



New Zealand Christian
Proprietors Trust

Information Pack

2023 Edition

Mission

To be a proprietor that partners with local communities throughout New Zealand to expand the provision of quality state-integrated Christian schooling

Motto

National Synergy – Local Identity

NZ Christian Proprietors Trust

Who We Are

The NZ Christian Proprietors Trust (NZCPT) was founded by individuals associated with Bethlehem College (in Tauranga), KingsWay School (in Orewa) and Middleton Grange School (in Christchurch), but is independent of them. Each of these schools has undertaken the relatively difficult task of integration with the Crown and has benefited enormously from doing so. Some of those associated with the NZCPT have worked with other schools interested in integrating, or having difficulties with their integration arrangements. These experiences have indicated strong demand for an organisation that partners with local communities committed to Christian schooling, and assists them to integrate and manage the on-going integration relationship. In addition, the NZCPT sees considerable potential in providing or coordinating common support services to New Zealand Christian schools (eg. curriculum and professional development, collection of fees, etc.) within the NZCPT network.

Goals

To be a proprietor that:

1. Is a preferred partner of the Crown in delivery of education in keeping with our Special Character.
2. Is a preferred partner of local communities that desire education in keeping with our Special Character.
3. Interfaces with the Crown to integrate Christian schools in the following order of priority:
 - a) Schools where no sustainable Christian schools currently exist.
 - b) Existing independent schools desiring to integrate.
 - c) Existing integrated schools desiring to change Proprietor.

Statement of Belief

We confess the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the only written Word of God, the supreme and infallible^[1] rule of faith and life, indispensable and determinative for our knowledge of God, of ourselves and the rest of creation, and for the whole educational task. The Holy Scriptures are God's word to us through human authors.

On This Basis We Confess That:

1. There is one God eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, being the same in nature, equal in power and glory, and worthy of equal honour, obedience, and worship.
2. This one God is Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible, and declared them good. He sustains and rules over all His creation, including people, in perfect wisdom and power.
3. We believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son of the Father. Through him and for him all things were created. He is God incarnate, the true image of God, fully God and fully human. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, crucified, died and was buried. On the third day he rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and now reigns at the right hand of the Father.
4. God created human beings in his own image. As image bearers we are designed for relationship with God and with one another, are blessed to be fruitful and productive in all areas of life to the glory of God and are entrusted with the stewardship and care of God's world.
5. Sin, evil and death entered the world, fracturing our relationship with God, with others, and with creation. All have sinned and are unable to restore their relationship with God by their own efforts.
6. So, God sent his only Son into the world. Through Jesus' life, death and resurrection, God revealed himself to the world; defeated the powers of sin, evil and death; provided for our salvation and reconciliation to Him; inaugurated the Kingdom of God; and is working to renew all things. Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of the new creation. God's purposes for His world will culminate with Christ's certain return.
7. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is at work in the world bringing people to faith, drawing them to God, guiding them into truth, and working in them regeneration and transformation so that those in Christ will become more fully conformed to Christ's image. All of the redeemed in Christ are united by the Holy Spirit and belong to one, holy, universal Church.

[1] Infallible - We believe an infallible God inspired fallible human authors to communicate the fullness of what He intended.

Therefore, with specific reference to the task of education, schools under our proprietorship will:

1. acknowledge that education is never neutral, but unfolds in obedience or disobedience to the Lord.
2. acknowledge that education is the responsibility of parents under God and that:
 - a) the task of the school is to assist parents with the education of their children.
 - b) parents have the responsibility to maintain a constructive relationship with the teachers of their children.
 - c) the parent body has a responsibility to participate in the governance of the school.
3. Acknowledge that they (Schools) partner with parents to provide Christian education, and therefore employ teachers who:
 - a) seek to shape their entire teaching practice on the basis of the Bible.
 - b) seek to value students, acknowledging that they are created in God's image with gifts for a unique purpose.
 - c) seek to exercise growing personal faith in Christ and, in doing so, inspire and disciple children in relationship with God.
 - d) seek to model, and disciple children in the development of Godly character and positive relationships with others.
 - e) seek to equip students with knowledge, understanding, wisdom and skill that will enable them to appreciate God's work in creation, and to grow as co-workers with Him in all their work and endeavour.
4. Be led by boards who seek to govern diligently in order to protect and enhance the special character of the school.

Trustees



Mark Larson

Chairperson

Mark taught in the state network as a secondary teacher (Humanities, Mathematics, Special

Education) for 22 years before becoming the Principal at Middleton Grange School in 1999. In 2010 Mark left the Principalship to become CEO to the Christian Schools' Trust, the Proprietor of Middleton Grange School, Ashburton Christian School, Aidanfield Christian School and Rolleston Christian School. He is also CEO of the Association of Integrated Schools.

Mark is married to Anne and has four children and 13 grandchildren - all living in Christchurch. Principals and school Boards will lead their school communities with vision and passion if the Proprietor creates the right conditions - Mark loves having that kind of role and influence for the Kingdom!



Eoin Crosbie

Deputy Chairperson

Eoin is an identical twin and is married to Judith who teaches at Bethlehem College. They have three adult children Anna, Laura and Michael.

Eoin has been involved in Christian Education since he became Principal of Bethlehem College in 2011. Before that, he was a Southern Man based in the rural township of Gore where he was Deputy Principal and Rector for 20 years. Eoin has been seconded to ERO before arriving in Tauranga and assuming leadership roles within the Presbyterian Church as a youth leader, an elder and a member of the Council of Assembly.

Leading a Year 1-13 College over two campuses has been a wonderful blessing. In retirement Eoin is engaged in service in his local Church, is a member of Kaimai Presbytery Council and works with Christian school leaders in a review and mentoring capacity. God has been very faithful as Eoin was the recipient of a new liver in 1996. The transplant completely revitalized his life and has enabled him to serve in ways he never thought would ever be possible.



Wes Braddock

Wes is passionate about Christian education as a very useful tool for growing young people who are strong in their

faith and equipped to grow the Kingdom of God in every area of society. He sees this role as one of protecting what we cherish as Christian schools and also empowering teachers and other members of the school community.

Wes is married to Carley with three children who are in their mid- to late teens, all of whom have been through KingsWay School and also spent time at Kaitaia Abundant Life School.

Originally trained in Agricultural Consultancy and later moved into teaching Science, Economics and Business, Wes has held the position of Careers Advisor at KingsWay School before taking on a Deputy Principal role in the Far North, then returning to KingsWay School, where he worked as Head of the Senior School and now runs his own business.



Stephanie Corban

Stephanie is passionate about Christian families having the choice to send their children to local Christian schools which are

centred on God's truth, where staff encourage children to grow in their love and knowledge of God, and children are equipped to live out their faith in their communities. Stephanie is a lawyer and joined the Trust in June 2022. She has been a trustee on The KingsWay Trust since 2018.

Stephanie is married to John and they have had three children. All three attended Immanuel Christian School in Avondale.

Immanuel School was located at the site where Jireh Christian School is now located. Stephanie's husband served on the Immanuel's Board as Treasurer for 9 years and then Stephanie served for two years, during which time negotiations with The KingsWay Trust to relocate Jireh Christian School occurred.



Vaughan Darby

Vaughan is married to Mary and has two sons, Joshua and Samuel.

Vaughan was the founding Chairman of NZCPT and continued in the role until 2016. He has been involved with The KingsWay Trust for over 20 years. He was Chairman and a Trustee on the KingsGate School establishment board at its inception in 2007. He was inaugural Chairman of KingsWay School Board of Trustees for nine years. For a period, Vaughan was a Trustee and Deputy Chair of the Masters Institute, a Christian Teacher's College and also a Trustee of the Masters Development Foundation.

Vaughan has a passion for Christian education, especially preparing our children so they can live out their faith in the world they live in.

Formerly a school teacher, he is now Director of a number of businesses, including investment property management. Vaughan has joined the Board of Asian Outreach Cambodia and is in the process of establishing Cambodian businesses to help fund the work.



Carolyn Stuart

Carolyn's career in education has always been underpinned by a belief that schools need to be relevant to, and make sense

for, students. This sense-making comes through authentic relationships, whānau partnerships and making use of the tools of today's world. Carolyn has a Masters in Education with a specialisation in Leadership.

Carolyn's extensive career in education has included being Principal of Southbridge School and Tawa Intermediate School; working for a year in a seconded role in the Ministry of Education and in a Deputy Chief Executive position at Network for Learning.

In 2019, she founded her own company, Weaving Futures Ltd and writes a weekly blog that is followed by many with an interest in education, design thinking and transformational change.

Carolyn is married to Geoff, and has two adult children. Carolyn and Geoff are active members of Arise Church in Wellington.



Hazel Warnes

Hazel began teaching in Otago, South Auckland where she lost her heart to Māori and Pasifika tamariki. She taught in Remuera,

Blockhouse Bay and Ruapotaka in Glen Innes before leaving Auckland and State Education to enter Christian education—teaching at Bethlehem College for 9 years and eventually becoming the Primary Principal. Following this she joined Bethlehem Tertiary Institute (BTI) where she was a Primary Lecturer for 17 years. While at BTI Hazel helped to pioneer, a non-denominational Christian kura in Rotorua, becoming its Principal in 2014. In 2018, the school became Bethlehem College Chapman, a ‘satellite’ kura of BC Tauranga and Hazel was appointed to her current role as Head of School.

Hazel has a dream of a ‘generation rising up to take their place with unwavering faith, unswerving hope and unrelenting love’. She is committed to intentionally weaving the Truth of the Word of God throughout our Teaching and Learning programme.

She believes our rangatahi deserve to know that they are made in the image of God, have immeasurable worth, unique significance. Their identity, security and purpose can be anchored in Christ.



Peter Wilding

Peter is married to Rachel and together they have three children who have all completed their schooling attending a

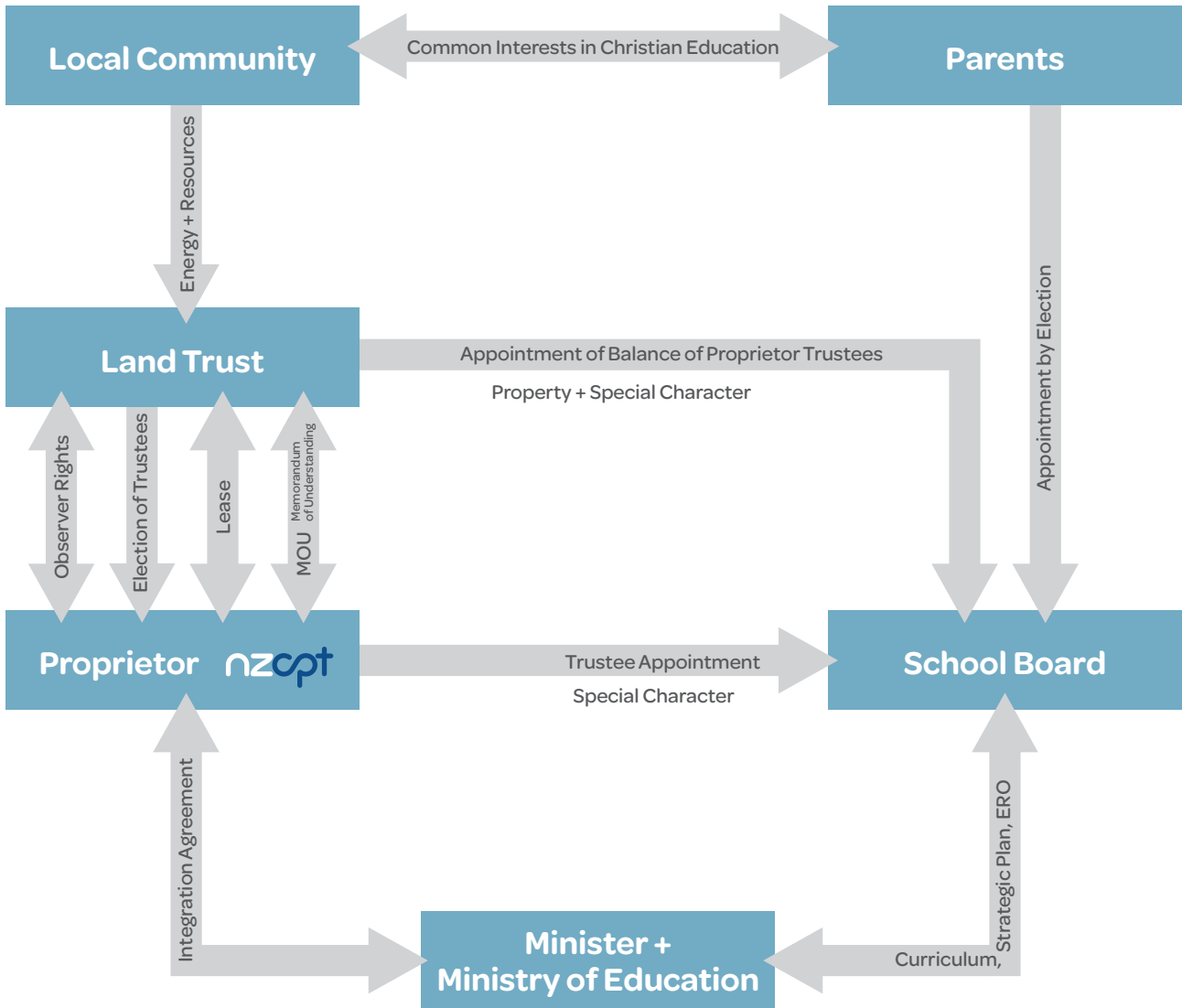
Christian School. He regularly attends church on the North Shore in Auckland.

Peter has been associated with Christian schools for over two decades and is a passionate supporter of quality Christian Education. He has been an active board member of seven schools and several non-profit organisations for many years bringing extensive governance experience to help boards and their organisations flourish.

After finishing a long career as a senior manager with the New Zealand Fire Service, Peter accepted the role of Acting CEO for both The Kingsway Trust and the NZ Christian Proprietors Trust. He concluded this position in 2023 and now works as an independent consultant in governance for non-profit organisations. He currently sits as a trustee/ Chairperson on the boards of several charitable trusts in New Zealand and Australia.

Peter sees Christian schools as strategically important assets to the body of Christ. By educating young people through a framework of Christian education, these schools are growing and releasing young people to carry the heartbeat of Father God into our communities.

Relationships



Local Identity – Local Community, Parents and Land Trust

Christian schooling throughout New Zealand is usually initiated and sustained by a Local Community that has a passion for and commitment to Christian schooling, a group of Parents who wish their children to have a Christian education, and a legal entity (normally a Trust) that owns the land and buildings. NZCPT wishes to support and nurture this approach to Christian schooling, as it is consistent with the Biblical mandate of parental responsibility for the education of children, and it is proven to work.

NZCPT, Land Trust, School Board and Minister of Education

In order for NZCPT to be in a position to manage the integration agreement with the Crown, it needs to be the “Proprietor” of the school. The Proprietor’s role under the integration arrangements is to be a party to a deed with the Crown that sets out respective obligations and rights. These include that the Proprietor will ensure the school is operated consistent with the special character of the school (which is defined in the deed), and that the Crown will support the school financially (eg. pay teacher salaries, provide operational and certain capital grants, and so forth). The integration deed also requires that the school will be governed by a School Board (a “Board of Trustees” in agreements before 2020), the majority of which must be elected by the parents of the children attending the school.

In order to coordinate these various roles and functions, the NZCPT has developed the following arrangements:

- The Land Trust leases its land and buildings to the NZCPT, together with a deed of understanding that defines the wider relationship between the two parties (eg. how each party is able to exit the relationship, should that ever be necessary).
- The NZCPT holds an Integration Agreement with the Crown (represented by the Minister of Education).
- The school is governed by a School Board. The majority of this Board is elected by the parents. The Proprietor is able to appoint a minority of the members. The NZCPT retains the right to appoint one member to the School Board and delegates the right to appoint all other Proprietor representatives to the Land Trust. This delegation is in the deed of understanding.
- The Land Trusts that have leased their properties to the NZCPT have the right to elect a minority of the trustees of the NZCPT (the other trustees are appointed by the NZCPT).
- The Land Trusts and NZCPT provide each other observer and speaking rights at their respective meetings (which is in the Memorandum of Understanding).
- The NZCPT has a preference to collect voluntary Special Character donations.

The Integration Agreement brings with it a number of obligations as between the School Board and the Ministry of Education. These include:

- That the school fulfils the New Zealand Curriculum requirements.
 - That the school establishes a strategic plan and operates consistent with that plan.
 - That the Education Review Office (ERO) audits the school periodically (usually once every three years).
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Services

Services by NZCPT to Member Land Trusts

- Negotiate with the Ministry of Education.
- Hold and manage integration agreement.
- Appoint and train Proprietor representatives on School Boards.
- Confirm Special Character expectations and audit against it.
- Set and collect attendance dues.
- Assist with property design.
- Oversee property planning – 10 year property plan.
- Provide financial consultancy.
- Encourage and facilitate the investment of excess proprietor funds around member schools.
- Receive Ministry of Education grants.

Services by NZCPT to Member School Boards

- Coordinate purchasing and development of common services and intellectual property.
- Development of resources to develop Special Character.
- Negotiate enrolment schemes.
- Staff management and development/selection, performance management in relation to Special Character.
- Provide Proprietor and School Board member training.
- Collect Special Character levies for School Boards.
- Pay membership of AIS and APIS.
- Pay membership of NZACS for Decile 1-3 schools, or schools with rolls under 100 pupils.

Crown



Proprietor Special Character



Land Trusts Property



Network Structure

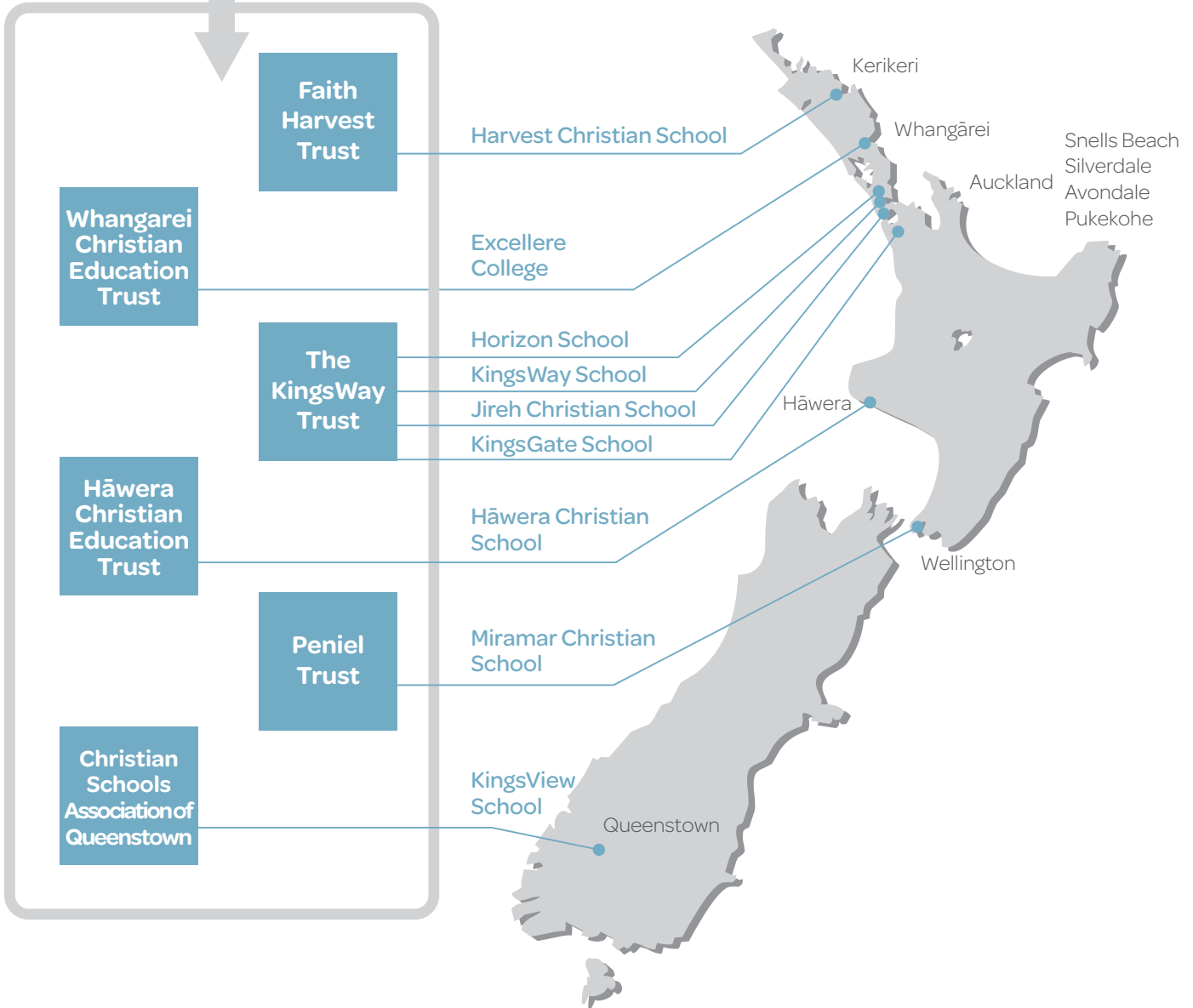


New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust

Proprietor with a national vision for Christian education. Legally responsible to the Crown for the maintenance of the Special Character of the school which responsibility it shares with each of its land trusts.

National synergy Local Identity

Made up of 'locals' who support Christian education, carry the local expression of Special Character and own or lease the physical school property.



How to Engage with the NZCPT

The NZCPT welcomes approaches from community groups that wish to establish Christian schools, and from existing schools which either wish to integrate, or are already integrated but wish to explore joining the NZCPT network.

Contact us:

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