



ACCREDITATION GUIDING STATEMENTS

JULY 2020

Introduction

Our school was founded in 1894 by members of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The College was founded to provide a broadly-based, liberal education in the Christian tradition for the sons of its members and those of other parents who wished their children to attend. From its inception, the College attracted students from a variety of backgrounds and strove to unite them through a shared experience of working, learning and playing together.

Today St Andrew's College is a large, inter denominational, co-educational College, with a flourishing junior and secondary school. The College offers a wide range of academic programmes; the Primary curriculum, the Junior Cycle, Transition Year, Leaving Certificate and the International Baccalaureate Diploma at secondary level. The College also offers a wide range of co-curricular, sporting, creative, cultural and other extra-curricular activities.

Since 1984 St Andrew's College has been fully accredited by both the Council of International Schools and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and the International Baccalaureate. When founded St Andrew's College was, in effect, an 'integrated' school and it remains so today.

Philosophy

The philosophy on which the College was founded, and from which it draws its inspiration today, is that a high-quality, rounded education is essential for the moral, social, spiritual, cultural and academic development of all students. Such an education supports the physical and mental well-being of the student and actively contributes to the health and prosperity of society as a whole.

We believe that the principles of the Christian tradition offer a sound basis for the cultivation of such universally valued qualities as honesty, integrity and concern for the welfare of others. We also believe that active participation in all aspects of College life promotes the socialisation of children and prepares them to play their full part as reflective and questioning global citizens.

Similarly, access to a wide range of cultural and academic pursuits is believed to stimulate and nourish the child's creative and intellectual capabilities, thereby enabling the child to achieve a high degree of personal fulfilment.

The basic tenets and philosophy of the St Andrew's College community are believed to remain as relevant to the personal and social development and well-being of our students as they were when the College was founded.

Mission

The mission of St Andrew's College is to offer a high-quality, wide-ranging, liberal educational experience inspired by Christian principles. This nurtures and supports moral, social, spiritual, cultural and academic development as well as supporting the students' physical and mental well-being.

We are committed to creating a positive learning environment where all our students are respected, valued and challenged; in which their talents, aptitudes and skills are given every opportunity to emerge and develop.

We encourage and support our students:

to become balanced, principled, resilient, self-confident and enquiring young adult learners,

to be internationally minded, compassionate, accepting, empathetic, respectful of diversity with a sense of service to others.

Our aim is for our students to leave St Andrew's College prepared to live fulfilled lives, ready to make a positive contribution to society at a local, national and international level.

Learner Profile

Inspired by our history, strengthened by our philosophy and driven by our mission, St Andrew's College strives to ensure that our students:

- Are excited by learning
- Have enquiring minds
- Are challenged to learn
- Feel happy, secure and cared for
- Have high self-esteem, generated by recognition of achievement and effort
- Are principled, spiritually enriched and embrace the concept of service
- Understand the responsibility of citizenship: local, national and international
- Understand the importance of maintaining a healthy body and mind
- Approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage, resilience and forethought