Intro 1

HOPEPOINT

FOUNDATIONS







About Us

Welcome to HopePoint! We're so pleased to be able to introduce ourselves.

HopePoint Church has been active in our local community for over 60 years. We have been front and centre helping people navigate the ups and downs of life and pointing them to Jesus, the centre of our hope.

At HopePoint we believe in supporting people as they build their lives and our greatest joy is walking alongside men and women of all ages and seeing them flourish in their faith, health, relationships, families and careers.

Our Community is uniquely multi-cultural and multi-generational. You'll find someone that looks like you! From our much-loved seniors, singles, families, teenagers, kids and babies, people come from many different backgrounds. There is a place for everyone!

Over the years there is one picture as a community that has helped shape who we are. We are family.

Whether you've had a good experience in your birth family or not, we hope you'll find the support, kindness and generosity that mark us as a community to be a source of hope and healing to you and to give you a picture of the way God designed us to share life together.

Everyone is welcome here and, as so many have, you will find that it's the kind of place where you are accepted as you are, and encouraged to journey in community to become all you were designed to be.

Like any healthy family we enjoy; gathering around tables, enjoying good company, good food and finding ways to give back to others and share our lives.

A SNAPSHOT

In 1960 we opened our doors in the South West of Sydney. For 60 years we have been serving our community and bringing hope to people of all ages.

We have a Preschool, School, Homestead and Church Auditorium on a vast five Acre property. We are a community for every generation.

Whether you are 5 or 85, there's a group for you!

A place to connect, contribute and make your life count by serving those in need in our wider community.

We are associated with the Foursquare Church, which has over 86,000 churches worldwide.

To be really honest, we aren't that interested in you remembering our name, but we are passionate about introducing you to the sweetest name you'll ever know, Jesus! When you meet Him, you will never be the same.



History



Active members of our local community since 1960

HopePoint Church was originally known as Calvary Chapel and was situated in Greenacre. The church began as an outreach to local children, and before long, parents and family members began attending. The church soon exploded with new faces and families. Outgrowing their facilities, the church relocated in 1988 along with the school and preschool to a beautiful five acre property known as the 'Homestead' Georges Hall.

Pastors Don and Minta Baker were the founding Pastors. Under their leadership the church, school and preschool were established and saw great growth. Their astute economic and spiritual leadership, built solid foundations for the future. On Pastor Don's retirement in 2003, the baton of leadership was given to Pastor Warren and Judith Mortomore.

Pastor Warren had been a pastor on staff for many years, and in 2020, celebrated 25 years on staff at church. A former policeman, he is a Godly, kind and passionate leader. Together with Judith, they not only have a thriving adult family with adorable grandchildren, but they are spiritual parents too many.

On 11 March 2012, we changed our name to HopePoint Church, a name that depicted what we were about. Pointing people in our community to Jesus, our hope!

In January 2020, we moved to a shared leadership model to sustain our growth for the future. Ps Warren Mortomore, our Senior Lead Pastor, was joined by Ps Rebecca Tobar in a Lead Pastor role. As a former teacher, she brings her wisdom, compassion and organisational skills to the team. Ps Katrina Bossard stepped into the Executive Pastor role also at this time, and together they lead the team at HopePoint church, with many other Pastors, leaders and volunteers who work together to make a difference.





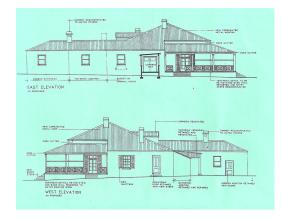
The Homestead

Georges Hall

The Homestead was built in 1837 and is the original property of the Bankstown District given to Major George Johnston of Annandale in early 1800's. It was the second Johnston house built on this land with the first house being affected by flooding. Its location on the rise above the river and floodplain, demonstrates the settlers' adaptation to their environment.

The Homestead is the oldest remaining building in the Bankstown district and is evidence of the earliest permanent settlement in the district.





It is a fine example of Australian Georgian architecture and retains many of its former qualities and characteristics typical of its period and style.

The Homestead was listed on the New South Wales State Heritage Register on 2 April 1999.

When the church purchased the property in 1988, we began the mammoth task of restoring the homestead, as funds allowed. Today, our caretakers occupy the back of the house and the front rooms are utilised by our school community.



Our Sunday gatherings are the highlight of the week. We meet at 10am, but many come early and grab a coffee before the service.

You'll find lively music, a challenging talk and a great kids program for kids who are walking to year 6.

Afterwards, those that can, stay around for cafe, to check in with one another.

If you can't join us in the building, you can catch us online, 10am at https://online.hopepointchurch.org.au

We believe in the power of prayer and our Pastoral Care team are available at the end of each Sunday service or throughout the week for personal prayer. We also have a team of volunteers help to provide meals, visitation and care to those in need.

We have an active prayer ministry with volunteers who pray for requests each day. These are collected at the Info desk or through our website.

Church

Pointing people to Jesus, our hope.



There's always something happening at HopePoint Church.

We have gatherings and groups through the week, beginning with our coffee trailer which is open each weekday morning in the carpark for a quick pick me up to start the day!

During School terms, our weekly activities are full steam ahead and we take the holiday breaks to catch our breath.

Our Young Adults, Men and Women meet in small groups during the week in person or online. We call them coffee groups and they are a way to connect with others outside of a Sunday.

Each month, we have different recreational groups operating. These change seasonally. Some of the groups we have offered include; family hiking, cooking, gaming, board games, golf, pins 'n needles, pickleball and more!

We're always looking for new ways to connect people. Do you have a sport or recreation you love? Why not talk to us about starting a rec group!

We also have learning groups that meet at various times through the year. The topics can be biblical, parenting, marriage and Emotionally Healthy Spirituality. We're adding new things all the time to help people grow in their faith and in their lives with one another.



HopePoint Youth meets each week for games, connection, hangtime, sports, short talks and live music. Youth is lead by an experienced team of volunteers, as well as trainee leaders who are passionate about reaching their generation.

Our Seniors Project meets on each week. Arts and Crafts, UNO for the guys and plenty of coffee and morning tea to share around. Our Seniors also have events throughout the year. These include outings, prayer breakfasts, dinners and their infamous Christmas Lunch.





Adventureland is a fantastic program for kids (walking to Year 6) that happens every Sunday morning. Kids join the adults for live music, and then go to adventureland into the differrent aged programs. they play games in the gym, learn about Jesus through the bible and enjoy a chance to connect in smaller groups.



Jesus is the Saviour

who rescues and delivers from sin

Jesus is the Healer

who came to make people whole in body, mind, and spirit

Jesus is the Baptiser

who fills His people with the power of the Holy Spirit

Jesus is the Soon Coming King

who will come again for His bride, the Church and fully establish His kingdom on earth.



Volunteers

The backbone of our community

HopePoint Church is built on the dedication of volunteers who are generous with their time, resources and talents.

We have many opportunities to serve and get involved. Serving in our cafe, playing an instrument, putting out chairs, are just some examples of the task focused activities and these give everyone a chance to get involved.

When someone shows an interest in leadership, we have an active leadership training and development team to guide them. Our kids and youth leaders all have Working With Children Checks, and we screen all our leaders. They have a code of conduct that they need to adhere to, and aim to keep godly character as a way of life, according to the pattern of leadership outlined in the bible.



Making a Difference in our Community.

For many years we have been going into our local University to serve our community.

We provide a home cooked dinner meal to the students and a chance for them to chat and connect with our team.





Our Playtime group meets every week for Mums and their toddlers come to connect, play and enjoy each other's company. Our preschool teachers lead group time, and it's a fabulous way to introduce your kids to others their own age.

There's a waiting list for this popular community play group, so get your name on the list!







In Spirit and Truth

Christian Primary School

Shaping hearts, Growing minds.



HopePoint Christian school is a K-6 school committed to laying a firm foundation in the lives of our students.

For the last 42 years our school has been partnering with families to deliver affordable and high quality Christian Education in the Georges River area.

When we speak to parents, students, friends and other people associated with the school, they all speak about this intangible "magic" feel that HopePoint CS has. It is not only in the sense of community and closeness, the chapel services, the quality teaching, the kindness that is emphasised, and every teacher knowing the name of every student. It is more broad than that; it is that our goal is not only to fill students' heads but also to shape their hearts.

HPCS is a place of learning, a place of empowerment and a place of growth, where students are encouraged in their unique giftings to be all that God has created them to be.







School History

HopePoint Christian School began as Calvary Chapel Christian School in 1980. It was started by the Senior Pastor of Calvary Chapel; Don Baker and was located on church owned premises at 204 Waterloo Road, Greenacre. The senior pastor had a vision to create a Christian school "his grandchildren" could attend".

Initial student enrolments were minimal and ranged in age from 6 to 15. The educational curriculum embraced at the time was Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) having a purpose "To equip churches and parents in the training of their children with a Godly, character-building academic curriculum in a Bible-based, individualised system of learning"

The school began to grow, and by 1988 the school moved to its current site at Georges Hall and embraced the NSW curriculum.

By 1996 the school student numbers had grown to a number that could not be accommodated within the confines of existing classroom areas. A grant application was sought and approved by Association of Independent Schools Block Grant. These are the current classrooms which are used by our students.

In 2013, the school changed its name to HopePoint Christian School, to reflect the name change of the church.

The school continues to provide quality, affordable Christian Education to parents in the area.



Our Vision/Mission

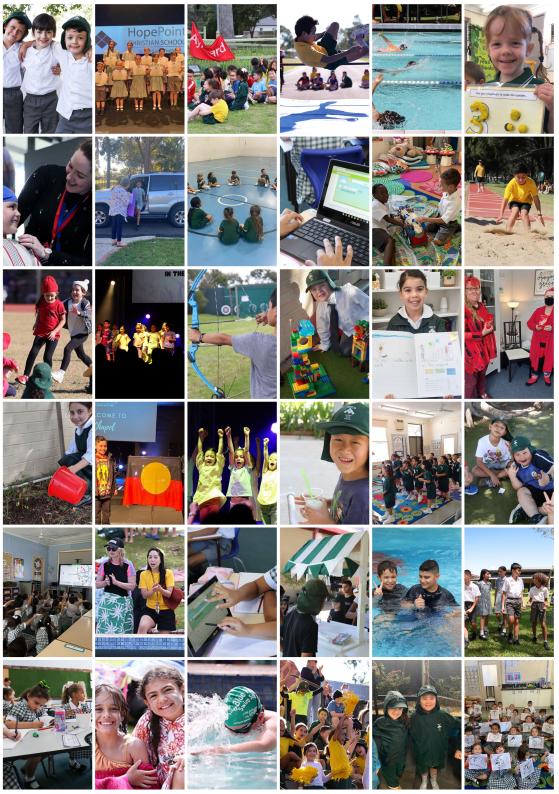
Our vision is to see each child flourish and grow into all that God has called them to be and to prepare them to be the next generation of leaders in their community. Additionally it is to provide students with a range of opportunities to help them discover their own unique passions and purposes.

As students learn, our desire and aim is to provide experiences that will allow them to develop and flourish throughout their whole lives, not just in their academic pursuits. We desire to see our students with attributes that are pleasing to God and serve to benefit both the individual and the broader community.

We aim to create a great sense of purpose in our students, to know that they are created in the image of God and destined for greatness.







Our Students



Our students enjoy a rigorous and engaging curriculum. The school achieved very strong NAPLAN results this year and we have created quality teaching and learning programs aimed to grow 21st Century learners.

In addition to our main curriculum, the school also offers Learning Support
Programs; English As Another Language or Dialect (EALD) Program; an Integration
Support Program and Disability Support
Programs to name a few. Library is open regularly to students and parents and is very well stocked with a range of texts.

We have a multi-purpose, state of the art gymnasium. Basketball, netball and volleyball courts are all marked out for use, and our students enjoy a range of sporting endeavours.

Each year our school runs a Public Speaking Program and sometimes includes inter school debating in stage three, as well as within the school. There is an opportunity for all students to present their topics at chapels throughout the year. We also teach Biblical Studies in each grade, have daily devotions in each class and hold a chapel service once a week. Each student learns a memory verse weekly.

Our Staff

All of our teaching staff are university educated, having spent significant time studying and learning the art of teaching. Many of our teachers have bachelors and some also have masters degrees.

Our staff all enjoy using their gifts and talents to glorify God through the ministry of the school.

They are committed to their ongoing professional development and see their own growth as vital in their ability to continue to support the needs of students in an ever changing teaching landscape.

All staff members are committed Christians from a variety of different denominational backgrounds. They see the children in their care as a unique individual, created in the image of God.



What makes HPCS special?



HopePoint Christian School is a vibrant and exciting Christian community.

- A place of learning: Our school is a place where students can grow in their unique academic abilities and
- **Each child is known:** Every staff member knows every child's name, we are a place where students are supported, valued and viewed in the image of God.
- **Community:** A kind, caring and supportive Christian community where parents, staff and students collaborate are all value and contribute to the life of the school.
- Parents as partners: We value our parents and aim to work together to create the best possible outcomes for our students.

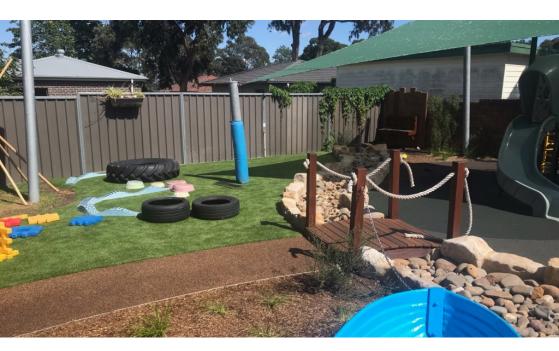






Preschool

Preparing children for a lifetime of learning



Our vision is to develop a love of learning, seeds of faith and a readiness for life in every child attending our preschool.

We aim to do this by:

- Creating inspiring environments and experiences to engage the learning and development of children, along with preparing them for their transition to school;
- Partnering with families as children's most influential role models;
- Recognising and strengthening the value and professionalism of our staff team; &

• Establishing community connections to strengthen and support our practices.

As a not-for-profit, community based preschool, you can be assured that all monies obtained through fees and funding are allocated towards providing the highest quality of care for each child, primarily through providing above award wages for our team.

The community based model sees the preschool management comprised of members of both HopePoint Church and our parent body, creating a true community focus.





Preschool History

HopePoint Preschool, formerly known as Calvary Chapel Preschool, has served the Bankstown community since 1979 from its original location in Greenacre, as part of Calvary Chapel Foursquare Church.

Seeking a larger property for the burgeoning church/school/preschool, relocation to our current property known as "the Homestead" in Georges Hall happened in 1996. The homestead which stands as a key feature of our property, was built in 1837 and is the original property of the Bankstown district, given to Major George Johnston of Annandale in the early 1800's.

We share this beautiful property, alongside our sponsoring body, HopePoint Church and HopePoint Christian School.

Many children who attended our preschool in the early days both in Greenacre and here in Georges Hall are. now returning as parents of the next generation.

Formerly known as Calvary Chapel, it was in 2012 that our church transitioned to becoming HopePoint, followed by the preschool in early 2013 and the school in late 2013. Our property provides an educational setting amongst a community atmosphere, for children from birth to Year 6 at school. Our community also provides many opportunities for families and other generations to be involved in the life of our property.

As a not-for-profit, community based preschool, our operations serve to benefit the community by ensuring that all funds are used for the purposes of providing education and care for those children attending our preschool. Through funding obtained originally by the NSW Department of Community Services, and now transferred to the NSW Department of Education, our preschool is able to provide affordable early childhood education and care for children aged 3-5 years.



Our Philosophy

LEARNING COMMUNITY - HopePoint Preschool believes that the preschool is a learning environment for all, both children and adults alike, and from all walks of life. We identify that learning is maximised in an environment when people feel that they belong, and encourage all to become involved in the life of our preschool.

INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT - Our preschool is an inclusive environment, using strategies to support children's participation regardless of their ability, culture, gender, age or religion. We believe that humans are made in the image of God, and as such this places inherent value on their life. We believe Jesus practiced social justice in all His ways and we attempt to do the same without judgement or bias.

ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS - Children are valued as active participants in the world around them. We recognise their ability to be creative, their wonder and curiosity, their interest to explore and discover, investigate and problem solve, communicate and share ideas with other children and the educators. We utilise a risk guidance approach to develop each child's confidence and competency in life skills.

PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES - Families are valued for their unique abilities and expertise, family culture, commitment to work, home and community, and their dreams for their children. We believe in supporting and developing partnership with families to share in the nurturing and education of their children. We encourage each family to participate in the preschool community in a variety of ways that best suits them.

EDUCATORS AS PROFESSIONALS - Educators are valued for their vision, love and dedication to the children; their knowledge, unique skills and abilities; and for their commitment to God, our families and each other. Our community recognises these educators as the professionals that they are, and believes investing into them adds value to our community as a whole.





PLAY BASED LEARNING - We believe that play based learning is the foundation of early childhood. Play allows children to "just be" recognising the importance of early childhood. We believe play should be fun, exciting, spontaneous, hands-on, stimulating, relaxing, comforting and challenging. Our routine is designed to allow children uninterrupted periods of play, allowing for deeper learning to occur.

CURRICULUM DESIGN - Planned within the Early Years Learning Framework and National Quality Standard, the HopePoint Preschool curriculum offers quality interactions, stories, songs, creative art experiences, crafts, games, large muscle activities, cooking, science projects and nature activities. Our planned group experiences offer children opportunities to develop important listening and attention skills, work collaboratively with peers, and develop emerging literacy and numeracy concepts in preparation for the next step in their educational journey, usually attending formal schooling.

CHRISTIAN PROGRAM & LEARNING ABOUT CREATION - We believe in integrating biblical teachings within the program through bible stories, songs and prayer to give children the opportunity to learn about God's love for them. We incorporate nature based activities into our curriculum, identifying God's creation as the most effective teacher of all.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE - We view our preschool as a vital resource to our community, and work to build connections with our community for the benefit of supporting our practices. We value beyond the gate learning, so that children gain opportunities to understand they are part of something bigger than themselves.

Our Program



Our program provides a range of planned and spontaneous learning experiences each day.

They aim to provide a balance of experiences including:

- Indoor and Outdoor;
- Active and passive;
- Sensory and hands on;
- Individual, small and larger group experiences.

Learning experiences are planned based on the children's interests (individual and group), strengths and abilities. These are identified by staff via observations of each child, their responses during inquiry based learning, through our conversations with families on home experiences & expectations, and through our educator's reflections on improvements to the curriculum.





Our educational program aims to develop the whole child, and includes experiences across all learning areas. It is our aim to prepare each child as a confident independent learner, who is curious and creative, develops problem solving abilities through questioning and investigating, shows persistence in their play, can transfer their learning across contexts and resource their own learning. This type of learning is most evident through our key focus of inquiry based learning using the Floorbook method.



Our Team







It is the team here at HopePoint Preschool who make all the difference. We place high value on our relationships with children, and the team dedicate themselves to providing high quality, nurturing relationships with each child attending the preschool.

All members of our teaching team hold a qualification in Early Childhood Education and Care. The preschool program in each of our classrooms is led by an Early Childhood Teacher who holds a university degree. They work alongside a Diploma qualified educator to meet our ratio of 1 educator to every 10 children in attendance. Others educators work alongside this primary team in a Lunch Support, Inclusion Support or Programming Support capacity, and hold either a Diploma or a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

Our team receive ongoing professional learning covering a range of topics to improve their skills and knowledge in all aspects of the preschool operations. This includes completion of first aid and child protection qualifications.

Our educators are valued for their vision, love and dedication to the children; their knowledge, unique skills and abilities; and for their commitment to God, our families and each other.

As a Christian preschool, our team represent the body of Christ, because we attend a variety of different churches and denominations. It is our core belief that children are a gift from God (Psalm 127:3), that underpins the way each child is respected, cared for and supported in their learning and development.

What makes us unique?



Our unique difference is based upon our preschool being a Christian learning environment.

All of our educators follow the Christian faith in their personal life, and this transfers to how they view each child's individual differences and strengths, but also in the values present in our interactions with children.

Children are also taught a values based program through the teaching of biblical principles. A Bible story group time occurs daily at 9.30am, and incorporates simple biblical truths which emphasise that:

- God made me
- God loves me
- Jesus wants to be my friend forever

Through our inquiry based learning lens, bible stories are taught in a sequence to relate to a broad concept such as friendship or kindness, and include opportunities for hands on learning, to allow children to both hear and experience God's word.



visit www.hopepoint.co

for more information on our Church, School or Preschool and book a tour today!

