



FAITH
CITY SCHOOL

Te Kura Hāpori o te Whakapono

Prospectus



To learn, grow and serve the Lord

Purpose

Faith City School is a Christian year 0 to year 8 school established by Faith City Church to serve as an extension to all Christian families in Whanganui by providing an excellent educational programme presented from a sound biblical foundation and based on the values and lifestyle as revealed in the bible. This is Faith City School's special character and is laid out in the deed of integration between the Crown and Faith City Church (The Proprietors).

Faith City School aims to provide an excellent Christian education that will meet the spiritual, social, academic, emotional and physical needs of its students. The Christian teachers are committed to each child's total development.

Caregivers wishing to enroll their children at Faith City School must have established a particular or general connection with the special character of Faith City School.

Special Character

The special character of the school is determined by a Christian approach to living consistent with the Official Statements of The General Council of the Assemblies of God of New Zealand and presented by the qualified staff.

The school will:

- Use the bible as a basis for exploring God's world and as a standard against which to compare and interpret all curriculum material.

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- Teach Christian values, behaviour and forgiveness through the process of acknowledgment of sin, repentance and acceptance of Jesus' gift of grace.
- Use prayer as a key tool, inviting the Holy Spirit into every learning situation.
- Encourage each child, as a unique individual, to develop to his/her fullest potential the gifts God has given to him/her.
- Acknowledge achievement in accordance with the child's efforts.
- Integrate knowledge and understanding with Christian beliefs through a balanced, comprehensive range of learning strategies based upon appropriate curriculum and proven education programmes.
- Provide an environment where children, parents and teachers can experience godly relationships, showing the character of Christ in love, discipline, respect honour and trust, and witness an exemplary demonstration of biblical truths in the lives of others.

History of Faith City School

Faith City School is a full primary school (students from Year 1 to 8). The school is situated in Springvale, Whanganui behind and adjacent to Faith City Church.

The school started in 1979 and was originally named "Springvale Christian Academy". Originally the school operated as a private school, however the school applied for and successfully became state integrated in 1995 which resulted in a tripling of staff and student numbers. State integration means that the Government pays teacher salaries and provides some funding for the school to operate, while at the same time allowing the school to keep it's unique and special character as a Christian School.

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At the end of 2013 the school name was officially re-named “Faith City School” to bring it in line with the proprietorship name “Faith City Church.”

There are currently six classrooms at Faith City School, with a mix of year levels in each classroom. The school has a maximum roll of 150 Students. Faith City School is a “Special Character School” so the number of non-Christian families that we are allowed at any time is 5%.

Faith City School’s curriculum is taught from a Christian viewpoint. All the teachers are Christians (from a variety of churches within the Whanganui district). Students are also encouraged to learn a scripture verse and attend Chapel together as a school at least once a fortnight.

Faith City School is a member of the (New Zealand Association of Christian Schools) NZACS.

Faith City School Christian Themes

At Faith City School we believe that the Bible is the basis for exploring God's world and is used as a standard against which to compare and interpret all curriculum material. Faith City School’s curriculum is based on units of learning which are all focused on the nature and character of God.

All learning in our integrated curriculum will be underpinned by a specific term focus on one aspect of the nature and character of God (see 4 year plan below).

From each of these over-arching themes the following is extracted:

- a) a key thought and memory verses for the term;
- b) a curriculum focus and learning context;
- c) Biblical Character application.

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In 2021 our themes were:

Term 1 – God is our Source

Term 2 – God is One God

Term 3 – God is Forgiving

Term 4 – God is a Peacemaker

In 2023 our themes will be:

Term 1 – God is Faithful

Term 2 – God is Generous

Term 3 – God is Creative

Term 4 – God is at our Provider

In 2022 our themes will be:

Term 1 – God is Wise

Term 2 - God is Loving

Term 3 – God is Calling Us

Term 4 – God is all Powerful

In 2024 our themes will be:

Term 1 – God is the Owner of the Earth

Term 2 – God is at Work

Term 3 – God is Holy & Pure

Term 4 – God is Truthful

PB4L School Wide (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

At Faith City School we aim to “build a safe, supportive, exciting environment within our school community, encouraging positive and respectful relationships that will lead to improved academic achievement and support lifelong learning”. We do this through our Positive Behaviour for Learning Principles (PB4L).

What is PB4L?

The PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) initiative has been very successful across many schools in New Zealand. It is an evidenced based framework and looks at behaviour and learning from a whole school and individual student and community perspective.

It provides schools with a process for teaching social and behavioural skills and helps to develop and reinforce a positive, proactive and systematic approach based on school data. It takes the approach that opportunities for learning and achievement increase if:

- the school environment is positive and supportive
- expectations are consistently clear

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- students are consistently taught expected behaviours
- expected behaviours are consistently acknowledged
- inappropriate behaviours are consistently responded to in a fair and equitable way.

Positive Behaviour for Learning is a set of principles that emphasise the positive. ALL staff are active participants in this process. This includes teachers, teacher aides, administration staff, the caretaker and any other staff or members of the community who interact with our students at Faith City School. All adults on site will seek to acknowledge students who are meeting our behavioural expectations.

The PB4L Difference

- Children and young people more engaged and achieving at school.
- The behaviour of students improve.
- The incidents of problem behaviour decline.
- Parents and whānau will have confidence and strategies to build positive relationships with their children.
- School leaders will monitor and improve approaches to build a positive culture and increase engagement of their students.
- Students will be able to explain why they received recognition for their behaviour. When questioned, students will be able to respond connecting their actions to the school respect 'values'.
- A culture of positivity will prevail throughout our school.

Our school's values Respect for God, Respect for Self, Respect for Others and Respect for the Environment are encapsulated in the logo below which is displayed around the school grounds.

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Matrix of Expected Behaviours:

A matrix of expected behaviours explicitly outlines the behavioural expectations and deliberate acts of teaching required to reinforce our school-wide expectations. These will be taught by classroom teachers and reinforced by all staff.

Please see chart on the last page of the brochure which outlines the matrix.

Rewards and Reinforcements:

Acknowledging and rewarding correct and exemplary behaviour is an integral part of PB4L. The following are the school wide recognition systems we have implemented at Faith City School. Students earn respect points for displaying appropriate behaviours according to the matrix lessons taught both in the class and at break times. Once they reach a benchmark level seen below they are rewarded accordingly.

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Respect Points Rewards
450 points: Gym visit
300 points: Hot chips or Funky hair day
200 points: Come to school in mufti
150 points: Chocolate bar or ice block or Wear your own shoes day
100 points: Ice block or Mini chocolate bar or 10 minutes earlier to morning tea

Restorative Practices:

Faith City School is a restorative school. Restorative Practices focus upon dealing with any behavioural concerns but in a manner that enables respect for each other's mana.

It is all about relationships at Faith City School and establishing a positive culture of care.

In dealing with any expectations not being met we work alongside our students to bring growth.

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Pastoral Care / Counselling

Faith City School provides students with the opportunity once a week to speak with a qualified counsellor. Students can speak to about any issues (personal or otherwise) that they feel they may need to discuss. This is done in a confidential non-threatening environment. This has been a good opportunity for students to share feelings and problems with an impartial counsellor and where appropriate obtain sound Christian advice and prayer. The Faith City Church counsellor works closely with the Principal and Deputy Principal.

Chapel

Chapel services are an important part of our school life. They help develop students understanding of our biblical worldview through worship and the word of God. We hold the chapel services fortnightly with our Faith City Church ministers, teaching staff and other pastors from local churches sharing poignant messages with our students.

Buddy Programme

For many years Faith City School has run a buddy programme. All new entrant students entering Faith City School are paired up with a senior buddy. This buddy is usually a Year 7 or 8 student who will buddy the new entrant student for their first two years at Faith City School. Year 7 or 8 students are given the appropriate training before being assigned a new entrant buddy and are given a gender appropriate buddy e.g. senior girls are paired up with new entrant girls. New entrant students are able to settle into school routines with the assistance of their buddy. They can approach their buddy with any

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small problems they have. This continues to be a very successful programme that both the new entrant students and the senior students enjoy.

Physical Education / Sport

Faith City School students regularly participate in physical education activities within their classes. Badminton, rippa rugby, swimming at the Splash Centre, athletics, jump jam, fitness circuits, small and large ball skills and team building games are some of the activities completed in class time.

Year 7 and 8 students are also offered the opportunity to participate in outside the classroom events such as Super Six Sports for softball, football, netball, touch, swimming and racquet ball sports where competitions are arranged between Faith City School students and other schools. We also have students in all year levels entering West Country schools competitions for swimming and athletics as well as giving the opportunity to students to compete in tabloid sports days at Cooks Gardens.

The school also offers extra-curricular sports for students. Summer sports offered are cricket, touch, tee ball, softball and volleyball. Winter sports are hockey, netball, basketball and mini ball. Students wear the school PE uniform for extra-curricular sports while representing Faith City School.

Enrolment Procedures

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1. POLICY STATEMENTS:

1. The Enrolment Procedure including enrolment priority status will be consistent with the Schools Integration Deed and section 29(1) of the Integration Act – ‘Preference of enrolment’.
2. A maximum of 150 students can be enrolled according to the maximum roll entitlement of the school.
3. *Preferential enrolments* are granted to the children of Christian parents, who desire to see their children educated in a biblical and God honouring way.
4. *Non preferential enrolments* will be granted to children of non-Christian parents but shall not exceed 5% of the school roll.

2. ENROLMENT PROCEDURES:

1. Applications for enrolment are to be made by the student’s legal guardian/s by completing the appropriate enrolment application form and signing and agreeing to the conditions of enrolment.
2. The Application shall be assessed by applying the following *priority statuses*:

Preference Students – Priority shall be given to those pupils whose:

1. Parents/guardian/whanau are active Christians and who desire to see their children educated within a biblically Christian world view.
2. A Minister/Pastor of a Christian church signs the appropriate document to confirm the family is a part of a Christian church community.

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Non-Preference Student – Priority shall be given to non-preference students where there are places available and within the maximum non-preference student roll of 5% as follows:

1. The siblings of non-preference students already in the school.
2. Family of former non-preference students.
3. The children of staff or Board members who seek to enrol their children.
4. Non-preference students coming from another integrated school with the same special character.
5. Children who live within the zone of the school and who want to participate in the special character programme of the school.

Waiting List:

Preference and Non-preference students who cannot enrol immediately may choose to be placed on a waiting list. Students on this list are wait listed by date and number according to where they stand in order of priority and will be contacted if places become available. At the end of the calendar year the list is removed, parents will be notified and may apply to be reinstated on the waitlist for the following year.

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 FAITH CITY SCHOOL <small>To learn, grow and serve the Lord</small>	 All Settings	 Classroom	 Playground	 Lounge/Auditorium or Gym	 EOTC/Sport
 Respect for SELF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a positive 'can do' attitude. • We are in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing. • We wear correct uniform with pride. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are ready to learn. • We are on task. • We take ownership of our learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We choose appropriate activities. • We are with people that make us feel safe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We keep our hands and feet to ourselves. • We line up outside and walk in quietly. • We participate appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We follow the set rules to keep ourselves safe. • We participate appropriately. • We accept new challenges with a positive attitude.
 Respect for OTHERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use polite and appropriate language. • We treat people kindly. • We respect other people's property. • We are considerate of others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are considerate of others. • We are good listeners. • We allow others to learn and participate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are aware of others space and games. • We allow others to feel safe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We listen to the speaker. • We quietly stand and sit when asked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We listen and follow instructions. • We interact positively with others.
 Respect for ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We care for God's creation. • We clean up after ourselves. • We treat equipment and resources with care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We look after our property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We know where to use the equipment. • We know how to use the equipment appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We leave the area as we found it. • We are considerate of Faith City Church. • We keep within the boundaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We keep within boundaries. • We treat equipment and resources with care. • We clean up after our selves. • We look after our property.

Respect for God

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