



London School of Theology (LST)

Ethos Statement

Group Responsible for policy and process review:	Executive Team
Executive Team member responsible:	Principal
Date last approved:	Unknown
Date of this approval:	March 2023
Ongoing review:	Every 36 months
Review consultation:	Executive Team and Finance and General Purposes Committee
Date of next review:	March 2026

1. Background

London School of Theology was established in 1943 as the London Bible College for the advancement of the Christian Religion by the study and teaching of Bible Christian Doctrine and training 'provided that all such activities shall be carried on in strict accordance with the [following] Doctrinal Basis, that is to say the fundamental truths of Christianity'.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association describe the Christian character of the College (Article 2) - 'the college curriculum and all its activities shall be in accordance with Scriptural teaching and with the doctrinal basis contained in the Articles of Association of the college. It shall operate in fellowship with all evangelical churches and movements and maintain a worldwide outlook'.

2. Doctrinal Basis

The Principal, Executive Team, teaching staff and Company Secretary must sign the Doctrinal Basis before appointment and thereafter annually.

The Doctrinal Basis is the School's statement of faith or creed and it covers matters of conduct as well as belief.

It affirms the following:

- individuals are made in God's image.
- we are sinners put right with God through faith in His Son, Jesus.
- we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit.
- the Bible or the Scriptures are the Word of God.
- the Church is the Body of Christ.

3. Christian conduct

Based on these affirmations from the Doctrinal Basis, the School aims to observe the following standards of behaviour:

- individuals are valued and given dignity and worth irrespective of their background or circumstances.
- we acknowledge our faults, receive and give forgiveness and maintain good working relationships.
- we use our gifts and abilities to encourage, help and support each other.
- we use the Bible as our guide for the way in which we deal with each other.
- we are united in our common faith and witnesses of Christ's love to those around us.

4. Shared values

Because we work in a common evangelical Christian faith context and share common values, our speech and behaviour has a 'spiritual' dimension. We are motivated by a desire to serve Christ in all we do.

The language that we use and the standards of behaviour are designed to help us to work in harmony with each other and model best practice to students and visitors.

Although we are a diverse community of ages, backgrounds, denominations and nationalities, we maintain a way of working based on the fundamental teaching of the Christian faith. Information about the School and staff news is shared in a number of ways, not least at the weekly Team Tea meeting which all employees are expected to attend.

Most staff at the School are practising Christians who expect to work in an organisation with Christian values, but even those who do not profess to be Christians are asked to uphold the School's position on these matters.