



## **PASTOR'S REFERENCE**

### **CONFIDENTIAL**

**To maintain confidentiality, this form is to be completed by the Pastor/Minister and forwarded directly to the Enrolments Officer at Toongabbie Christian College: [enrolments@tcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@tcc.nsw.edu.au) or PO Box 765 Toongabbie 2146.**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ Applying for Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

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Parent/carer's name/s \_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Referee,**

**This family has applied for enrolment at Toongabbie Christian College. Kindly complete the information requested below and return to the College. Please add additional pages if required. You may be assured your comments will be treated as confidential. Thank you for your assistance.**

What is the nature and length of the family's association with you/your church?

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How often does the family attend church?

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What involvement does the family have in the church?

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How do you believe the character and Christian commitment of the family would fit with the ethos of Toongabbie Christian College? *(Please refer to the Statement of Faith on back)* Are there any areas of concern?

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Please provide information regarding the student/s.

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*Please see over page*

Other information that may help the College to assess the educational needs of the family:

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**PASTOR/MINISTER**

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**TOONGABBIE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE STATEMENT OF FAITH**

**The Nature and Unity of the Godhead**

We believe there is one God who is eternal personal Spirit. He is infinite in power, wisdom, holiness and love. God is Triune in essential being and revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and who of His own sovereign will created the heavens, the earth and all that is contained within the universe.

**The Deity and Humanity of Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ as the second Person of the Godhead is eternally one with God the Father of whose person and glory Jesus is the accurate expression. To become human. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, so that two whole and perfect natures, the nature of God and human nature, were united in one Person; truly God and truly human.

**The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity is eternally one with the Father and the Son yet He is sent by Them to achieve the divine purpose in the world and the church.

**The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures**

We believe that the Scriptures, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, are the infallible Word of God. They were written by holy people of God inspired by the Holy Spirit and have supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

**The Sinfulness of People**

We believe that people were made in the image of God and for fellowship with God. By transgression of God's command humankind fell from fellowship with God and their nature was corrupted. As a consequence all people are spiritually dead under Satan's dominion and control and subject to God's wrath and condemnation. Therefore, apart from God's grace, people are helpless and hopeless.

**Christ's Atonement for the Sin of Man**

We believe in order to redeem people from the guilt, penalty and power of sin; Jesus Christ became human and died a sacrificial death as our representative substitute. By His resurrection, God's acceptance of His atoning death was demonstrated. This atonement is sufficient for the whole world, but effective only in those who received it. The sinner is justified and reconciled to God, not through any personal merit, but solely on the basis of God's gracious gift of salvation in Jesus Christ received through faith.

**The Work of the Holy Spirit in Salvation**

We believe the ministry of the Holy Spirit is necessary for the acceptance of God's provision of salvation. The Holy Spirit convicts sinners of their sinfulness, leads them to personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and so brings them to spiritual birth as God's children and to fellowship in Christ. Working within the life of believers the Holy Spirit makes real the presence of Christ, witnesses to their relationship with God, leads into all truth, bestows gifts for effective services and produces graces for holy living.

**The Church**

We believe the Church is the body of people whom God has separated from the world through faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. All regenerate persons are members of the universal Church of God, which takes local form wherever groups of believers unite for worship, fellowship and service in accordance with scriptural principles. All believers are called to a priestly ministry in the offering of spiritual sacrifices and sent into the worlds to be witnesses. God calls individuals to positions of oversight and leadership or to special ministries. The Church recognises such by ordaining pastors, commissioning missionaries, appointing deacons and other leaders, following New Testament practice.

**\* The Baptism of Believers only by Immersion**

We believe that Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a public declaration of a person's faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. In accordance with New Testament Scripture it should be administered only by total immersion, which symbolises the believer's identification with Christ in death, burial and resurrection, the remission of sins and the believer's dedication to God to live and walk in newness of life.

**\* The Communion**

We believe that the Lord's Supper is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus Christ instituted by Him to be celebrated with the elements of bread and wine by believers in Christ until the end of the age. It commemorates and declares our thanks for the Lord's substitutionary death. The celebration of the ordinance expresses our fellowship with and in the Lord Jesus Christ as members of the Body of which He is the Head.

**The Return of the Lord Jesus Christ**

We believe at the end of this age, according to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in His glory to the earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom of God awaits His return.

**The Resurrection of the Dead**

We believe at the end of the age, there is to be a resurrection both of the righteous and the unrighteous. After death the bodies return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God – the righteous to be with Him and the unrighteous to be reserved for the judgment.

**Rewards and Punishments in a Future State**

We believe God has appointed a day of final judgment for the world. At that time Jesus Christ will judge every person and each will receive reward or punishment according to their deeds. Those judged righteous, in their resurrected and glorified bodies, will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment.

\* Variations to these clauses will be accepted to allow for different convictions about these two beliefs