



171.1 Membership Application Form

Calvin Christian School

Form #1

Calvin Christian School's **vision** is that all God's children are "thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:17). The **mission** of Calvin Christian School is to assist parents by providing for each student a Bible based elementary education in a supportive Christian classroom community that nurtures growth in knowledge, maturity and commitment to God for sharing in the life and work of his people in the world.

Calvin Christian School (CCS) is Bible-centred and guided with a Reformed perspective that believes that a relationship with God is the most important relationship in human life and it affects, directly and indirectly, all other activities and dimensions. This can be captured by the phrase that *life in its entirety is religious*. Being Reformed, then, has everything to do with schools and what goes on in them. This perspective is detailed extensively below in the CCS Statement of Principles (By-law 7).

The CCS Society (hereafter, Society) is a vital part of the school. Membership in the Society is open to friends and supporters of the cause of Christian education who are in agreement with the basis, purpose and principle guidelines of the Society. The Status and Rights of Membership document (171) provides you with more information about membership. Parents need to become members of the Society in order to enrol their child(ren) in the school. In addition:

- Members are entitled to vote on budget changes.
- Members may elect new directors for the Board of Directors and may be elected to serve as a Director.
- Members are entitled to receive society related documents including committee reports and newsletters.
- Members are welcomed to participate in the Fall and Spring Membership Meetings.
- Members are welcomed to participate on Society and school committees.

Name(s):	
Address:	
Phone number(s):	
Email(s):	
Church Name:	
I/We wish to become a member at Calvin Christian School because:	

Calvin Christian School Statement of Principles (By-Law #7)

Basis. The basis of the Society is the inspired Word of God, as interpreted by the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism and the Canons of Dordt.

Principles. The Society operates in accordance with the following principles:

1. Creation of the Universe: God created the universe by His very word and for His glory. Nothing exists apart from Him. In spite of sin, His creation is still the object of His love and He continues to care for and sustain it. Nothing happens by chance. Christians recognize God's sovereignty over all things and find comfort in God's providential care of His children and His creation.

2. Life: Since people are by nature religious beings, they must ultimately respond to God's calling in their lives. Christians believe that they are called by God to direct their hearts and their whole beings to the glory of God and for His service. Only through the saving work of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Spirit, does one come to know God personally.

3. Humankind: We are created by God to be His image bearers, to enjoy covenantal fellowship with Him, and to rule over His world in loving and obedient service. God calls on us to develop our skills and gifts to the glory of His name and for the benefit of all.

4. Sin: Sin is disobedience to God's law and breaking covenant with God. By sinning, the human race (in Adam) has estranged itself from God and brought the curse of death on God's creation. As a result, and in our natural state, our hearts are corrupt and we are blind to the true meaning of life. Christian education serves to help the students recognize the power of sin in their own lives, in their areas of study, and in the world.

5. Jesus Christ: We (His people) confess that Jesus Christ is truly God and truly man. Through His one time sacrifice on the cross He has redeemed and reconciled us to God. Sinners are saved by grace through faith alone in the one and only mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no other being who can advocate for us before God. Through the Bible and the renewing work of the Spirit, Jesus Christ redirects our understanding of God, of ourselves and of the world. Christian education helps the student to understand the central role of the Lord Jesus Christ.

6. Bible: The knowledge of God and the world has been distorted by sin. God, in His grace, has given us the Bible to reveal His work of creation and the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. The Bible is God's infallible Word and is our absolute standard of truth by which God regulates both our doctrine and our life. God's Word, therefore, gives us Truth by which the Holy Spirit enlightens our understanding and renews our hearts. The Bible provides for Christian education the foundational and guiding principles in the life of a school and its programs.

7. Covenant: God delights in establishing a relationship with us, young and old. He initiates the relationship. It is God's desire to be our heavenly Father and, in return, He requires each of us to serve Him. Children of Christian parents share in the promises and demands of the covenant. A covenantal relationship does put an obligation on the child to hold up his or her own end by obeying God's law. This obligation includes obeying the school's rules and code of conduct which seek to guide the child in growing in and pursuing this relationship.

8. Child: The child, entrusted by God to parents, needs nurture, correction and instruction. It is incumbent on parents to choose schools where God's Word provides the basis and direction for all learning.

9. Parents: Parents have the primary and ultimate responsibility to nurture and educate their children, and to raise them in the fear and knowledge of God. Parents voluntarily assign some of their authority and responsibilities in educating their children to the school and its teachers. Subsequently, parents should show vital interest and concern in the programs, and the organization and direction of the school.

10. Community: One of the primary tasks of the Christian community is the upbringing of its young members in accordance with God's revelation of Himself in the Bible and in His creation. The establishment and promotion of Christian education involves the whole Christian community. It is a responsibility of the community of believers to support parents in their endeavors to educate children in a Christian school.

11. Education: Education should equip the student for a life of service and obedience. The process and development of education is a necessary activity by which one acquires knowledge, awareness and skills. Christian education helps students to discern their God-directed calling, to grow in faith, understanding, and maturity.

12. The Christian School: The Christian school is an institution designated by the Christian community to implement the goals and purposes of Christian education. The mission of the Christian school reflects the Christian community in which it operates, while at the same time providing direction in the area of education.

13. Teachers: Teachers have been entrusted by the parents to educate children. Teachers work in partnership with the parents. Christian teachers convey a Christian perspective in each subject area. They convey a distinct Christian attitude in discipline and classroom management. Christian teachers glorify God by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the profession. Christian teachers obey God's word by submitting their life and teaching in conformity to God's will and by setting an example of godliness.

14. The Kingdom of God: The Kingdom of God stands in contrast to the evil power of Satan. Our culture and all our activities are ultimately directed towards either the one or the other. As citizens of His Kingdom, we are called to become Christ-like and to let His will be the standard for our lives in this world. Christian education helps children discern the powers at work in our culture and in their own lifestyles, and it helps them to mold, shape and direct their activities and culture to the glory of God.

15. Vocation: Christians are called to serve in the Kingdom of God. We see work as vocation, a calling from God to recognize and develop God-given talents to be the Lord's servants in promoting His Kingdom. Christian education helps lay the groundwork for future decisions in choosing a vocation. Students are taught that the pursuit of Christian knowledge and values is also a service in God's Kingdom.

16. Stewardship: The Bible calls us to be stewards of the earth. We may use the world's resources, provided they are used in God's service and for the welfare of others. Christian education promotes a lifestyle that uses God-given gifts prudently.

17. Instructional Program: The instructional program of Calvin Christian School includes curricular and co-curricular programs. The program inherently reflects the basis of the Society. It serves to accomplish the purpose of the Society and the mission of Calvin Christian School.

I /We apply for membership of the Calvin Christian School Society and declare that I/we:

- Profess Jesus as Lord and Saviour;
- Agree with the Calvin Christian School Mission Statement;
- Support the CCS Statement of Principles;
- Have membership in good standing at a Christian church*;
- Have read and understand the Status and Rights of Membership (171);
- Agree to pay the annual membership fee;
- Will abide by the objects, bylaws and resolutions of the Corporation and the policies and directives of its Board of Directors.

** Please see the Pastor Reference Form (#231.3) for certain teachings, among others, the CCS Society believes to be upheld by a Christian church.*

Name:	Signature:	Date:
Name:	Signature:	Date: