

# **The Abraham Kuyper Christian Education Association Limited**

**ACN 002 028 006**

**(Company)**

**A Company Limited by Guarantee**

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## Definitions and Interpretation

### 1.1 Definitions

In this Constitution unless a contrary intention appears:

**Alternate Director** means a person appointed as an alternate director under clause 19.1.

**Annual General Meeting** has the same meaning as the term 'AGM' in the Corporations Act.

**ASIC** means the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

**Auditor** means the auditor for the time being of the Company.

**Company** means The Abraham Kuyper Christian Education Association Limited being an Australian public company limited by guarantee established under the Corporations Act which bears the ACN 002 028 006.

**Constitution** means this constitution as amended from time to time.

**Corporations Act** means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

**Director** means an individual holding office as director of the Company.

**Directors** means some or all of the Directors acting as a board.

**General Meeting** means a meeting of the Members of the Company and includes an Annual General Meeting.

**Income Tax Assessment Act** means the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth).

**Member** means a person entered on the Register of the Company as a member.

**Orthodox evangelical congregation** means a congregation that believes:-

- a. God became incarnate (flesh) in the man Jesus Christ.
- b. Jesus Christ atoned for man's sin through His death on the cross.
- c. Jesus Christ rose in bodily form from the grave conquering death and proving He is God.
- d. The Bible is the divinely inspired inerrant Word of God and the sole authority for life and faith.

**Register** means the register of members under the Corporations Act and if appropriate includes a branch register.

**Registered Office** means the registered office for the time being of the Company.

**Related Body Corporate** has the same meaning it has in the Corporations Act.

**Representative** means a person appointed to represent a corporate Member at a General Meeting of the Company in accordance with the Corporations Act.

**Rule** means a rule made by the Directors in accordance with clause 15.

**Schedule** means a schedule to this Constitution.

**School** means a pre-school, primary school or secondary school.

**Seal** means the common seal (if any) of the Company.

**Secretary** means an individual appointed as a secretary of the Company and includes an honorary Secretary and where appropriate includes an acting secretary and an individual appointed by the Directors to perform all or any of the duties of a secretary of the Company.

**Special Resolution** takes the meaning given by Section 9 of the Corporations Act.<sup>1</sup>

**Statement of Faith** means the document set out in Schedule 1.

## 1.2 Interpretation

In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears:

- (a) words importing any gender include all other genders;
- (b) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- (c) a reference to a law includes regulations and instruments made under the law;
- (d) a reference to a clause is a reference to a clause in this Constitution unless otherwise stated;
- (e) a reference to a law or a provision of a law includes amendments, re-enactments or replacements of that law or the provision, whether by the State or the Commonwealth of Australia or otherwise;
- (f) a reference to a meeting includes a meeting by technology where all attendees have reasonable opportunity to participate;
- (g) a reference to a person being present in person includes a person participating at a meeting as described in clause 1.2(f);
- (h) a power, an authority or a discretion reposed in a Director, the Directors, the company in General Meeting or a Member may be exercised at any time and from time to time;

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<sup>1</sup> At the time of adoption of this Constitution, section 9 provides that a Special Resolution is a resolution:

- (a) of which notice has been given to the Members in accordance with clause 8.3; and
- (b) that has been passed by at least 75% of the votes cast by Members entitled to vote on the resolution.
  - (i) “writing” and “written” includes printing, typing and other modes of reproducing words in a visible form including, without limitation, any representation of words in a physical document or in an electronic communication or form or otherwise; and
  - (j) Australian dollars, dollars, A\$ or \$ is a reference to the lawful currency of Australia.

### **1.3 Signing**

Where, by a provision of this Constitution, a document including a notice is required to be signed, that requirement may be satisfied in relation to an electronic communication of the document in any manner permitted by law or by any State or Commonwealth law relating to electronic transmissions, or in any other manner approved by the Directors.

### **1.4 Corporations Act**

In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears:

- (a) an expression has, in a provision of this Constitution that deals with a matter dealt with by a particular provision of the Corporations Act, the same meaning as in that provision of the Corporations Act; and
- (b) “section” means a section of the Corporations Act; and
- (c) while the Company is a registered charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth):
  - (i) subject to clause 1.4(d) the provisions of the Corporations Act in Part 2G.2 and Part 2G.3 apply as if s 111L(1) of the Corporations Act was not enacted; and
- (d) where a particular provision of the Corporations Act referred to in s 111L(1) includes a reference to ASIC including a reference to lodge any document with, or seek consent or approval from ASIC, that particular provision does not apply to the Company to the extent that s 111(L) of the Corporations Act is in force.

### **1.5 Headings**

Headings are inserted for convenience and are not to affect the interpretation of this Constitution.

## **1.6 Replaceable rules do not apply**

The provisions of the Corporations Act that apply as replaceable rules are displaced by this Constitution and accordingly do not apply to the Company.

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## **2 Objects of the Company**

The objects of the Company are to advance Christian education by:

- (a) establishing, operating and managing School(s) for the daily instruction of our children in accordance with the Statement of Faith and which incorporates;
  - (i) respect for the individual child;
  - (ii) equality amongst children regardless of ability, race or socioeconomic background;
  - (iii) the highest possible academic standards consistent with God-given ability;
  - (iv) concern for and involvement in the community outside the school or schools; and
  - (v) activities such as the delivery and holding of lectures, games, concerts, dramatic or other entertainments, public or other meetings, classes and conferences calculated directly or indirectly to advance the cause of Christian education;
- (b) acting as trustee and to perform and discharge the duties and functions incidental thereto where this is incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects; and
- (c) doing such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects.

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## **3 Powers**

The Company has the legal capacity and powers of an individual and also has all the powers of a body corporate under the Corporations Act.

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## **4 Application of income for objects only**

### **4.1 Application of income and property**

The income and the property of the Company, however derived:

- (a) must be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Company as set out in clause 2; and



- (b) may not be paid or transferred to the Members, in whole or in part, either directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise.

#### **4.2 Payment in good faith**

The above clause does not prevent payment in good faith to a Member, or to a firm of which a Member is a partner:

- (a) of reasonable remuneration for services to the Company;
- (b) for goods supplied in the ordinary course of business;
- (c) of fair and reasonable interest on money borrowed from a Member at a rate not exceeding that fixed for the purposes of this clause by the Company in a General Meeting; or
- (d) of reasonable rent for premises let by a Member.

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## **5 Winding up**

### **5.1 Guarantee by Members**

- (a) Each Member undertakes to contribute to the Company's property if the Company is wound up while they are a Member, or within one year after they cease to be a Member.
- (b) This contribution is for:
  - (i) payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a Member;
  - (ii) the costs of winding up; and
  - (iii) adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.
- (c) The amount is not to exceed \$10.

### **5.2 Application of property**

- (a) If any property remains on the winding up or dissolution of the Company and after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, that property may not be paid to or distributed among the Members but must be given or transferred to some other institution:
  - (i) having objects similar to the objects of the Company; and

- (ii) whose constitution prohibits the distribution of its income and property among its members to an extent at least as great as imposed on the Company under this Constitution.
- (b) The institution will be determined by the Members at or before the time of dissolution.

### **5.3 Revocation of Australian Tax Office endorsement**

- (a) Where the Company has been endorsed as a deductible gift recipient as an organisation or in relation to a public fund under Subdivision 30-BA of the Income Tax Assessment Act, then where:
  - (i) the Company is wound up; or
  - (ii) the fund is wound up; or
  - (iii) the endorsement under Subdivision 30-BA of the Income Tax Assessment Act is revoked;

then any surplus assets of the Company or fund remaining after payment of all liabilities must be transferred to an institution or fund that complies with clause 5.2 and is an endorsed deductible gift recipient.

- (b) Where the Company operates more than one fund for which it is a deductible gift recipient and its endorsement under Subdivision 30-BA of the Income Tax Assessment Act is revoked only in relation to one of those funds then it may transfer any surplus assets of that fund after payment of all liabilities to any other fund for which it is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient.

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## **6 Membership**

### **6.1 Number of Members**

- (a) The minimum number of Members of the Company will be three (3) or such greater number as the Directors determine from time to time, subject to that number complying with the Corporations Act.
- (b) The Members at the date of adoption of this Constitution and any person the Directors admit to membership under clause 6.2 are the 9+ Members of the Company.

## **6.2 Admission as a Member**

The Directors may admit any person as a Member if the person is eligible under clause 6.3 and makes an application in accordance with clause 6.4.

## **6.3 Membership criteria**

To be eligible to be a Member, a person must:

- (a) confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour
- (b) subscribe formally and unconditionally to the Statement of Faith
- (c) be members in good standing of an orthodox evangelical congregation which they continue to attend regularly;
- (d) be nominated by two existing Members;
- (e) consent in writing to become a Member; and
- (f) agree to be bound by this Constitution in any manner the Directors determine.

## **6.4 Membership process**

- (a) The application for membership must be made:
  - (i) in writing addressed to the Directors, signed by the applicant, and accompanied by a statement confirming that the applicant submits unconditionally to the requirements set out in clause 6.3.;
  - (ii) in the form as set out in Schedule 2 or in such form as the Directors may from time to time prescribe; and
  - (iii) accompanied by the membership fee, if any, determined by the Directors.
- (b) Each application for membership must be considered by the Directors within a reasonable time after the application is made. At that meeting the Directors must determine whether to admit the applicant to membership of the Company or whether to reject the application.
- (c) When an applicant has been accepted or rejected for membership the Secretary must immediately notify the applicant of the decision of the Directors.

## **6.5 Directors' discretion to admit or refuse admission as a Member**

The Directors have the discretion to refuse any person or corporation admission as a Member without giving any reason for refusing.

## **6.6 Registration as Member**

If the Directors accept an application for membership, as soon as practicable, the Directors must register the name of the person in the Register.

## **6.7 Membership terms**

From the date of adoption of this Constitution, all membership of the Company will be renewable every three (3) years. At the end of each three (3) year period, each Member must reapply for membership.

## **6.8 Membership fees**

The Members must pay such membership fees as prescribed from time to time by the Directors.

## **6.9 Register**

- (a) The company must establish and maintain a Register. The Register must be kept by the Secretary and must contain:
  - (i) for each current Member:
    - (A) name;
    - (B) address;
    - (C) any alternative address nominated by the Member for the service of notice;  
and
    - (D) date the Member was entered on to the Register.
  - (ii) for each person who stopped being a Member in the last 7 years:
    - (A) name;
    - (B) address;
    - (C) any alternative address nominated by the Member for the service of notices;  
and
    - (D) date the membership started and ended.

- (b) The Company must provide access to the Register in accordance with the Corporations Act.

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## **7 Ceasing to be a Member**

### **7.1 Cessation of membership**

A Member ceases to be a Member on:

- (a) death;
- (b) resignation by written notice to the Company having immediate effect or with effect from a specified date occurring not more than seven days after the service of the notice;
- (c) failing to pay any fee that may be prescribed by the Directors from time to time within twelve months after the fee was due and payable;
- (d) becoming of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under a law related to mental health;
- (e) becoming bankrupt or insolvent or making an arrangement or composition with creditors of a person's joint or separate estate generally;
- (f) the passing of a resolution by the Directors or Members in General Meeting pursuant to clause 7.2;
- (g) the expiry of the three year term of membership, unless the Member had applied for and been admitted as a Member for the following term;
- (h) that Member ceasing to be a Director (in such circumstances the Member is able to make a new application for membership pursuant to clause 6.2 and 6.4); or
- (i) termination of his or her appointment as a Director pursuant to clause 13.

### **7.2 Termination of membership**

- (a) Subject to this Constitution, the Directors or Members in General Meeting may at any time terminate the membership of a Member if the Member:
  - (i) refuses or neglects to comply with this Constitution or any applicable Rules made by the Directors;

- (ii) engages in conduct which in the opinion of the Directors is unbecoming of the Member or prejudicial to the interests of the Company;
  - (iii) fails to pay any debt due to the Company within a period of three months after the date for payment (such debt not including a fee referred to in clause 7.1(c)).
  - (iv) makes statements which are inconsistent with or contrary to the Statement of Faith; or
  - (v) is no longer willing or able to subscribe to the Statement of Faith.
- (b) For a decision of the Directors or the Members in General Meeting under clause 7.2 to be effective the dispute resolution procedure contained in clause 25 must be followed. The general nature of the allegations made against the Member must be notified to the Member and for the purposes of clause 25.1(a) this notification will be the notice of the Dispute.

### **7.3 Limited liability**

The Members have no liability as Members except as set out in clause 5.1.

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## **8 General Meetings**

### **8.1 Annual General Meetings**

Annual General Meetings of the Company are to be held in accordance with the Corporations Act.

### **8.2 Convening a General Meeting**

The Directors may convene and arrange to hold a General Meeting when they think fit and must do so if required to do so under the Corporations Act.

### **8.3 Notice of a General Meeting**

- (a) Notice of a General Meeting must be given in accordance with the Corporations Act and served in accordance with clause 30.
- (b) A Director is entitled to receive notice of and to attend all General Meetings and is entitled to speak at those meetings.

#### **8.4 Calculation of period of notice**

In computing the period of notice under clause 8.3, both the day on which the notice is given or taken to be given and the day of the meeting convened by it are to be disregarded.

#### **8.5 Cancellation or postponement of General Meeting**

- (a) Where a General Meeting is convened by the Directors they may by notice, whenever they think fit, cancel the meeting or postpone the holding of the meeting to a date and time determined by them.
- (b) This clause 8.5 does not apply to a meeting convened in accordance with the Corporations Act by a single Director, by Members, by the Directors on the request of Members or to a meeting convened by a Court.

#### **8.6 Notice of cancellation or postponement of a meeting**

Notice of cancellation, postponement or change of place of a General Meeting must state the reason for cancellation or postponement and be given:

- (a) to each Member individually; and
- (b) to each other person entitled to be given notice of a General Meeting under the Corporations Act.

#### **8.7 Contents of notice of postponement of meeting**

A notice of postponement of a General Meeting must specify:

- (a) the postponed date and time for the holding of the meeting;
- (b) a place for the holding of the meeting which may be either the same as or different from the place specified in the notice convening the meeting; and
- (c) if the meeting is to be held in two or more places, the technology that will be used to facilitate the holding of the meeting in that manner.

#### **8.8 Number of clear days for postponement of meeting**

The number of clear days from the giving of a notice postponing the holding of a General Meeting to the date specified in that notice for the holding of the postponed meeting must not be less than the number of clear days' notice of the General Meeting required to be given under clause 8.3.

## **8.9 Business at postponed meeting**

The only business that may be transacted at a General Meeting the holding of which is postponed is the business specified in the original notice convening the meeting.

## **8.10 Proxy at postponed meeting**

Where by the terms of an instrument appointing a proxy:

- (a) the proxy is authorised to attend and vote at one or more General Meetings to be held on or before a specified date; and
- (b) the date for holding the meeting is postponed to a date later than the date specified in the instrument of proxy;

then, by force of this clause 8.10, that later date is substituted for and applies to the exclusion of the date specified in the instrument of proxy, unless the Member appointing the proxy gives to the Company at its Registered Office notice in writing to the contrary not less than 48 hours before the time to which the holding of the meeting has been postponed.

## **8.11 Non-receipt of notice**

The non-receipt of notice of a General Meeting or cancellation or postponement of a General Meeting by, or the accidental omission to give notice of a General Meeting or cancellation or postponement of a General Meeting to, a person entitled to receive notice does not invalidate any resolution passed at the General Meeting or at a postponed meeting or the cancellation or postponement of a meeting.

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# **9 Proceedings at General Meetings**

## **9.1 Number of a quorum**

- (a) A majority or 10 Members, whichever is the lesser number, present in person or by proxy are a quorum at a General Meeting.
- (b) In determining whether a quorum is present, each individual attending as a proxy is to be counted, except that:
  - (i) where a Member has appointed more than one proxy, only one is to be counted; and



- (ii) where an individual is attending both as a Member and as a proxy, that individual is to be counted only once.

## **9.2 Requirement for a quorum**

- (a) An item of business may not be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to consider it.
- (b) If a quorum is present at the time the first item of business is transacted, it is taken to be present when the meeting proceeds to consider each subsequent item of business unless the chairman of the meeting (on the chairman's own motion or at the request of a Member or proxy who is present) declares otherwise.

## **9.3 If quorum not present**

If within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting:

- (a) if convened by a Director or at the request of Members, is dissolved; and
- (b) in any other case, stands adjourned to the same day in the next week and the same time and place, or to such other day, time and place as the Directors appoint by notice to the Members and others entitled to notice of the meeting.

## **9.4 Adjourned meeting**

At a meeting adjourned under clause 9.3(b), two Members present in person or by proxy at the meeting are a quorum. If a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the adjourned meeting, the meeting is dissolved.

## **9.5 Appointment and powers of chairman of General Meeting**

If the Directors have elected one of their number as chairman of their meetings under clause 18.1, that person is also entitled to preside as chairman at a General Meeting.

## **9.6 Absence of chairman at General Meeting**

If a General Meeting is held and:

- (a) a chairman has not been elected by the Directors; or
- (b) the elected chairman is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unable or unwilling to act;

then the following persons may preside as chairman of the meeting (in order of precedence):

- (c) the deputy chairman if a Director has been so elected by the Directors under clause 18.1; or
- (d) a Director or Member elected by the Members present in person to preside as chairman of the meeting.

#### **9.7 Conduct of General Meetings**

- (a) The chairman of a General Meeting:
  - (i) has charge of the general conduct of the meeting and of the procedures to be adopted at the meeting;
  - (ii) may require the adoption of any procedure which is, in the chairman's opinion, necessary or desirable for proper and orderly debate or discussion and the proper and orderly casting or recording of votes at the General Meeting; and
  - (iii) may, having regard where necessary to the Corporations Act, terminate discussion or debate on any matter whenever the chairman considers it necessary or desirable for the proper conduct of the meeting.
- (b) A decision by the chairman under this clause is final.

#### **9.8 Adjournment of General Meeting**

- (a) The chairman of a General Meeting may at any time during the meeting adjourn the meeting or any business, motion, question, resolution, debate or discussion being considered or remaining to be considered by the meeting either to a later time at the same meeting or to an adjourned meeting at any time and any place, but:
  - (i) in exercising the discretion to do so, the chairman may, but need not, seek the approval of the Members present in person or by proxy; and
  - (ii) only unfinished business is to be transacted at a meeting resumed after an adjournment.
- (b) Unless required by the chairman, a vote may not be taken or demanded by the Members present in person or by proxy in respect of any adjournment.

### **9.9 Notice of adjourned meeting**

It is not necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting unless a meeting is adjourned for one month or more. In that case, notice of the adjourned meeting must be given as in the case of an original meeting.

### **9.10 Questions decided by majority**

Subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act, a resolution is taken to be carried if a simple majority of the votes cast on the resolution are in favour of it.

### **9.11 Equality of votes – no casting vote for chairman**

If there is an equality of votes, either on a show of hands or on a poll, then the chairman of the meeting is not entitled to a casting vote in addition to any votes to which the chairman is entitled as a Member or proxy or attorney or Representative, and consequently the resolution fails.

### **9.12 Voting on show of hands**

- (a) At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is properly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn.
- (b) A declaration by the chairman that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the proceedings of the Company, is conclusive evidence of the fact.
- (c) Neither the chairman nor the minutes need state and it is not necessary to prove the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

### **9.13 Poll**

If a poll is demanded:

- (a) it must be taken in the manner and at the date and time directed by the chairman and the result of the poll is the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded;
- (b) on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment, it must be taken immediately;
- (c) the demand may be withdrawn; and
- (d) the demand does not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll has been demanded.

#### **9.14 Votes of Members**

- (a) Every Member has one vote.
- (b) Subject to this Constitution:
  - (i) on a show of hands, each Member present in person and each other person present as a proxy of a Member has one vote; and
  - (ii) on a poll, each Member present in person has one vote and each person present as proxy of a Member has one vote for each Member that the person represents.

#### **9.15 Right to appoint proxy**

- (a) Subject to the Corporations Act, a Member entitled to attend a meeting of the Company is entitled to appoint another person (whether a Member or not) as proxy to attend in the Member's place at the meeting. A proxy has the same right as the Member to speak and vote at the meeting and may be appointed in respect of more than one meeting.
- (b) The instrument appointing a proxy must be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under seal or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised.
- (c) The instrument appointing a proxy will be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll.
- (d) A Member is entitled to instruct his proxy to vote in favour of or against any proposed resolutions. The proxy may vote as he thinks fit unless otherwise instructed.
- (e) No Member, and no other person, may hold and vote in accordance with more than three proxies.
- (f) The instrument appointing a proxy may be in the form set out in Schedule 3 to this Constitution.
- (g) The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed or a notarially certified copy of that power or authority must be received at the registered office of the Company, or at such other place within the State, or to a fax number or email address, as is specified for that purpose in the notice convening the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote, or, in

the case of a poll, not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, and in default the instrument of proxy will not be treated as valid.

#### **9.16 Validity of vote in certain circumstances**

Unless the Company has received written notice of the matter before the start or resumption of the meeting at which a person votes as a proxy, attorney or Representative, a vote cast by that person is valid even if, before the person votes:

- (a) the appointing Member dies;
- (b) the Member revokes the appointment or authority; or
- (c) the Member is mentally incapacitated.

#### **9.17 Objection to voting qualification**

- (a) An objection to the right of a person to attend or vote at the meeting or adjourned meeting:
  - (i) may not be raised except at that meeting or adjourned meeting; and
  - (ii) must be referred to the chairman of that meeting, whose decision is final.
- (b) A vote not disallowed under the objection is valid for all purposes.

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## **10 Directors**

### **10.1 Number of Directors**

The number of Directors must be such number between three (3) and nine (9) as the Directors may determine from time to time and subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act. In the absence of any such determination, the number of Directors will be seven (7).

### **10.2 Directors elected at General Meeting**

The Company may, at a General Meeting at which a Director retires or otherwise vacates office, by resolution fill the vacated office by electing an individual to that office.

### **10.3 Qualification of Directors**

- (a) To be eligible for the office of Director a person must:
  - (i) be a Member; and

- (ii) consent in writing to act as a Director.
- (b) In the event that it is required under a law, regulation or guideline applicable to the Company,<sup>2</sup> the Company must ensure that a majority of the Directors are persons who have a degree of responsibility to the general public.

#### **10.4 Appointment of officers**

At the next meeting of the Directors held following the Company's adoption of this Constitution, the Directors shall appoint the officers of the Company. Thereafter, the Directors shall appoint those officers with such frequency as the Directors from time to time determine.

#### **10.5 Terms and retirement of Directors**

- (a) Directors are elected for terms of three (3) years.
- (b) At each Annual General Meeting, any Director who has held office for three (3) years or more since last being elected, must retire from office but is eligible for reappointment. A retiring Director holds office until the conclusion of the meeting at which that Director retires.
- (c) The Members may by ordinary resolution increase or decrease the period of time for which a Director holds office under clause 10.5(b).
- (d) The Members may by ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of that Director's period of office, and may by an ordinary resolution appoint another person in the place of that Director.

#### **10.6 Casual vacancy or additional Director**

- (a) The Directors may at any time appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Directors, provided the total number of

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<sup>2</sup>Such as where the Company applies for endorsement of the Company or its public fund as a deductible gift recipient and this is a condition for such endorsement.

Directors does not exceed the maximum number determined in accordance with clause 10.1.

- (b) A Director appointed under this clause holds office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company but is eligible for election at that meeting.

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## **11 Remuneration of Directors**

The Directors must not be paid any remuneration for their services as Directors.

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## **12 Expenses of Directors**

- (a) A Director is entitled to be reimbursed out of the funds of the Company for such reasonable travelling, accommodation and other expenses as the Director may incur when travelling to or from meetings of the Directors or a committee of Directors or when otherwise engaged on the business of the Company.
- (b) Any payment to a Director must be approved by the Directors.

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## **13 Vacation of office of Director**

In addition to the circumstances in which the office of a Director becomes vacant under the Corporations Act, the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director:

- (a) ceases to be eligible under clause 10.3;
- (b) resigns from the office by notice in writing to the Company;
- (c) is not present at three successive meetings of the Directors without leave of absence from the Directors;
- (d) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health;
- (e) becomes insolvent or bankrupt, compounds with his creditors, or assigns his estate for the benefit of his creditors;
- (f) becomes prohibited for being a Director by reason of any order of any court of competent jurisdiction; or

- (g) dies.

---

## **14 Powers and duties of Directors**

### **14.1 Directors to manage the Company**

- (a) The Directors are to manage the business of the Company and may exercise all the powers of the Company that are not, by the Corporations Act or by this Constitution, required to be exercised by the Company in General Meeting.
- (b) The Directors will cause the Company to be conducted in accordance with the Objects of the Company, and shall use their best endeavours to ensure that the Statement of Faith is honoured in the conduct of the Company.

### **14.2 Specific powers of Directors**

Without limiting the generality of clause 14.1, and subject to any trusts relating to the assets of the Company, the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to:

- (a) borrow or raise money;
- (b) charge any property or business of the Company; and
- (c) give any security for a debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any other person.

### **14.3 Delegation**

- (a) The Directors may resolve to delegate any of their powers to:
  - (i) a committee in accordance with clause 22;
  - (ii) a Director;
  - (iii) an employee of the Company; or
  - (iv) any other person.
- (b) The power may be delegated for such time as determined by the Directors and the Directors may at any time revoke or vary the delegation.
- (c) The delegate must exercise the powers delegated in accordance with any directions of the Directors, and the exercise of the power by the delegate is as effective as if the Directors had exercised it.



- (d) The Directors may continue to exercise any power they have delegated.

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## **15 Rules**

Subject to this Constitution, the Directors may from time to time by resolution make and rescind or alter Rules which are binding on Members for the management and conduct of the business of the Company.

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## **16 Appointment of attorney**

- (a) The Directors may, by power of attorney, appoint any person to be the attorney of the Company for the purposes and with the powers, authorities and discretions held by the Directors for the period and subject to the conditions that they think fit.
- (b) A power of attorney granted under this clause 16 may contain any provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with the attorney that the Directors think fit and may also authorise the attorney to delegate (including by way of appointment of a substitute attorney) all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions of the attorney.

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## **17 Conflicts of interest**

### **17.1 Disclosure of conflict of interest**

A Director must disclose the nature and extent of any actual or perceived material conflict of interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors (or that is proposed in a circular resolution):

- (a) to the Directors; or
- (b) if all of the Directors have the same conflict of interest, to the Members at the next General Meeting, or at an earlier time if reasonable to do so.

### **17.2 Disclosure recorded in minutes**

The disclosure of a conflict of interest by a Director must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

### **17.3 Material personal interest**

Each Director who has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of the Directors (or that is proposed in a circular resolution) must not, except as provided under clause 17.4:

- (a) be present at the meeting while the matter is being discussed; or
- (b) vote on the matter.

### **17.4 Present and voting**

A Director may still be present and vote if:

- (a) their interest arises because they are a Member of the Company and the other Members have the same interest;
- (b) their interest relates to an insurance contract that insures, or would insure, the Director against liabilities that the Director incurs as a Director of the Company (see clause 32.2);
- (c) their interest relates to a payment by the Company under clause 32.1 (indemnity), or any contract relating to an indemnity that is allowed under the Corporations Act;
- (d) ASIC makes an order allowing the Director to vote on the matter; or
- (e) the Directors who do not have material personal interest in the matter pass a resolution that:
  - (i) identifies the Director, the nature and extent of the Director's interest in the matter and how it related to the affairs of the Company; and
  - (ii) says that those Directors are satisfied that the interest should not stop the Director from voting or being present.

---

## **18 Proceedings of Directors**

### **18.1 Directors' meetings**

- (a) The Directors may meet together for conducting business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit.
- (b) A Director may at any time, and the Secretary must on the written request of a Director, convene a meeting of the Directors.

## **18.2 Questions decided by majority**

A question arising at a meeting of Directors is to be decided by a majority of votes of Directors present and entitled to vote, and that decision is for all purposes a decision of the Directors.

## **18.3 Alternate Director and voting**

- (a) A person who is present at a meeting of Directors as an Alternate Director:
  - (i) is entitled to participate and vote in the appointor's place if the appointor would have been entitled to vote and does not participate in that meeting; and
  - (ii) has one vote for each person for whom they have been appointed as Alternate Director.
- (b) If that person is also a Director, then that person also has one vote as a Director in that capacity.

---

## **19 Chairman and deputy chairman of directors**

### **19.1 Election of chairman and deputy chairman**

The Directors may elect from their number a chairman and a deputy chairman of their meetings and may also determine the period for which the persons elected as chairman and deputy chairman are to hold office.

### **19.2 Absence of chairman at Directors' meeting**

If a Directors' meeting is held and:

- (a) a chairman has not been elected under clause 18.1; or
- (b) the chairman is not present within ten minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unable or unwilling to act;

then the deputy chairman, if elected under clause 18.1, must be the chairman of the meeting or, if the deputy chairman is not present, the Directors present must elect one of their number to be a chairman of the meeting.

### **19.3 No casting vote for chairman at Directors' meetings**

In the event of an equality of votes cast for and against a question, the chairman of the Directors' meeting does not have a second or casting vote, and consequently the question is decided in the negative.

---

## **20 Alternate Director**

### **20.1 Appointment**

- (a) Subject to the Corporations Act, a Director may appoint a person, with the approval of the Directors, to be an Alternate Director in the Director's place during such period as the Director thinks fit.
- (b) Subject to the Corporations Act, an appointment of an Alternate Director must be effected by a notice in writing signed by the Director who makes or made the appointment, and delivered to the Company.

### **20.2 Notice**

An Alternate Director is entitled to notice of all meetings of the Directors.

### **20.3 Alternate Director's powers**

An Alternate Director may exercise all the powers of the appointor except the power to appoint an Alternate Director and, subject to the Corporations Act, may perform all the duties of the appointor except to the extent that the appointor has exercised or performed them.

### **20.4 Alternate Director responsible for own acts and defaults**

Whilst acting as a Director, an Alternate Director:

- (a) is an officer of the Company and not the agent of the appointor; and
- (b) is responsible to the exclusion of the appointor for the Alternate Director's own acts and defaults.

### **20.5 Alternate Director and remuneration**

An Alternate Director is not entitled to receive from the Company any remuneration or benefit.

## **20.6 Termination of appointment of Alternate Director**

The appointment of an Alternate Director may be terminated at any time by the appointor even if the period, if any, of the appointment of the Alternate Director has not expired, and terminates in any event if the appointor ceases to be a Director.

## **20.7 Termination in writing**

The termination of an appointment of an Alternate Director must be effected by a notice in writing signed by the Director who made the appointment and delivered to the Company.

## **20.8 Alternate Director and number of Directors**

An Alternate Director is not to be taken into account separately from the appointor in determining the number of Directors.

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## **21 Quorum for Directors' meeting**

- (a) At a meeting of Directors, the number of Directors whose presence in person is necessary to constitute a quorum is as determined by the Directors, and, unless so determined, is a majority of Directors holding office.
- (b) The [continuing] Directors may act despite a vacancy in their number. If their number is reduced below the minimum fixed by clause 10.1, the [continuing] Directors may, except in an emergency, act only for the purpose of filling vacancies to the extent necessary to bring their number up to that minimum or to convene a General Meeting.

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## **22 Committees**

### **22.1 Delegation to committees**

- (a) The Directors may delegate any of their powers to a committee or committees consisting of such one or more of their number or other persons as they think fit.
- (b) A committee to which any powers have been delegated under this clause 21.1 must exercise those powers in accordance with any directions of the Directors. A power so exercised is taken to have been exercised by the Directors.

## **22.2 Meetings of Committee**

A committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper.

## **22.3 Chairman of Directors' committee**

The members of a committee may elect one of their number as chairman of their meetings. If a meeting of a committee is held and:

- (a) a chairman has not been elected; or
- (b) the chairman is not present within ten minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unable or unwilling to act;

then the committee members involved may elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

## **22.4 Determination of questions**

- (a) Questions arising at a meeting of a committee are to be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.
- (b) In the event of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting does not have a casting vote.

---

## **23 Circulating resolutions**

- (a) The Directors may pass a resolution without a Directors' meeting being held if all of the Directors entitled to vote on the resolution sign a document containing a statement that they are in favour of the resolution set out in the document.
- (b) Separate copies of a document may be used for signing by Directors if the wording of the resolution and statement is identical in each copy.
- (c) The resolution is passed when the last Director signs.

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## **24 Validity of acts of directors**

All acts done at a meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors, or by a person acting as a Director are taken as valid as if the relevant person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office and was qualified and entitled to vote, even if it is afterwards discovered that:

- (a) there was a defect in the appointment or continuance in office of a person as a Director or of the person so acting; or
- (b) a person acting as a Director was disqualified or was not entitled to vote.

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## **25 Secretary**

### **25.1 Appointment of Secretary**

There must be at least one Secretary who is to be appointed by the Directors.

### **25.2 Suspension and removal of Secretary**

The Directors may suspend or remove a Secretary from that office.

### **25.3 Powers, duties and authorities of Secretary**

A Secretary holds office on the terms and conditions (including as to remuneration) and with the powers, duties and authorities, as determined by the Directors. The exercise of those powers and authorities and the performance of those duties by a Secretary are subject at all times to the control of the Directors.

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## **26 Dispute resolution**

### **26.1 Handling a dispute**

Where there is a dispute, grievance or other disagreement between a Member and the Company, whether arising out of the application of these rules or otherwise (**Dispute**), then either must, prior to the commencement of any proceedings in a Court or Tribunal or before any authority or board, notify the other in writing of the nature of the Dispute, and the following must occur:

- (a) The Member and the Company must in the period fourteen days from the service of the notice of the Dispute (**Initial Period**) use their best endeavours to resolve the Dispute.
- (b) If the Company and the Member are unable to resolve the Dispute within the Initial Period, then the Dispute must be referred for mediation to a mediator agreed by the Member and the Company.

- (c) If the disputants are unable to agree on a mediator within seven days of the Initial Period, the Member or the Company may request the President of LEADR<sup>3</sup> to nominate a mediator to whom the dispute will be referred.
- (d) The costs of the mediation must be shared equally between the Member and the Company.
- (e) Where:
  - (i) the party receiving the notice of the Dispute fails to attend the mediation required by clause 25.1(b); or
  - (ii) the mediation has not occurred within six weeks of the date of the notice of the Dispute; or
  - (iii) the mediation fails to resolve the Dispute;then the party serving the notice of Dispute will be entitled to commence any proceedings in a Court or Tribunal or before any authority or board in respect of the Dispute.
- (f) The procedure in this clause will not apply in respect of proceedings for urgent or interlocutory relief.

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## **27 Execution of documents**

Documents executed for and on behalf of the company must be executed by:

- (a) two Directors;
- (b) a Director and the Secretary; or
- (c) such other persons as the Directors by resolution appoint from time to time.

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<sup>3</sup>LEADR is a not-for-profit organisation facilitating dispute resolution – further information can be found at [www.leadr.com.au](http://www.leadr.com.au).



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## **28 Accounts**

- (a) The Directors must cause proper financial records to be kept and if required by a law, regulation or guideline applicable to the Company or otherwise considered by the Directors to be appropriate, cause the accounts of the Company to be audited accordingly.
- (b) The Directors must distribute to the Members copies of the annual financial reports of the Company accompanied by a copy of the Auditor's report and Directors' report in accordance with the requirements of a relevant law, regulation or guideline.

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## **29 Seals**

### **29.1 Safe custody of common seals**

The Directors must provide for the safe custody of any seal of the Company.

### **29.2 Use of common seal**

If the Company has a common seal or duplicate common seal:

- (a) it may be used only by the authority of the Directors, or of a committee authorised by the Directors to authorise its use; and
- (b) every document to which it is affixed must be signed by a Director and be countersigned by another Director, a Secretary or another person appointed by the Directors to countersign that document or a class of documents in which that document is included.

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## **30 Inspection of records**

### **30.1 Inspection by Members**

Subject to the Corporations Act, the Directors may determine whether and to what extent, and at what times and places and under what conditions, the accounting records and other documents of the Company or any of them will be open to inspection by the Members (other than Directors).

## **30.2 Right of a Member to inspect**

A Member (other than a Director) does not have the right to inspect any document of the Company except as provided by law or authorised by the Directors or by the Company in General Meeting.

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## **31 Service of documents**

### **31.1 Document includes notice**

In this clause 30, a reference to a document includes a notice.

### **31.2 Methods of service**

- (a) The Company may give a document to a Member:
  - (i) personally;
  - (ii) by sending it by post to the address for the Member in the Register or an alternative address nominated by the Member; or
  - (iii) by sending it to an electronic address nominated by the Member.
- (b) A document sent by post:
  - (i) if sent to an address in Australia, may be sent by ordinary post and is taken to have been received on the day after the date of its posting; and
  - (ii) if sent to an address outside Australia, must be sent by airmail and is taken to have been received on the fifth day after the date of its posting.
- (c) If a document is sent by electronic transmission, delivery of the document is taken:
  - (i) to be effected by properly addressing and transmitting the electronic transmission; and
  - (ii) to have been delivered on the day following its transmission.

### **31.3 Evidence of service**

A certificate in writing signed by a Director or a Secretary stating that a document was sent to a Member by post or electronic transmission on a particular date is prima facie evidence that the document was so sent on that date.

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## **32 Indemnity and insurance**

### **32.1 Indemnity**

The Company may indemnify any current or former Director, Secretary or executive officer of the Company or of a Related Body Corporate of the Company out of the property of the Company against:

- (a) every liability incurred by the person in that capacity; and
- (b) all legal costs incurred in defending or resisting (or otherwise in connection with) proceedings, whether civil or criminal or of an administrative or investigatory nature, in which the person becomes involved because of that capacity,

except to the extent that:

- (c) the Company is forbidden by statute to indemnify the person against the liability or legal costs; or
- (d) an indemnity by the Company of the person against the liability or legal costs would, if given, be made void by statute.

### **32.2 Insurance**

The Company may pay or agree to pay, whether directly or through an interposed entity, a premium for a contract insuring a person who is or has been a Director or Secretary or executive officer of the Company or of a Related Body Corporate of the Company against liability incurred by the person in that capacity, including a liability for legal costs, unless:

- (a) the Company is forbidden by statute to pay or agree to pay the premium; or
- (b) the contract would, if the Company paid the premium, be made void by statute.

### **32.3 Contract**

The Company may enter into an agreement with a person referred to in clauses 31.1 and 31.2 with respect to the matters covered by these clauses. An agreement entered into pursuant to this clause may include provisions relating to rights of access to the books of the Company conferred by the Corporations Act or otherwise by law.

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**33 Amendment to Constitution**

- (a) Subject to clause 33(c) this Constitution may only be amended by Special Resolution of the Members of the Company.
- (b) The Members must not pass a Special Resolution that amends this Constitution if passing it causes the Company to no longer be a charity.
- (c) Any modification of this Constitution takes effect on the date the Special Resolution is passed or any later date specified, or provided for, in the resolution.

**Statement of Faith**

We confess that,

- (a) There is one holy triune God, eternal and indivisible, in whom are three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; each is truly God, yet without destroying the unity of the one and only God. This one true God, revealed in Scripture (the Word of God written) as sovereign Creator and Redeemer, has declared and established His kingdom over all powers in heaven and earth without exception.
- (b) By the incarnation, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and by His exaltation, all things have been made subject to Him. We worship and obey Jesus Christ as absolute Ruler over all.
- (c) Human life in its entirety is religion unfolding itself in terms of acceptance of this absolute rule, i.e. either as service of the one true God, or of its rejection by service of a God-substitute.
- (d) Because man has repudiated God in favour of a God-substitute, he is cut off from knowledge of God, which means that he is blind to the meaning of life, creation and himself.
- (e) People who reject His Word as the ordering principle of life may in the providence of God provide many valuable insights into life in general. However, the religious direction of their thoughts remains radically opposed to that of those united in Christ. This means that there can be no possibility of a synthesis of their systems of thought with the Scripture-directed thought which Christ's people are called to pursue.
- (f) God delivers man from his blindness when the Holy Spirit, applying the truths of the Scripture, causes him in his conscious life to repent of his rejection of God and to rely entirely on Him in Christ. Only then man begins to understand his true origin, nature and destiny.
- (g) By His Word and Spirit God rules over all those who are united with Christ. He redeems their life in its entirety renewing them in His image. He restores them to fellowship with Himself.
- (h) Being in fellowship with God, the Christian is required to be obedient to Him in a bond of loving care with, and service to, other Christians. People in these relationships are God's covenant people, who acknowledge the supremacy of the Word of God in all spheres of life and strive to be obedient to Him. This leads them to teach, encourage, and correct one another in all wisdom. Only within the framework of this covenant community can true wisdom and reality be known.

- (i) As covenant people, to whom God's promises belong, we have Christ's comforting assurance that He blesses our children when we bring them to Him. We expect the fulfilment of His promises, and therefore obey His commandment to bring up our children "in discipline and instruction of the Lord". Since this task has been committed to us, we have the responsibility for any education which takes place inside or outside our homes.
- (j) We consider that parent-controlled Christian Schools must be established to assist in the work of Christian nurture and education. This is our duty and God-given privilege. Such a school is one in which children learn within a truly Christian framework as defined in Scripture, and are taught to think about God's world as Christians, not as unbelievers. We believe that each child should be encouraged to discover and develop his potential to the highest level: to aim high and to pursue excellence.
- (k) For such Christian schools we as parents claim freedom in the field of education, as long as this education takes place in obedience to the requirements of God's Word, and in adherence to academic, administrative, and environmental standards and provisions established by the government.
- (l) The School is a community composed of Members, Directors, parents, staff and pupils all under the authority of Christ. Each of these groups has its different function supported by the whole community so that they may work in Christian harmony. The authority of the teachers is to be upheld by the whole school community but is never to be exercised or maintained for its own sake. It is only to be used for the effective nurture of the child, in harmony, with an awareness that all authority is of God.

#### IN SUMMARY, WE CONFESS

CHRIST AS KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, THE REDEEMER AND RENEWER OF ALL OUR LIFE. WE PURSUE THE EDUCATIONAL TASK TOGETHER, WITH CONFIDENT HOPE AND HUMBLE RELIANCE ON GOD WHO, FOR JESUS' SAKE, SENDS HIS HOLY SPIRIT TO LEAD US INTO TRUTH. WE GLADLY SUBMIT TO GOD'S WORD AS THE GUIDE OF ALL OUR ENDEAVOUR SO THAT IN ALL THINGS HE MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, WHOSE IS THE GLORY AND THE DOMINION FOR EVER AND EVER. Amen.

**Application for Membership**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

TO THE ABRAHAM KUYPER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED

**SECTION A:**

Full name/s: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please use capitals)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this application, I apply for membership in the Abraham Kuyper Christian Education Association Limited (Company) and:

- confess Jesus Christ as my/our Lord and Saviour
- subscribe fully and unconditionally to and will uphold the Statement of Faith
- consent to the terms of the constitution of the Company.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: each individual signatory, if approved by the Directors, will become a member of the Company.

**SECTION B:**

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If either of the above nominators are current Directors, please go to Section D. Otherwise, please complete sections C and D.

**SECTION C:**

Please provide contact names of 2 referees who either have pastoral responsibility in a church congregation, or are members of a Christian School organisation.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION D:**

***Please note the congregation at which you attend.***

Name of church: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the reason/s you have for seeking to join AKCEA

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Membership in the AKCEA incurs an initial fee of \$46.00, payable upon acceptance into the Company, and thereafter an annual fee of \$44.00 or a fee as prescribed by the Directors from time to time.

Office use

Application submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Contacted for interview \_\_\_\_\_

Interview time/date \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewers contacted: Name - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Notes:



**Schedule 3**

***Appointment of Proxy***

**The Abraham Kuyper Christian Education Association Limited  
ACN [XXX XXX XXX]**

I/We \_\_\_\_\_ [name]

of \_\_\_\_\_ [address]

being a member/members of the above named Company hereby appoint

\_\_\_\_\_ [name]

of \_\_\_\_\_ [address]

or, in his or her absence \_\_\_\_\_ [name]

of \_\_\_\_\_ [address]

as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the meeting of the members of the Company to be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ and at any adjournment of that meeting.

This form is to be used in favour of / against the resolution (Strike out whichever is not desired)

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATED \_\_\_\_\_

***This notice must be returned to the Abraham Kuyper Christian Education Association Limited at 294 Redbank Road, Kurrajong by [time] on [date] [insert specific details ensuring that the time is 48 hours before the time for the meeting]***