

## Philosophy – Statement of Special Character

Cornerstone Christian Preschool provides quality Christian early childhood education, primarily to support Christian families in the Manawatu. The Preschool:

- (i) Provides a Christ-centred environment where Christian values and principles are taught and outworked, and where a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ is encouraged.
- (ii) Upholds Biblical standards as the basis for every aspect of the curriculum and programme, providing quality, holistic educational success. The programme acknowledges the Treaty of Waitangi, and the individual heritage of all akonga (learners) in an increasingly diverse society.
- (iii) Fosters strong partnerships with family/whānau and has supportive connections to the community.”



All children are welcome to attend. However the Pastoral Reference form gives priority entry. Parents need to be able to support the Preschool's Special Character, which is Christian.

## **Statement of faith**

Key Christian Beliefs which are foundational to Cornerstone Christian Preschool  
(as determined by the Proprietor: Cornerstone Christian Education Trust)

### **About God**

God is the creator and ruler of the universe. He exists in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **About Creation**

God created the universe, earth and everything in it, according to the pattern set out in Genesis. Creation declares the glory of God. The incredible complexity of life gives proof to the existence of the creator.

Genesis 1-2; Psalm 19; Romans 1: 18-25

### **About Us**

Humans were made in the spiritual image of God, to be like him in character. Although we have tremendous potential for good, we are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates us from God.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1, 2

### **About Eternity**

Humans are created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; 1 John 2:25; 1 John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; Matthew 25:31-46

### **About Jesus Christ**

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4; Romans 1:3, 4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Titus 2:13

### **About Salvation and grace**

Salvation is a gift from God to us. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works – only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can we be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment we receive Jesus Christ into our life by faith. Grace is freely given to empower us to live holy lives in the ongoing journey of life.

Romans 10:9; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Corinthians 12:9

## **About adoption and our position in God**

Acceptance of Jesus as our Lord and saviour is how we become adopted into God's family. We become family together in Christ with God as our loving Father, and have the status of friends of Christ, included in His royal household.

Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5; John 1:12; John 15:15; 1 Peter 2:9

## **About The Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father, and the Son, as God. He is present in the world to make us aware of our need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what pleases God. As Christians, we seek to live under his guidance daily.

2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16, 17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1

## **About The Bible**

The Bible is God's word to all people. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5

## **About The Church**

There is one true universal Church made up of believers in Jesus Christ, and the local church is God's primary expression of His universal church in our world. We believe in the necessity of believers to meet regularly together for fellowship, prayer, and teaching from the word of God.

Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 3:10, 20-21, 5:27; 1 Corinthians 14:12, 26; 1 Peter 2:17; Hebrews 10:25

## **About Marriage and relationships**

Marriage is ordained by God and ideally is a decision for life. Marriage is between one man and one woman as taught in the New Testament scriptures. Families are ordained by God and are to be encouraged, upheld and supported.

Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5: 22-33; Hebrews 13:4

## **About mission**

Every believer has been commissioned and enabled to "go into the world to make disciples of every nation". Every believer has been given talents and gifts to be empowered to minister, in their unique calling; to function and serve both within the Christian community and in the world.

Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-11, 28-29

## **About unity**

We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers through Jesus Christ. This is seen through not only believer to believer unity, but also groups, gatherings and churches working together to enrich and advance the Kingdom of God in our community.

Psalm 133:1-3, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:11-13 Colossians 3:14;