

POLICY PAPER

College Purpose & Vision

(Statement of Faith)

Purpose of Hope Christian College

Hope Christian College exists to provide a Biblically based Christian education for all students who attend.

Vision of Hope Christian College

Developing the whole child in a caring, nurturing environment in the knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Christian Community Ministries Statement of Faith

Hope Christian College is a ministry of, and governed by, Christian Community Ministries (CCM).

We believe the Bible as originally given by God is divinely inspired, infallible, and entirely trustworthy, and is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct, from which we can know that:

God: There is one true eternal creator God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Creation: God created all things, making man and woman in His own image and for relationship with Him.

Sin: Sin entered into the world through human disobedience following the rebellion of Satan against God.

Christ: The Son, Christ Jesus, was born of a virgin and lived as a sinless man. Out of the abundance of God's love the Father gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die to save all people from sin. Christ rose from the grave defeating the power of sin.

Salvation: The death and resurrection of Christ brings salvation by grace through faith to those who repent, seek forgiveness, and believe in Him.

Spirit: The Holy Spirit, following Jesus' return to His Father in heaven, lives within those who have salvation as a comforter and guide; guaranteeing their eternal hope.

Life: Those who trust in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour are called to live a transformed life and as such we have the responsibility to:

- a. Encourage other Christians through meeting together for worship and fellowship
- b. Uphold moral directives and ethical values contained in the Bible as expressed within the context of their personal life, their marriage life (the covenantal relationship of one man and one woman), and their relationships with others
- c. Share the good news to all the world

d. Be active in expressing God's love through social justice.

Policy: College Purpose & Vision, Statement of Faith

Reviewed: February 2024



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Eternity: Jesus is the only way to a relationship with God. Those who have received salvation have eternal life as joint-heirs with Christ. Those who do not believe in Christ are separated from God for eternity.

Return and New Creation: Christ will return as Lord to the earth and everyone will see him. There will be a new heaven and a new earth.

Marriage: Marriage has been divinely established by God and affirmed by Jesus as the voluntary, lifelong union of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. Marriage is a symbolic representation of the nature of God's love for us and for His church, anticipating His union with the believers in eternity.

Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 19: 6-9.

Sexuality: Marriage is the only context in which human sexuality is to be expressed and in which sexual intimacy is to be experienced. The Bible teaches that sexual behaviour is to be limited to monogamous, heterosexual, married couples, and that believers are to abstain from sexual immorality.

Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:18-25; Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18:22; Matthew 5:27-28; Matthew 15:18-20; Acts 15:20; Romans 1:20-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 1 Corinthians 7:2; 1 Timothy 1:10; Hebrews 13:4.

Gender Identity: The two distinct, complementary genders (sexes) of male and female together reflect the image and nature of God (*Genesis 1:26-27*). The Bible ties gender identity to biological sex (*Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:22-24*) and does not make a distinction between the two. God's intended best for humankind is that we live our lives in accordance with our biological sex. According to Scripture, our gender identity is to align with our biological sex, as designed by God. The determination of biological sex commences in the womb and is recognised at birth (*Genesis 1:27; Genesis 5:1-2; Psalm 139:13-14; Mark 10:6*). We therefore acknowledge the biological sex of a person as recognised at birth and require practices consistent with that sex. *Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 2:22-24; Genesis 3:21; Genesis 5:1-2; Psalm 139:1-5 and 13-16; Matthew 19:4-5; Mark 10:6-7.*

Christian Character and the Appearance of Sin: Acknowledgement of our sin and acceptance of the loving grace of God will lead to purity and holiness as the Holy Spirit's work enables the believer to demonstrate the character of the perfect man, Jesus Christ. The Bible exhorts us to pursue godliness and to model Biblical standards of behaviour to our peers and the wider society in both word and deed. It also calls Christian believers to abstain from all appearance of evil and to be active members of a local Church and meet together regularly as a body so that we may encourage one another.

Leviticus 20:22-26; Deuteronomy 6:25; Psalm 133:1; Matthew 5:16; Acts 2:46; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Philippians 2:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; Titus 2:10-14; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2 Peter 3:11-14; 1 John 1:5-10.

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