Learning at ACC

My name is Barb Howard. I am the Academic Coordinator at Australian Christian College here at Marsden Park. In case we haven’t met before, I’ll briefly provide my background. I worked for the CSIRO for 12 years, during which time I completed a Bachelor of Science, followed by a stint with an IVF clinic. I enjoyed my time there, but after more than 10 years in the lab, I wanted to move into a career that gave me an opportunity to make a different with kids, so I went back to Uni and studied teaching. I now have over 14 years in the teaching profession. At my previous school, I was the head of science at a large Anglican school here in Sydney.

What attracted me to ACC was this idea that you can have an excellent education combined with a warm Christian heart for our kids. That’s what I felt then, and I feel even more strongly now about it.

Enough about me. I want to talk about learning at our school. To give you an idea of what we are trying to do, take a moment to think about the best teacher that you had in school. Perhaps your favorite teacher knew the subject really well. Perhaps your favorite teacher saw your potential.

At ACC we are building up a teaching team, striving to be the favorite teacher for your child. Many of our teachers come from the finest schools in Sydney, like Barker College and MLC. We have a great mix of experience and energy, not that the two are mutually exclusive. We have young teachers who have had the great experience in their own education. They have chosen the teaching profession as a place where they can invest in the lives of students. We mix that with our teachers who have an average of 25+ years in education. These teachers have the benefit of decades of experience dealing with different types of learners.

You might be thinking, "Why is this lady talking so much about the staff? I thought this video was about learning." It is, but the key to student learning is competent and motivated teachers. Any successful principal will tell you that what makes a great school is great teachers.

You can be assured that we have set very high standards of academic excellence at Australian Christian College, and the bar continues to be raised. At the end of the day, it really is about teachers genuinely caring about the success of students as a top priority. If your child starts at the school, we, as teaching professionals, will be asking, "How can we help this child succeed?", and then doing everything possible to achieve his outcome.