



Parklands
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



Foundations for Life

Christian Education P-12

College Prospectus



A culture of care

You can shape your child's future by the school you choose. Factors that influence your decision to invest in the education of your child may include school location, school culture and values, educational opportunities, faith, value for money, sense of care, quality of teachers, word of mouth recommendations and many other facts and feelings about the school.



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When we ask the parents at Parklands Christian College why they have chosen our school, they tell us about two standout reasons:

- Our shared College values
- Our unique culture of care

We know that every school and every teacher cares – it is the very nature of our profession. But at Parklands, we are more than caring individuals; we have fostered a whole culture of care across our school community, embedding a caring disposition in all our endeavours. This shows in many tangible ways. Parents, students and staff all agree in our surveys that 'having positive, caring relationships with each other' is the number one item of satisfaction at Parklands. It is a fundamental part of everything our staff say and do. From the moment we show you around our College, to your child's very first day in Prep, to the issues children experience on their journey of learning, to helping parents better engage with their children, we care.

Our values of Christlikeness, Learning, Excellence, Attitude and Respect guide our culture of care. These values are modelled by

our staff – practising Christians who lead by example. We have additional programs like Learning Enrichment, Responsible Thinking, and Shine/Strength, which are all unique to our school and help us actualise our love and care for our students. We also provide a wellbeing team and program for students and their families, which includes several highly-trained social workers.

We firmly believe that by being caring, we develop genuine relationships with our students and their families that are mutually respectful. For us this creates a deeper level of engagement and connection, enabling our students to be proactive, committed and passionate people that give their best to all of their actions. This is what our culture of care is all about.

We invite you to read this prospectus and learn more about our College facilities, our curricular and co-curricular offerings and why your investment at Parklands is a sound one.





Over several years prior to 1999, the vision for Parklands Christian College was nurtured in the hearts of various people associated with Ps Rod Jobe of Parklands Christian Centre. During this time, the government had granted two applications to start a Christian school on the Park Ridge property. However, both attempts failed due to a lack of suitably qualified and committed personnel. In July 1999, David Baskerville, left his role as principal of Calvary Christian College, Townsville, and arrived in Brisbane with the express purpose of leading a small team in the start-up of Parklands Christian College. The key members of this group were Ps Rod Jobe (Church Senior Pastor), John Blase (Church Administrator), Mike Warman (Drawing and Trade Support), Henry Baskerville (School Applications and Submissions), and David Baskerville (Principal).

This team formed a company and worked with the generous gifts and resources from other schools as well as personal funds to start a school in the rented premises of Parklands Christian Centre in 2001.

Today, the College owns 40 acres of hilltop land in Park Ridge, Logan City, with a

spectacular outlook over the picturesque landscapes of outer Brisbane. It neighbours the property of Parklands Christian Centre, and together they constitute the ministry of "Parklands".

The College is a non-denominational Christian, co-educational facility for Prep to Year 12. It is divided into five areas to best cater for the individual learning and development needs of our students – Prep, Lower Primary (1-3), Upper Primary (4-6), Middle School (7-9) and Senior College (10-12).

Parklands provides a balanced, quality education, enabling individual students to gain the foundations necessary for living a meaningful life beyond school. Committed and caring staff ensure that all students have the opportunity to perform to the best of their ability at Parklands.

The original \$10 note that was put forward as the College's start-up capital by a member of Parklands Christian Centre's congregation is framed and hangs proudly in the Principal's office as a testament to the school's humble beginnings yet bold vision.

A word from our Principal, Johannes Solymosi

On behalf of our staff and students, I welcome you to Parklands Christian College. I am a passionate Christian educator who joined Parklands in 2017, and I am excited about what we can offer your child and family. I invite you to tour our school so you can get a feel for our culture and atmosphere, learn about our educational approach and become confident that your child and his or her education is in hands you can trust.

At Parklands Christian College we have many reasons to be grateful. We have excellent grounds on which to build a school, and we are able to continually expand our modern facilities based on an extensive master plan. Our teachers are caring educators that thrive in a caring school culture. The Parklands community is known to be positive, supportive and always ready to welcome new families.

Our motto is 'Foundations for Life', and we enact this motto by developing our students' God-given gifts and talents so that they become able to give back to their world generously. Benevolent and kind people flourish, and their families, communities, churches and workplaces will be better for it. To that end, we provide an array of academic and co-curricular opportunities, service and unique support programs to help students become all they were created to be.

As a non-denominational Christian college, our faith gives us direction in developing all aspects of our school. Love and forgiveness, summarised under our shared value of Christlikeness, are the cornerstones of this faith. Our missions program enacts this value in powerful ways.

Our values and our culture of care are hallmarks of Parklands and go a long way to explain why word-of-mouth referrals to the College are so frequent. Our Behaviour Education program develops positive habits of responsible thinking in our students, while our student wellbeing team offers programs that provide the additional social and spiritual support that students may need throughout their educational journey. Further, our parent education program is providing a unique support to parents in their crucial task.

At Parklands, we are thrilled that God's faithfulness has allowed us to develop into the school we are today. By His grace, our plans to innovate and grow will prosper so that more students will have the opportunity to foster their passions and talents at Parklands.

*I hope you and your child
will be part of our future
– and our history.*





A place of values

Parklands Christian College is guided by five shared core values. Our values are present throughout the school and were adopted to help our community be united in a common approach and language. When you walk through the College grounds, you will see the values displayed on walls, paths and staircases, but most importantly, you will see them in the actions of our staff and students. Our values continue to direct and instruct us all.

The values are known by the acronym CLEAR.

The College is also guided by a set of classroom rules. These rules help students to be organised, safe, courteous and respectful.

CLEAR



Christlikeness

We aim to imitate Jesus and trust God to transform our hearts and minds to become more like Him.



Learning

We seek to understand the world to discover its Creator and become equipped to contribute to His creation.



Excellence

We endeavour always to do our personal best with unselfish dedication, help others to do the same, and trust God to complete our efforts.



Attitude

We grow by choosing to walk the journey of life together, connected through care, acceptance, compassion and our hope in God.



Respect

We reflect the love and forgiveness that God offers to us in the way we value others and our world.

Our mission statement sums up our reason for being:

Our mission is to care for students through a quality Christian education that inspires them to flourish, to love God and to love others as themselves.





A school of choice

Parklands Christian College aims to inspire students to approach the world with eyes that are curious and analytical; minds that are creative and disciplined; hearts that grasp and desire all that God made to be good, true and beautiful; and hands that are ready to serve the world.

The College has the vision to offer the best-balanced preparation for our students' life in the 21st century. Firstly, this means to enable students to effectively operate within a world of technological innovation and societal change; secondly, it requires students to be firmly rooted in an education influenced by the liberal arts of history, literature and the Bible. This foundation allows them to see how their future is placed within the bigger story of life. Thirdly, it compels us to anchor

our students in our CLEAR values that will afford them with consistent guidance in times of tremendous change. And lastly, our students' development is balanced by creative endeavours in the Arts that foster expression, innovation and community.

Students that are grounded in this way will flourish and be able to contribute to the flourishing of their families, workplaces and communities.

The College's strategic plan includes the further development of our 40-acre property to provide a learning environment that will not only cater for growing enrolments but offer future-ready education and training programs. Our approach will focus on the provision of state-of-the-art facilities in three specialist areas: the performing arts, sports and vocational education. Our Hospitality Centre and Vocational Education Hub are part of this strategy as well as our Baskerville Sports Centre. A future milestone will be the development of a Performing Arts precinct, which will become the heart of a community space in the centre of our campus. A student wellbeing hub and the beautifully landscaped outdoor environment complement our school that expresses a vibrancy of life and a contemplative peace.

Learning Enrichment

At Parklands, we have established a Learning Enrichment (LE) program. The LE team assists students from Prep to Year 12 that require additional educational support. Students access this program by referral through the enrolment process, teachers, parents, the Student Care and Wellbeing Team, or a Head of School. Students are then assessed through observations, review of class work, meetings with parents and teachers and diagnostic testing if required. Once a student's needs are evaluated, and a learning difficulty is noted, the LE team will develop an Individual Support Plan (ISP) or a Personal Learning Plan (PLP).

The support we can provide to a student may include extra aide time, reduced homework, a differentiated curriculum, or more scaffolding around assessments and exams. Secondary students can also opt out of a non-core

subject to focus on core subjects. As part of Learning Enrichment, we partner with a Speech Therapist, an Occupational Therapist and a Psychologist who work with our students where needed. Our primary focus is to ensure that we meet the learning needs of individual students and that every student is provided with opportunities to reach their full potential.

Parent Engagement

Multiple times a year, parents are offered a five-week Loving Our Kids on Purpose (LoKoP) course, developed by Ps Danny Silk (Bethel Church/Jesus Culture). Parents also have the option to participate in additional sessions on topics such as developing a child's resilience, managing student technology and other issues as needs arise. All Prep parents participate in a half-hour Responsible Thinking Process (RTP) education session before commencement. In addition, all new families visit our Responsible Thinking Classroom during their initial walk around, receive access to an online information pack and each new student is personally oriented to the Parklands Way during their first week. To ensure there are 'no surprises', we phone, email and meet with parents regularly to offer encouragement and support specific to a child's educational journey.

Outside Hours School Care (OHSC)

We understand that the nature of today's society means that often both parents will work and their hours are longer than those of school. This is why we make an Outside School Hours Care and a Vacation Care program available at Parklands during all terms and on school holidays. For more information on this, just ask us.





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A practice of support

At Parklands Christian College, we believe in helping our students engage in their own unique academic success journey. We acknowledge that not all students can be high performers all of the time, which is why we have extra systems and programs in place to help our students be the best they can be, particularly when they and their families need help overcoming challenges.



Across the primary and secondary school, there are a range of programs to assist students to learn about friendships, resilience and identity.

Our Student Care and Wellbeing team comprises social workers and human service professionals who are available five days per week and provide support and assistance to students where needed. Together, they facilitate a range of programs to help students grow and develop with confidence and respect. Liaising closely with the Learning Enrichment team, pastoral care staff and the school leadership, our wellbeing team also ensures care and support is provided to Parklands families in need.

Responsible Thinking Process

At Parklands, we use the Responsible Thinking Process (RTP) to help students learn how to regulate their behaviour. The RTP helps students own their conduct and devise strategies to achieve their goals without violating the rights of others. This develops our students' integrity and character based on our core values. We call this Behaviour Education and we believe that this education is a crucial part of the wider learning program for all students. Sometimes students need time and space to consider how their behaviour impacts others and develop a suitable plan for the future. The Responsible

Thinking Classroom (RTC) is the ideal place to take this time in a safe and supportive environment.

Wellbeing Programs

Across the primary and secondary school, there are a range of programs which have been developed to assist students learn about friendships, resilience and identity at appropriate stages in their development. These programs include:

- Learning for Life: a social skills development program for lower primary students
- Resilient YOU/ME/US: three interconnected social skills development programs for primary classes, individual students, and parents
- Resilient Friends Program: a conflict resolution support program
- Strength and Shine: a program that focuses on worth, strength and purpose for girls; and on significance, resilience and courage for boys
- Quiet Garden, Silent Signals and Friendship 8: emotional and social skills strategies applied across the primary school





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A sharing of faith

To explain the Christian experience to our students, we use stories like the one Jesus told of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32): A son left his father and family to go his own way and look for fulfilment in the world, but he failed to find it. He finally realised that he should return to what he had left behind, even if only as a servant in his father's house. When the son arrived back home, he was granted complete forgiveness and restoration to his father's love.

Our own story can be the same: We can always return to our Heavenly Father and experience His unconditional love and complete forgiveness. Love and forgiveness, therefore, are the cornerstones of the Christian life. Our value of Christlikeness is based on this.

- Christlikeness is to love God with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Just as important, it is to love others as we love ourselves.
- Christlikeness is to consider loving and caring for others as more important than performing religious acts.
- Christlikeness is not to allow the differences between people to be an excuse to exclude them. Instead, it is to welcome and care for the marginalised and rejected and to consider them as having something to offer and something to teach.
- Christlikeness is to redefine success as those situations in which God uses our weaknesses to show his greatness.
- Christlikeness is to be generous and to hold on to earthly things like power, prestige and possessions very loosely.
- Christlikeness is to have the willingness to be transformed when we go through the challenging times in our lives.
- Christlikeness is to have integrity, which happens when our actions are the same no matter who is watching.

Chapel

Students and staff at Parklands Christian College attend a weekly chapel service. Chapel is an integral part of College life where our community comes together to share in a time of praise, reflection and prayer. Chapel services have a formative effect on our community as it shapes our character and desires for the things of God. The messages are relevant, authentic and relatable.

Missions

At Parklands, we are committed to empowering a missions-minded generation of young people who desire to serve in their local and global community. We aim to provide male and female students in Years 10, 11 and 12 with experiences that shape their perceptions and inspire them to actively love and care for those less fortunate than themselves. When selected students attend our annual two-week mission trip to Cambodia, they work alongside the Christian NGO RAWimpact that aims to empower families currently living in slum conditions at a grassroots level through innovative and sustainable projects. Our teams participate in meaningful construction and agricultural projects such as building homes, erecting vegetable garden fences and planting crops. Through education and service opportunities, we equip our students to fight poverty and injustice and encourage them to raise awareness and participate in finding solutions to these challenges both globally and locally.



Chapel services have a formative effect on our community as it shapes our character and desires for the things of God.





A love of learning

PRIMARY SCHOOL | Prep to Year 6

Our motto is 'Foundations for Life', and we enact this by developing our students' God-given gifts and talents so that they become able to give back to their world generously.





Students begin their journey at Parklands

in our welcoming and friendly Primary School. This part of our school spans all year levels from Prep to Year 6. Our Prep parents enjoy the safety and comfort of a separate Prep facility with easy drop-off options. All other primary students benefit from a spacious primary campus that promotes a focus on student learning and a variety of activities. Our primary curriculum is designed to meet the needs of pre-adolescent children and provides structures and routines to help students feel safe and assisted in their primary years.

Prep

Parklands has a safe and secure 'Little Learners' precinct for Prep students, staffed by early learning specialist teachers and full-time teacher aides. Their purpose-built learning environment has been designed to provide a supported and structured entry into the school landscape for young first-timers. The precinct includes a fenced-off playground, an undercover play structure, a bike track, a cubby house, a vegetable garden and a large grassed area for students to expend their energy and have fun together.

Primary

It is our aim in Primary that students develop a love for learning and a desire to explore the world that God has created.

Our curriculum emphasises the development of competency in literacy and numeracy. We help students become proficient in these areas by focusing much of our broader curriculum on these disciplines.

Besides our core subjects, English (Literacy) and Mathematics (Numeracy), students engage in Integrated Studies of:

- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Christian Life Skills
- Physical Education
- Music
- Technology
- The Arts
- Library

We have specialist teachers in Primary for Music, Visual Art and Physical Education, and our upper Primary students also have access to Secondary teaching specialists and facilities in Science and Drama. Learning Enrichment staff also provide extra assistance according to the individual needs of students.

Our Year 5 and 6 students are members of our eLearning program and use iPads as part of their daily learning program whenever it is beneficial to their learning.



Students at Parklands benefit from a God-centered approach to teaching and learning by our caring and committed Christian teachers who have their students' best interests at heart.





We encourage a harmonious transition from Upper Primary to Middle School and have support and consolidation programs in place for students to get the best out of this learning stage. Students enrolled in Middle School benefit from a structured approach to curriculum with fewer teachers and classroom changes, providing the foundations for a stable high school journey.

Our Middle School curriculum offers the following subjects:

- English (streamed ability levels across Years 7-9)
- Maths (streamed ability levels across Years 7-9)
- Science
- Health & Physical Education

- Music
- Information & Communication Technologies
- Geography & History
- Home Economics & Technology
- Drama & Business
- Visual Art & Graphics
- Christian Life Skills

Middle School students also participate in a carefully crafted Pastoral Care program that involves personal growth opportunities, support to overcome social challenges, cyber-safety awareness and community participation initiatives. As a centrepiece of this program, students in Year 9 benefit from our 9-week personal development programs – Shine (for girls) and Strength (for boys).



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A time of growth

As students enter Secondary, we understand many changes are going on in their lives both from a personal growth and learning development perspective. Because adolescence is a distinct phase, we have designed a stimulating and varied curriculum, coupled with strong learning support and student wellbeing initiatives to give our students the best opportunities possible.

MIDDLE SCHOOL | Years 7-9



In an attempt to maximise learning opportunities, students in Years 7-9 also benefit from the resources of our local area as we partner with external professionals and facilities to enrich our educational program.





We offer four unique Senior Packages tailored to suit individual learning needs and interests - designed with our students' future careers in mind.

A world of opportunity

SENIOR SCHOOL | Years 10-12





As students progress through their senior years

(Years 10-12), we offer a range of opportunities and packages to suit their individual needs and to prepare them to lead successful lives beyond school. Our senior teachers work closely with students and their parents to help identify the right pathway for each student.

Our Senior College endeavours to provide a well-rounded education for the individual, developing students in academic, spiritual, social, physical, vocational and cultural areas. Curriculum, co-curriculum, learning enrichment, camps and more all help to build multi-faceted and skilled individuals who are

well-supported within our culture of care. Parklands Christian College offers four unique Senior Packages tailored to suit individual learning needs and interests. We designed these packages with the diversity of our students' future careers in mind. A full list of subjects is available on our website.

Traditional Package – For the widest range of options

The Traditional Package serves the purposes of many of our students at Parklands Christian College. Students may choose from the full variety of subjects offered, including academic subjects, certificate courses and practical subjects across a range of disciplines. They can also access distance education courses for subjects not available on campus.

Students who complete the Traditional Package may be able to apply for tertiary entry, depending on their choice of subjects. It also may suit those students wishing to apply for a Diploma or Certificate level course, commence an apprenticeship, or transition straight into the workforce.

Academic Intensive Package – For the best positioning for university

The Academic Intensive Package suits students who are university-focused and perform at an advanced academic standard. This is an intensive pathway which will suit students who are highly self-motivated, determined and industrious. Candidates for this package are expected to have demonstrated excellent results in Year 10 and to maintain these throughout Years 11 & 12. Students who complete the Academic Intensive Package have the option of completing a university course in place of one school subject. Students who complete this package often form a close-knit group, supporting each other in striving to achieve their very best.

The Academic Intensive Package is designed for focused students seeking tertiary admission to competitive university degrees such as Engineering, Law and Medicine.

Such students often position themselves for grants, scholarships and external community leadership opportunities.

Learning Enrichment Package – For extra support

The Learning Enrichment Package is designed for students whose specific learning needs make traditional learning a challenge. These students will have been identified in Middle School and possibly may have been on an adjusted program with learning support. This can be a practical or traditional learning package that prepares students for the workplace and life after school. Students may complete a Queensland Certificate of Education or a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement through this package. They are offered smaller classes and additional learning support to achieve this level of certification.

Vocational and Education Training (VET) Package – For work-readiness

The VET Package is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop their employability skills in preparation for their chosen career pathway after school. This package is embedded within the Vocational Education & Training program, connecting students to real-life experience and equipping them with specific industry skills, exposure to potential future employers while remaining at school and gaining their Queensland Certificate of Education. Students can choose from a range of certificate courses instead of completing traditional subjects. These certificates often include projects and hands-on learning. In addition, Parklands cooperates with industry to support students who choose to commence a school-based traineeship or apprenticeship.





A taste of sport

At Parklands, we believe that sport benefits students' learning in many ways and is a vital part of a balanced education. It builds leadership and teamwork skills, creates lasting friendships and assists students to gain self-motivation and resilience.



Our students also actively participate in the Christian School Sports Association Queensland (CSSAQ) carnivals and we have had students selected to represent us at state and national levels.



Most of all, sport creates the foundations for a healthy lifestyle and fosters mental wellbeing. Our hope for our students is that they will continue to build their physical skills and value the benefits of sport long after they have left school.

Parklands Christian College is part of the Greenbank and Karawatha district and Metropolitan West sporting associations for interschool sport and representative team selection.

Sports are offered per semester depending on seasons and led by our Physical Education teachers. External specialist coaches and short courses from reputable sporting associations are frequently introduced into the school program.

Our college offers a variety of competitive and recreational sporting opportunities for all students as well as training sessions in the lead-up to competitions throughout the year. Sports offered to students include:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| • Touch | • Gym |
| • Basketball | • Futsal |
| • Softball | • Netball |
| • Volleyball | • Cricket |
| • Soccer | • Athletics |
| • AFL | • Swimming |
| • Ten Pin Bowling | • Cross Country |





A feeling of fun

Parklands Christian College offers co-curricular arts, musicals, plays and outdoor education camps to encourage all students to foster and develop their talents and to create happy and life-long memories of their schooling experience.

Music

We place a strong emphasis on music education and consider it an essential part of the compulsory Prep to Year 8 curriculum. Students have the opportunity to include music in their education pathway up to Year 12. Our music teachers are specialists in their field who focus on building the musical abilities of our students.

Parklands also offers instrumental music lessons with students being able to learn a wide range of musical instruments. Students in the instrumental music program can extend their musical skills and make use of regular performance opportunities by participating in our College Worship Team. Instrumental tuition is usually conducted during school hours and is half an hour in duration.

Drama

Parklands produces a musical or a play every second year, with students involved from across all secondary grade levels and subject areas. During alternate years, the College hosts an Arts Gala event, showcasing the artistic talent of our students across the College. Opportunities are not only restricted to on-stage performances, with students encouraged to participate in a range of activities to support the productions, including sound and lighting, catering, hair and make-up, props, costume design and ticket sales. Each year, primary students from Years 3-6 have the opportunity to participate in our Wakakirri production. They participate in a schools competition in which they tell stories through dance and movement. If your child is keen to be involved, we would love to hear from them.

Camps

Outdoor education camps are also offered at Parklands, helping students build their leadership and team capacities and develop resilience skills. It is also a time where students and staff have much fun together, creating a strong bond. Our strategically planned camping program commences in Year 5 and continues annually through to Year 9, offering strong personal development opportunities through a wide range of activities and venues. Students in Year 11 participate in a leadership camp, equipping them for the challenges of student leadership and personal growth for their final year of study.



We offer a co-curricular arts program across both Junior and Senior schools that includes drama and music.



Students at Parklands benefit
from caring and committed
Christian teachers who have
students' best interests at heart.

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