

## **Mathematics Rationale**

To be seen in the light of the BBS

*“Mathematics helps us see the order and beauty of God’s creation and thus of God Himself. Hence, mathematics derives its purpose, meaning, and value from God. Discussion of these themes can be a legitimate and valuable part of mathematics education”* James Bradley

God revealed his majesty in concepts of number, space, form and symmetry in the laws that govern the existence and harmony of all things created. Mathematical laws are not the creation of man, but human formulations of the way God has made things. Understanding mathematical concepts helps to better understand and appreciate the majesty and power of God, as all of creation, including the laws of mathematics, point to a sovereign creator who ordained the laws and keeps them in motion.

Mathematics reminds us of God’s consistency and trustworthiness. He created mathematics with specific purpose in mind, and the patterns and relationships evident in mathematics are part of his design.

### Aims

Mathematics aims to ensure that students: (the first three come from the Australian Curriculum)

- are confident, creative users and communicators of mathematics, able to investigate, represent and interpret situations in their personal and work lives and as active citizens
- develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with processes, and are able to pose and solve problems and reason in *Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability*
- recognise connections between the areas of mathematics and other disciplines and appreciate mathematics as an accessible and enjoyable discipline to study.
- see the order and beauty of God’s creation and thus of God Himself.
- understand how mathematics fits into our God-given stewardship for the earth and building human communities.

The “Year Level Focus” statements are the product of the rationale and aims targeted at a particular year level.

e.g

### **Grade 3/4**

#### **CHRISTIAN FOCUS/ Central Idea:**

We live in a world that God has designed for our use. It is a world of physical laws and natural beauty. God has directed us to subdue and rule over the world. To do so we need to better understand the logical order of the world that He has given us.

The mathematical skills that we teach are designed to help students to better understand this world. Students need to understand mathematical concepts to better understand and appreciate the majesty and power of God as all of creation, including the laws of mathematics, point to a sovereign creator who ordained the laws and keeps them in motion.

**Grades 1/2**

**CHRISTIAN FOCUS/ Central Idea:**

- Maths is a description of the order God has put into His creation.
- Maths is a testimony to God's faithfulness, power and generosity.
- Maths reminds us of God's consistency and trustworthiness.
- Maths is a way of recording and expressing the laws and relationships God created.
- Maths reveals the care God took with each aspect of design of His creation.