

BELLEVUE PARK STATE SCHOOL

October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to inform you about the religious instruction (RI) arrangements in 2023/24. If you wish to make any changes to your current preferences regarding your child's participation in RI or other instruction, please complete the bottom section of this form. If there are no changes to be made, there is no need to return the form to the school.

Queensland state schools embrace a multitude of cultural, religious and non-religious beliefs. Under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*, schools are to provide RI each week 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.

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 given consent and indicated a religion on the *Application for Student Enrolment Form* or in other written advice to the principal. A parent, regardless of their own faith (if any), may choose to give consent for their child to participate in one of the RI programs listed below.

Any child not participating in RI, or whose nominated religion is not represented within the RI program/s at the school, will receive other instruction by a qualified member of school staff in a separate location during the time RI is held. Other instruction will relate to subject areas that have already been covered in class.

At any time, parents may provide written instruction to the principal to change their preference for their child to participate in or be withdrawn from RI. If a parent does not update their consent by completing and returning this form, their previous written instructions to the school will continue to apply.

The faith groups that provide religious instructors to deliver the program at our school are listed below:

Arrangements for programs	Name of RI program	Delivery details
<p>CHRISTIAN FAITH GROUP COOPERATIVE PROGRAM: A common program of Religious Instruction in this school under the terms of the provision Religious Instruction (RI) in school hours in Qld State Schools as legislated in the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 and the Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2017, and to work cooperatively together and on behalf of each other as required. Christian Faith groups including - Anglican Church, Baptist Church, Australian Christian Churches Brethren Church, Uniting Church, Catholic Church, Church of Christ, Presbyterian Church, Reachout Church, Lutheran Church, Salvation Army, Adventist Church, Apostolic Church, Reformed Church, International Network Churches.</p>	<p>Year 1 "Beginning With God" Years 2 & 3 "Infant Connect" Years 4&5"Lower Primary Connect" Year 6 "Upper Primary Connect" Year 6 alternative "Big Questions" All programs can be viewed on cepconnect.com.au Other information can be viewed on www.christianri.org.au</p>	<p>Lessons usually commence Week 4, Term 1 and conclude Weeks 8 or 9, Term 4. The duration of lessons is 30minutes weekly. At Bellevue Park SS, this occurs in the classrooms. A Student Activity Book is provided. Outline of the lesson structure - Christian RI may involve a variety of up-to-date teaching methods including storytelling, music, drama, games, quizzes, video clips and puppet shows. Program resources are written by professional educators and are age appropriate.</p>



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The aims and objectives of the Christian Religious Instruction program are below for your information.

- (1) To inform the students about the basic beliefs of the Christian faith from a non-denominational perspective, with churches working together and on behalf of each other.
- (2) To provide an educationally sound Christian program which relates well to the age and experience of the student. The lessons aim to be interesting and engaging with reference to Bible stories and life-related topics with values explored and discussed.

Further details about our school's RI program/s and other instruction are available on the school's website. You may also wish to access the Department's RI policy statement available at <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/school-operations/ri-policy-statement.html> for further information.

The school will advise parents of child/ren participating in these programs if a faith group requires funds to cover the expense of materials used in RI.

You will also be notified of any changes to RI or other instruction.

If you would like further information about RI or other instruction at our school, or require assistance with completing the form below, please contact us on 07 5504 8222.

Your sincerely

Robyn Hutchins
BELLEVUE PARK STATE SCHOOL

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Please complete, sign and return this form to the school office or email it to 1925_office@eq.edu.au

Student Name: _____ Year Level: _____

RELIGION – RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

From Year 1, your child may participate in religious instruction if it is available.

If you tick 'No' or if the nominated religion is not represented within the school's religious instruction program, your child will receive other instruction in a separate location during the period arranged for religious instruction.

Parents/carers may change these arrangements at any time by notifying the principal in writing.

Do you want your child to participate in religious instruction?

Yes No

If 'Yes', please nominate the religion:

Parent/carer signature: _____ Date: _____

Privacy Notice

The Department of Education and Training (DET) is collecting the personal information requested in this form in order to:

- obtain lawful consent for your child to participate in religious instruction or other instruction;
- update school records where necessary.

The information will only be accessed by authorised school staff and will be dealt with in accordance with the confidentiality requirements of s.426 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (Qld) and the Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld).

The information will not be disclosed to any other person or agency unless it is for a purpose stated above, the disclosure is authorised or required by law, or you have given DET permission for the information to be disclosed.

