



*In Novitate Vitae – In Newness of Life*

*"I have come so that you may have life and have it to the full" (John 10:10)*

# St Bede's Catholic College

## Mission Statement

St Bede's Catholic College has committed itself to the principles of Catholic education and academic excellence, as envisioned by our namesake, St Bede. Our core mission is to ensure that each child is challenged and given every opportunity to flourish and grow spiritually, academically and socially within a Christian environment, founded on the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Everything we do has its foundation in love and we want to encourage all in our community to partner with God so as to walk in newness of life.

We aim to:

- Enrich students' understanding of the Catholic faith and to cultivate respect and understanding for other religious traditions. Prayer and worship is central to college life.
- Create an environment that is warm and welcoming, well-ordered and disciplined, reflecting the mutual trust and respect between staff and students where each person is recognised as an individual, valued and enabled to fulfil their potential to the highest possible standard.
- Provide a full and comprehensive curriculum for all students to enable them to develop their full potential in all areas of college life: spiritual, intellectual, physical, creative, moral and social.
- Give students a unique experience that will prepare them for the future and last a life time.
- Promote a spirit of collaboration and co-operation, recognising that all staff have a contribution to make to the college. All teachers and support staff must be valued and treated with respect.
- Develop strong relationships with our students and their families.
- Reflect the principles of equal opportunity for all in our structures, curriculum, values and policies.
- Inspire students to be good stewards of the earth, to conserve and protect God's creation and the earth's resources.
- Have a transformational impact on the individual, giving them confidence that they can make a difference in the world.

Everything that we do at St Bede's is built on the firm foundation of the person, teachings and values of Jesus Christ as found in the Gospels. The school experience of every child at St Bede's is firmly grounded in these values. Every student at St Bede's will be encouraged to:

**Be fuelled with positivity and be aware of their potential:** *“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice... I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4: 4, 13)*

At St Bede's young people are encouraged to have a positive mind-set, to show a willingness to try their hardest in any endeavour and to trust in their own God-given potential. Our sixth form is called Arete which means “be the best you can be”.

**Be a person of hope:** *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)*

At the core of our vision, “In Newness of Life”, stands the ideal of hope. Young people at St Bede's are encouraged to believe in the power of hope, so that in any difficulty they may face in life, they can rely on the joy and the peace that comes with hope.

**Be proud and confident in their own identity:** *“No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on the lampstand so that those who enter may see the light. ... If then your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in darkness, it will be as full of light as when a lamp gives you light with its rays.” (Luke 11: 33, 36)*

Understanding identity is an integral part of a young person's experience. At St Bede's young people are reminded that we were all “beautifully and wonderfully made” in God's own image. Each student's identity and individuality is celebrated at St Bede's and students are encouraged not to hide who they are, but to be confident and share their identities with others. This will be accepted and respected by all.

As part of the mission of the Diocese of Clifton to educate young people, we see our task as a shared endeavour; a partnership between college, home and parish, working together for the benefit of all students at St Bede's. We aim to harmonise faith and culture, build a better society and pursue the Common Good by:

- Fostering links with our local community, families and parish in order to prepare our students for the opportunities and challenges of adult life.
- Recognising the effort, personal development, academic achievements and student's contribution to the college and community life.
- Preparing our students to gain from the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges in an ever-changing secular society.