



PROCLAIM STATEMENT

***“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”
– C.S. Lewis***

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

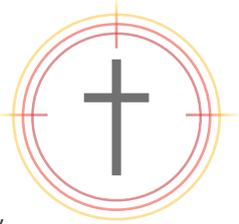
we are people of the Cross,
who are called to proclaim Christ,
as we deliver high quality education to the world.

PEOPLE OF THE CROSS

Christian Schools Australia is a community of people bound together by their faith in Jesus Christ and the cause of Christian schooling.

The first and most important feature of school communities is that they identify with the story of Jesus, and the salvation that comes by grace, and through faith in His birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension.

The symbol of the Cross sits at the peak of the CSA architecture and provides a context for all members of the association to be bound together by the centrality of all that Jesus has done. Those who identify as followers of Jesus and serve within Christian school communities are shaped by the key tenets of the Christian faith and this identification forms the foundation that seeks to shape all decision making, assumptions, beliefs, values and the outworking of distinctly Christian perspectives across every aspect of the Christian school. Having the Cross as a central motif within the Proclaim Statement infuses each aspect of the architecture with theological value, adding a platform from which to engage in the various dimensions of what Christian education entails.



EMPOWERED TO PROCLAIM CHRIST

Proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ is a fundamental part of the Christian mission (Matthew 28:16-20). Christian schools are not only engaged in this mission by providing teaching relating to the Christian faith; they are also called to do so in the context of the contemporary Australian education system. Increasingly in the public square, Christian schools are becoming one of the few places where the gospel can be genuinely “on display,” spoken of freely, lived out through Christian school staff and modelled as a powerful tool for formation and shaping the way people think of and engage with the world. We celebrate the fact that we are called and equipped to speak a gospel message of hope into the lives of our students in a way that lets them know the transformative impact God can make in their lives and their world.

For Christian schools, the role of the gospel in our work is simple: we want students to encounter Jesus; be transformed into His image

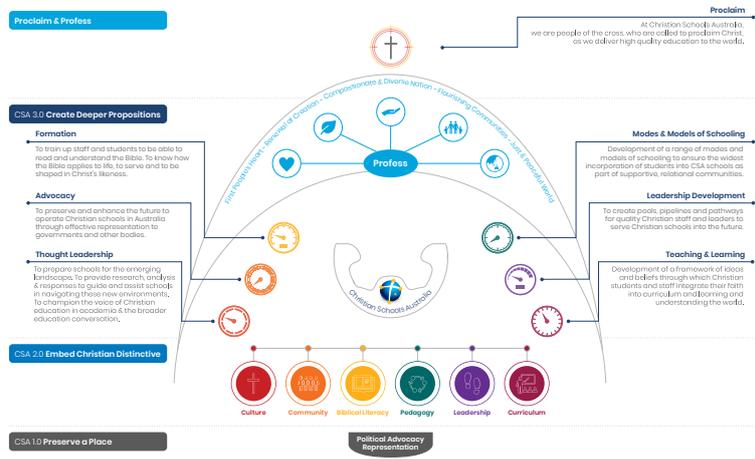


Figure 1: CSA Architecture

and likeness; and for this transformation to make an impact as they witness, model and engage in God’s restorative work across every sphere of creation. Our belief is that through the ministry of proclaiming and modelling Christ in all we do, students will capture a vision of who they can be and what the world could become- if we allow the love and justice of God to impact all we do.

DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

Education is the vehicle by which Christian schools enact the mission of God in the world. Whilst the cross is the motif that gathers disciples, education is the vocation through which schools can contribute to God’s restorative mission. Staff join a Christian school because they are followers of Jesus, but they also come because they can contribute to the distinctive role Christian education plays in Australia. Culture, community, biblical literacy, pedagogy, leadership and curriculum are all essential components of the vision that Christian education offers. These educational pillars each contribute to restorative and redemptive learning and assist in delivering a Christ centred, high quality education. This transformative process seeks to form young people in the worldview of the Christian story, reminding them of their role as image-bearers and the place they take as citizens of the Kingdom of God.

Placing the Proclaim Statement at the peak of the architecture, provides a strong theological platform for the other dimensions of the architecture to be understood.

