



ELC Service Statement of Philosophy

Biblical Basis for Education

The educational philosophy of Covenant Christian School's Preschool is God-centred and is based on the belief that God's Word, laws, principles, ethics and standards are absolute truth and that the Bible is the inerrant and inspired Word of God. We teach that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

Supporting the Needs of Each Child

We believe that each child is uniquely created by God, in His image and develops at an individual rate (Genesis 1:26, Psalm 139:13-16). As such, children are supported and encouraged to learn, interact, ask questions, be listened to, take risks, and develop at their own pace in a loving and positive learning environment. Within each of the key learning areas, our curriculum will meet the varying needs and learning styles of individual children by incorporating a balance of child-guided free choice activities and structured learning opportunities. In addition, our curriculum is informed by the observations and analysis of our children's interests.

We teach our children to problem-solve and to be engaged in learning responsibility for themselves and others. Our aim is for children to respect themselves and others as image-bearers of God with inherent dignity and worth.

Supporting Growth in all Areas

Early childhood is a crucial time for social, emotional, cognitive, physical and spiritual growth. To foster growth in all areas, according to His design, we encourage the development of skills through play and interaction with people and objects in their environment. It is important to provide quality learning experiences within the classroom which are meaningful to each child.

Emotional Learning

Emotional learning in the early childhood setting is vital for children's ability to interact with and form relationships with others. Children need a safe setting to learn to express themselves and to react to others and to learn to regulate their emotions. Building a language of play not only helps in children's language skills and understanding, but also assists in developing their emotional and social wellbeing. We aim to have our students become functional members of a group, to be kind to one another, and to learn to take responsibility for tasks individually and as a group.

Learning through Play

We believe that play is essential for young children as it teaches them to be confident, to share and to explore. Play should be fun, exciting, hands-on and challenging. We believe it is important to provide opportunities for children to experiment, discover, explore, create, investigate, develop theories, solve problems, take calculated risks and express ideas with the support of other children and educators.

We believe in giving children time to play outdoors every day, play with water, walk barefoot on grass, learn how to grow things, walk on balance logs, ride on bikes and scooters, watch the frogs and fish, and kick piles of Autumn leaves. In other words, to grow in their wonder and appreciation for God's creation through engaging with it.

In addition, the children use the Primary School oval for activities such as soccer and the Primary Playground for climbing and free-play.

Dedicated Staff

We further believe that children learn by example (Deuteronomy 6:7) therefore all our teachers of young children confess Christ as Lord and Saviour, hold a biblical worldview, and live a Christian lifestyle in their home, school and community. Educators, therefore, model and display respectful actions and interactions between one another, and towards our children and families. Through the establishment and valuing of supportive partnerships we seek to assist parents in the nurture of their children by equipping them to live for God's glory.

Transition to School

The teaching and learning program is intentional and provides preparatory experiences for students, which create a pathway that equips each child with appropriate social, relational and organisational skills in preparation for transitioning to K-12 schooling. Throughout the year, the children are gradually introduced to the structure and routines of the School in order to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Approved by Council 24 October 2022