

# **Gateway Christian School Profile**

## **Community, School Student and Staff Profile**

### **Distinguishing Features of Gateway Christian School**

With the foundation of the Bible, we affirm the following distinguishing features of Gateway Christian School with respect to students, curriculum, staff, climate, and community.

#### **I. Students**

**Gateway Christian School (GCS) recognizes that each student is wonderfully created by God. GCS, therefore, provides education that allows each student to strive for excellence and development of his or her individual gifts.**

- A. Each student at GCS **grows spiritually**, having opportunities to participate in a devotional life that fosters a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ, and grows in the understanding that the way of the Bible is the best way to live.
- B. Each student at GCS **grows intellectually**, being able to demonstrate knowledge of the world around them, knowledge of the Bible and its relevance to life and learning, and the ability to articulate the Christian story.
- C. Each student at GCS **grows socially** and has a high standard for character and behavior as he or she reflects values consistent with those of the supporting Christian community.
- D. Each student of GCS **grows in appreciation of their physical being**, showing an appreciation for and a caring of their bodies as being a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- E. Each student of GCS **grows emotionally**, developing a greater and greater sense of what contributes to emotional health, responsibility and service.

#### **II. Staff**

**GCS staff are professional, Christian educators. The staff is dedicated, dynamic and committed to educating students for joyful and responsible service to God.**

- A. Teachers **create and maintain learning environments** where students are encouraged and challenged to integrate their faith with their learning.
- B. Teachers **demonstrate competency** within their subject areas.
- C. Teaching **staff exhibit behavior and lifestyle** consistent with the broader Christian community.

### III. Curriculum

**GCS advocates a curriculum based on the following convictions: i) Biblical guidelines are relevant to all areas of study, ii) faith directed learning leads to purposeful response.**

- A. GCS practices will shape curriculum development in ways that **equip students** at every stage with the relevant skills and discernment required to live a life dedicated to Christian service.
- B. GCS promotes **curriculum development which characterizes healthy human relationships** in terms of respect, justice, peace, and doing what is right.

### IV. Community

**Gateway Christian School has a strong Christian community built on mutual respect, effective communication and enthusiastic cooperation.**

- A. The **Red Deer Society for Christian Education** members support Christian education and lifelong learning in Central Alberta and support the distinguishing features of Gateway Christian School.
- B. The GCS community - consisting of **all staff, parents, and other society members** – works to ensure regular communication between members, in order to foster a sense of unity between all stakeholders.
- C. **Social opportunities** are provided to celebrate the Christian school, welcome new members and get to know each other. (E.g. Easter program, Christmas Concert, Fall Barbecue, ...)
- D. Gateway Christian School is committed to **informing the greater Red Deer area** about Christian Education.
- E. The **GC School Council** is responsible to advise and consult with the principal and to advise the RDPSD's Board on any matter relating to the school.

### V. School Atmosphere

**GCS is a place where the presence of God is felt, and where students are able to express their Christian joy freely through prayer, worship, and learning and through their relationships with others. Students express a sense of pride in their school and show school spirit.**

- A. GCS is a **caring environment** where staff and students develop meaningful relations with each other.
- B. The **teaching and learning is meaningful** and engaging.
- C. GCS **celebrates God's goodness** in the success that students experience.
- D. GCS students **enjoy just being in the school**, with each other and with teachers.
- E. GCS classrooms are **safe learning environments** where students support each other in love.

## **Vision, Mission, Beliefs and Values**

### **Glory to God**

#### **Vision**

... for the school community to flourish

#### **Mission**

... to equip students for joyful service

#### **Objectives**

... for each major area of study, a throughline<sup>1</sup>, a set of essential questions, and relevant Provincial student friendly outcomes will be developed into units which are consistent with a Christian worldview and which equip for service.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Strategies**

... plan, communicate outcomes and engage in meaningful learning experiences to achieve the outcomes while respecting the uniqueness of each student.

#### **Assessment**

... make assessments of and for learning at each level of the curriculum plan.

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<sup>1</sup> The profile of a Gateway grad will include the following essential understandings or 'throughlines': God worshipping, creation enjoying, idolatry discerning, faith nurturing, community building, image reflecting, beauty creating, servant working, justice seeking, earth keeping, order discovering, ...

<sup>2</sup> Gateway teachers promise to 1) teach the skills necessary for serving 2) model joyful service, 3) introduce students to examples of service, and 4) recognizing individual gifts provide opportunities for service