



Philosophy of Education

(Revised April 2018)

GDQ International Christian School's Philosophy of Education reflects the school's core beliefs. At GDQ, the Bible and a Christian worldview serve as a foundation and integrating core for all learning. This integrating core pushes us as a Christian school to explore the relationship between subject matter and biblical truth. The following foundational principles guide the school's philosophy.

1. God is the source of all truth.
2. Christian education is education for the whole person.
3. The goal of Christian education is to become the people God created us to be and to glorify Him.

GDQ International Christian School believes the following about learners, teachers, curriculum, and the community.

Learners

GDQ believes learners are precious to God and are created in His image. We were made to reflect His likeness and characteristics. The school sees each child as unique; as an individual full of God-given potential, gifts and talents which we seek to develop.

Though people are created in God's image, GDQ recognizes that all people fall short of His perfection. This can lead all of us to make poor choices. As discipline situations arise in school, the school will respond in a way that addresses the behavior while treating the learner with dignity and grace. The goal in discipline is to develop the learners' character and to help them make responsible choices.

Learners come from diverse international backgrounds, which is reflected in their unique ways of communicating and showing respect for authority.

The school views each student as an active learner, with the capacity to explore ideas, to know, to understand and to act. GDQ aims to create class environments where the students are inspired to learn, feel comfortable asking questions, share their opinions/beliefs, and support their classmates.

Teachers

GDQ believes the position of the teacher is a privilege and responsibility delegated by God, the parents, and the school, and is both significant and valuable. Teachers are committed to be actively engaged in their own learning, to reflect on their cultural identity, and to evaluate and move forward in their educational thinking and practice.

In order to teach the students well, teachers will use evidence-based teaching strategies, some of which include: using questions to check for understanding; summarizing new learning in a graphical way; providing feedback; getting students to work together in productive ways; teaching strategies not just content; and setting clear lesson goals.

Teachers are role models in character, teaching, and learning. They are responsible for understanding and assessing the needs of each student, seeking to providing learning opportunities that allow each student to progress at their own pace.



The school aims to nurture and educate the learners to be people who love God, love others, and pursue excellence.

The Curriculum

GDQ seeks to provide a holistic education by helping learners to grow academically, socially, spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Learners are taught Christian values and life skills in formal and informal settings in all grade levels.

GDQ primarily follows an international curriculum that focuses on critical thinking and teaches learners to evaluate and analyze information. The school strives to integrate different domains of knowledge and to show their connection to God and His Word. The goal is for learners to become independent thinkers who reflect on information with a Christian worldview.

The school values the use of external examinations both as a means of holding the school to high academic standards and giving learners the resources needed to be accepted into university. GDQ does not see these exams as a measure of learners' value, and the school encourages learners to do their best as a means of honoring God, not for personal gain.

The Community

The primary responsibility for the education of a child lies with the parent. Therefore, as a school, we recognize that the parent has entrusted GDQ to help in that responsibility. GDQ partners with parents to help ensure that the learners' educational needs are met. The school encourages open, two-way communication with parents. The school values parent involvement in school activities whenever possible.

GDQ strives to build a community that encourages respect and appreciation for cultural diversity. As a community founded on Christian beliefs, the school values and welcomes people of all faiths into the community. GDQ seeks to provide a healthy and nurturing atmosphere conducive to the attainment of the school mission and to the glory of God.