Religion and Values Education Policy Statement

Rationale

The teaching of a Christian values-based curriculum at Aitken College is underpinned by the following considerations.

Aitken College is a school in association with the Uniting Church, and as such, its Religion and Values Education program presents the basis of Christianity as subscribed to by the major denominations and as reflected in the Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia.

The Religion and Values Education program seeks to reveal the great Christian traditions of God's Creative Power, Virtues, Love and Mercy and Forgiveness as these relate to the human experience, through Christ and the birth, growth and contemporary life of the Church. These are taught through our College values; kindness, compassion, honesty, excellence and respect.

The Religion and Values Education program:

- teaches what the Bible narratives reveal of God in history and story in the Old Testament, and particularly the New Testament through the teachings and life of Jesus Christ as depicted in the Gospels
- examines the birth of the early church and its life in history
- examines the values and expected life behaviour which are part of the Christian Faith

Key Curriculum Principles

1. Religion and Values Education is an academic program, with the same curriculum documentation requirements as any other i.e. programs of work and programs of assessment.
2. The program seeks to explore the relationship between positive Values for Life, and the Christian Faith, and how these can be understood in the context of both individual and community life.
3. The program seeks to teach the students about the Christian Faith in the context of their individual lives and their community. It is not intended to convert people to Christianity or from one denomination to another. We embrace and celebrate diversity and inclusion.
4. In order that the program is balanced and allows students to understand the place of the Christian Faith in the world, some appropriate emphasis is given to the study of world religions, their origins, formation and development, and their influence today, globally and in local community and individual life.
5. Religion and Values Education is a core subject and therefore a compulsory subject for all students until Year 10.
6. Agreement to attend Religion and Values Education classes is a condition of enrolment which parents agree to when enrolling children in the Terms of Enrolment form.
7. Religion and Values Education programs are subject to innovation, review and evaluation as any other subject in the curriculum.

Revision History

Version	Date	Reviewed by (name)	Position/Title	Approved by
1	05/06/2018	Kim Forward	Deputy Principal	Deputy Principal
1.1	05/06/2020	Kim Forward	Deputy Principal	Deputy Principal
2	20/05/2021	Josie Crisara	Principal	Principal
2.1	12/07/2022	Josie Crisara College Board	Principal	Principal
3	04/05/2023	Kim Forward	Deputy Principal	Deputy Principal
3.1	10/05/2024	Josie Crisara	Principal	Principal
	08/07/2024	College Board		
3.2	02/05/2025	Kim Forward	Deputy Principal	Deputy Principal
3.3	15/05/2026	Josie Crisara	Principal	Principal