



## **Overview of Our Curriculum (Philosophical Background)**

At Staines Memorial College, we attend to the formal curriculum (content of lessons) and the informal or hidden curriculum (how we teach, what we model, how we treat each other and other values). The Bible (the Word of God) serves as the ultimate criterion for our curriculum. We believe that the curriculum we deliver should be relevant and authentic. It should connect to the everyday while containing eternal truths. It should draw on the life experiences of our young people to lead them to the higher order concepts they need to develop. It should be inclusive through acknowledging and valuing uniqueness and differences in gender, cultural background, family circumstances and disability. We believe the curriculum should be transforming.

The College desires all students to engage in a balanced program of study during their pre-compulsory, compulsory and post-compulsory years in line with State and Federal requirements. The formal curriculum is permeated with the general capabilities of Literacy, Numeracy, ICT Capability, Critical and Creative thinking, Personal and Social capability, Ethical and Intercultural Understanding.

The curriculum at our College promotes to students a Christian and Biblical Worldview (including concepts of Social Justice in the light of the Gospel), and a need and desire to be lifelong learners. We aim to help students develop their God-given talents.

Additionally we seek to develop core employability skills as outlined by the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) including:

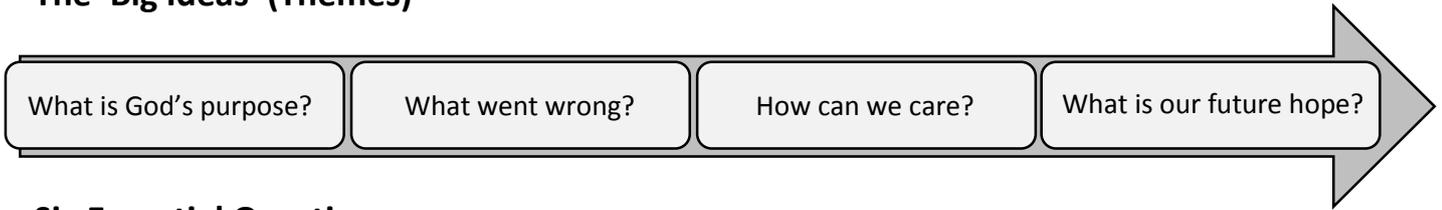
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Problem Solving
- Planning and Organising
- Technology

## **Biblical Living**

Within the context of the College mission, Biblical Living has the purpose of ensuring that students know what the Bible teaches, why we believe it and how it applies to our everyday life. While all subjects in this College are taught from a Biblical perspective, Biblical Living specifically focuses on the Word of God itself.

Our College makes a priority of teaching truths and principles from the Bible in Weekly Chapel services, pastoral care classes and where appropriate in various subjects. In the primary years, the focus of teaching is on Bible stories and lessons to be learned. In the middle years the focus is on values and how we live these out. In the senior years we consider other belief systems and discuss a range of ethical dilemmas.

## The 'Big Ideas' (Themes)



## Six Essential Questions

1. Who are we as God made us?
2. Where are we in place and time, and what is God's purpose for us?
3. How do we express ourselves to others and God?
4. How does the world work; and what is our response to it?
5. How should we organise ourselves for the purposes of life?
6. How do we share the planet with others and how do we care for it?