



SPARROWS HI CURRICULUM

Biblical Literacy

PURPOSE

The purpose of Biblical Literacy is to help students know, understand, love and faithfully apply God's Word.

The goal is not merely to memorise facts about the Bible but to become people whose thinking, character and lives are increasingly shaped by Scripture.

Students should learn to read the Bible carefully, understand its message within its historical and literary context, recognise its unified story and apply it wisely under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

PHILOSOPHY

We believe the Bible is God's inspired Word and the highest authority for Christian faith and practice.

Biblical literacy therefore involves far more than acquiring information.

Students should increasingly learn to:

- hear God's voice through Scripture;
- understand the grand narrative of redemption;
- interpret passages responsibly;
- recognise literary genres;
- appreciate historical context;
- see how all Scripture points ultimately to Jesus Christ.

GRADUATE OUTCOME

By graduation, students should be able to:

- confidently navigate the Bible;
- explain its major storyline;
- identify key biblical themes;
- interpret passages responsibly;
- recognise common misunderstandings;
- apply Scripture faithfully to contemporary life;
- continue lifelong study of God's Word.

THE STORY OF SCRIPTURE

Rather than viewing the Bible as isolated stories, students gradually learn the unified biblical narrative.

Creation

God creates all things good. Humanity is created in God's image to know Him, represent Him and steward His creation.

Fall

Human rebellion introduces sin, death and brokenness into the world. The need for redemption becomes clear.

Covenant

God calls Abraham and establishes His covenant people. Students explore God's promises through:

- Abraham;
- Isaac;
- Jacob;
- Moses;
- Israel;
- David;
- the prophets.

Christ

Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promises. Students explore:

- His incarnation;
- His ministry;
- His teaching;
- His miracles;
- His death;
- His resurrection;
- His ascension;
- His present reign.

Church

The Holy Spirit forms God's people to continue Christ's mission. Students study:

- Acts;
- the Epistles;
- life in the early Church;
- discipleship;
- mission.

New Creation

God's purposes culminate in the renewal of all things. Students develop a biblical understanding of hope, resurrection and the Kingdom of God.

CORE THEMES

These themes recur throughout every year of the program.

God

Students explore God's character, holiness, love, justice, mercy, faithfulness and sovereignty.

Humanity

Students consider the image of God, dignity, purpose, sin, redemption and vocation.

Kingdom of God

Students develop an understanding of the Kingdom announced by Jesus, discipleship, mission, justice, mercy and faithful living.

Covenant

Students examine how God's covenant purposes unfold throughout Scripture and are fulfilled in Christ.

Grace

Students learn that salvation is entirely the work of God's grace received through faith in Jesus Christ.

Church

Students explore worship, fellowship, discipleship, mission, service and unity.

LEARNING PROGRESSION

The program is structured across three stages of secondary education.

Years 7–8

- Major Bible stories;
- key people;
- Bible structure;
- reading skills;
- memory passages;
- understanding the overall story.
- Learning should be interactive and discussion-based.

Years 9–10

- Historical context;
- literary genres;
- theological themes;
- ethical application;
- connections between Old and New Testaments.
- Students begin learning responsible interpretation rather than isolated proof-texting.

Years 11–12

- Biblical theology;
- worldview;
- apologetics;
- cultural engagement;
- difficult passages;
- leadership through Scripture;
- lifelong habits of Bible study.
- Students articulate and defend biblical convictions with humility and grace.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students should regularly experience:

- inductive Bible study;
- Scripture memorisation;
- group discussion;
- journalling;
- Lectio Divina (used thoughtfully and grounded in Scripture);
- historical and geographical exploration;
- creative projects;
- dramatic readings;
- teaching opportunities;
- mentoring conversations.

Learning should engage both the mind and the heart.

ASSESSMENT

Growth is demonstrated through:

- thoughtful discussion;
- increasing biblical understanding;
- application to life;
- servant-hearted action;
- reflective journalling;
- student-led presentations;
- mentoring conversations.

Assessment focuses on understanding and formation rather than rote recall alone.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

The framework should primarily use Scripture itself.

Additional resources may include:

- Bible dictionaries;
- maps;
- timelines;
- historical background resources;

- trusted evangelical commentaries;
- age-appropriate theological works.

Resources should always serve the text rather than replace it.

INTEGRATION

Biblical Literacy connects with every other area of the Sparrows HI Formation Framework.

Students are encouraged to see Scripture informing:

- leadership;
- relationships;
- worship;
- service;
- creative expression;
- stewardship;
- decision-making;
- vocation.

The Bible is not one subject among many. It is the foundation from which every other area is understood.

OUR PRAYER

We pray that students will increasingly delight in God's Word, recognise the voice of the Good Shepherd through Scripture and continue reading, studying and obeying the Bible long after they leave Sparrows HI.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Psalms 119:105