**School website, newsletter, parent handbook information**

The following information is recommended for publication on the school’s website under the Extra-curricular / Co-curricular tab (level 1) on the Religious instruction page (level 2), and in the school newsletter and parent handbook, when religious instruction is facilitated at the school. This information must be reviewed and updated as required and at least annually.

Any change to the availability of religious instruction programs must be clearly communicated to parents in a timely manner that allows them to make a fully informed decision on their child’s participation.

**Recommended content for the school website/parent handbook**

*If a school does not offer religious instruction:*

Religious instruction is not currently offered at this school.

*If a school offers religious instruction:*

***Religious instruction***

Queensland state schools embrace a multitude of cultural, religious and non-religious beliefs. Under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*, 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*](https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/enrolment-in-state-primary-secondary-and-special-schools-procedure) 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.

[Contact the RI coordinator/s or religious instructor/s for the content required below. Add a description for each type of RI offered at the school.]

**<Faith group> Religious Instruction**

Participating faith groups: [Delete if not a cooperative program, otherwise insert list of faith groups]

Authorised program: <Insert title>

Aims and goals: <Insert aims and goals of the program>

Lesson structure: <Insert description of lesson structure and amount of time per week>

For further information, including module and/or lesson descriptors visit: <Insert URL>

Parents of students participating in these programs will be advised if a faith group requires funds to cover the expense of materials used in RI.

***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. [Mathletics](http://www.mathletics.com.au/), [Reading Eggs](http://readingeggs.com.au/))
* wider reading such as independent reading appropriate to the student
* <if applicable insert other approved activities>.

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.

**Communicating a change to the religious instruction program**

*Option A – additional program*

Please be advised thata change to the religious instruction programs available at this school will occur as of <insert date>. From <insert date> an additional program will be available for students. This additional program will be the <insert program name> delivered by the <insert faith group>. It will be available during the regular time allocated for religious instruction, which is <insert day and time allocated for RI>.

Students will be automatically placed into this program if the school has written parental instructions for their child to attend this religious instruction program.

If you wish to change your previous written instructions or you wish for your child to attend this religious instruction program, please provide written advice to the school.

*Option B – conclusion of program*

Please be advised thata change to the religious instruction programs available at this school will occur as of <insert date>. From <insert date> the current RI program <insert program name> will be no longer be available for students. Students who currently attend this program will be reallocated to participate in other instruction. If parents wish their child to participate in one of the other currently provided RI programs, please refer to <insert URL to school website> and provide this advice in writing.

(This document is part of a suite of *Religious instruction policy statement* supporting documents provided by the Department of Education for use in Queensland state schools and available at [https://education.qld.gov.au/parents-and-carers/school-information/school-operations/policy-statement](https://mpe.education.qld.gov.au/parents-and-carers/school-information/school-operations/policy-statement))