

KESWICK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL POSTION STATEMENTS

Our Starting Point

What we undertake to prove as necessary, we shall make good out of Scripture.

Our Mission

Responding to the biblical command that families raise their children in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord, Keswick Christian School provides a Christ-centered education that instills and reinforces Christian thought, beliefs, and practices in all areas of life.

Our Vision

Keswick Christian School will be the premier God-glorifying school in Pinellas County excelling in academics, athletics, and the arts while graduating young people who love, trust, and obey God.

Our Core Values

Keswick Christian School will demonstrate in all of its actions and beliefs that it values:

1. a biblically based educational experience that honors and glorifies God.
2. the authority and responsibility of Christian families to educate God's children.
3. the spiritual authority and responsibility of the local church.
4. academic discipline and excellence modeled and provided by skilled Christian educators.
5. an affordable educational experience that addresses the spiritual, mental, physical, and social needs of its students.
6. a safe and secure environment for its students, parents, employees and visitors.
7. institutional financial transparency and accountability.

Our Code of Ethics – (*Exodus 20.1-17; Psalm 73.25-26; Matthew 22.37-40; I Corinthians 10.31*)

Because of God's grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone, every member of the Keswick Christian School community ought to:

1. fear, love, trust, and enjoy God above all things.
2. think, speak, and do all things for the glory of God alone and the physical and spiritual benefit of others.
3. fear, and love God so that he does not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.
4. fear, and love God so that he does not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.
5. fear, and love God so that he does not despise or anger his parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.
6. fear, and love God so that he does not hurt or harm his neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.
7. fear, and love God so that he leads a sexually pure and decent life in what he thinks, says, and does.
8. fear, and love God so that he does not take his neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in a dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions.
9. fear, and love God so that he does not tell lies about his neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.
10. fear, and love God so that he does not scheme to get what belongs to his neighbor, or get it in any way which only appears right, but helps and is of service to him in keeping it.

Our Statement of Faith

In professing Jesus Christ as Lord and personal Savior, each member of the Keswick Christian School Board and the instructional and non-instructional staff subscribes without reservation to the following Statement of Faith:

1. We believe the Bible to be verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit in the original manuscripts, and to be the infallible and authoritative Word of God (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21).
2. We believe in the Triune Godhead in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -- three persons and yet but one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; I Corinthians. 8:6).
3. We believe in the personality of Satan, called the Devil, and his present control over unregenerate mankind (Genesis 3:1,14,15; II Corinthians 11:14; Luke 10:18; Ephesians 6:11,12; 2:2; Revelation 12:9,10).
4. We believe in the fallen and lost estate of man, whose total depravity makes necessary the new birth (Romans 3:10,23; John 3:3).
5. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, death, bodily resurrection, present exaltation at God's right hand, and personal and imminent return (Colossians 1:15; Matthew 1:18-25; Matthew 28:1-10; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 1:1-4; I Thessalonians 4:16-18).
6. We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed for the forgiveness of our sins (John 1:12; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; I Peter 1:18-19)
7. We believe in the resurrection of the saved unto everlasting life and blessedness in heaven, and the resurrection of the unsaved unto everlasting punishment in hell (I Corinthians 15:50-58; Revelation 20:4-6; 11-15; II Thessalonians 1:7-10).
8. We are members of the church, The Body and Bride of Christ, consisting only of those who are born again, for whom He now makes intercession in heaven and for whom He shall come again (Acts 13:38,39; Acts 2:41; Ephesians 1:3-6; I Corinthians 12:12,13; Revelation 11:15-17).
9. We believe Christ's great commission to the Church to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, baptizing and teaching those who believe (Matthew 28:18-20).¹
10. We believe marriage is ordained of God and is a spiritual and physical union in which a man and a woman are joined by God to live together as one. (Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:7) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, transgenderism, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex and identity. (Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4)
11. We believe that God wonderfully foreordained and immutably created each person as either male or female in conformity with their biological sex. These two distinct yet complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:26-27).

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct: The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Keswick Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our board of directors is Keswick's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

¹ Article IV Keswick Christian School By-Laws, July 31, 2016.

Our Position Statements

The Keswick Christian School community member (teacher/staff/Board member):

1. affirms that he/she trusts Christ alone and the atoning power of the Gospel for his/her justification and sanctification.
2. commits to the Christian philosophy of education and school Statement of Faith as adhered to and taught by Keswick Christian School.
3. believes that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being, the image of God.
4. affirms that same gender sexual relationships, intercourse, marriages, etc., are violations of the commandments of God (including but not limited to homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, transgenderism, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography) and are grounds for termination of employment from Keswick Christian School.
5. believes that God created the universe in six literal 24-hour periods as the biblical model of creation. (This position is contradictory to belief in evolution, the Gap Theory, the Day-age Theory, Progressive Creationism, and Theistic Evolution.)
6. if married, has a spouse who is united with him/her in his/her support of the School, and the ministry that he/she has. (God hates divorce and intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Divorce and remarriage is regarded as adultery except on the grounds of marital infidelity.)
7. will enroll his/her elementary and secondary school age children at Keswick Christian School.
8. will manifest, in precept and example, both on and off the campus, a role model of Christian living. (Choices in dress, drink, entertainment, and recreation are to be such that befits a mature Christian in a leadership capacity.)

With humble reliance on the goodness and grace of God and the power of His Holy Spirit, I will endeavor to live in accordance with the Keswick Christian School Starting Point, Mission, Vision, Core Values, Code of Ethics, Statement of Faith, and Position Statements.

Applicant Signature

Date

Statement of Church Support

I support with my time, talent, and treasure _____,
Church Name

Church Address

Pastor's Name

I _____ am _____ am not a member. (I am not a member because _____

_____)

Applicant Signature

Date