

HANDBOOK



LEADERSHIP - DISCIPLESHIP - COMMUNITY



GERALDTON CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION INC.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Association.

The following information will help you understand how you can be involved in the Association.

Association Mission Statement:

“We are an association of people who are committed to exploring what it means to faithfully honour God in all pursuits of life through the establishment, promotion and future of education from a distinctly Christian perspective to meet the needs of all members of our communities.”

Objectives of the Association

The objectives of the Association are to:

- Establish and manage educationally sound schools and other educational institutions based on Christian principles.
- Promote and facilitate Christian education encouraging the search for truth in the context of God’s sovereignty and His created universe, realising the limited value of learning for its own sake or in isolation from a knowledge of God and His plan.

Qualification for membership:

Membership of the Association is open to any person over the age of 18 years;

- Interested in furthering the objectives of the Association,
- Who declares his or her agreement with such objectives,
- Accepts and signs the Statement of Faith,
- Is in regular weekly attendance at a Christian church, and
- Has a signed testimonial from their pastor or recognised church leader.

Association Structure

The current structure of the Association is as follows:

GCCS Association Inc.

CEO/Principal

Strathalbyn Christian College

MEETINGS

General meetings:

There shall be a General Meeting in the first and last term of each year to receive financial statements and reports, transact any business and set dates for future meetings

Meeting Information

The Association holds four (4) meetings a year; two as the condition instructs, are official **General** meetings for Association members only, held in the first and fourth terms. Notification will be sent to members of these meetings.

There are two other informal meetings held in Terms two and three as Information Nights for all members and interested persons. All meetings are held at Strathalbyn Christian College and letters of notification will be sent to the whole community.

Prayer Meeting Information

Prayer releases the power of God and brings His revelation to His people. The Board holds four prayer meetings during the year, one each term, usually before a scheduled meeting of members. All of our community is invited to attend the prayer walk around the College. Notification of these meetings are emailed and advertised in the College newsletter.

Loss of membership:

Your membership will cease based on the following situations:

- The member has conducted him/herself in a manner unworthy of the Association
- Failure to accept the fundamental truths of Christianity as outlined in our objectives and statement of faith
- No longer interested in furthering the objectives of the Association
- No longer in regular weekly attendance at a Christian Church
- No longer attending one of any three (3) consecutive General Meetings without due cause

All members receive a full copy of the Constitution upon acceptance into the Association. Please read the whole document and ask questions as required.

YOUR ROLE & EVENTS

Your Role

By being an Association member you have indicated that you want to be part of the vision for the Association and will take the responsibility to pray, participate and communicate with your Board members.

As a Board it is imperative we know what you think and seek your feedback, ideas and support.

Members are reminded that the CEO/Principal is the contact point for all operational (day to day) matters for Strathalbyn Christian College as per the Family Handbook.

Strathalbyn Christian College

Our College is a community of learners who, under God, explore, discuss, test and enjoy all facets of our world.

The staff who make these classrooms 'come to life' are attempting to enact God's plan for this earth, to help the students understand the abundance of God's plan for their lives and to help equip each student with the skills and knowledge necessary to join in His Kingdom - here on earth.

Our Vision Statement:

"Be the Geraldton School of choice for Christian families, providing world renown, Biblically grounded, Christ-centred Wholistic Education."

Our Mission Statement:

"In partnership with parents, Strathalbyn Christian College aims to make known the Lordship of Jesus Christ through excellence in education to equip students for works of service."

Our tag line:

"Learning God's Way"

Our Motto:

"Edify"

Yearly Events

- Term 1
 - Monthly Board Meetings
 - Welcome Feast
 - **Prayer & GCCSA AGM**
- Term 2
 - Monthly Board Meetings
 - GCCSA Information Meeting new members
 - Board Induction
 - Meeting for new Board members
- Term 3
 - Monthly Board Meetings
 - GCCSA Prayer & Information Evening
- Term 4
 - Monthly Board Meetings
 - **GCCSA General Meeting**
 - Primary & Secondary Presentation Nights

Board of Directors

There shall be a Board of Directors elected by members of the Association, including Life Members and consisting of the:

- Chair,
- Deputy Chair,
- Secretary, and
- Additional members

HISTORY

The Geraldton Christian Schools Association Inc. was formed in the late 1970's, after Mr George Edland was visiting a friend and happened upon a "Nurture" magazine about Christian Schools. George and his wife, Marlene were overjoyed at this discovery, they called it their Damascus Road experience.

After finding out a little more information and while having afternoon tea after church one Sunday, George and Marlene voiced the thought of a Christian School and the idea caught on well. A steering committee was formed and after a great deal of prayer, hard work and vision, a small school was created.

With Year 1-7 of 39 students and two teachers from Tasmania the school began on the 6th February 1979 in the hall behind the Church of Christ.

In 1982 a Year 8 class was added and they began High School in the old Church building in 119 Shenton Street. A search began to find land on which to build a school. As they progressed the present school site, formerly know as "Sunnybanks Farm" was made available for purchase by it's Christian owners. This was perfect. Praise God!

God moved mountains for title deeds and all the necessary documentation to be approved in a short time.



Then we were able to acquire three large demountable classrooms from the Education Department. A major feat in transporting was performed to bring them to the current site.

1983 heralded the opening of the combined Primary and High School, Years 1-9 as 'Strathalbyn Christian College' and our motto "Edify" was adopted.

Since then we have seen God's wonderful provision of first class teaching facilities and staff. As a Board we know that the early conviction, vision and prayer has made a solid foundation for us as a community of believers to stand on.

The Board strongly encourages you to remember and honour that early foundation by being vigilant, prayerful and supportive of the future that God has for us.

To God be the glory, great things He has done.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NATIONAL

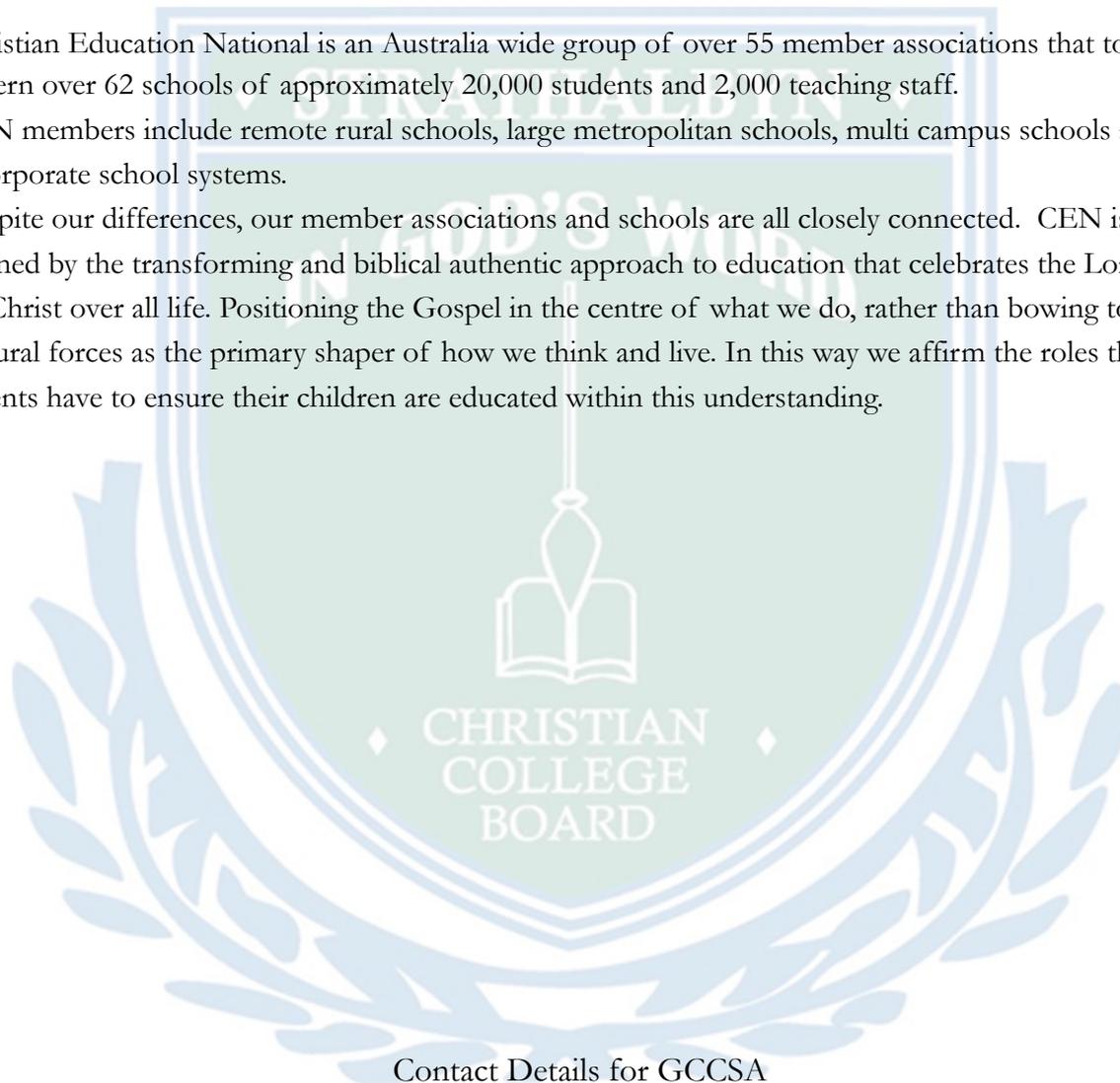


Christian Education National (CEN)

Christian Education National is an Australia wide group of over 55 member associations that together govern over 62 schools of approximately 20,000 students and 2,000 teaching staff.

CEN members include remote rural schools, large metropolitan schools, multi campus schools and incorporate school systems.

Despite our differences, our member associations and schools are all closely connected. CEN is defined by the transforming and biblical authentic approach to education that celebrates the Lordship of Christ over all life. Positioning the Gospel in the centre of what we do, rather than bowing to cultural forces as the primary shaper of how we think and live. In this way we affirm the roles that parents have to ensure their children are educated within this understanding.



Contact Details for GCCSA

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