



Nowra Christian School

Grow up into Christ



Community | Care | Character

Prospectus

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT:

Nowra Christian School partners with families to equip students for life through the provision of quality, Christ-centred education, founded on Biblical values.





Welcome

Welcome to your journey with Nowra Christian School where we believe every child is precious because they are made in the image of God.

Nowra Christian School was established in 1980 to provide quality education, taught from a Christian worldview in a safe and supportive environment.

Over the years it has become evident to the families that have joined us that the care for students at our school is second-to-none. Our staff have a genuine heart for the students and love to see them fulfil their God-given potential.

The community at NCS is warm and friendly. Students have access to and are encouraged to participate in many co-curricular activities and events. We welcome parents to partner with us along the way by attending events and regularly discussing their children's learning.

Throughout the years at school, NCS intentionally trains students in character development during assemblies, in the classroom and on the sporting field, through corporate and individual conversations and modelling.

Today, we are not blown by the winds of educational theory, but have good scientific evidence regarding the best frameworks to teach from. To that end, our staff adopt an explicit teaching framework so that students have the best opportunities to grow into well-educated young men and women who are equipped to take their place in the world and thrive.

Ultimately, we want students to understand themselves in light of God's sacrificial love and respond to Him in humility and obedience.

**I look forward to welcoming you
in person to our school**

Mr Graeme Jolliffe
PRINCIPAL

A genuinely caring,
inclusive and
supportive Christian
community





Schooling from a Christian perspective

Our motto, 'Grow up into Christ', not only acknowledges our status as a Christian school, but expresses our intention to place Jesus Christ at the centre of everything we do.

We appropriately deliver all required elements of the Australian Curriculum through a Christian 'lens' and apply Christian values to how we conduct all our activities and in every aspect of school life.

Whether regular church attenders or not, parents choosing NCS as their partner to prepare their children for life are asked to support our school's Christian ethos and beliefs. In return, parents and other family members are welcomed into a genuinely caring, inclusive and supportive Christian community.

As well as the mentoring and pastoral care provided by teachers, our students can seek guidance and help from our Primary or Secondary chaplains or one of our two qualified Christian school counsellors.

Our structure

Established in 1980 as a ministry of Nowra Baptist Church. Our School Board, comprised of volunteers, sets the school's vision and goals, appoints the Principal and ensures the school is properly resourced. The Principal is responsible for the day to day running of the school under the authority and guidance of the Board.

The Principal is also assisted by the Head of Secondary and the Head of Primary.

What we value

We believe all students have the right to feel safe, supported and respected at all times.

We have identified three key core values as representing the essence of our school: 'community', 'care' and 'character'.

Community

- We value the diversity of our community
- We appreciate that our NCS community is made up of staff, students, their extended families, their church families and our alumni students
- We foster a close-knit Christian community where Christ's love is shared and every member feels valued
- We have a responsibility to shine Christ's love into our wider community both on a local and global scale



Community



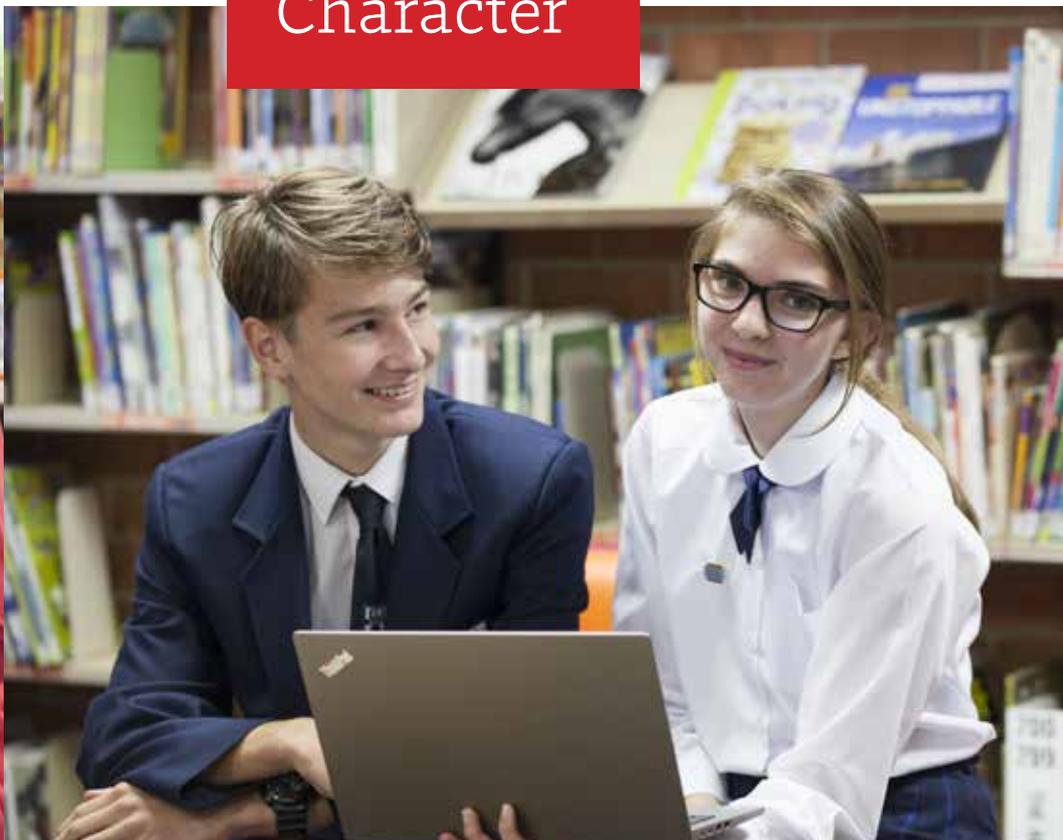
Care

Care

- We treat others with care and consideration
- We care for each student on an individual basis and develop a desire in every student to care for those around them
- We care for God's creation and the resources He has blessed our school with
- We take care and pride in our schoolwork and always strive to do our personal best

Character

- We desire our students to be known for their outstanding Christian character - the 'NCS difference'
- We expect our students to 'Choose Respect' by being kind and considerate of others, by respecting those in authority and by respecting our school and its Christian foundations
- We encourage students to love and honour God in all they think, do and say



Character

We believe every child
can realise their
God-given potential





A holistic approach to teaching

We focus on the whole needs of a student – the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical and social.

Our holistic approach to education means that we have opportunities to support a wide range of interests and abilities.

Developing independent learners

Our school aims to increase academic rigour in our students and create a school culture that fosters a growth mindset.

Our whole school approach to teaching ensures all staff have a common language and toolkit that allows students to transition smoothly between stages and subjects.

Learning support

To assist children with special learning and behavioural needs, our school employs dedicated learning support staff and two part-time school counsellors.

Enrichment

All our teachers program to extend and enrich students. By promoting a culture of inquiry and collaboration, the learning environment at NCS encourages students to extend and challenge themselves to excel. An engaging, multi-faceted curriculum, combined with an extensive range of learning and enrichment opportunities, allows our students to pursue their individual interests and realise their God-given talents.

Ensuring your child receives
the best academic start
through engaging
learning experiences





A solid foundation

A child's early school years are crucial. We strive to give every child the best academic start and to understand they are truly loved by God and special in His eyes.

Our primary classes are blessed to have Teachers' Aide support available during literacy and numeracy programs. Students are continually assessed by classroom teachers and the learning support team to ensure that every individual's needs are met.

Technology

Our teachers integrate technology into learning across all stages of primary. Every student in our primary classes has individual access to a diverse selection of portable devices.

Co-curricular opportunities

We have a wide range of activities students can engage in beyond the classroom, including: opportunities to sing regularly, perform at assemblies, participate as a choir member at Eisteddfods, take part in musical productions, Drama Club, Library, Da Vinci Decathlon, Chess competitions, UNSW Maths and English Competitions, leadership development programs, Bible study groups, and working in the school garden.

Our Stage 2 and 3 students are given the opportunity to be a part of the school concert band. The school also provides music tuition by way of private music tutors during the school day.

Annually all primary students take part in a compulsory learn-to-swim program.

Nurturing students to
be the light of the world
and to find their
identity in Christ





SECONDARY 7-10

Nurturing growth and development

In Secondary, students receive an excellent academic education, along with the knowledge they have a destiny and purpose in God.

We seek to provide a safe, nurturing and engaging learning environment, which allows each student to grow academically, build resilience and develop in their relationship with Christ.

While being committed to providing innovative learning, we also focus on helping students with their study skills, providing extra tailored learning support where needed.

The Secondary BYOD Program further enriches our students' learning experiences as 21st-century learners.

Pastoral care

Every young person is unique and so our staff are committed to building strong relationships with each student. All secondary students have opportunities to attend various camps and excursions from Year 7-12. During these times students build bonds of friendship while engaging in Christian discovery as they are challenged by God's word and about the place of Jesus in their lives.

Our year advisors and Secondary Chaplain play an integral role in caring for and mentoring students. Our school counsellors provide further support for the students' social, mental and spiritual well-being.

Celebrating gifts

We encourage secondary students to celebrate and develop their many gifts and talents, not only academically but also beyond the classroom. Nowra Christian School offers enrichment activities ranging from creative and performing arts and practical STEM experiences through to team and individual sports, leadership roles and global citizenship development opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh program.

Shining Christ's love

As part of nurturing young people to be the light of the world, students are encouraged to participate in leadership programs or take up the many opportunities to serve their school or their local and global community.

The HSC Focused Approach
allows students to practice
and perfect their skills





SENIORS 11-12

Equipping for the future

Senior schooling at NCS is designed to engage and enthuse students academically. We also nurture and empower them to serve God's wider kingdom.

We recognise that they are our future leaders who have the ability to transform and impact our world in a positive way.

HSC Focused Approach

Completing the HSC using the Focused Approach allows students to concentrate on only three subjects at any one time. Greater blocks of time allocated to each subject means that students can consolidate their understanding and use the uninterrupted time to practice and perfect their skills.

Subjects offered:*

- Ancient History
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Community and Family Studies
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Engineering Studies
- English (to the highest level)
- Food Technology
- French
- Mathematics (to the highest level)
- Modern History
- Music
- PDHPE
- Physics
- Textiles and Design
- Society and Culture
- Visual Arts
- Visual Design

*Subject to student preferences and teacher availability

Celebrating students' many gifts and talents.





Inspiring creativity

We celebrate students' many gifts and talents in the areas of creative and performing arts.

Music

Music is considered in the context of being a gift from God to be nurtured and grown. From Kindergarten to Year 12, students are encouraged to express themselves through music and are challenged in developing confidence as performers. Students develop their skills and experience of music through co-curricular opportunities including vocal ensembles, concert bands, assembly band, the Eisteddfod and private music tuition during school hours.

Performing Arts

Students have many opportunities to participate in the performing arts, including a major school production every two years which involves students from Primary and Secondary. In recent years, the school has presented Oklahoma!, Bye Bye Birdie, Peter Pan, The Mikado, Jungle Drums, Pirates of Penzance and The Wizard of Oz.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts provides students with an exciting opportunity to engage their imaginations and express their creative gifts. From Kindergarten to Year 12, students are encouraged to explore personal expression and gain technical skills through working with a wide range of materials and processes.

Leadership is a skill we encourage and develop in all students





Developing leaders

Leadership is a skill we like to encourage and develop in every student. There are many leadership opportunities for students to engage in and to develop their skills as future leaders.

Christian leadership

Students can develop their Christian leadership skills by participating in the following:

- Followers in Training (FIT) - for Primary students
- Discipleship - Senior students lead groups of younger students in various Bible study groups.
- Leaders in Training (LiT) - for Secondary students
- My school, My Responsibility
- ATICS - 'Synergy' training program

School leadership

There are several school leadership opportunities presented to students during their time at school. These include a Student Representative Council, Primary and Secondary Prefects, House Captains and Vice Captains and School Captains.

External leadership opportunities

Every year selected students engage in several leadership development opportunities, including;

- South Coast Leadership Forum
- Shoalhaven Council Youth Advisory Council
- Outward Bound
- Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment (RYPEN)
- Duke of Edinburgh International Award

Students access a wide range of activities to enrich their learning





Beyond the classroom

Education needs to go beyond the classroom. Students can access a wide range of activities to enrich their learning experience and help them explore their God-given abilities.

Sport

We are blessed with large play areas, a gymnasium and sports ovals. Sporting activities are incorporated into teaching programs at all stages and Secondary students also participate in a sport and recreation program on a fortnightly basis. Sport teaches valuable life skills such as teamwork, sportsmanship, fairness, resilience and excellence.

Students participate in a variety of team and individual sports at all levels of competition: school, inter-school, zone, state and national.

Excursions

Students at every stage have opportunities to attend age-appropriate excursions and camps providing practical learning experiences directly linked to the syllabus.

Other co-curricular opportunities

- Da Vinci Decathlon
- CWA Project
- Public speaking and debating competitions
- Duke of Edinburgh
- UNSW Competitions
- Science Week
- Aeronautical Velocity Challenge
- Pi Day
- Plane Simple Competition

Shining God's love in our
community and the rest
of the world





Serving others

Our students are encouraged to show Christ's love by being responsible citizens who are willing to contribute to their community for the benefit of others – locally and globally.

Service opportunities range from helping in our school canteen or serving their peers in the library, through to participating in local events, visiting nursing homes or helping bring humanitarian relief to children in developing countries on the far side of the world.

Some of the ways students serve others:

- Cancer Council Relay for Life
- Running Compassion Fair to support Compassion
- Supporting refugees by completing the 'Ration Challenge'
- Performing for our local community

- Visiting nursing homes
- Packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child
- Face-painting at expos and events
- Helping in the school canteen or library
- Set-up/pack-up for assemblies and other events
- Running Bible study groups
- MS Read-a-Thon
- Jump Rope for Heart
- ANZAC parades

We believe partnering with families is paramount to the educational welfare of your child





A friendly school community

We consider your family to be a part of our school community from the moment you choose Nowra Christian School for your child.

We recognise that timely exchange of information between family and school is central to the educational welfare of a student.

Family involvement

There are many opportunities during the year for families to get involved in the life of our school community. This could be for special events, assemblies, showcases and other activities, such as the Kindergarten Art Exhibition, sporting carnivals, Grandparents Day, Twilight Family Picnic, Compassion Fair, Worrige Community Christmas Carols, Thanksgiving Evening and various School theatrical and music productions.

We have an involved parent/carer body who warmly welcome new members to our school community, share ideas on improving our school and assist with building relationships within our school community.



Defence families

We are aware of the unique challenges facing children of Australian Defence Force (ADF) members. We currently have over 70 students from Defence families attending NCS, making up almost 16% of our school population.

As a result, we have employed a Defence School Mentor, whose primary role is to provide support to these families.

As a school, we celebrate the contributions our Defence families make to our community and the strengths and experiences they bring. We are also committed to supporting these families as they face the challenges of service life.

Defence Club

Our Defence Club is a place where students can relax, get to know other Defence students and enjoy a treat or two. Students are invited to participate in activities such as craft, group games or sporting activities in the school gym.

Defence families get-together

At least once a term, Defence families are invited to attend a family get-together. These are a great opportunity for students, parents and caregivers to connect with one another.





Book a tour
of our school

Joining our school

If you would like to know more about Nowra Christian School, please contact our Enrolment Officer who is always willing to answer your questions.

If you haven't already, please call us to organise a visit and individual tour of our school.

Please check our website for any enrolment events. We hold an Open Week in February/March every year. We also hold several Kindergarten Open Mornings and a Year 7 'Taste 'N' See Experience Day.

To enrol your child, please complete the online application form on our website, along with the online family reference statement. We will contact you to make an interview time. A non-refundable fee is payable upon acceptance of an enrolment offer.

Our main intake years for new students are Kindergarten and Year 7. However, we encourage you to make an enquiry for any year level as sometimes vacancies arise.

Our Enrolment Officer can be contacted on:

Phone (02) 4422 1199

Email enrolments@ncs.nsw.edu.au

More information and forms are available on our website www.ncs.nsw.edu.au

We thank you for your interest in our school and look forward to answering any further questions you may have.



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