective subjects. Combining Years 9 and 10 into elective groups allows us to keep our caring community approach to the students while providing a wide range of electives that currently includes Commerce, Drama, Food Technology, Japanese, Information & Software Technology, Music, Physical Activity and Sports Studies, Technics and Visual Arts. Across the Secondary Department extra support is available for students with additional learning needs.

Extra Curricular Opportunities

In the Secondary Department, students are also given opportunities to develop gifts through avenues such as debating competitions, work experience, inter-school sporting events and by joining the school's assembly and concert band. Every second Friday, two periods are allocated to our sport and recreation program that gives students the opportunity to participate in a diverse range of activities. In recent years, sport and recreation activities have included bike riding, bowling, ceramics, community service, rock climbing, squash, surfing, dance and tennis.

The school also has small group music (instrument) tuition at lunchtimes where parents can, for a small cost, have their young people taught to play an instrument such as the violin, keyboard, clarinet or guitar. Some instruments are available from the school for hire, and students are encouraged to join the concert band. We believe that as students discover and develop their gifts, it is important that they are provided with avenues to use them in serving others.

Our Secondary Department is a place where all students are quickly well known, and teachers are able to track their performance and care for them on a pastoral level. In addition to this general 'being known', teachers meet with their students each morning in 'AM' groups. This time provides an opportunity for students to be known in a non-academic environment. Year 7 students have their own AM groups, while students in Years 8 - 12 are in AM groups with students from other grades.

In addition to AM groups, student welfare is also monitored by Year Advisors, who are allocated stage groups to nurture. These strategies ensure that NCS remains big enough to challenge and equip, and small enough to know and care.

As young people move through the secondary years, many parents find that they are faced with fresh challenges that they have not experienced before. The school seeks to support parents and students through these vitally important years when young people move from acceptance of the values and beliefs of their parents to the adoption of their own beliefs. Group meetings provide advice and support where parents are further equipped with skills and strategies to assist them. We do this because we understand how much you love your children and we are honoured to have the opportunity of working with you in assisting in their upbringing and education.

Our Senior School (Stage 6) program is an innovative program, which uses a focused approach to the HSC. Instead of completing six subjects over two years, our students complete three subjects in their first year (Year 11) of senior schooling. They do this by spending twice as much time learning both the preliminary and HSC components of these three subjects in one year. They then sit for the HSC in those three subjects at the end of Year 11.

In their second year of senior schooling (Year 12), they complete a different three subjects, once again learning the preliminary and HSC components of those courses in one year. The two senior grades combine together into a larger group. This means that students in Year 11 prepare for their HSC alongside students who have already completed three subjects. The experience of the older students who have 'been there, done that' in preparing for the HSC is of immeasurable benefit for the Year 11 students, who in turn have the opportunity to pass this on to their younger classmates when they reach Year 12 themselves. While the students are in a combined group, the individual classes remain small enough to allow personalised tuition.

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Senior Secondary

information guide

Years 11 & 12

Big enough to challenge and equip, small enough to know and care.

Nowra Christian School

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Senior schooling at Nowra Christian School is designed to engage and enthuse students academically. We want students to be excited about learning, not only with their view to excel in their HSC, but how they can be shaped, nurtured and empowered to serve God's wider kingdom. We also invest in our students as we recognise that they are our future leaders who have the ability to transform and impact our world in a positive way.

Focused Approach

The focused approach allows students to concentrate on only three subjects at any one time. Greater blocks of time allocated to each subject – on average 100 minutes of class time every school day – means that students can consolidate their understanding and use the uninterrupted time to practice and perfect their skills. Students know that they have to come to grips with, and revise for, only three subjects at any one time. Having a maximum of three assessment tasks in any given period, and having to prepare for an HSC exam for only three different subjects at the end of the year, reduces stress and opens the door to a better performance.

Subjects Offered

The subject range offered each year is impressive. Over the course of the senior years, students will have the opportunity to study (subject to student demand) Ancient History, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design and Technology, Drama, Earth and Environmental Science, English (to the highest level), Legal Studies, Mathematics (to the highest level), Modern History, Music, PDHPE, Physics, Society and Culture and Visual Arts.

The wider school experience

While the HSC is an important focus of students in the senior years, there is so much more to school than the academic side. Senior students at NCS have the opportunity to join in extra-curricular opportunities available to our junior secondary students. These include sporting activities, eisteddfods, leadership and service opportunities.

A journey worth making

We are pleased that our graduating students have shown great skill in moving into "the world beyond school". The vast majority of our HSC students have been able to move into the area of study or work of their preference, and have frequently reported that the foundation provided by their years at NCS have equipped them to stand as capable young people with integrity in their new environment.

At the end of the journey through school, many of our past senior students have paid tribute to the school. They have highlighted the support received from their peers, teachers and parents. Many have proclaimed, without a shadow of a doubt, that they know they have been a part of a special school that has loved them, cared for them and given them the best education for which they could have hoped.