



KEARSNEY COLLEGE

Founded in 1921

Statement on Spirituality at Kearsney College

1. The Spiritual History of Kearsney College

Sir James Liege Hulett, in donating his home, laid down that:

“The objects and purpose of Kearsney House shall be to establish a High Class Boys School at Kearsney, Natal, which shall be called “Kearsney High School”,and to conduct the school or schools under the auspices of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of South Africa, until that church is ready and willing to take over the said school or schools, and to carry on the same in connection with its educational system”.

Constitution of Kearsney House

The Methodist Church assumed control of the College in 1922. Kearsney College relocated to Botha’s Hill in 1939, and in 1982 the College was purchased from the Methodist Church by The Kearsney College Trust.

2. The Kearsney College Trust

In terms of the Trust Deed the principal object of the trust, “Shall be to ensure that Kearsney shall continue to operate under the same name as a Christian School, providing Primary and Secondary education, and that the existing Methodist ethos of Kearsney shall be maintained and fostered”. In all aims and objectives, mission and value statements, the centrality of the Christian faith will be adhered to, as the fundamental and guiding principle of the College.

3. Kearsney’s relationship with the Methodist Church

Kearsney College is required by the Trust to maintain the Methodist ethos of the school, which shall be done in the appointment of a Methodist Chaplain. The Presiding Bishop of the Methodist church of S.A. is an Ex Officio member of the Kearsney College Trust and of the Board of Governors. The Bishop of the Natal Coastal District is also an Ex Officio member of the Kearsney College Board of Governors.

“Methodist Ethos” refers to Methodism’s affirmation of the creeds of Christianity and the belief that all churches are part of the Body of Christ. Methodist doctrine emphasizes the tenets of prevenient grace, the universal love of God, justification by faith and new birth, the blessed assurance of salvation through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ and the priesthood of all believers. Methodism’s social witness is proclaimed in its mandate “to spread scriptural holiness throughout the land”. This emphasis on God’s call to holiness is the essential contribution that Methodism has been called to make.

4. The role of the College Chaplain

The Chaplain is responsible for the formation and nurture of the spiritual lives of the boys and staff, the pastoral care of the community and the worship life of the College.

5. The Board of Governors

The Trust deed requires that, “The Board shall consist of members who shall be in sympathy with the evangelical doctrine and practice of the Methodist Church”.

6. Headmaster

The Headmaster shall be a practicing Christian and be supportive of the work of the Chaplain.

7. Staff members

Staff members are required, according to their conscience, to contribute professionally and personally to the spiritual life of the College. They will be required to acknowledge and respect the Christian faith of the College.

8. Boys

Regardless of their faith or religious persuasion, all boys must comply with the College’s uniform and hair policy and in particular, there shall be no outward manifestation of any faith or religion.

9. The outworking of the Christian Faith at Kearsney

Kearsney College is committed to the spiritual and moral development of the boys at the College. Kearsney seeks to fulfil this commitment under the love and grace of God.

- Chapel services shall be compulsory for all boys.
- Academic staff members are strongly urged to attend all Chapel services and shall not to propagate teachings that are contrary to the Christian Faith and Methodist ethos.
- Staff and boys will be encouraged to take part in the Chapel services, the Student Christian Association and other Spiritual activities in the College.

- The fostering of relationships with the Methodist Church and the wider Christian Church will be strongly encouraged.
- Christian values will be encouraged at all levels of relationship in the Kearsney community, especially those of compassion, care, respect, and integrity.

10. Other Faiths

- Kearsney College welcomes boys and staff from other faiths and will at all times exhibit the greatest respect for such people and their families.
- All boys of other faiths, however, will be required to attend all Chapel services and Religious Education classes.
- Kearsney will not allow the practice of other faiths at the College.
- Allowance may be made, on written request to the Headmaster, for boys to attend worship and prayers in their own places of worship.
- All requests to attend special religious festivals that require time off school must be submitted to the Headmaster in writing and the decision of the Headmaster shall be final.