



Prospectus



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A Note from the Principal

Choosing the right school for your child is a big decision. Tamworth offers many quality schools and each one is distinct. At Liberty, we understand that all students are different too. Each child has been made with a unique set of qualities, gifts and talents and so finding a school to support their individual needs can be daunting.

“I wish we knew about Liberty sooner” is a comment that we have heard from parents who have been on that same journey, looking for the school that best suits their child. We have happy students, caring staff and supportive families because we are dedicated to working in partnership with parents and caregivers to meet the individual needs of the students.



If you would like to know more about Liberty Primary School or would like a tour of the school, please contact the office. We would love you to discover that Liberty is the ideal school for your child!

Why A Christian School?

This generation has seen a remarkable expansion of a new type of school - the Christian school, where Christ is Lord, and the teaching of biblical values and thinking is the basis of the curriculum.

These schools have grown up in response to the demands of parents seeking a godly education for their children, and because the Church has begun to realise that it has a responsibility to properly educate, not just care for, young people.

Parents have become concerned about their children's education because of the growing secularisation of government schools, which originally had an education program based on traditional Christian values and beliefs. These changes strike at the heart of our society, with individual concerns often lost to the demands of the many.

These changes have forced many parents who take their Bible seriously to rethink their position regarding the education of their children, and take the important step of finding truly Christian based schools for them.

Introduction to Liberty College

Liberty College is a Kindergarten to Year 6 Christian Primary School and is a ministry of Liberty Church Inc. We are affiliated with Christian Schools Australia.

Liberty took possession of our current property on the New England Highway on the southern approach to Tamworth in June 1998. The school opened in 1999 with nine students in one classroom in the multi-purpose building.

A generous neighbour donated an additional hectare to the property in 2002. The school has grown over the years with three additional classrooms, library space and extra offices added to our property.

A capital works grant of \$500,000 from the Federal Government was approved in 2017, which has provided four new classrooms and associated resources, additional toilet facilities, landscaping, security and shade structures for the school. These facilities were completed in 2019 and will serve the school well into the future.

Our school motto is "Excellence in Christ", both in personal development and academic achievement.

Our Objective

To nurture each student into the maturity of Christ, and provide the best Christian education for the child's learning and personal growth.

The school has two foundational principles:

Jesus is Lord

Jesus Christ is Lord and Sovereign Creator of all things. The school has a responsibility to develop each individual student, enabling them to discover their purpose and identity in Christ. Every student in the school is a unique individual formed with a God-created purpose and identity.

Family is Best

The second principle is our belief that the family is the best authority structure for the nurture and development of a child. The school is here to help the parents raise their children. We therefore practise and teach Christian family principles and morals.

Liberty College Is Special

Liberty College has a special focus on three aspects of school life. It is these aspects that will help every student fulfil their potential in Christ.

Commitment to Literacy

The school is committed to supporting students in Literacy. A whole school phonemic awareness program is used in the classroom in addition to a wide range of high interest reading material. The MULTILIT and MINILIT programs are also utilised to support students in Literacy.

Commitment to Small Classes

Liberty College has a long term commitment to small class sizes. It is our intention to have a maximum of 24 students in each class. This will allow more individual attention to be given and thus provide each student the best opportunity for the maximisation of their learning.

Commitment to Family

A family atmosphere is nurtured and encouraged, both in the classroom and in the playground, so that every child is accepted and recognised as a unique and special person. Students are actively encouraged to care for one another and to have a forgiving attitude in every situation.

Volunteers

Parents, Grandparents and Carers are encouraged to be involved with school activities. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

There are a variety of activities that volunteers can be involved in:

- Student Reading Program
- Crunch & Sip® Fruit Platter
- Specialty Food Days, eg Chicken Burger Day
- Sport and Excursions
- Parent Club
- Fundraising

School Times

School commences at 9am each morning and concludes at 3pm each afternoon. A teacher will be on playground duty from 8:40 am. Students are not permitted to arrive at school unattended any earlier. Students will be supervised by school staff until 3:20 pm.

Transport

Bus services are available for students attending Liberty College. Application forms are available from the school office. Information on timetables and routes can be found by contacting the bus companies directly.

Tamworth Buslines Ph: 6762 3999

Hannafords Coaches Ph: 6762 4984

BusBiz Ph: 6766 4418

A car park is located at the front of the building for students travelling to and from school by private car. Students must be escorted through the car park to the school gate by caregivers or use the drop-off zone.

Enrolment and School Fees

Children being enrolled in the school should be from Christian homes, or homes which desire to practice Christian values.

Our fees are set each year to provide a high quality but cost-effective education for your child. Our fee structure includes generous discounts for additional siblings, and are adjusted for inflation each school year.

Financial needs are treated with compassion and in strictest confidence. Parents should never allow the issue of fees to be a reason to deprive their children of excellent, Christ-centred, Christian education. Application for Fee Subsidy must be made in writing to the Liberty College Council, Attention: Mr James Ardill.

Further information can be obtained from our office upon request.

Term Fees

The school fees are:

1st Child: \$700 per term

Subsequent children: \$350

A non-refundable enrolment fee of \$150.00 per family secures your child's place at Liberty College.

Fees may change at short notice due to changes in circumstances beyond our control.

Fees Inclusions

Fees are inclusive of textbooks, workbooks, government testing, sport, activities, local excursions, school visits and other miscellaneous items. Fees do not include the cost of major excursions or school photographs.

Fees are set for the school year, but may vary at the school's discretion. Wherever possible, three months' notice will be given. Our "Fees Policy" is available on request from our office.

Payment of Fees

Fees can be paid by:

Cash or EFTPOS at the school office.

Direct Deposit: WESTPAC BSB: 032621 Account: 304345

Centrepay: LIBERTY CRN 555 126 339J

Please use your family code for our reference.

Tax Deductible Funds

A tax deductible Building Fund and Library Fund operates. Contributions to these funds are voluntary and cannot be used for the payment of school fees. A receipt will be issued for tax purposes.

Building Fund

WESTPAC BANK

BSB: 032621

ACCOUNT: 304361

Library Fund

WESTPAC BANK

BSB: 032621

ACCOUNT: 304353

Clothing Pool Payments

Payment for School Uniforms is required at the time of collection. Cash or EFTPOS is the preferred method of payment.

The Key to Learning is RESPONSIBILITY

Liberty College believes that the mutual responsibility for the education of students rests with all members of the school community. The fulfilment of these responsibilities by all parties will allow for the proper Christ-centred development of our students.

Staff and students are given the opportunity to develop respect for one another, encouraging each to love and good works. Relationships are based on humility, communication and trust, and at all times relying on sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Students, parents and teachers have a responsibility to maintain the caring and nurturing nature of the school, and at all times aim for excellence. Responsibility brings with it a commitment to action; and responsibility is ultimately achieved when the right actions are taken.

We all have the choice of acting correctly and appropriately in any given situation, with consequences flowing from such choices. The making of choices consistent with Scripture and the building of quality relationships will see a flowing of God's blessing in the integrity, character and development of the individual concerned and those in relationship with him or her.

There are always at least two choices in any situation:

- to choose what is right and true, leading to the blessing of God, or
- to choose what is wrong, the path of sin, that cuts us off from God and his blessings.

***Students, parents and teachers have a
responsibility to maintain the caring and
nurturing nature of the school, and at all times
aim for excellence.***

Teachers have the following responsibilities:

- To ensure the availability of an excellent Christ-centred, Bible-based education for each and every student
- To provide a loving, caring and understanding environment for all members of Liberty College
- To present and live a character of excellence and integrity in Christ

Parents' responsibilities include:

- Raising their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord
- Providing training and discipline to develop Christ-like character in their children
- Supporting the school in all of its endeavours

Students have the responsibility to:

- Behave in a manner consistent with the teaching and life of Christ
- Uphold the values of the Christian faith and the laws of the land
- Encourage one another to love and good deeds
- Learn, to the best of their abilities, developing their talents and helping others to do the same
- Respect the views and opinions of others, and their property
- Wear their uniform with pride as ambassadors of Christ, their family and Liberty College

Students will show responsibility by:

- Being obedient to those in authority over them
- Speaking the truth in love
- Loving one another in humility
- Making a genuine effort in all things
- Honouring commitments
- Wearing their uniform correctly, and with pride
- Taking care of their property, and that of others

Encouragement and Discipline

Liberty College will encourage, exhort, rebuke or discipline as needed, so that the child of God may become complete, able to do all good works in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Encouragement is given to recognize the individual abilities of people, and to maximize their development and application.

Discipline is designed to bring about genuine sorrow and repentance in the offender, and reconciliation with those who were offended by the behaviour. Discipline provides time for a student to reflect on their behaviour so that change can be wrought from within.

Young students need motivation to help them see the benefits of completing set tasks diligently and to the best of their ability. As students mature it is expected that they will develop an inner motivation.

Corporal punishment is not administered at Liberty College due to the provisions of the Education Reform Amendment (School Discipline) Act 1995. Parents may wish to discipline their children in such a way, as is their prerogative and responsibility.

Finally, what about competition? We believe that competition is healthy and encourages students to try their best in the framework of doing everything to the glory of God. The world is competitive and a student must understand this if he or she is to do well in the world in his or her chosen endeavours and careers.

***“...being confident of this,
that he who began a
good work in you
will carry it on
to completion
until the day
of Christ Jesus.”***

Philippians 1:6

Good Discipline and Learning

Good discipline and effective learning are intrinsically linked. At Liberty College the following practices are used to promote good discipline and effective learning.

- The provision of appropriate curriculum to meet the needs of each student
- Supporting students in achieving success in learning
- The consistent use of good behaviour management techniques
- Staff training and development
- Staff modelling of consistent, caring and controlled behaviour
- Discussion with parents and caregivers of their roles and responsibilities in accordance with Biblical discipline
- The provision of programs that develop self-discipline, self-review, communication and responsible decision making
- Encouragement of respect for teachers as professional educators
- Clear communication of the school discipline code
- Knowledge and understanding of the particular needs of the local community
- Liaison with supportive community agencies to build teams of support people
- The provision of appropriate support programs, such as counselling and remediation

***“Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart, as
working for the Lord,
not for men,
since you know
that you will receive
an inheritance from the Lord as a
reward.***

***It is the Lord Christ
you are serving.”***

Colossians 3:23-24

Awards

Staff at Liberty College appreciates the need for students to be intrinsically motivated but recognize that young students need positive feedback in the form of awards and rewards to increase their learning.

Awards will be given out for the following:

- Completing set work
- Service to the school
- Completing homework
- Project work
- Encouraging others
- Sportsmanship
- Respect for others
- Listening attentively
- Progress in Key Learning Areas
- Playing safely

Students will be provided with ongoing positive feedback in a variety of ways including:

- Praise and encouragement
- Stickers, stamps etc.
- Table/Group point system
- Eagles: school reward system
- Classroom and Assembly awards
- Library awards
- School service awards
- Bronze, Silver, Gold Awards
- Public acknowledgement through assemblies, newsletters, social and local media

Student Merit Levels

The good standing of a student at Liberty College is shown by their placement on the School's Colour Level System.

Green Level

All students start on this level. This level encourages and rewards students whose attitudes and actions meet school expectations.

Our expectation is that every child will be:

- diligent in class
- courteous and co-operative with staff and students
- responsible for his or her actions
- a valued member of the school community

Bronze Level

Students are rewarded with promotion to this level when they have consistently shown good behaviour and attitude in the classroom and in the playground.

Silver Level

Students have consistently shown very good behaviour and attitude in all areas of schooling at Liberty College.

Gold Level

This is the highest merit level available at Liberty College. The student has consistently maintained an excellent record of behaviour, attitude and learning. The student has shown a high regard for others and has demonstrated a special commitment to the school.

Brown Level

Pupils are placed on this level because of their uncooperative behaviour or attitude over a period of time. Offences are noted on a behaviour record kept by the teacher. There will be some loss of privileges. In-school detention may be imposed. The class teacher will speak with the parents. They will spend a minimum of one week on this level before returning to Green Level.

Orange Level

Students will be placed on this level as a result of a serious offence or persistent misbehaviour whilst on Brown level. The school is very concerned about the student's behaviour in the playground and/or classroom. There has been little effort by the student to improve his/her behaviour. There will be a significant loss of privileges. Daily reports will be given to the parents. Parents will be requested to have an interview with the Principal. It is expected that students will remain on this level for a maximum of a week, returning to Brown Level.

Red Level

A serious offence has occurred or there has been continuing wilful behaviour whilst on Orange level. Suspension will be imposed on most occasions. Parent interview with the Principal will be requested. It is expected that students will remain on this level for a maximum of a week, returning to Orange Level.

***“And let us consider how we
may spur one another on toward
love and good deeds.”***

Hebrews 10:24

Serious Offences

The following situations are indicative of a serious offence:

- Deliberately endangers the safety of others
- Premeditated harassment – verbal or physical
- Persistent refusal to obey the directions of a staff member or visiting teacher
- Use of unacceptable language
- Wilful vandalism
- Misbehaviour on school excursions

Consequences of a Serious Offence

- Immediate implementation of Orange or Red Level

- In-School Suspension

In-school suspension is the disciplinary action of removing a student from a scheduled class and placing him or her in an isolated, closely supervised environment. Student works at a desk in another classroom. The student does academic work in silence. If the student misbehaves after returning to the classroom, he or she may be sent again to the suspension room. The student remains in the room for a maximum of one day.

Parents are notified that a student received in-school suspension.

- Suspension

Suspension is the disciplinary action of removing a student from the school environment. The Principal has the discretion to immediately suspend a student. The student must remain at home under parental supervision for a period of time determined by the Principal in consultation with parents.

- Expulsion

Expulsion is a last resort option where the issue has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the school.

Communication to Parents

The following strategies are used at Liberty to communicate with parents.

Compass Parent Portal

Compass is the main tool used by the school for notification of daily activities, events and general administrative matters. Access codes are provided upon enrolment. Compass is accessible on mobile devices and PC.

Newsletter

The newsletter is published every second Friday with the highlights of events and the following fortnight's information. This is accessed via the Compass Parent Portal and on the school website.

Email

Important information or matters of your child's education will be communicated to parents via Compass, often with an attached document.

Semester Report

A formal document outlining the student's achievement and assessments will be sent home at the conclusion of Term 2 and Term 4.

Telephone

The office is open 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday. An answering machine is available outside these times.

SMS

Text messages may be sent to notify and remind about school events.

Interviews

Interviews are offered in Term 2 and Term 4. These are advertised and booked on the Compass Parent Portal. To arrange to speak with teachers at other times contact the office.

Uniform

Full uniform must be worn. If a child is unable to wear the full uniform, a note of explanation is required. Parents will be informed if a child is out of uniform with no parent explanation.

A clothing pool operates where new uniforms are provided at a subsidized cost. All items must be purchased through the clothing pool except for white socks, white shirts and footwear.

Hair must be neat and conservative and not draw undue attention to a student. Bottle green, green school check material, white or black hair ties are acceptable.

Rings, bracelets and necklaces are not permitted to be worn. One pair of sleepers or small studs are permitted to be worn only by girls. Watches may be worn.

Summer Uniform: Terms 1 and 4

Boys

Bottle Green Shorts
White Button-up Short Sleeved Shirt
Bottle Green Short Socks
Black Boots or Lace-Up Shoes

Winter

Bottle Green Pants
White Button-up Long Sleeved Shirt
School Tie*
Bottle Green Short Socks
Black Boots or Lace-Up Shoes
Bottle Green School Hat with Emblem
Bottle Green V Neck Fleecy Jumper with Emblem
Bottle Green Polar Fleece Lined Rain Jacket

Sport

Bottle Green Sports Shirt with Emblem
Navy Rugby Shorts
Bottle Green V Neck Fleecy Jumper with Emblem
Navy Track Pants (Winter)
Bottle Green Short Socks
Black Joggers

Other Items

Bottle Green School Hat with Emblem
Bottle Green Backpack
Bottle Green Homework/Reading Bag

Winter Uniform: Terms 2 and 3

Girls

Green Check Shift Dress with White Tie
White Short Socks
Closed Toe Black Shoes

Winter

Green Check Pinafore
White Button-up Long Sleeved Shirt
School Tie*
Bottle Green Stockings or Over the Knee Socks
Closed Toe Black Shoes
Bottle Green School Hat with Emblem
Bottle Green V Neck Fleecy Jumper with Emblem
Bottle Green Polar Fleece Lined Rain Jacket

Sport

Bottle Green Sports Shirt with Emblem
Navy Rugby Shorts
Bottle Green V Neck Fleecy Jumper with Emblem
Navy Track Pants (Winter)
White Short Socks
White Joggers

Other Items

Bottle Green School Hat with Emblem
Bottle Green Backpack
Bottle Green Homework/Reading Bag

* Elasticised tie available for students from K-4. Year 5 and 6 students wear a regular school tie.

Liberty

582 Goonoo Goonoo Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Phone: 02 6762 2322

Email: office@libertychurch.com.au

Website: www.libertycollege.com.au

