

Statement of Faith

Bridges Christian Academy Co-op welcomes students and families from a variety of Christian denominations and religious backgrounds. In order to ensure that current and prospective families have a clear understanding of the beliefs that inform and guide our co-op, we have produced the Statement of Faith found below.

_____ *Please understand that you do not have to share these same beliefs to participate at Bridges Christian Academy. However, by agreeing to this statement, you are agreeing that you and your family members will not promote teaching contrary to these beliefs in the classroom, at any co-op-sponsored event, or in any media form identified with Bridges Christian Academy, and your student and family are open to hearing/learning about our beliefs.*

Bridges Christian Academy Co-op Statement of Faith is as follows:

1. We believe in the **Holy Bible** and fully accept the writings of the Old and New Testaments as the very Word of God, verbally inspired in all parts and therefore, in its original autograph, wholly without error as originally given by God, including theological concepts as well as geographical and historical details. We believe it is the only infallible, and authoritative rule of faith, life, and conduct. (Ps. 119:105, 133, 160; Prov. 30:5a; II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:19-21)
2. We believe that **Jesus Christ is the Son of God**, manifest in the flesh, born of a virgin; that He is the Savior of all mankind. We believe in His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of God the Father, and His personal return in power and glory.
3. We believe that **salvation** is found nowhere else except in Jesus Christ. We believe salvation from sin is by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ. We believe that salvation is a gift available to all as an act of choice. This gift must be responded to individually in faith, not trusting in any personal works whatsoever, but in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ alone. (Rom. 6:23; John 3:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:21-24; Rom. 10:9)
4. We believe in the eternal preservation and everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the eternal conscious punishment of the lost.
5. **Trinity**: We believe that there is One God, eternally existent in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
6. We believe the **Holy Spirit** is the comforter and counselor, promised by Jesus, who came upon the church at Pentecost and indwells every believer. He is co-equal with the Father and the Son and provides the power which enables individual Christians to live in accord with God's will. (John 14:16-17; Rom. 8:9-11; Rom. 12:2-3; Gal. 3:3; Phil. 2:13)
7. We believe in the power of **prayer**, both individual and corporate.
8. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and everything that God created was good. Yet His perfect creation was marred by sin. Through

Adam's sin, death and decay entered into this world. (Gen 1:1, 31; Gen 2:16-17; Gen 3:6-10, 23; Rom. 8:20-21; Rom. 5:12)

9. We believe in the sanctity of human life and that each child is a gift from God, entrusted to his or her parents to be the primary educators, training them in accordance with God's will and Word.
10. We believe that parents have the God-given responsibility for the care and training of their children.
11. We believe in the spiritual **unity** of believers through our common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and that individual doctrinal differences which may exist outside the aforementioned, should not hinder the unity of Christian home educators.
12. We believe in the **redemption and restoration** to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; I Cor. 6:9-11)
13. We believe that **every person** must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) Gossip, slander, hateful, and harassing behavior and attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the morals of Bridges Christian Academy. However, preaching and teaching God's Truth as revealed in Scripture is not hateful or harassing in nature of any person.
14. We believe that **marriage** and families are ordained and defined by God.
15. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably **creates** each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27)

For teaching, administrative, volunteer, or paid staff, and leadership. For one-off volunteers such as helpers, chaperones, and service helpers this may not apply; at the discretion of the Principal.

When a person is born again, God forgives all sin, and "all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:23) Sanctification is the life-long process of becoming more like Christ, by purifying our hearts and minds, through repentance, prayer, and spiritual practices. Throughout the Bible, sanctification is mentioned frequently as a calling to align yourself with God's will and cleanse yourself from sin. (2 Timothy 2:21, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, John 17:17)

We as an organization recognize that some in the organization may have participated in certain sins that have become acceptable in our society yet are clear violations of Scripture. Our purpose is to promote Biblical standards in all areas of life; yet especially in these areas where society has drifted away from its Biblical roots. (Matthew 5:14) Therefore, we believe in order to preserve the function and integrity of Bridges Christian Academy as the Body of Christ and to provide a Biblical role model to its students, members, and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Bridges in any capacity, or who serve as volunteer staff, agree to and abide by this Statement of Faith for the purposes of the faith, doctrine, practice, policy, discipline, building use, employment practices, etc.

We, the parents,

- have read the above*
- believe the statement of faith to be true*
- We understand that Bridges Christian Academy administers the school under this belief.*

Signature of Father _____ **Date** _____

Signature of Mother _____ **Date** _____