

MISSION STATEMENT

Blue Hills College seeks to nurture each student in a safe Christian environment educating them for a life of faith and service to God and humanity.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Blue Hills College is an educational institution, which provides an educational program based on Biblical truths.

It seeks to challenge each student in ways that will have them excel in life and respond creatively to the calling of God.

Appreciating beauty, being creative, having healthy relationships and cultural development reflects God our Creator.

Blue Hills College accepts that human sinfulness limits our God given potential. Only through Jesus can we have redemption, which gives fulfilment and enjoyment in our responsibility and talent.

Understanding this then, we recognise that each student is a unique individual, deserving to be supported, treated and educated as such to excel in their academic, spiritual, social and physical life.

Blue Hills College also encourages and supports the involvement and participation of the community, parents and friends in the student's education, as well as the various intra and inter College programs.

Blue Hills College Offers Your Child...

- A Co-Educational School with high Christian values.
- A High Standard of Education from Pre-Kindy to Year 12 consistent with the New South Wales Board of Studies Curriculum and the new Australian Curriculum.
- Qualified, Experienced and Caring Staff who work under a well established and professionally operated educational institution.
- Excellent Communication between Parents and Staff on each child's progress.
- Computer Technology is used throughout the Primary and High School.
- An Excellent Transport System with buses covering a wide area.
- A Spacious, Safe and Secure Campus.
- Sport participation through its membership with the North Coast Independent Schools Association (NCIS).
- Extra Curricula activities such as sport, College band and Pathfinders.
- Extension and Remedial programs.
- A Pro-Active Home & School Association.
- A Health Promoting Vegetarian Canteen.
- A Learning Connections Program to help development the ability to sit still, pay attention, manipulate a pencil for writing and controlled eye movements for reading and writing.
- A Health and Well-being Program that includes mental health, resilience building, depression recovery and a healthy diet.

An Overview of Blue Hills College

Blue Hills College is a Christian Co-Educational School providing for students from Pre-Kindy to the Year 12 Higher School Certificate. The College is part of the world-wide system of Christian education owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church which has had a tradition of excellence for over 140 years. Blue Hills College has been operating in this region since 1950. The philosophy of education at Blue Hills College is founded upon Christian ethics. The College seeks to develop the intellectual, social, physical and spiritual dimension of each child and to provide educational excellence in a caring environment. Enrolment is open to families of all religious persuasions who have regard for the Christian ethos and culture of the College. Prospective parents and students are most welcome to phone the College and make an appointment to discuss their child's educational needs with the Principal.

The Learning Environment

Blue Hills College offers an outstanding, open and spacious environment for learning at its twelve hectare rural setting. The campus incorporates Primary and Secondary school classroom facilities, sporting grounds, two computer rooms, Library, Music room, an excellent food room and a Multi Purpose Centre, Students benefit from continuity of education from Pre-Kindy through to the Year 12 Higher School Certificate.

Academic Excellence

Blue Hills College sets a high academic standard and this is reflected in the School Certificate results each year. The College also performs well in the Australia wide academic competitions in Mathematics, English, Science, Computer Skills, Writing and Spelling. Blue Hills College provides a comprehensive curriculum in all Board of Studies key learning areas with emphasis on Language, Numeracy, Science and Technology.

Supportive Education Program

The College provides a supportive educational environment for all its students. Blue Hills College is noted for its caring Christian environment, its smaller class sizes and its academic achievements. The College is committed to helping each child reach their full potential. Teachers have a caring relationship with their students, which promotes a positive learning environment in each classroom enabling students to achieve their best. Individual learning needs are assessed with support staff providing help for those who need a little extra attention in key learning areas.

Learning Connections Program

The Learning Connections Program provides specific developmental movements to promote maturity of the basic systems fundamental to academic learning. The child is then more able to balance, to sit still, pay attention, manipulate a pencil for writing and control their eye movements for reading and writing. This program is run on a daily basis in the Primary Campus.

Student Responsibility

The development of student responsibility is an integral part of the education process. Students are able to undertake positions of responsibility including College Captains, vice Captains and Prefects, Library Assistants, Sports Equipment Monitors and Bus Monitors. The College also has an active “Buddy” program in the Primary School.

Discipline

Underlying all College rules and regulations is the aim of developing within the individual, self-control and a sense of responsibility toward themselves, others and the community.

Courtesy, modesty, refined speech, sensitivity, responsibility, integrity, truthfulness and a caring attitude are all important aspects of growing toward maturity. Students are taught to respect the rights of others and to take pride in themselves. Those students who display these positive characteristics are rewarded through the College’s Positive Recognition Program.

The College actively encourages a teacher-based approach to discipline problems. As such the College believes in maintaining close contact with parents where discipline matters arise. We would like each parent to feel a part of our College community and to know we value their input into the education of their children.

The College is strictly against disrespectful actions to others such as stealing and bullying and will not tolerate the use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs of any kind.

College Sport

Students participate in Physical Education classes as well as in a weekly sports program. Blue Hills College is also a member of the North Coast Independent Schools (NCIS) Association. This involves the College competing in a number of different sports including soccer, hockey, basketball, touch football, cross country, netball, swimming and athletics. Students who qualify in these competitions go to Sydney and represent the region in the NSW Combined Independent Schools (CIS) Sports Council.

Extra-Curricula Program

Blue Hills College offers the following extra-curricula activities as part of its College program; College Band, North Coast Independent Sports (NCIS) Association Competitions, Inter-school competitions between regional Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Inter-school competitions with other Independent Schools (soccer, netball, hockey, basketball, touch football), membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Pathfinder Club, Adventurers Club, and Japanese Cultural Hosting Program.

Transport

Bus Companies offer an excellent transport system to students with buses covering all regions. Regional bus companies transport students from Ballina, Casino, Coraki, and Kyogle to Lismore where they interchange for their journey to Blue Hills College. Parents have the security of knowing that students are dropped off within the College grounds and then picked up within the College grounds at the end of the day. At the College, teachers and prefects are on duty to ensure student safety. While on the buses appointed bus monitors monitor student behaviour.

Home and School Association

The Home and School Association is the base for which parents can be involved in the process of providing and improving College facilities for the benefit of students. The Home and School Association is very active in social activities and its fund raising ventures during the year and has provided many exciting additions to the College in the past.

Blue Hills College also recognises the importance of close communication and interaction between the College and its parents therefore a high priority is placed on parental involvement in the educational program of the College. Parents are welcome to express their views via a Home and School Representative or by speaking to the Principal who is present at each meeting.

The Home and School Association encourages each family to participate in one major fund raising event each year and is always happy to have parental support at its monthly meetings.

Canteen

Blue Hills College endeavours to promote the need to have a healthy lifestyle. Our Canteen caters for student lunches and refreshments. A hot meal is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays with a menu of delicious vegetarian foods and Wednesdays for over the counter sales. The Canteen operates through the voluntary help of parents under the leadership of a Canteen Supervisor. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed and their work is greatly appreciated.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The College adopts a holistic approach to education incorporating the development of the spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, physical, aesthetic and vocational dimensions of our being. Only as all aspects of life are developed and nurtured can an individual truly develop to their full potential and ultimate maturity. The general objectives are designed to guide young people towards the development of their full potential and in so doing, to also prepare students to meet the requirements of the Year 12 Higher School Certificate and to provide enrichment in a wide variety of extra-curricula activities.

Spiritual Outcomes:

- To have an acceptance of Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour.
- To have a heartfelt knowledge of truth in harmony with the revelation of God's Word, the Bible.
- To participate in spiritual worship and Christian fellowship.
- To have a desire to serve God and man with respect and humility.

Academic Outcomes:

- To know that all knowledge and learning is sourced in God.
- To have shown a responsible development of their God given mental ability.
- To show structure, organisation and order in their studies.
- To think logically, critically and positively.
- To have worked within a time frame and schedule.
- To have strived to excel in their studies with diligent effort.
- To have achieved the requirements for studies completed based on the set curriculum.

Social Outcomes:

- To have a healthy self-respect based on the knowledge of self-worth in a Christian context.
- To demonstrate self-control and self-discipline.
- To accept the responsibility of one's own actions.
- To demonstrate an acceptable standard of dress, speech, attitude, behaviour, courtesy and graciousness.
- To show ability to discern and select what is best and avoid the unnecessary and harmful.
- To model tolerance and respect for the uniqueness of others and a concern for their well-being.
- To appreciate and respect the facilities and opportunities freely provided by other supporting churches, community, parents and friends.

Physical Outcomes:

- To recognise that we have a shared responsibility to care for our physical and mental health.
- To know the positive benefits of practising a healthy diet, proper exercise, rest and recreation.
- To show development of physical fitness by choosing a temperate lifestyle and abstinence from those habits harmful to health.
- To team share capabilities both within the College and at inter-school sports carnivals.

Aesthetic Outcomes:

- To appreciate the creative powers of God seen in the world around us.
- To use creative arts as a meaningful way of expression.
- To develop a love of this aspect of life so that once the student leaves formal education they will pursue it.

Vocational Outcomes:

- To have the commitment to serve fellow men and women as the most fulfilling of life's expectations.
- To develop skills that can be used to spread the Gospel of Christ and the message of His imminent return.
- To promote the dignity of labour and a sense of pride in a job well done.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Blue Hills College adheres to the requirements of the New South Wales Board of Studies for courses offered from Kindergarten to Year 12. The Kindergarten to Year 12 program covers all the Key Learning Areas (KLA) outlined by the Board of Studies, and its curriculum designed to maximise the educational experience for students. Computing is integrated as a component across the curriculum to ensure that all students gain excellent exposure to computer technology. The College's academic program is innovative, up-to-date and offers a wide range of learning experiences. Learning is directed toward the harmonious development of the mental, physical, social, aesthetic and spiritual faculties.

COURSES AVAILABLE

Pre-Kindy Class

The Pre-Kindy class is open to children who are 4yrs by March (if they commence in Semester 1) or 4 yrs 6 mths by 30 June (if they commence in Semester 2). The purpose of Pre-Kindy is to allow each child to feel at ease in an educational environment so as to enable them to enter their Kindergarten year positively and with an eagerness to learn. The program involves basic literacy and numeracy skills as well as craft activities and physical education. Children are provided with a stimulating and enjoyable learning environment where they learn to mix with others and participate in introductory educational activities. The class commences at the beginning of term three each year and operates for the normal school week of five days. It is preferable that children attend five days each week however, exceptions to this are permissible after consultation with the Principal.

OPERATING HOURS

Pre-Kindy operates the same dates as the school year with a few minor differences. During Semester 1 it operates on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday only. During Semester 2 it operates for the 5 days of the week.

It begins each day at 9:00am and finishes at 3:00pm, although during the first few weeks, parents are encouraged to pick their child up at approximately 2:30pm to avoid the busy bus lines.

The Program developed for Pre-Kindy will cover:

- Spiritual & Moral Outcomes
- Language Outcomes
- Cognitive Outcomes
- Social/Emotional Outcomes
- Creative Outcomes
- Physical Outcomes
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Sport
- Library
- Chapel
- Rest Time

A Pre-Kindy Information Booklet is available from the College office and it will elaborate on the above outcomes of the Pre-Kindy Program.

Primary – Kindergarten to Year Six

| | |
|--|---|
| * Bible (Encounter) | Old & New Testament Stories Values |
| * Mathematics | Measurement & Data Numbers Space Working Mathematically Patterns & Algebra |
| * English | Reading Writing & Spelling Speaking & Listening Poetry |
| * Science | Designing & Making The Natural Environment The Man-made Environment Investigating Scientifically |
| * Personal Development, Health & Physical Education | Health Studies Physical Education Sport |
| * Information Technology | Computer Literacy Skills Word Processing Mathematics Program |
| * Creative Arts | Visual Art Music, Choir & Drama |
| * Studies of Society and the Environment (HSIE) | Change & Continuity Cultures & Environment Social Systems & Structures |
| Languages other than English | Japanese |

SECONDARY – Stages 4 (Years 7 - 8)

Religion, Biblical Studies

(Board Endorsed Course)

English

Mathematics

Science

Human Society and Its Environment
(HSIE)

History
Geography

Technology and Applied Studies
(TAS)

Food Technology
Industrial Technology

Creative Arts

Visual Art
Music

Personal Development, Health and
Physical Education (PDHPE)

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

Japanese

Computing Studies

SECONDARY – Stages 5 (Years 9 - 10)

Religion, Biblical Studies

(Board Endorsed Course)

English

Mathematics

Science

Personal Development, Health and
Physical Education (PDHPE)

Human Society and Its Environment
(HSIE)

History
Geography

Elective Subjects

Students are able to choose from a range of subjects for their Years 9 & 10 Electives these include:

Food Technology

Industrial Technology

Textiles Technology

Music

Physical Activity and Sports Studies

(Content Endorsed Course)

SECONDARY – Stages 6 (Years 11 - 12)

Studies of Religion 1 and 2

English

Standard English
Advanced English
Preliminary and HSC English Extension 1
HSC Extension English 2

Mathematics

Preliminary General Mathematics
HSC General Mathematics 1 and 2
Mathematics
Mathematics Extension 1

Science

Biology
Chemistry

Human Society and Its Environment
(HSIE)

Modern History
Ancient History
Geography

Technological and Applied Studies
(TAS)

Food Technology
Industrial Technology
Textiles and Design

Creative Arts

Music 1 and 2

Personal Development, Health and
Physical Education (PDHPE)

TVET

Distance Education

All courses comply with the Board of Studies guidelines which stipulate the length of the course in terms of 100, 200 or 400 hours.