

INDONESIAN A.C.E. Newsletter



Understanding Christian Education is the key.



An 'Operator' Mindset

McDonalds and Starbucks are some of the best operators in the franchise world. One can go to any of their outlets anywhere in the world, and one can experience the same sophistication, cleanliness, comfort, touch, taste, elegance and charm.

The same should be expected of schools using A.C.E. anywhere in the world. Students should be able to experience the same learning, discipline, attain similar masterly level, character qualities and wisdom.

If schools using A.C.E. and homeschoolers have the same 'operator' mindset, having the same dedication, commitment, and obedience to the procedures and standards that are required of them, they will rise up to produce 'world-class' students that are disciplined, have critical thinking skills, godly character and wisdom.

A.C.E. does not always bring change in Character

Many are drawn to A.C.E. because it has character training as part of its program. Unfortunately, many homeschoolers and schools fail to realize this benefit. The question is WHY?

Character is trained and not taught. Character training is embedded in the A.C.E. program; in the procedures as prescribed in the manual. However, many users do not follow the procedures, and consequently, cannot obtain the benefit they seek.

ICCE is Comparable to Cambridge

Comparable	Equivalent	As Good
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Students in Indonesia who use A.C.E curriculum materials can gain an International Certificate of Christian Education (ICCE) that is comparable to Cambridge A Levels.

In 2011, the ICCE Advance (Academic) Certificate, was independently assessed by the National Recognition Information Centre to the United Kingdom (UK NARIC) with result that "this certificate may be considered to be comparable to the Cambridge International Examinations Advance Level standard'. (UK NARIC letter, 21 Dec 2011)



Recruiting Supervisors

The A.C.E. program is uniquely designed in that it is both an academic program as much as it is a system. What criteria should we use when looking for supervisors?

Mature, Disciplined and Teachable

The obvious criteria are Christians who are mature in the Lord, teachable, and have a high level of discipline.

'Operator' Mindset

A.C.E. is a program of learning which requires a supervisor to have an appropriate 'operator' mindset which follows the rules and procedures. In this aspect, many who have been teaching in the other methodologies tend to think only academically, and usually do not understand how an 'operator' should function.



Building Character

Many who become teachers tend to be teachers of subject matter: Mathematics, Science, Languages, etc. Few teachers are aware that they are also to be teachers of character. Consequently, they are less patient since they tend to think in terms of academic understanding and less in terms of character building. It is much easier to teach academics than to build character.

Educating the Whole Child

A.C.E. is in the business of educating the whole child. Staff of schools using the A.C.E. program and home-schoolers need to be instructed in the basic knowledge and skills in educating children.

Programs such as "Growing Kids God's Way" by Gary Ezzo help academic teachers to realize that there is a lot more than just teaching subject matter.





Do Parents think Academically or Biblically?

Many Christian parents are dedicated to bringing their children to Sunday school. They believe it is important that children are raised to know the Bible and to know God. Yet many Christian parents send these same children to other schools that are not Christian.

Some parents think schools are to develop their children academically, and satisfied that two hours of Sunday school a week is sufficient to learn about Him and His Words.

C. S. Lewis wrote, "Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil".

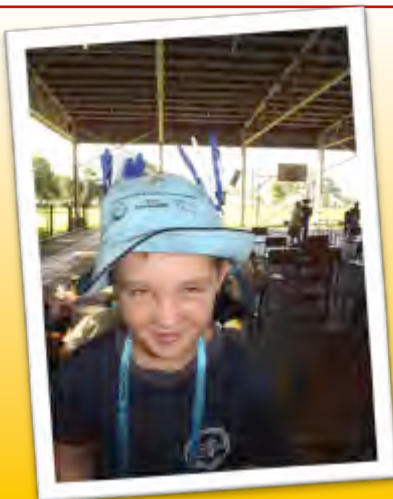
Or as Theodore Roosevelt once put it, "To educate a child in the mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."

Education of course is not value-neutral.

Someone's worldview and values will always be pushed. We have witnessed over the past century or so the steady expulsion of Judeo-Christian values, replaced by those of the secular humanists.

The ICCE General (Academic) and the ICCE Advanced (Academic) Certificates have received official recognition by UK NARIC, as certificates that are comparable to Cambridge International Examinations. ICCE Certificates make use of A.C.E. curriculum materials. A.C.E. curriculum materials are designed to assist students towards academic success. As a Bible-based curriculum, the A.C.E. curriculum components of the ICCE provide for the educational aspirations that parents have their children with a distinctive Christian emphasis and influence. Parents should be satisfied.

It's time to think biblically about education.



Education Wars: The Battle for Our Children

Vladimir Lenin boasted, "Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted."

Charles Francis Potter, another signatory to Humanist Manifesto put it, "Education is thus a most powerful ally of Humanism, and every American public school is a school of humanism. What can the theistic Sunday-schools, meeting for an hour once a week, and teaching only a fraction of the children, do to stem the tide of a five-day program of humanistic teaching?"

Why A.C.E. is the solution?

Many students fail to learn adequately

Conventional school requires students to obtain only 51% to pass their exams. Students who go through schools without sufficient understanding will graduate without sound thinking skills and understanding. They have not passed High School, they merely move from one grade to the next.



Mastery Learning

The A.C.E. program requires students to have mastered their learning by getting them to sit for many tests (called Check Ups) to reinforce learning, a Self Test to again reinforce the learning of the earlier tests, and obtain a minimum of 90%, and a final test that requires students to obtain 80% or more.

Class not Individual

Conventional schools think in terms of a class. Their teachers teach in order to complete the syllabus assigned to them at the end of each class.

The teachers' primary task is to teach the class and not the individual. He/she will not be able to make sure that every one understands the lesson.



Teach the Individual

A.C.E. believes education must be designed to suit the individual. God made each of us different academically, even though we may be of the same age. So the program is paced at the individual's ability and not the teachers. Consequently, students learn at their individual speed. In A.C.E., the opportunity to succeed is available to every student.



Christian Schools are more similar to Islamic or Catholic schools than to Jewish school

The tradition of Jewish education goes back to biblical times. One of the basic duties of Jewish parents is to provide for the instruction of their children. The obligation to teach one's children is set forth in the first paragraph of the [Shema Yisrael](#) prayer: "Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day. Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol on your forehead; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and your gates." (Deut 6:6-9).

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 instructs Christian parents to educate children in the Word of God. Christian schools differ to the Jewish schools in that the former is an academic institution that adds Bible studies to its curriculum,

whereas the latter is a religious school that adds academic studies to its program.

Christian schools that adopt the Indonesian National Curriculum are more like Islamic and Buddhist schools since they are also national schools, and differs only in their religious subject. Some schools provide more Christian content, but as long as they are using the National Curriculum, they are at best similar in many ways to Muslim, Buddhist, or government school that use the same syllabus. Their students use the same textbooks, do the same syllabus, have similar knowledge, and so think alike. Except of course, they differ in their faith.

There are many Islamic religious schools that add academic content to their program without using National Curriculum. If these Pesantren or Islamic schools can do that and their students can enter local universities, Christian schools should consider doing the same. It is tragic that students have gone to Christian schools for 12 years, yet their thinking is similar to those from other schools.



Entry to local Uni . . .

Gaining entry to any Indonesian universities is possible even without attending a national school. In Indonesia, there are three pathways to university.

1. Register in a national school that uses the National Curriculum.
2. Undertake PAKET ABC exams – many International schools use this pathway.
3. One student that did her homeschooling with A.C.E. New Zealand, submitted her certificate to DikNas Pusat in Sudirman, Jakarta. Her A.C.E certificate was legalized or 'disetarakan' and she gained entry without sitting for any local government exams.



Dennis Prager put it in his recent book, 'Still the Best Hope':

"Just as the purpose of Christian seminaries is to produce committed Christians, the primary purpose of most Western universities is, consciously or not, to produce committed secular leftists. The major difference between them is that Christian seminaries declare their purpose, and Western universities do not."

A.C.E. Activities in Indonesia

- A.C.E. Principal & Supervisor Training 3rd to 9th July 2013 at BSD, Serpong.
- ICCE Coordinators & Moderators Training 23rd to 25th July 2013 at Wesley Pelita Bangsa School, Pluit, Jakarta
- A.C.E. Music Drama Performance 7th Nov 2013, Jakarta.
- Indonesian Educators Conference 8th to 9th Nov 2013, Jakarta.
- Indonesian Student Convention 9th to 14th April 2014, Puncak, Bogor.
- South Pacific Student Convention, 30th Nov to 5th Dec 2014, Sydney.



A.C.E. contacts in Indonesia:

SCEE website : www.scee.edu.au

SCEE Indonesian Coordinators: Janto & Ester Djaja

SCEE Indonesian contact: janto.sceeindonesia@gmail.com

SCEE Indonesian office:

Jalan Raya Kencana Loka No.3, Sektor 12, BSD, Serpong,
Tangerang Selatan, Indonesia 15318. Telp: 021 75876705.