Christian Environment

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith…" Colossians 2:6-7

Purpose: To commit to building a Christian educational environment and connection of students and staff with Anglican Christian values and the Schools Mission and Vision characterised by a global vision that inspires hope.

Scope: All Barker

Responsibility: Senior Chaplain

Learning in a Christian Environment

1. Barker College is an Anglican School that welcomes students and staff from a variety of Christian denominations and other faith traditions.

2. Barker's educational philosophy, is grounded in the precepts of the Christian gospel and in Christian teaching, and Christian values undergird every aspect of School life and community.

3. The School offers each student the opportunity to come to a closer understanding of the Christian faith, and teaching staff members draw upon their personal and professional qualities in ways which provide our young people with a constant example of Christian living.

Chapel, Christian Studies and Voluntary Christian Groups

4. As part of their education in a Christian environment, students attend Chapel and Christian Studies classes each week.

5. Participation in Christian worship enables young people to share in a corporate statement of a Christian faith that is real and relevant to the lives of young people today.

Barker accepts and values each student's integrity and individuality and yet the School takes seriously its responsibility to foster each student's spiritual development, so we strive to enable students to consider seriously the claim of Christ on their lives,

6. Our approach to Christian education upholds that genuine personal commitment can only arise when students are encouraged to engage with the Christian faith openly, thoughtfully, and with integrity. We affirm the importance of providing opportunities for students to examine Christian beliefs critically and honestly, enabling them to explore and respond for themselves.
7. The School provides voluntary Christian groups as an environment where students may intentionally choose to participate to explore and deepen their faith. These groups exist to support genuine Christian formation through thoughtful engagement with Scripture, opportunities for ministry training, and pastoral care. They offer students a voluntary space to grow spiritually, ask questions, and develop a lived understanding of Christian belief and practice.

Christian Commitment

8. The School expects that staff members, who may not necessarily themselves fully share the Christian faith, will nonetheless encourage the students to approach Christian teaching and Christian precepts receptively.

9. Teaching staff are generally expected to attend weekly Chapel services alongside the students and all staff are welcome.

References:

References in Normal

Version control:

Pete Tong	School Chaplain • Christian Studies Staff	
Version number	Date reviewed	Reviewed by and comments
1.0	18/11/2025	Barker College

Next review due
November 2028