



SAINT CONRAD'S COLLEGE

BROTHERS OF CHARITY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

St. Conrad's College is a private, independent Catholic school recognised by the local Bishop as providing a gospel-centered education in the tradition of the Catholic Church. Since the Church is a community serving humanity, it opens its school to anyone seeking an education in harmony with its vision i.e.:

- A. To be a leading Catholic school in pursuit of excellence.
- B. To pursue excellence in all endeavours.

IDEALS FOR A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1. The school programme integrates all dimensions of the human person.
2. The curriculum is well-planned and has Christ as its foundation.
3. The Catholic school carries out its ministry of teaching as an organic part of the pastoral work of the local Catholic church
4. Learning and faith are blended, avoiding a separation between acquiring knowledge and growing in wisdom.
5. It is open to all, giving special attention to the weakest and responding to the needs of the disadvantaged.
6. While interacting with the world of politics, economy and culture, the Catholic school challenges society not to exclude the spiritual dimension from education.
7. Learners, parents, educators, management and support staff form an educating community with a climate that helps youngsters develop sound human relationships.

- C. In striving to fulfil the above ideals, we recognise that we are a school community with a special vision i.e. to share in the creative work of God, in forming something unique – a fully human person who can live life to the full and be a positive influence in the lives of others.

EDUCATION

1. An important part of the curriculum is the RE programme in which the gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and offered according to the tradition of the Catholic Church.
2. The religious environment of the school is respected by attention which is given to daily prayers and the Chapel.

3. Mass forms an integral part of the education programme, where through the Eucharist, the learners are encouraged to express their vision of humanity, the world and God.
 4. Retreats and days of reflection will be held where opportunity is given to learners and staff to reflect on the meaning of their lives.
 5. Learners from other faiths, together with their parents, who freely choose to join, do so on the understanding that anyone joining the school community, knows what it strives to be, what it offers and what it expects of its members, i.e. showing respect for its principles and practices by attending but not necessarily participating in the R.E. programmes and the services that are offered.
 6. Learners from other faiths are expected to be present at the various practices of the Catholic faith i.e. specifically the following services – beginning of the year Mass, Valedictory Mass, special Masses e.g. a visit from Bro. General, devotional prayer time in the morning and afternoon, educational programmes and any other spiritual activity deemed necessary, but understand that the gospel is in no way imposed. If the parent wishes that even the beginning of year Mass is not attended, the school will require a letter motivating the reason for this action.
 7. The school will provide supervision for those children who do not attend Mass.
 8. The programme helps learners of different religious backgrounds acknowledge and value what they hold in common, while recognising and respecting differences between their own beliefs and those of others.
 9. We encourage this working together, and strive towards practising openness and dialogue between all young people.
- D. It should be understood that membership of this community depends on the honouring of these terms and that the right to freedom of religion and conscience of each individual is respected.

SIGNATURE: _____
Parent/Guardian

DATE: _____