

Basis and Principles for education at Bulkley Valley Christian School

The educational effort at BVCS is rooted in a historic reformed world and life view: Christ is Lord of all, He reveals Himself in His Word and works, He is the source of all love and grace, all glory is due to Him, our faith in Him marks and changes our lives and enables us to be ambassadors for Him.

Our educational institution is shaped in its faith and scholarship by these central principles about good quality education:

Education is informed by the unique authority of the Bible: We are committed to the infallibility and inerrancy of the Scriptures. We recognize that the Holy Bible, including both the Old and New Testament, represents the whole counsel of God. It shows us the way of salvation, and is the ultimate authority for the life and practice of all believers.

Education deals with the created reality of the world. We believe that God is the sole source of the entire created order. He designed it well and without flaw, for the purpose of glorifying God. When considered through the lens of Scripture, our study of the things God has done and made cause us to know and love Him more.

Education considers the effect of sin. We believe that sin entered the world by humanity's rebellion against God, affecting every aspect of creation, including every area of human life. All parts of creation, including our minds, are caught up in the great rebellion against the Creator. Human beings are sinners by nature, alienated from God. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can they experience eternal salvation through faith.

Education focuses on God's plan of redemption. We profess that God graciously preserves the world, holding all things in his tender embrace and bending them to his purpose. God not only saves our souls; He redeems our whole person. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, He sets our thinking and emotions free from the power of sin in order for us to become useful for the work of God. As redeemed persons, our thoughts, emotions, wills and habits are given new direction.

Education enables restoration to take place. As new persons we are called and enabled to be God's stewards who endeavor to return our physical world and human relationships to the state and design that God intended for them. This work of restoration requires a sound understanding of all created things.

Education belongs to the parents. We recognize that it is God's special gift when he chooses to place children and adults in a context of a community where people love God and desire to live for Him. This covenant relationship obliges Christian parents to engage their children in education for a life of obedience to their calling in this world as image bearers of God.

BVCS Educational Creed

Our historic reformed world and life view has offered us distinctive insights that shape the character of learning and interactions in our Christian School. Consequently, participants in the educational process in BVCS will be engaged as follows:

- We eagerly study the physical world as part of God's truth. God is sovereign. He created the world and gave it purpose. We realize that learning can lead to important, complex, and challenging questions that will tell us much about God, creation, and about how to live.
- We love, value and respect every student regardless of academic potential, physical ability, personality, socio-economic status, or race. God has made each person in His image for His glory. Classroom structures and learning opportunities are designed to meet all students' needs.
- The things that are taught in classes and the lives lived by the teachers emphasize the need for all to speak of God the Father as the Creator and Keeper of all things, Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world, and of the Holy Spirit as the one who guides us in all truth.
- We examine all of curriculum; humanities, sciences, fine arts, applied skills, and athletics, through the lens of Creation-Fall-Redemption-Renewal paradigm.
- We explore and care for creation, restore relationships, work for justice, and use talents, gifts and opportunities. We strive to develop the students' mind, heart, will, and body. We do this in obedient response to God's call to love Him, and our neighbor as ourselves. The gift of salvation affects our lives both now and eternally.
- Our education is holistic. Each element of our educational program has value in and of itself, but is also an important piece of 'the whole'. Our Christian worldview guides our understanding of each piece and how they are connected.
- We need servant hearts. Students observe adults modeling lives of service. We encourage students to see the world as much larger than their own experience. Our school gives students opportunities to serve others in their classrooms, communities, and beyond.
- Our school functions as an extension of the Christian home. Students, staff, and families are called to be a grace-filled community where they rejoice in God and in each other. Such a community encourages openness and honesty, grace and patience, joy and faithfulness, excellence and growth. Problem solving also takes place in the context of community. Our discipline policies are rooted in justice and aim to achieve personal growth and spiritual maturity.

Profile of a BVCS graduate

As a Christian educational institution, BVCS strives to develop graduates who:

(board) As a Christian school, BVCS aims to be a place where students begin a life long journey to become people who:

- have their hearts and minds transformed by the message of the gospel and the power of the Holy Spirit
- possess a deep understanding of God's grace and a sense of humility about self
- are responsive disciples of Jesus Christ who live with the realization that all of life is meant to be lived in service to Christ
- have developed loving relationships with God, others, and self.
- share their conviction that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world and that God the Father is the Creator and Keeper of all things
- have mastered the foundational skills necessary for their unique calling in life
- act as careful stewards of God's Creation
- think critically and show thoughtful discernment
- communicate effectively and respectfully
- are committed to actions that are socially just, peaceable, and compassionate
- aim to engage culture for the glory of God
- practice servant leadership
- work cooperatively
- value life-long learning