

Basis of Faith

Al Siraat College



Al Siraat College is an Australian school in the Islamic Tradition. We are a co-educational, Foundation to Year 12 school for students from the Islamic faith.

We are founded in the tradition of *Ahl Sunnah Wal Jamaah*. One of core values is **Living Islam**, which guides who we are, what we teach, how we worship and how we act.

The basis of our faith is summarised beautifully in the opening chapter (Surah Fatiha) of our Holy Book, the Quran. Allah (the All Mighty) mentions:

Translation	Verses
<p>In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful .</p> <p>Praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds .</p> <p>The Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful.</p> <p>Master of the Day of Judgement.</p> <p>It is You we worship and You we ask for help.</p> <p>Guide us to the straight path.</p> <p>The path of those whom you have favoured, and not the path of those who earn Your anger, nor those who have gone astray.</p> <p>(Surah Fatiha: 1:1-7)</p>	<p>بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ</p> <p>الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١﴾ الرَّحْمَنِ</p> <p>الرَّحِيمِ ﴿٢﴾ مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ﴿٣﴾</p> <p>إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ﴿٤﴾ أَهْدِنَا</p> <p>الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ﴿٥﴾ صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ</p> <p>أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ</p> <p>وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ﴿٦﴾</p>

In this opening chapter of the Quran, we ask to be guided to the right path, which is the path of those who have been favoured by Allah (the All Mighty). This path is further explained in the following verse:

Translation	Verse
<p>And whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger - those will be with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions. (Surah Nisa 4:69)</p>	<p>وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصِّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَحَسُنَ أُولَٰئِكَ رَفِيقًا ﴿٦٩﴾</p>

These are the examples that Allah has chosen for us to be rightly guided, with an exemplary example being the final prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Translation	Verse
<p>Certainly in the Messenger of Allah there is an excellent guide / example for anyone who has hope in Allah and the Last Day, and remembers Allah often. (Surah Ahzab 33:21)</p>	<p>لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ</p> <p>الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا ﴿٢١﴾</p>

With the Quran and the life of Prophet Muhammad as our guide, we do not have any choice in any matter that Allah and His prophet have decided for us:

Translation	Verse
And it is not for a believing man or a believing woman, when Allah and His Messenger have decided a matter, that they should thereafter have any choice about their affair. And whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger has certainly strayed into clear error." (Surah Ahzab 33:36)	وَمَا كَانَ لِمُؤْمِنٍ وَلَا لِمُؤْمِنَةٍ إِذَا قَضَى اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَمْرًا أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُمُ الْخِيَرَةُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِمْ ۗ وَمَنْ يَعْصِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَالًا مُّبِينًا ﴿٣٦﴾
And whatever the Messenger has given you - take; and what he has forbidden you - refrain from. And fear Allah. (Surah Hashr 59:7 – part)	وَمَا آتَاكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَخُذُوهُ وَمَا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ فَانْتَهُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ ۗ
Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality / indecency and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded. (Nahl: 16:90)	﴿٩٠﴾ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٩٠﴾

These directions includes all aspects of our life, including belief, worship, relationships, dealings, manners, relationships, sexuality and gender.

In regards to relationships, Al Siraat college aligns itself on matters of sexuality and gender with the religious consensus (ijma') that are unambiguously established in the Quran, the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and scholarly tradition spanning fourteen centuries.

SCHOLARLY CONSENSUS

In Islam, the only accepted forum for sexual relations are between a husband and wife, and the only form of legitimate marriage is between a man and a woman. Islam sees gender as binary: man and woman.

Translation	Verse
O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. (Hujurat 49:14 – part)	يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ

Islam rejects premarital and extramarital sexual acts and other sexual orientations as evidenced in the Quran, Sunnah and Scholarly Consensus.

Translation	Verse
Do not go near fornication. It is truly an immoral deed and a terrible way. (Isra: 17:32)	وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزِّنَىٰ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَحِشَةً وَسَاءَ سَبِيلًا

IDENTITY

Al Siraat College recognises that some groups have reinterpreted or revised religious doctrine to be inclusive of LGBTQ ideology. Our Islamic School does not accept this revision and solely aligns itself with the Scholarly Consensus.

1. In line with the Scholarly Consensus, Al Siraat College recognises that Islam distinguishes between feelings, actions and identity, in that God holds individuals accountable for their words and actions (and not their involuntary thoughts and feelings). As is mentioned in the hadith of Bukhari 2528: Bukhari, 2528: 'God has pardoned Muslims for what they think, as long as they do not speak of or act on it', referring here to sinful conduct.
2. In Islam, abstinence from unlawful sexual activity is mandated.
3. According to the Scholarly Consensus that Al Siraat College follows, Islam does not allow for the changing of a person's sexual characteristics via surgical intervention or otherwise unless individuals are born with biological ambiguities or disorders of sexual development.
4. Islam differentiates between the public and private sphere, but also prohibits the public disclosure of sexual behaviour. Al Siraat College concerns itself with the realm of staff conduct which can impact its students - in the classroom, elsewhere on campus, on the Internet, or in other settings. Al Siraat College will not interfere with private lifestyle choices, so long as they do not interfere with the inherent requirement of a staff member to uphold the religious ethos and teachings of the college.