Religious instruction

Queensland state schools embrace a multitude of cultural, religious and non-religious beliefs. Under the <u>Education (General Provisions) Act 2006</u>, schools are to provide Religious Instruction (RI) if approached by a faith group seeking to provide RI and students of that faith attend the school.

RI informs students about the beliefs and values of a particular religion. It is delivered by volunteers of a faith group using instructional materials approved by that faith group. RI is required to be consistent with legislation and Department of Education policies and procedures.

All RI instructors must hold a blue card and participate in compulsory Student Protection and Code of Conduct training. RI instructors are only entitled to deliver the RI program outlined below. A school staff member will be present during the delivery of RI.

Participation in RI is not compulsory. Any student (except Prep students) may participate in RI if a parent has provided written instructions to the school. Students are allocated to RI based on information provided by parents on the completed Application for student enrolment unless other written instructions have been provided to the school.

Note: This consent remains in effect unless the parent informs the school otherwise in writing.

A description of the RI available is provided below.

Christian Religious Instruction

Participating faith groups: Local Christian Churches come together to offer Christian RI on a cooperative and non-denominational basis. These local churches may, amongst others, include Anglican, Australian Christian Churches, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Brisbane Chinese Alliance, Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches and Uniting Churches.

Authorised programs

Year 1-6: God Space

For further detail please click here.

Aims and goals

The aims and goals of Christian RI are:

 to inform students about the basic beliefs of the Christian faith from a nondenominational perspective.

- To give students opportunity to question, explore and discover faith and Christian values for themselves.
- To promote the spiritual development and wellbeing of students

Lesson structure: Lessons will typically run for 30 minutes per week.

For further information please view the departments <u>Religious instruction policy statement</u>.

Other instruction

Students who are not participating in RI will be provided with other instruction in a separate supervised location. Other instruction must relate to part of a subject area already covered in class and may include:

- personal research and/or assignments
- revision of class work such as creative writing or literacy and/or numeracy activities
 which could include online programs currently accessed by the students of that school
 (i.e. Study Ladder, Reading Eggs)
- wider reading such as independent reading appropriate to the student

Parents will be advised of any changes to the RI and other instruction programs to ensure they are able to make an informed decision on their child's participation.

(This document is part of a suite of <u>Religious instruction policy statement</u> supporting documents provided by the Department of Education for use in Queensland state schools.

Religious Instruction commencement dates and participating Year levels will be communicated to all families at the commencement of each academic school year.