



Lake Taupo Christian School

Strategic Plan 2012-2017

30 November 2011



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1. Introduction

{background & structure of this document}

This document sets out the Strategic Plan for Lake Taupo Christian School over the five years ahead. It has been developed by the LTCS Board, with consultation and input from the parent community and church leaders. This plan is seen as a living document and will continue to develop as part on the on-going school governance program.

The layout of this document is one of building up from the mission of the school through to the detailed strategy. The first two pages explain how this document fits in with the Charter and groups that have an involvement in the school at various levels. From here the school's Mission is provided, along with an explanation of the logo.

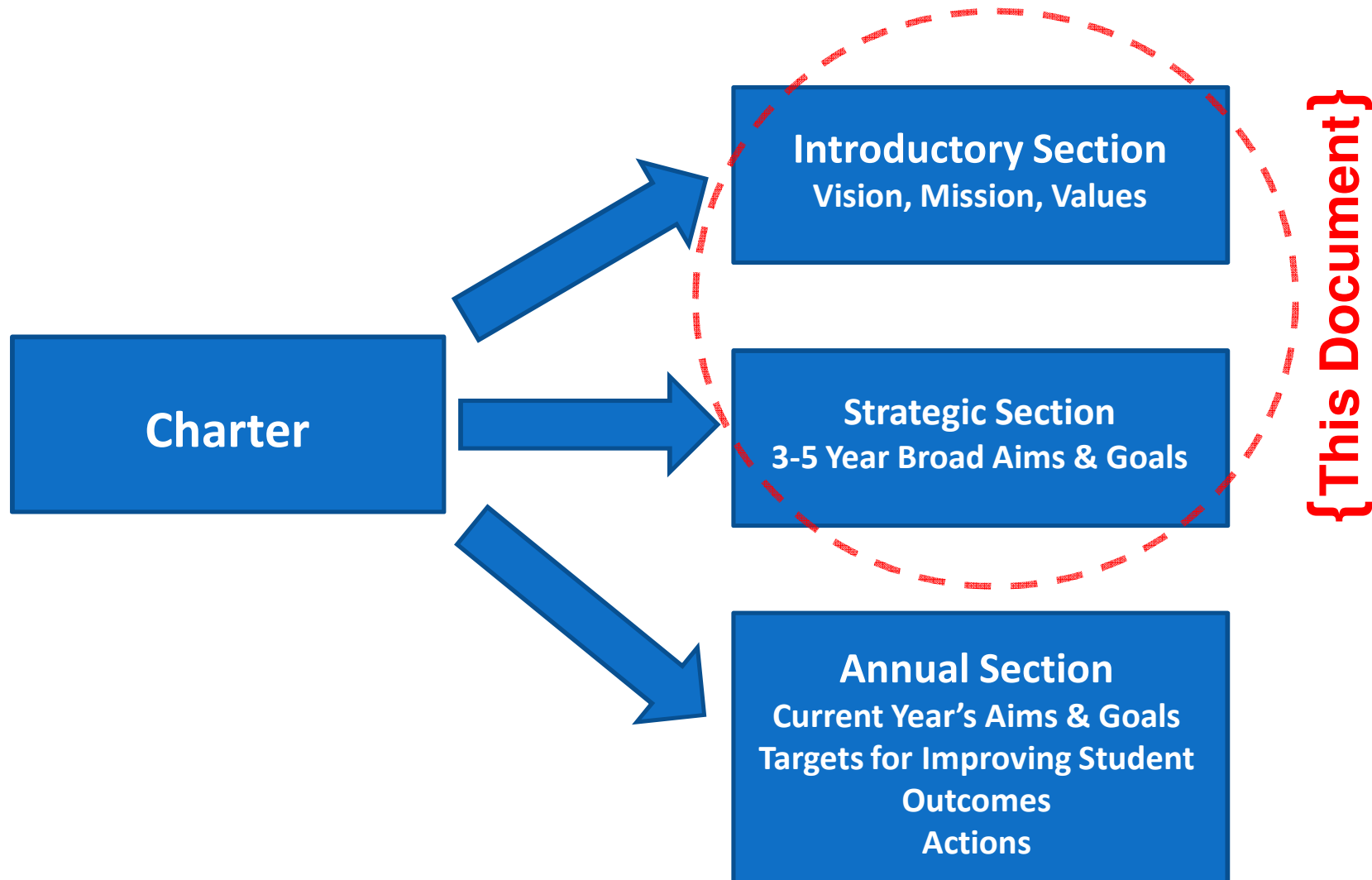
The next few pages provide an overview of the purpose and the school's model. These are high level and come as a result of discussion around what is uniquely important for LTCS as a school. The development of this section has provided a useful means for setting strategy looking forward.

The final section is the summary-level and detailed strategy for the five years ahead. Along with the previous sections, the development of the strategy section has benefited from input and discussion on some of the challenges that the school faces looking forward. While providing measurable actions, this section does not provide deadlines for achievement. These are to be detailed in the annual plan within the charter.



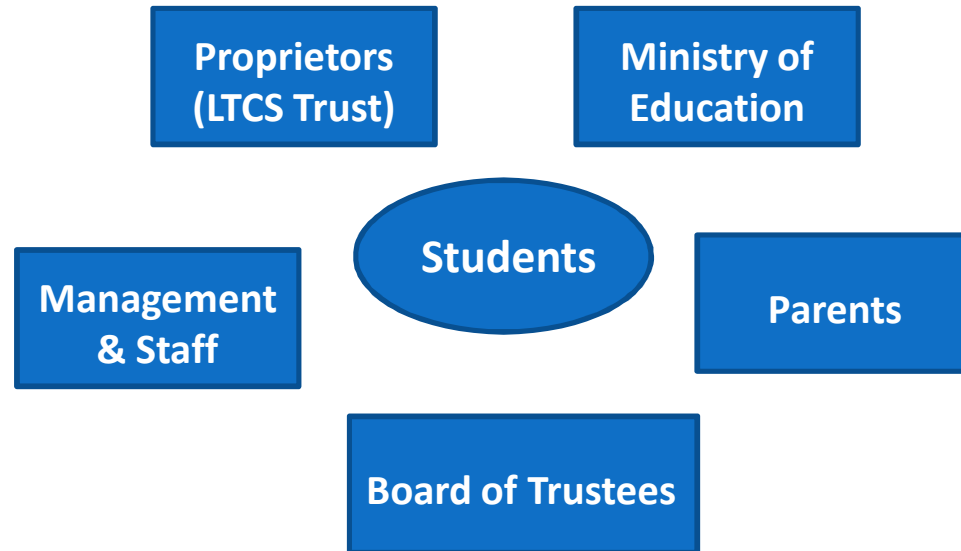
2. Developing the School Charter

{this document forms a part of our school charter}



Lake Taupo Christian School

{school overview}



- Proprietors (LTCS Trust) provide land and buildings – funded by school fees
- Special Character set out by Trust is implemented by school Management & Staff under the Governance of the board
- Ministry of Education sets out the requirements for the school to operate and reviews the school performance against its Charter and National Standards



Mission Statement

{what we do - in one sentence}

Lake Taupo Christian School provides excellence in education and inspires Christian character, empowering students to develop their potential and fulfil their God-ordained destiny.

In essence, may this also be said of our students as they go out into the world ...

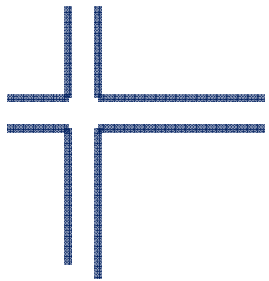
“Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him,” Daniel 6:3



A Beacon for Hope



{explaining our logo}



Our School is centred on Christ and our Special Character is identified in Him



We are all about new beginnings and developing and growing our gifts and abilities to do our best now and into the future



Lake Taupo is our home and the place of our school & community



Our School's Purpose

{the aspirational building blocks that describe what we exist for}

**Provide a Christian
School for our
Community**

**A Witness in
our Community**

**Be an Example
of how to
'Do' School**

**To Serve Others
(& grow from it)**

**Assist Christian
families to bring their
Children to
Spiritual Maturity**

**Prepare students
Academically, Culturally,
Physically & Spiritually
for God's Calling**

**Train up Young People
to be tomorrows
Christian Leaders**

**Build a strong Foundation
(developing a Christian
World View)**

**Send out young people
who have a kingdom
Impact on society**

**Bring Children
to Salvation**

**Build strong
Christian Character
(depth) into
our children**

**Education
for Eternity**

**Long Term:
Change
Society**



Our Unique School Model

{a explanation of the unique model of how our school operates}

Whole-family Education

>> Lake Taupo Christian School provides a schooling environment where the full primary through secondary age-range is catered for. Students of all ages interact together and the school has an open approach to involving parents in the school.

Christ Centred Education

>> Lake Taupo Christian School intentionally integrates a Christian World View into all aspects of schooling. The school plays a role in cultivating Godly character and encouraging students in their relationship with Christ.

Individual Learning Approach to Teaching

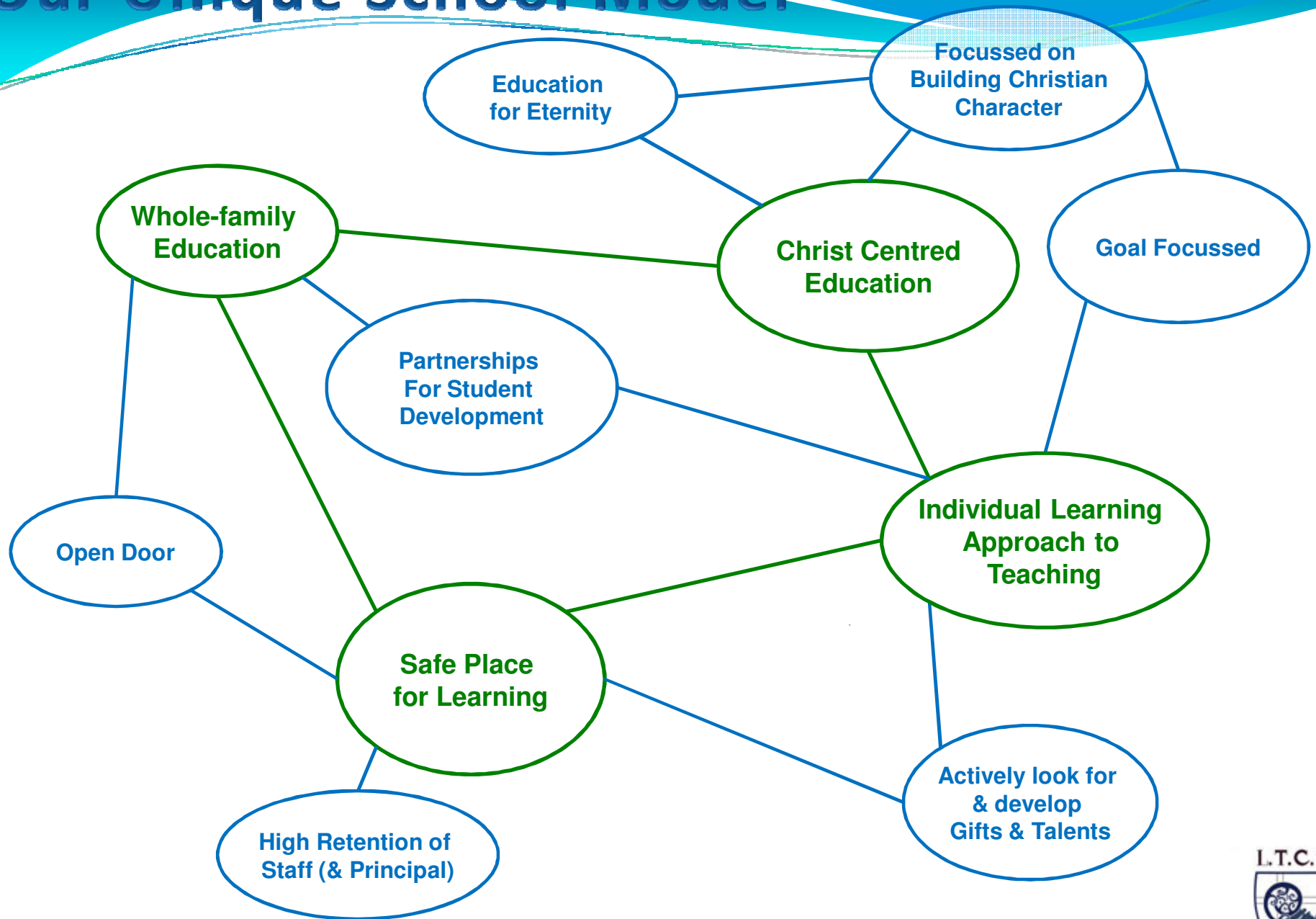
>> Lake Taupo Christian School recognises that all students are unique – both in their talents & abilities and in their approach to learning. While the importance of having consistent & effective teaching systems is recognised, these are used at an individualised level with each student. The learning approach is goal oriented with students learning from a young age to set and achieve personal goals.

Safe Place for Learning

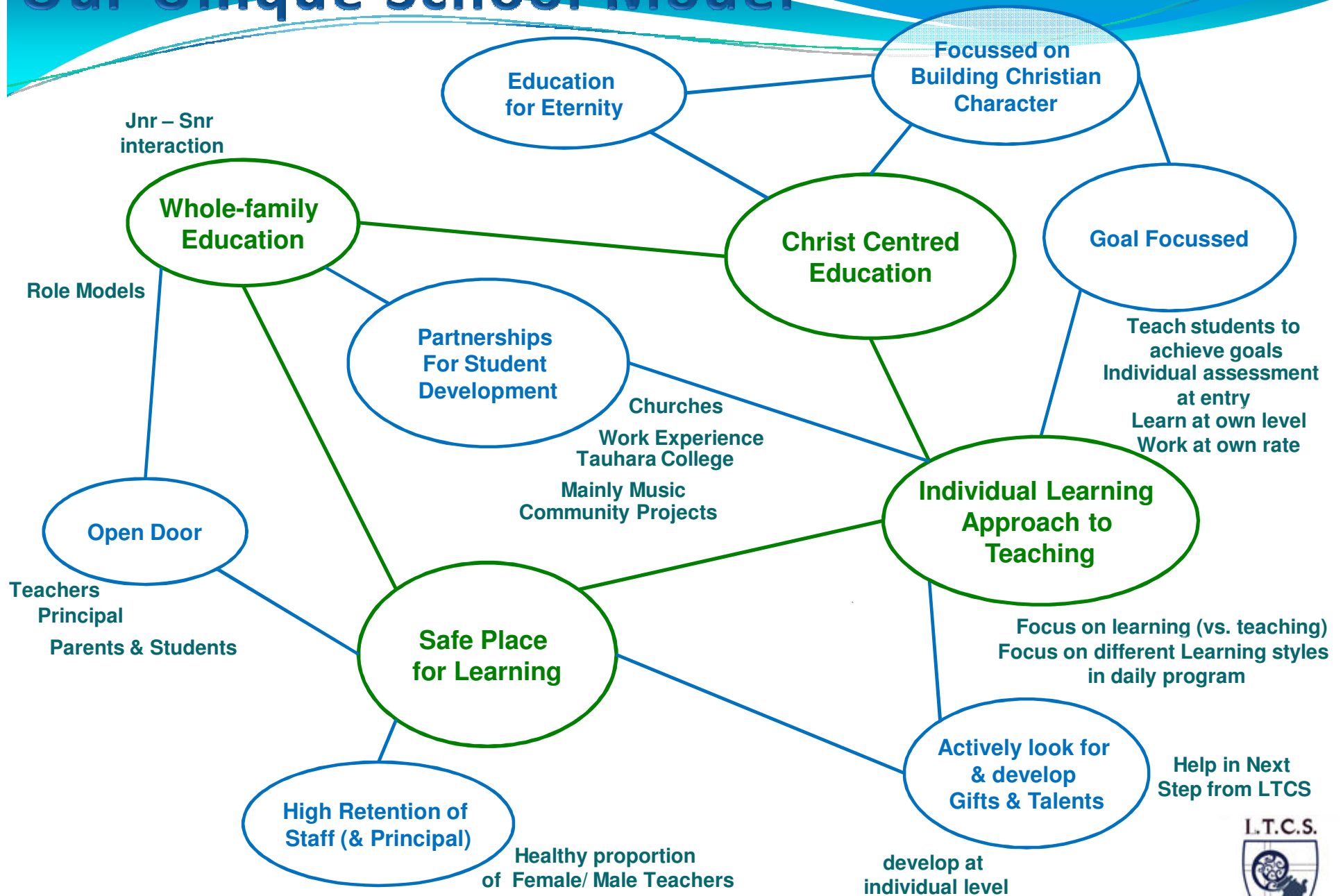
>> Lake Taupo Christian School provides a safe environment for students to learn. The school is focussed on helping students find their talents and abilities and nurturing and fostering these. The school has an open door approach and benefits from low staff turnover.



Our Unique School Model



Our Unique School Model



Objectives

{putting some substance around what we do}

1. To develop Christian character in the life of every student, while guiding them towards a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. To enable the student to develop a balanced life incorporating spiritual academic and physical dimensions.
3. To provide an education of academic excellence consistent with the teachings of the Bible.
4. To train students to be self-disciplined, appreciative, cooperative, responsible, consistent, and thorough.
5. To develop a positive attitude towards school and encourage self motivation to learn.
6. To stimulate the development of critical thinking, effective communication and creativity.
7. To challenge students to be courageous in sharing Christ's love and to hold Christian convictions even in the face of pressure.
8. To assist all students in discovering their God-given talents and abilities and to find God's unique purpose for their life.
9. To encourage dependence on one another in recognition that there are varying gifts within the body of Christ.
10. To work with parents in fulfilling their responsibility to train a child in biblical principles.



Four Pillars at Lake Taupo Christian School

{our mission in practice - in the classroom & beyond}

Love

*we love the Lord
God with all our
being and love
others like we love
ourselves*



Communicate

*we are able to
clearly and creatively
communicate
information and
ideas*

Thorough

*We see a task through
until it is finished and
we are confident that it
is well done
Small things do matter!*



Serve

*we serve God by
actively serving our
community and caring
for the world God has
entrusted to us*

LOVE

THOROUGH

COMMUNICATE

SERVE

Key Strategies 2012-2017

{five high-level intentions for the 5-years ahead}

1. **Grow**

While the Lake Taupo Christian School roll is close to capacity in terms of the MoE imposed limit, we see that it is vitally important to continue to foster relationships that will keep the roll up at capacity level. Further to this is the opportunity to grow the school through the addition of a pre-school and through ACE home-school support services.

2. **Serve**

Service is a key part of the special character of our school and there are key opportunities to grow our students and strengthen relationships in our community through identifying projects that we can take part in. Further to this, are opportunities to better utilise partnership programs that are available.

3. **Stewardship & Facilities**

The school has benefited from sound management up until this point and will continue with this focus. The opportunity remains to work with the Trust to consider opportunities to expand the school and its facilities. Beyond this are partnerships that remain important for ensuring access to resources not normally available to smaller schools.

4. **Curriculum**

Three key opportunities exist for strengthening the curriculum in the school – being the arts program, leadership development and the technology program. The National Standards program implementation will be completed within the planning horizon.

5. **Staff Development**

A continued focus remains on the development and extension of our staff towards ensuring the on-going success of the school



Key Strategies 2012-2017

{our strategies detailed in key activities}

1. Grow

- Focus on key intake opportunities
 - New Entrance (ABCs) – provide new-entrance specific information packs to Churches
 - New Entrance (ABCs) – provide open-day marketed to churches, Mainly Music groups
 - Senior School – implement process to communicate (by letter) with students in their final year at St Patricks.
 - Implement process to communicate individually with home-school community at ages appropriate to middle school and senior school entry.
- Strengthen Relationships with Churches
 - Engage with local Pastors & Churches by providing a regular communication/ update; sharing character development program used in school; and seeking prayer support
 - Develop simple explanation document for ACE curriculum program for provision to prospective families and churches; use as a tool to engage with community and seek feedback
 - Provide general entrance information packs to churches – designed for new families to the community
 - Strengthen family links with school through family involved programs (e.g. Year 7 Purity)
 - Use church–school initiatives to strengthen relationship (refer: Serve strategies)
 - Explore Scholarship opportunity with LTCS Trust for Pastors' children
- Home School Partnerships
 - Grow footprint of School through relationships with home-school families using the ACE program
 - Develop a network for ACE home-schooled children with opportunities to take part in LTCS EOTC programs
 - Explore opportunity: what will it take to have a formal support programme in place for ACE home-schooled children utilising remote learning
 - Seek to implement a remote learning pilot scheme
- Establish Pre-School
 - Work with Trust to formally agree on adding a pre-school to the wider LTCS provision to the community
 - Explore opportunity & develop a plan for a pre-school

Key Strategies 2012-2017

{our strategies detailed in key activities}

2. Serve

- Serve our Community with Local projects
 - Establish annual projects as a part of the school program that develop students and serve the community
 - Work with churches and local community bodies to identify opportunities that strengthen relationships with the school
 - Integrate project management & implementation process into school studies as appropriate to year levels in the school
 - Engage with school community and churches for the execution of projects, seeing this as an opportunity to build stronger relationships with the parent and church community
 - Celebrate successfully completed projects with our community
- Better utilise partnership opportunities for student development
 - Effectively utilise MoE programs - Gateway & STAR
 - Implement LTCS formal service program such as Duke of Edinburgh, young New Zealanders program
 - Take advantage of community program opportunities for leadership and service development; e.g. Mainly Music

3. Stewardship/ Facilities

- Maintain on-going good financial management through effective management and reporting
- Work with the Trust to address growth constraints by securing access to additional land
- Work with Trust to look at the opportunity to utilise council land for building – hall/ gym facility
- Strengthen relationship with Tauhara College for access to specialist senior courses, senior sports teams and facilities (eg athletics facilities)



Key Strategies 2012-2017

{our strategies detailed in key activities}

4. Curriculum

- Complete integration of National Standards program into school curriculum and provision of associated reporting to parents
- Strengthen & grow the arts program in the school; implement bi-annual programme - year 1 focus on performing arts and year 2 on visual arts
- Develop leadership component to studies with a focus on community through service (refer Serve initiatives)
- Develop a Technology program in the senior school

5. Staff development

- Complete annual review of staff development and succession planning
- Encourage & facilitate opportunities for staff to complete further study (eg Bible college papers)
- Encourage staff to consider opportunities for experiential development (eg missions experience; secondments)