

## **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:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 become 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

<b>Preamble</b>	This Statement of Faith outlines what we believe as we engage in the task of Christian education and in the mission of growing followers of Jesus Christ. This is the faith on which our school was founded. This is who we are; this is what we practice, teach and promote.
<b>God</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There is one God who is three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.<sup>1</sup></li> <li>2. God created the world and He created us to be His people. God loves us and is our Father in Heaven. He is Lord over all and provides us with everything we need. God reveals Himself to us most of all through His Son Jesus Christ, through His Word in the Bible and through His creation.<sup>2</sup></li> </ol>
<b>The Bible</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The Bible is God's written Word, spoken by God through the people who wrote it. Because of this we can trust the Bible in everything we believe and do. In the Bible, God tells us how much He loves us and how He wants to be with us forever, as His family. The Bible guides and directs us on how God wants us to live. It tells us what God is like and that His plan for us is good.<sup>3</sup></li> </ol>
<b>Life before God</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. God is Holy and His law is perfect. God created humanity, both male and female, in His own image. Since the beginning when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, all people have broken God's laws. This is what sin is. God is offended when we break His laws. Unless we turn to Him and ask His help to turn away from our sin, we will be separated from Him.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>5. But God loves us and does not want to be separated from us. God wants us to be in His family. He wants us to honour Him because He made the world and He rules over the world. He wants us to learn about Him from the Bible. He wants us to talk to Him and enjoy being with Him.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>6. God's plan is to welcome us into His family again. This happens when we trust in Jesus. Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man and taught people about God. Jesus lived exactly how God planned for Him and never broke God's law. Jesus took the consequences for our sin when He died on the cross. Because of this, God promises He will forgive us when we turn to Him and away from our sin. Believing in Jesus and why He died for us is the only way we can be in God's family again.<sup>6</sup></li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> Deut. 6:4, Matt. 28:19, Mark 12:29, John 14:8–18

<sup>2</sup> Gen. 1, Ps. 19:1–4, Ps. 33:6, Rom. 1:20, Heb. 1:1–4

<sup>3</sup> Deut. 10:12–13, 2 Tim. 3:16–17, 2 Peter 1:19–21

<sup>4</sup> Gen. 1:27, Rom. 1:18–32, Rom. 5:12–14, Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:3

<sup>5</sup> John 14:1–3, Rom. 3:22–24

<sup>6</sup> Matt. 20:28, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Tim. 2:5–6, 1 Peter 2:22–24



	<p>7. Jesus died for us, but that was not the end! Jesus also rose from the dead. He is alive again! Jesus is Lord of all. He broke the power of sin and death. The Bible says Jesus is now in Heaven. He rules over the world with God. Jesus is preparing a place for every person who trusts in Him.<sup>7</sup></p> <p>8. Because Jesus is God's Son and the ruler of everything, we can be sure His promises are true. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us believe God's promises and to understand the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps us believe in Jesus. The Holy Spirit helps us see all the things we do that break God's law, and helps us to be more like God wants us to be. He encourages us to do God's work here on earth. God is bringing His world back to Himself and wants us to participate with Him in this work. One day Jesus will return to this world, and everything will be made new and right.<sup>8</sup></p> <p>9. God wants us to tell all people in the world about how much He loves them. God wants us to tell all people about how He is the ruler of the world. God wants us to tell all people about Jesus and why He died. Every person who puts their trust in Jesus becomes part of God's family, called the church.<sup>9</sup></p> <p>10. The Bible says that God's promises are for all people who believe in Him. This means Christian parents want to teach their children to know and love God too. God's best plan for children is that they grow up in families. The Bible teaches that families are formed through marriage and tells us that marriage is a commitment between one man and one woman, to the exclusion of all others, that is intended to last for life and is the rightful and only, place for sexual activity and procreation.<sup>10</sup></p> <p>11. In creating humanity, God created each person as distinctly male or female<sup>11</sup>. God intends that our biological sex be the good and rightful expression of who He made us to be as creatures under Him. The rejection of God-given biological sex and distinguishing between biological sex and gender is inconsistent with God's design, and diminishes the reflection of the image of God within a person.</p>
<b>A Christian</b>	<p>12. A Christian is someone who trusts in God's gift of Jesus Christ as his or her Saviour and who strives to follow Jesus' example in every area of life. Christians respond to God's grace and accept God's call to acknowledge and follow Jesus Christ as Lord. Christians seek to live authentic biblically grounded lives in community with other believers including but not limited to active and regular participation in their local church, dependent on the Holy Spirit, and across all spheres of life, including education.<sup>12</sup></p>

<sup>7</sup> Matt. 28:18, Luke 24:36–43, John 5:21–23, John 14:2–3, 1 Peter:1:3

<sup>8</sup> John 14:16–18, John 15:26, 1 Cor. 2:9–10, 1 Cor. 12:3, Titus 3:3–8

<sup>9</sup> John 14:16–18, John 15:26, 1 Cor. 2:9–10, 1 Cor. 12:3, Titus 3:3–8

<sup>10</sup> Gen. 1:27–28, Gen. 2:24, Gen 17:7, Matt. 19:4–6, Matt. 19:14, Acts 2:39, Eph. 5:22–32

<sup>11</sup> Gen 1:27, Gen 5:1-2, Matt 19:4, Mk 10:6



<b>Christian Schooling</b>	<p>13. As a Christian school, we aim to partner with Richmond Christian College families to teach children that the world and everything in it belong to God and that our ultimate purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. As a Christian school we weave this understanding and the story and teaching of the Bible as a key thread through our curriculum and in our everyday practices, activities and operations.<sup>13</sup></p> <p>14. God wants His family to protect and nurture every person as an individual who has dignity and worth from before they are born. He wants His people to work for justice in every society and to protect and care for His creation. He wants us to love others as He loves them.<sup>14</sup></p> <p>15. This is God's world and Jesus Christ is at the heart of all things. Jesus is the ruler and King of everything we do. He is Lord in our schools, in our homes, in our lives and in our hearts. Everything we do can be done with thanks for everything God has given us as an act of worship to Him.<sup>15</sup></p>
<b>Enrolment</b>	<p>We welcome enrolment applications for students from a variety of faith and non-faith beliefs and backgrounds. The school prioritises the enrolment of children of Christian parents and those who attest to their agreement to uphold RCC's Biblical ethos and constitution as outlined in this Statement of Faith.</p> <p>Whilst students, parents, guardians or carers from non-Christian families may hold different views and beliefs, they are required to acknowledge this Statement of Faith. It is important when joining the school community, that families understand what the school practices, teaches and promotes.</p>

I (Full Name) \_\_\_\_\_ am in agreement with this Statement of Faith.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>12</sup> John 14:16-18 John 15:26 Rom. 6:23, Rom. 12, Titus 3:3-8, 1 Peter 2:21

<sup>13</sup> Deut. 6:6-7, Deut. 10:14, Ps. 24:1, Eph. 6:4

<sup>14</sup> Gen. 1:26-28, Ex. 20:13, Ps. 139:13-16, Micah 6:8

<sup>15</sup> Deut. 10:14, Ps 24:1, Ps 150:6, Eph. 1:20-22, Rev. 5:13