Statement for Intending Parents of Students Attending St. Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College

1. GOALS:

I hereby agree to fully support goals of St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College, as set from time to time by the College. I will actively encourage my children who are students at the College to do their utmost to realise those goals in their lives, both within the school environment and away from it. The goals of the College are summarised in the College’s Vision Statement:

St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College is a school that works in partnership with parents to create an atmosphere where Christian values and Coptic Orthodox tradition are the foundation of the school’s practices and where students and staff feel secure and supported by all members of the school community.

The distinctive, sincere and continuous practice of Christian love, service and humility provides students with the opportunity to develop and display a high moral standard.

Our students are challenged to strive to achieve excellence and success in all areas of the curriculum by attaining their full potential, having confidence in who they are as Christian individuals and becoming active participants in Church and the Australian Community.

Copies of the College’s Vision Statement can be found in the parent’s manual included in the application kit.

2. SPIRITUAL PROGRAMME:

I hereby actively encourage and support my children in partaking in the spiritual programme set from time to time by the College fully and with sincerity. I understand that at present, this includes the following activities:

1. Morning prayers and hymns each day from the Coptic Orthodox tradition
2. Classroom prayers and devotions each day from the Coptic Orthodox tradition
3. School Masses on a regular basis
4. Community service projects
5. At all times, attitudes and behaviour in the classroom and playground must be according to the teaching of the Holy Bible and the traditions of the Coptic Orthodox Church.

I understand that students from a non-Coptic Orthodox background will be expected to take part in the Masses, but will not partake of Holy Communion, as according to the Churches laws, this is allowed only to baptised Coptic Orthodox persons.

I understand that the Coptic Orthodox Church is a morally conservative Church, and all students will be expected to respect the teachings of the Church and live by them at all times. For example, rudeness, disrespect, obscenity, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, dancing, violent or immoral music, dating and pre-marital physical relations are all strongly rejected. It is the aim of the College to help young people learn to live a life of purity and holiness without fear or shame, and to be a living practical witness to the truths of the Bible. Morals should not be left behind at the gate every afternoon! I will support the College in this aim at all times.
3. **CURRICULUM**

I hereby agree to actively encourage and support my children in partaking fully of the Curriculum as set from time to time by the College. I understand that this includes the standard curriculum prescribed by the NSW Board of Studies with the addition of three other compulsory subjects:

1. Arabic Language
2. Coptic Language and Hymns
3. Coptic Orthodox Studies (Christian Religious Education)

The curriculum also includes all homework, excursions, carnivals and other events organised by the College. I agree to encourage my child to work hard to achieve their full potential in all areas of the curriculum at all times.

4. **STUDENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

I understand that every school must have clear rules and consequences for breaking those rules. St. Bishoy College has designed its Student Management Policy with the aim of using it to teach our children right from wrong and teach them how to live according to the commandments of God. This includes encouraging and rewarding good behaviour and discouraging and punishing bad behaviour.

I hereby agree to work in partnership with the College and fully support the College’s policies relating to student management and discipline, and will at all times encourage my child to obey school rules and to accept any punishments that may be given for breaking those rules by any staff member, within the College’s Discipline Policy.

I understand that my child must wear the correct uniform.

Should an after-school detention be issued I will arrange for my child’s pick-up after 4pm.

I understand that the books borrowed are my responsibility and that they need to be returned in the same condition they were issued or I will replace damaged or lost books.

I understand my child needs to be at school by 8.25am.

I understand that homework is to be completed as required.

I understand that the College reserves the right to expel any child who fails to comply fully with any of the principles contained in this statement.

I have read the above statement and fully and freely agree to abide by it, for the full duration of our child’s/children’s attendance at St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College.

*Note: Both parents must sign.*

**PARENT 1**

Name: ____________________________  
Signature: ____________________________  
Date: ____________________________

**PARENT 2**

Name: ____________________________  
Signature: ____________________________  
Date: ____________________________