



# Data Analysis Overall Findings

1.



## Student-Teacher Relationships

Students connect most with teachers who actively demonstrate care for them in key areas of their lives - spiritual, academic and social.

Main aspects of appreciation for teachers center around trustworthiness, relatability, understanding, kindness, approachability, humour, strong content knowledge of subject, role modelling/living Christian values, sharing lived experiences, giving of their time, connecting outside of school hours.

Most students participate in faith programs due to the encouragement and influence of their teacher/s. The opposite is true too - students are less inclined to participate in faith programs if their teachers are 'hypocritical' and less supportive of them.

Often, Christian values developed at home affect the degree to which students engage with school-based faith activities.

In most cases, the more positive the faith example of teachers is, the higher the faith interest and development of students and vice versa.

Students connect most with the content of the assessments taught in Bible classes when teachers teach through discussion, debates and activities.

Not all students enjoy Bible classes due to the comprehensive literacy required and most would prefer Bible classes not to be credit-based.

Deeper discussions about current ethical 'hot topics' and their connection to the Bible is an area of great interest. Listening to the opinion of others helps formulate their own belief systems.

Students from different religious denominations and backgrounds value the safe space of a Bible classroom to share thoughts and opinions without judgment.

The current format of how Bible is taught requires change. Providing long periods of time for students to write assessments is challenging to those who struggle with literacy.

Students want to see more of a practical application of Bible classes to their lives. 'How does all this information and learning apply to my spiritual walk?', 'How is this relevant to me?'

2.



## Bible Classes

3.



## Week of Worship Programs

Week of Worship is a highlight of the school year for most students. They look forward to messages, testimonies, Praise and Worship, and other engaging activities. The impact of Week of Worship though, is short lived unless the message shared is discussed beyond the WoW hour, in classrooms and in the following weeks and months.

There are mixed reviews regarding the relevance of messages shared, impacting student faith. Students are interested in hearing topics of more relevance to their journey as a student of 2023.

Week of Worship participation is satisfactory. More student participation or interest would require a change in program style, who is given opportunity to lead out, what is shared, chaplain input (not control), encouragement to senior students to participate (depending on the school).

Senior students would find more spiritual value in having discussions about faith-related topics in a smaller setting such as retreats or camps. Some students with strong Christian backgrounds did not feel the need for this and were satisfied with WoW.

Opportunities to lead out or take part in WoW are provided but taking up that opportunity is dependent on student self-esteem, peers or interest.

Students see service trips as significant to their faith development. This is the action of what they have learned about faith.

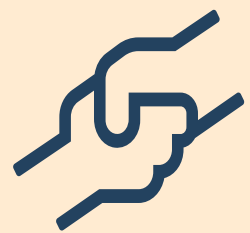
Local outreach programs focused on supporting and helping people are impactful to those students who have engaged in serving the community before. Those who have not experienced this before, were indifferent to the idea of service trips.

Most students would like to participate in overseas mission trips but understand that schools have limited resources to further these aims.

There is a need for many more service opportunities to be offered and promoted in schools - whether local or further afield. Students who are actively involved in their church, will have opportunities offered to them however, that should not be the only avenue for intentional service to take place.

Stronger connections are made with school staff who initiate and willingly support students in serving the community. A greater vision for mission and faith is formed, and their purpose in this picture.

4.



## Service and Outreach Trips



Students are generally passionate about their faith and are interested in a faith journey. Most students are working out what that looks like and teachers play a significant part in assisting in that process.

Students agree that overall, sufficient opportunities are provided by schools to engage them in a faith journey but certain aspects require some redesign to fully impact them. Time to engage in reflective personal spiritual growth is lacking in all offered programs that students consider important.

Students would like: committed and passionate Christian teachers, relevant and engaging faith-based activities, fun and interesting Bible teaching, more affordable opportunities to serve the community locally and afar, more connection with other Christian schools, an increased sharing of lived faith experiences from teachers, peers and other adults.

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