



Middleton Grange School

School Information

Vision Statement

Middleton Grange School assists families in the education of their children by providing an environment in which the Biblical truths of Jesus Christ are taught and lived.

Mission Statement

At Middleton Grange School we are committed to a rigorous learning culture based on an understanding of truth as revealed in the whole counsel of Scripture. We equip pupils with the knowledge and skills to understand their heritage and their place in it; and to critique and engage contemporary society. We work with parents to encourage pupils in their gifts and abilities to serve God and others.

Pupil Statement

Character, Excellence, Service for the Glory of God.

Values Statement

The values statement identifies what we believe to be important qualities for our pupils. At Middleton Grange School we call these virtues as we believe they are not bound by time and are at the heart of what we wish to see in the character of our pupils.

The Foundational Principles for Curricula identify these virtues:

Mercy	Fairness	Humility	Prudence
Compassion	Faith	Love	Respect
Courage	Gratitude	Magnanimity	Self-Sacrifice
Courtesy	Hope	Obedience	Temperance
Patience	Truthfulness		

School Verse

"In Thy Light Shall We See Light" Psalm 36: 9

"Ma Tou Marama ka kite ai matou i te marama" Ngā Waiata 36:9

Description of the School

Middleton Grange School is a Decile 9, state integrated co-educational Area School, catering for pupils from new entrants to Year 13. The roll school is 1290. Our pupil body is predominately European with a small but significant representation of Maori, Pasifika and international fee-paying pupils. See Section 3 for details.

Middleton Grange School is structured as a four 'schools' in one campus. A carefully crafted and continuous educational 'journey' through Primary (Years 1-6), Middle (Years 7-10) and Senior (Years 11-13) parts of the school is a distinguishing feature of Middleton Grange.

Community

The School was founded in 1964 to establish the educational needs of Christian families and present the message of the gospel to the children and the community within the context of Biblical truth and practice as recognised by adherents to the evangelical Christian faith. The same Biblical truth and practice encourages a mission perspective. Pupils are expected to support the Special Character of the School.

The Middleton Grange community includes pupils, staff, parents and others who are committed to or sympathetic to the School's special character. The school community, although spread out across the city, is held together by a common understanding of purpose. Parents share the conviction that they are the primary educators of their children. Consequently they tend to take considerable interest in what actually happens in the classroom and playground. The school is supported by a high level of parent voluntarism in practical help and fundraising.

The school maintains a strong interdenominational flavour and is careful to focus upon the areas of denominational unity. The maintenance of a genuinely interdenominational Christian stance is achieved on the basis of three main principles:

1. A clear commitment by all members of staff and Board to the Statement of Belief which includes the confession of personal faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour, Lord and God.
2. A clear understanding that within the life of the School no exclusively denominational emphasis is permitted. This is understood to include the particular doctrinal emphases held by certain Christian groups or denominations on a range of subjects (eg. pre destination, the last days, the gifts and works of the Holy Spirit, infant and adult baptism, timeline of Creation, role of women in the church, etc.).
3. A careful adherence to the whole counsel of Scripture and a straightforward understanding of the truths, duties and mysteries of the Christian faith which are set forth in it.

Special Character Considerations

The Middleton Grange Story quotes this statement ... "Middleton Grange School will at one and the same time provide a first rate general education ..."and ..."Biblical teaching in the Christian faith". The Canterbury community recognise and respect the fact that Middleton Grange School is authentically Christian and provides a first rate general education.

The statement – first rate general education and Biblical teaching in the Christian faith – suggests that these are separate matters. They are in fact not separate but occur simultaneously and are held in dynamic tension. That Middleton has been successful in being **perceived** as first rate and authentically Christian stems from its commitment to promoting high standards of endeavour while safeguarding its Christian character.

Safeguarding the Special Character

Middleton Grange School takes the threat of compromising its Christian character very seriously. That compromise is much more likely to come from within.

The Special Character of the School is determined by Biblical principles and practice. The Christian Schools' Trust, the Board of Trustees and all staff endeavour to work out those Biblical principles and practices in the School. The Christian Schools' Trust reserves the right to determine from time to time what is necessary to preserve and safeguard the Special Character.

Goals and Principal Features of Special Character

The School is a caring community built on Christian beliefs, which permeate all aspects of School life. These beliefs recognise God's purposes are revealed in the Scriptures and in the risen Lord Jesus Christ. They are dynamic and determine the purpose and content of the curriculum in a changing community. They were originally expressed, for the School (in a summary form subordinate to the Scriptures), in the annexed statement of belief incorporated in the Trust Deed for the Christian Schools' Trust when the School was founded.

Because these beliefs encompass all aspects of School and permeate the mind and heart of each staff member all staff must demonstrate unqualified commitment to the School's Special Character.

The objective of the Christian Schools' Trust is to pass onto pupils the truth that all creation is subordinate to the Will of God as expressed in the Scriptures; that all truth finds its meaning and centre in God and that God gives purpose and hope to individuals as well as His creation by virtue of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. It is the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, communicated by the Holy Spirit operating in the human individual, that gives substance to intellectual, physical, spiritual, ethical, emotional, social and aesthetic development.

The curriculum, including all the New Zealand Curriculum Statements, is presented within a Christian worldview. Such a worldview gives perspective and meaning to all learning in the School.

Implicit in the curriculum is the development of character, exemplified by the Decalogue and Beatitudes. Such character is the foundation for personal and social peace, just government, responsible citizenship, compassionate neighbourliness, wise parenting and a responsible attitude to creation. Such character also recognises that a life of self-renouncing love is one of liberty.