

Becoming a Member of Ballina Christian Education Association

Members of Richmond Christian College's Association seek to apply the biblical direction to *train up children in the way they should go* (Proverbs 22:6) and are committed to shaping the kind of education their children experience. **Members want students who attend Richmond Christian College to receive high quality, distinctively Christian education.**

A strong and committed Association is vital to continuing the work of Christian education, as we partner with Christian parents to help them fulfil their mandate of educating their children in Christ.

Therefore, Christian parents and others dedicated to the cause of Christian education are encouraged to join our School Association.

Ballina Christian Education Association Ltd (BCEA) is a member-based company limited by guarantee and governed by a Constitution. A full copy of the BCEA Constitution is available on the school website.

Membership of the Association is important because:

- You have a vital role in electing suitable Directors who will protect and promote the mission and vision of the school.
- It is an expression of your connection with the Vision and Mission Statement and your support for the purposes of the school.
- A faithful, active and prayerful Association ensures that the distinctively Christian character of the school is maintained.

When a person becomes an Association member they are:

- Committing to protect and preserve the Mission and Vision of Richmond Christian College (RCC).
- Accepting a role in ensuring that the activities of RCC are consistent with that mission and vision.
- Committing to governing the organisation by prayerfully and thoughtfully exercising their vote for Board members.
- Delegating to the Board the authority to govern on their behalf.
- Expressing an interest in staying informed and prayerful about the life of the school.

Association members may vote on resolutions at BCEA's Annual General Meeting and should expect to receive audited financial statements along with information about the activities of the school and future initiatives. At the AGM, Association members are responsible for selecting from the membership those who will serve on the School-Board.

To apply for membership please complete and sign the attached application form and Statement of Faith. Application forms can be lodged through the School Office.

Application for Membership of
Ballina Christian Education Association Limited

Under the Corporations Law, the following information is required of all applicants for membership of the Ballina Christian Education Association Ltd (the Association).

Under Clause 6.4 of the Constitution, applications must be in writing in the form prescribed by the Directors and accompanied by a copy of the Statement of Faith signed by the applicant confirming that the applicant subscribes fully to the Statement of Faith.

Please refer to the Constitution for further details of the rights and responsibilities of membership*.

SECTION 1

Full name: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

** Membership is for a term of three (3) years. At the conclusion of each three (3) years, each Member must reapply for Membership.*

SECTION 2

To be eligible to be a Member, a person must be proposed and seconded by an existing Member.

The person named in Section 1 above is proposed by:

_____ and seconded by: _____
(Print name) (Print name)

_____ _____
(Signature) (Signature)

SECTION 3

Please provide the name and phone number of the pastor of the church of which you attend, to confirm that you are a regular attender of that church.

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Position: _____

Church: _____

Please sign and attach the Statement of Faith to indicate that you fully subscribe to it.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The basis of the company is the divinely inspired, inerrant word of God, the Holy Bible, as it is acknowledged and defined by the Reformed Confessions. The Company is not a church body nor is it subject to any denominational organisations, but it is governed autonomously in relation to all other institutions and organisations.

The Company is based on the following principles:

(a) Holy Scripture and Education

By faith we confess the books of the Old and New Testament to be the divinely inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only absolute rule for all faith and conduct and also for the education of our children at home and at school.

(b) Christian Parents and Education

As believing parents we have Christ's comforting assurance for our children that he will bless them when we bring them to Him .

Expecting the fulfillment of his promise and obeying his command, we endeavour to bring our children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord .

Since the responsibility for this task has been placed on our shoulders as parents we gladly accept responsibility for that part of the education which takes place outside our homes in the school. We consider our involvement in Christian Schooling to be our duty and God-given privilege.

(c) Christian Schools

As Christ is the Saviour and King of the whole of human life we understand a Christian school to be an educational institution in which Christ is not only honoured by prayer and study of the Bible, but all subjects are taught by the light of God's revelation in Jesus Christ contained in the Old and New Testaments.

For such a Christian school, we, as parents, claim freedom in the field of education as long as this education takes place in obedience to the requirements of God's Word and in adherence to legitimate governmental standards and provision.

(d) Some Doctrines Fundamental to Christian Education

Believing all the truth revealed in the Word of God, we wish to emphasise some doctrines which are of special importance to Christian education. They are:

(i) God and creation.

All things were created by God. God created them in, through and for Christ by his Word and Spirit for His glory. It is also by God's direction, power and care that all created things are sustained. In order to understand the world, man and history, they must be seen in their relationship to God as the Bible speaks of it.

(ii) The Bible and Sciences

Creation as well as Scripture has been brought forth by the same God of Truth. Therefore, any seeming discrepancy between the Bible and science can only be due to human error either in science or in the interpretation of Scripture.

(iii) Man

Man was created in the image of God to enjoy true communion with his creator. Man was instructed to exercise dominion over the world in strict and loving obedience to God.

(iv) Sin

By disobeying God's law, man estranged himself from God and brought God's curse upon himself and all creation.

(v) Regeneration

The call of God to salvation is by his grace alone through faith in which we receive new life.

(vi) Christ

Jesus Christ, the second person of the Holy Trinity, is God incarnate, the Word become flesh. Laying down his life for his people, he paid the price of sin for them, being a ransom for all who truly believe in him. Risen from the dead in his physical body, and having ascended to the throne of heaven, he is the king of the universe .

(vii) The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity, the divine source of all created life is also the source of faith in Christ, true spiritual knowledge. As the fruit of Christian education depends on the work of the Holy Spirit, both parents and teachers pray that God may bless their work that the children come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord.

I (Full Name) _____ agree with this Statement of Faith

Signature: _____ Date: _____