



## Position statement as an Anglican School in the diocese of Cape Town

St Cyprian's School is an independent, Anglican School for girls. As an Anglican school we believe that every girl at St Cyprian's School is an important part of the congregation of our Chapel. The School is defined by the Anglican, Christian values and rooted in the belief that we are all part of the family of the Triune God who is our Creator, Saviour and Sustainer, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are therefore committed to the development of each girl in body, soul and mind.

St Cyprian's School is a values-driven School and as such the Anglican values of Faith, Hope and Love form the base of the ethos of the school. The St Cyprian's Chapel stands both physically and spiritually at the heart of the school and is the meeting place for all girls and staff for times of worship, celebration or in times of sadness. All services in the Chapel are conducted in one form or other as an Anglican Service using the readings from the ACSA lectionary and liturgy based on the Anglican Prayer book and other authorized Anglican liturgy.

All girls and staff are required to attend and respect Anglican observances and services within the school. We meet in the Chapel despite of and because of our differences, recognising that each girl present will come from different denominations of the Christian Church as well as different beliefs, cultures and expressions of faith. As an Anglican School, we acknowledge this diversity and the freedom of choice which God graciously provides, and therefore welcome girls and staff from all faiths, traditions, and cultures to the school.

The mission of the school is therefore not to convert girls to Christianity but rather provide a safe space to explore, question and discuss the mysteries of the Christian Faith and to teach the Gospel in order to provide the seeds which may grow in their journey to finding faith in God, which may happen while at school or later in life. The basis of our mandate is therefore to respect all members of the St Cyprian's Community as part of God's family whether they follow the Christian, Anglican Faith or not, and to provide the unconditional love which Christ taught us to give to all.

Parents and guardians who choose to seek an education at St Cyprian's School for their daughters do so freely and upon the understanding and acceptance of the faith-based Anglican education offered at the school and with its foundational principles, values and ethos. Likewise, members of the staff at the school will be required to respect these same traditions and practices and uphold these within the general education of the school.

St Cyprian's School recognises the authority of the Archbishop of Cape Town, who is a "Visitor" to the school, and will refer to the Archbishop as the authority of the Anglican identity and ethos of the school. The Archbishop is represented on the School Council and should be consulted by the Council for the appointments of the Principal and Chaplain of the school, who should be installed by the Archbishop or a representative at the beginning of their tenure.

The Principal, Chairperson of the Council and the Chaplain of the School are the custodians of the foundational principles of St Cyprian's School and as such have the responsibility to uphold and preserve the Anglican tradition, Christian identity of the school.

The Anglican, Christian faith is central to the life of the school. It is a fundamental and guiding principle to the school to be expressed in all aspects of the school, including its character and mission statements, its aims and objectives and policies.

