*Matamata Christian School*

**CHRISTIAN CURRICULUM AND DEVOTIONAL POLICY**

**Basis**

1. Clause 15 of the deed of agreement between Peria Christian Education (The Association) and the Crown dated May 1998 headed “Special Character Agreement” charges the Association with the responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of the Matamata Christian Schools Special Character, declaring – *That the school shall, at all times in the future, be conducted and operated so as to maintain and preserve the school’s Special Character and these presents (within the deed of agreement) shall be interpreted so as to maintain and preserve the Special Character of the school*.
2. Clause 16 headed “Special Character Definition” sub-clause ii) empowers the Association Proprietor Board to define the Special Christian Character of the School, declaring - *The Special Character of the School is determined by the Christian beliefs and values held by Peria Christian Education Incorporated governed by an elected Proprietor*.
3. Clause 3.1 of the Objects of Peria Christian Education Inc Constitution gives the Association the responsibility *to establish, conduct and maintain a school or schools, which will provide an education to children in the light of God’s word, and in which students are encouraged to develop Christian character and the abilities which God has given them as fully as possible.*
4. Clause 3.2 of the Objects of Peria Christian Education Inc Constitution gives the Association the responsibility *to establish, conduct and maintain schools to educate children and adults in subjects normally taught in public and/or private schools in New Zealand. In particular, subjects from year one to year 8 grading, or any other grading level including early childhood as decided by the Association from time to time, so that all such education shall be also moral and spiritual and in agreement with the basic principles and creeds herein (the Constitution) set forth.*
5. Peria Christian Education Inc has developed a Special Character Definition Policy (Appendix 1) to which is annexed the Associations Statement of Faith, and the purpose of which is to provide clarity regarding Special Character, especially as it relates to Gender and Marriage.
6. Peria Christian Education Incorporated has brought together the essence of it’s Christian Character in it’s Core Values Statement and Core Purpose Statement below.

**Core Purpose**

In partnership with parents, within an educational environment, encourage lifelong discipleship of Jesus Christ by providing opportunities to:

* Gain knowledge and understanding of all things based on the truth of His word. (Prov 1:7)
* Gain faith that transforms into the likeness of God (Rom 12:2)
* Gain hope in an eternal relationship with God through Jesus Christ that is firmly rooted in a deep reverence of Him (Eph 3: 17-20)
* Gain confidence to achieve all things through Christ who strengthens (Phil 4:13)

**Core Values**

* A caring, praying community united in Jesus Christ
* Enthusiastic and actively involved families
* A heart obedient to the Lord
* A spirit of perseverance, resilience and self discipline
* Respect for self, others and those in authority
* Quality, Christ centred, Bible based education
* A well maintained physical environment and resources.

1. The BOT acknowledges that the Association has delegated to the BOT responsibility for the delivery of it’s Special Character within the school, which will be delivered according to the following policy.

**Policy.**

The BOT through the Principal shall ensure that the school shall, at all times and in the future, be conducted and operated so as to -

1. maintain and preserve the schools Special Christian Character
2. provide an education to children in the light of God’s word, and in which students are encouraged to develop Christian character and the abilities which God has given them as fully as possible
3. provide education which is also moral and spiritual and in agreement with the basic principles and creeds contained within the Associations Constitution, in particular the Associations Statement of Faith
4. be consistent with the Associations Special Character Definition Policy
5. carry out the Core Purpose of the Association
6. incorporate and encourage the practice of the Core Values of the Association.

The BOT understands that *“the fruit of all Christian education depends on the gracious operations of the Holy Spirit”* and that it is only *“that He may so bless their* (teachers and parents) *work that the children come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord”*.

Therefore the Principal shall ensure that parents and teachers understand that “*parents and teachers are to perform their task with constant prayer that the Spirit may enable them to be good instruments in His hands for bringing the children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord*” (Clause 11.4.6b of the PCE Constitution)

Further the Principal shall ensure that each child will grow to understand what is required to be able to –

* recognise that the Bible is the Divinely inspired, inerrant Word of God, and the only absolute rule of faith and conduct. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
* explain the Christian faith .1 Peter 3:15
* understand their identity in the arms of a faithful, loving and providing God. Psalm 139
* understand that God has a purpose for their lives Jeremiah. 29:11-14
* develop a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ (Recognise sinfulness. Requirement for Repentance. Seeking forgiveness). Romans 6:23, 10:9 1 John 1:9
* lead others to a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:16-20
* pray for others and themselves 2 Corinthians 1:11 Ephesians 6 :18
* offer praise and worship through dance, music, movement, silence, stillness etc. Psalm 149:3
* understand what living a Christian life through a heart that is obedient to the Lord means. Romans 12:2

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_