



CAIRNS
ADVENTIST COLLEGE

Nurture for Today • Learning for Tomorrow • Character for Eternity

Special Character Statement

As a Seventh-day Adventist school our approach stems from a worldview informed by a knowledge of the character of God and an understanding of a distinct set of beliefs founded in the Bible. For this reason our school is: Bible-based, Christ-centred, Service-oriented and Kingdom-directed. It is through Believing, Becoming and Belonging that the Cairns Adventist College community will have the opportunity to grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Believing

The Bible says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). God is the Creator of all that was and is and is to come. He also created mankind in His own image (Genesis 1:26). As a result of separating ourselves from the Creator by disobeying His law of love, humanity became sinful and selfish (Psalm 53:3). However, because of His love for us, God has instituted a plan to save all mankind from the hopelessness of separation, through the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16). This good news is known as the gospel.

In accepting God's plan of restoration, we begin a friendship with God through Jesus, and maintain this relationship through the study of the Bible, prayer and worship. Humankind's meaning, therefore, is found not in self, but in a relationship with the Creator (John 17:3). All truth finds its centre and unity in God (John 14:6).

As we read the Bible, pray, worship and grow in our friendship with God our lives will be changed with a worldview derived from the Seventh-day Adventist Christian faith. As a staff we hope to present opportunities where the Holy Spirit can restore God's image in others and ourselves. With the Holy Spirit as our Helper, we will, through our teaching and example, lead others to see the importance of learning and making positive lifestyle choices (Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:20).

We see the Christian faith as more than just ethics and good values. It should pervade all areas of life as every activity has spiritual significance (1 Corinthians 10:31). It is for this reason that we also see the value of interdependence and collaboration in building harmonious communities.

Becoming

At Cairns Adventist College, excellence in education is more than just academics; it also involves the development of Christian character (Ecclesiastes 9:10; 2 Corinthians 3:18). This development of character is our love response to God and is based upon biblical teachings. This is then demonstrated by a set of values which is foundational to a selfless concern for others, and a correct understanding of our value in God's eyes (Matthew 7:12).

With teachers who have a passion for bringing Christ into the classroom, students will be given the opportunity to learn, develop and use Christian values. This will, in turn, develop resilience, empower them to make positive choices and demonstrate integrity whilst standing up for what they believe in (Proverbs 11:3).

These Christ-centred values help students to become more community-oriented and ready to serve others. As respectable members of society students are encouraged to use their talents to serve their church, their home, their school and the wider community (John 13:34; Ephesians 4:12).

Through the mindset of serving others, our students will have a self-driven purpose to strive for excellence.

Belonging

Every student is a candidate for heaven (2 Peter 3:9). At Cairns Adventist College, education is the preparation not only for life in society today and in the future but also for eternity. It gives them an identity as a unique and loved child of God (Romans 8:15).

We believe that a community, such as Cairns Adventist College, that provides identity and nurture will enhance student performance. Individuals are empowered to reach their potential through a safe and nurturing environment that is created through encouraging students to develop and maintain caring relationships with each other (John 10:10). As members of the family of God, students will have the opportunity to cultivate a personal connection with Him (Matthew 11:28).

*The special character of Cairns Adventist College is not simply words, statements or displays; it is not just embedded in the College's policies, procedures and practices; it is not only our lifestyle based on biblical values; it is not even our God-centered curriculum which celebrates God as Creator and investigates the world which He created; it is, in fact, all of these, and more. Our special character is central to the very reason our College exists – it is encapsulated in what we believe and evidenced through what we do – **it is who we are at Cairns Adventist College.***

For more information about what Seventh-day Adventist Christians believe, please visit www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental