What is behind International Christian Schools (ICS)?

ICS is a non profit christian education program. ICS is for the user absolutely free. Its aim is to offer you most of what you need to establish a christian school, with independent curriculum.

So, in every country you can use it easily. On the webpage of ics-christian school-founding.org you will find a high quality pedagogic concept, materials and around one hundred links to companies, institutions, materials etc; which are relevant for your school founding project.

ICS will help you to establish your school.

Why ICS?

Worldwide we have the capacity to offer high quality, christian value based education, without which societies will not have a real chance for the best future.

Why christian values?

ICS believes that without God‘s good values and his support, societies cannot be changed to the best.

Christian values are biblical values and not church values. Values like: honesty, family life; man and women in God given positions in the families, working ethos; good work habits, giving your best, fair and regular payment of every worker for what they are worth, using your talents, respect to women, children, handicaped, refugees and respect to the goverment including your boss.

In some countries, the people think for today, not for tomorrow. That is distroying the whole country, see many African Countries for example. In the old testament it is stated: Be prepared for bad days; think about tomorrow, save your resources etc.

The school life of ICS-Schools as the whole shows sustainability in education, use of materialsand energy amongst other things. It is important to learn from the early years on, to learn where the food comes from, what is needed to produce it, to have respect for that or what it means to use to much plastic for the environment or what it means to learn something, to see and to understand why we need the environment. The question: wherefore? is extremly important in the school life. Show students the coherences of what you have learned, show them the essence of sustainability.

All that combined with a praxis orienteed teaching, where the student can use the theory in the praxis. Let them have succesful moments, fun at learning and show them their strengths. Work with them on their abilities and develop them for their lives later.

Show them the reason why they need to learn as well as show them coherence in doing things.

Another important value of ICS Schools are the values boys and girls must acquire. Today we loose the boys morethan anyone else. Women also are in the hot spot, not men and women and as such should be nurtured in a positive way without being stigmatised.

It i a positive move to cater for both boys and girls in their early years.More often boys are given preference in education while in essence girls should also be accomodated.

We, men and women, are like a puzzle, we are different but connectable to something special. We need each other as God created beings.It is not all socialisation! Let us see boys as boys and girls as girls! Both have natural gifts and both need understanding and support in whatever they do.

In Education.

Ok, you would help churches and christian instituations to start up their schools and you would to implement bible values,not church values into societies.

How does it work?

The focus of ICS school is education, not a bible school. Let me explain it with an example:

The moment you are sick you choose the best hospital, you do not ask if it is christian in orientation or not, what matters is; is it the best for you. That is what is in your interest.

The same should be with eduction.

ICS schools have the subject Bible and Religion as well as Ethics. It is offered like music and other subjects at ICS. For the schools, it is best to organise that extra subject one day per week.

The subjects, Bible and Beligion as well as Ethics provide space to introduce the christian faith and compare the teachings of other religions or faiths with ours. We help the students to get kowledge of both and to enable them to take an independent decision.

The teachers let their lives speak!

The life of the teachers, the christian values in the school, the prayer support from teachers and the bible subject speaks enough!

No more no less. Let us be servants.

We as teachers are in the world to prepare our students in the way that they are independent thinkers, who are very well prepared to be successful in the world. The ICS has to be a part of the society not a separate island. We work together with other schools, institutions, all interested parties.

ICS also offers another important idea/concept. Share with us this idea.

On the webpage you will find beside the school founding concept (which inclueds the documents: education concept and their advantages) another new unique idea: The Life skill conference concept!

Worldwide there is lack of knowledge in dealing with the young adults (grade9 and higher) in the area of; financial knowlege (budgeting, insurance, old age pension etc.), parenthood, pedagogical and psychological basic knowledge of parenthood, partnerships (based on communication between young men and women , biblical views on partnerships, position of men and women in family life), the process of choosing a partner, knowledge of personalities, nutrition, finding a purpose in life, a vision for ones life, etc!

Through the conference concept we can reach young adults once in week days or weekends. Christian and non-Christians, can each day attend several seminars on to topics of their needs. They have seminar leaders who will stay in contact with them for questions or support. During the week it is possible to attend 15 seminars in different areas.

For ICS schools, it is an obligation to offer this conference once a year for students from grade 9 and higher.

Why is it an obligation?

During my studies for social pedagogics, I gave seminars at a Lutheran Adult Education Centre. My experience was that the people who need it did not come forward. Those who came were often well qualified and wealthy mothers.

I thought about this and my conclusion was that in German public schools that every student has to attend it would be advantageous to offer such service.So, that is the reason for this idea.

How to organize such a conference is something you will find on the webpage.

Let us go back to the ICS school founding idea. We also offer several platforms on the webpage. What are they?

* Teachers without borders
* Senior experts or companies focusing on win-win ideas
* Specialists like speech therapists and psychologists
* University students support teams
* A worldwide school network of ICS member schools and partner schools.

Let me introduce you to the different programs based on networking:

**Teachers without borders:**

Retired or active teachers can offer their time to support ICS schools at the beginning. For example, a retired principle offers his help on the ICS platform and ICS school can get in touch with him or her.

Further, ICS schools can publish their requests on the ICS webpage. Emphasising working together with the Christian Teacher Organisations.

**The same for the senior experts and specialists program.**

Former managers or active managers offer their help. They are none christian organisations, you will find them on the webpage. There are also christian medical organisations.

**The University students** can also offer their helps and schools can ask for support. Let us work together with these groups, universities and colleges.

I am absolute convinced that worldwide there is a huge potential for University students to support ICS Christisn Schools. The students have to write a thesis, masters work or they have to do interships. Let us create win-win situations.

Let us use this qulifications to create a win-win sitution.

**Also, companies need a win-win situation.** Especially in countries like South Africa. The companies have to suppport the private education area financially and through early cooperation with internship options and lifeskill support or other ideas like an entrepeneur program together with the school (Arbeitsgemeinschaften)

Let us bring the schools and the companies together. Work together as schools with business or industrial clubs like the German ihk.

A company should invest into their future employees, in countries like Germany is it running.

At least but not last.

The ICS international school network encourages working together, learning from each other, saving money through common purpose. Let us have an exchange progamme between the students and teachers and develop each other. For this Exchange it is very important that ICS schools share more than 90 percent of the concept. A exchange between two ICS schools is much important for all.

Internationalising ourselves is very important to open our mind, to get an understanding of others,to improve on other languages amongst other things.

How does it work in the praxis for e.g.the students? Normally an exchange is very expensiv.

One idea of ICS is that parents save from the beginning of their children‘s school time at the school at 10 euro per month per child. After 10 years there will be enough money to pay for insurance and the flight ticket frorm e.g. from Cape Town to Vancouver Canada, for a half year of student exchange. The parents of the students will take the student from the partner family into their family life. It is not a must, but an option for the students.

Last words:

The concept of ICS-Christian-School-Founding implements many new ideas, you will find them on the page at the document: advantages.

 It is based on the newest insights of neuro schience, pestallozi, unesco pisa insights, the paper of Brothy and some proven concepts.

 The idea is to establish in the future; at an ICS school, a family education centre, where the school is located at one place together with kindergarten, doctors, psychologist, speech therapists, ergotherapists etc. The reason, especially in big cities, is that parents do not have to drive very far, everything is located in one building. It makes life much easier.

Who can use the concept?

Everybody can use the concept and the webpage, but the member schools have to use the pedagogic Concept and the ideas in the paper advantages almost 90 percent. The main aspects of the Pedagogic Concept part one and the ideas of the paper advantages should be used. There you will find the essentials of the ICS schools, its worth to take a look at!