



WITH HEAVEN IN MIND

CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS' CONVENTION



STEADFAST RESOLVE

Mandla Mthembu

Excellence by Design
Running a School that Works

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A Christian school that *works* is one where:

- a) Christ shapes the culture,
- b) Scripture guides decisions,
- c) excellence honours God,
- d) discipline restores, and
- e) education forms disciples, not just graduates.

School Administration and Management: Policies that Matter

The central administrative challenge of a Christian school is governing by Scripture while operating lawfully within a secular regulatory system, without compromising either.

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Clipboards at the Gate
Handling Government Visits with Confidence

Handling Government Visits with Confidence

“We respect your office and comply fully with the law.
We are a Christian school by lawful choice and constitutional right. We are willing to cooperate, but not to surrender our identity.”

AEE Association's Main Focus Areas to Date in our Engagement with Government

- a) Education policy and regulations - as they impact independent schools – through NAISA , we have worked closely with the DBE in this regard.
- b) Right to offer curriculum of choice (Alternative Curricula) and exit qualification choice – still an area of discussion at the highest level.
- c) The accreditation by Umalusi of independent schools with a focus on schools offering alternate curricula (A.C.E., Waldorf, and Montessori) ongoing engagement.

AEE Association's Main Focus Areas to Date in our Engagement with Government Cont.

- d) Registration of Independent Schools (IS) and Subsidies – still a huge challenge with PEDs not honouring their commitment.
- e) Monitoring of IS by PED officials – school visits still a challenge, and new demands and IS treated like public schools.
- f) BELA Act 2024 Implications for Independent Schools.
- g) SACE Registration of Teachers including foreign teachers –
Monitors and Assistant teacher.
- h) Compliance issues you need to be aware of.

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**More Than a Logo on the Gate
School Culture, Standards, and Credibility**

The Legal Framework for Independent Schools in SA

“Is my school authentic and legitimate?”

1. SA Constitution - Section 29(3).
2. South African Schools Act 1996 – Section 46.
3. BELA Act 2024 and other Education Laws Amendment Acts.
4. Provincial Regulations for Registration and Subsidization of Independent Schools.
5. Amended National Norms and Standards for School Funding, 2006 – Subsidies to Independent School.
6. The Rights and Responsibilities of Independent Schools (DBE and NAISA) 2010, 2019.

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What Our School Believes and Why It Matters
Statement of Faith or Statement of Fate

Why is the Statement of Faith Critical?

- ✓ It has legal and constitutional meaning in South Africa.
- ✓ It underpins admissions policy, code of conduct, and ethos.
- ✓ It protects religious freedom under Section 15 of the Constitution of SA.
- ✓ It articulates God's intention and direction as to how we should train up a child and guiding them towards their place of full potential in Christ.

Statement of Faith/Ethos/Religion and/or Philosophy

1. Have a statement of faith clearly outlining your belief system and the values you subscribe to.
2. Make this part of your admission pack that you give to parents applying for admission of their child(ren) into your school.
3. Parents must sign it together with their child to acknowledge that they have been informed and have no problem with statement of faith and will respect and adhere to it.
4. The Code of Conduct policy should also be given to parents and learners at the point of application for admission and must be signed by both parent and child.
5. The original signed copies of the Statement of Faith and Code of Conduct must be submitted together with the completed application forms for filing by the schools.