

SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale

As a Catholic school, our Catholic Faith is the focus of our curriculum, our school and our community. Our faith permeates all aspects of our lives at Sacred Heart, and Religious Education invites our students to appreciate the Catholic Faith and to respect other faiths and world views which enriches our spiritual life.

Learning Principles

- To provide students with a high quality and integrated Religious Education program that reflects and complements the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- To provide students with an appreciation and deep understanding of the richness of the Catholic tradition
- To facilitate and deepen the partnership between the family, Sacred Heart Parish community and the school.
- To encourage an openness to religious questions and to a religious interpretation of the world.

Procedures

- The Religious Education Leader will coordinate the Religious Education program at our school.
- The program will be supported by adequate resources.
- Classroom teachers, supported by parents and members of the parish, will teach the program.
- Standards have been developed through extensive consultation with Religious Education Melbourne. They are based on the RE Curriculum Framework that promotes a Pedagogy of Encounter, which creates opportunities for integrating Religious Education and the Victorian Curriculum.
- The curriculum will be supported by learning progressions and learning descriptors from F to 6.
- The program will be planned throughout the year in alignment with our Inquiry focus and the Sacramental Program.
- As Religious Educators we have a responsibility to provide opportunities for students to experience a living faith through participation in prayer, liturgy and mass.
- We will provide regular exposure to the Scriptures and opportunities to proclaim the Scriptures through readings, responses, song and prayer.
- We will provide regular opportunities for all students to plan, prepare, present and participate in school/parish liturgies.
- We will support the Sacramental program by focussing on all sacraments as they are celebrated as relevant to the students.
- Our Sacramental Program for Baptised Catholic Students will consist of:
 - Reconciliation – Year 3
 - First Eucharist – Year 3
 - Confirmation – Year 6
- Religious Education will form part of the daily curriculum, culminating in a weekly time allocation of not less than 2.5 hours.

- Our Catholic faith will be integral to our day to day life.
- The knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that the program seeks to teach will take into account the varying ages of students, their differing stages of development and religious background.
- Our school will develop a systematic and planned approach that will provide our students with opportunities to explore the connection between other curriculum areas, reflection, prayer and action for the common good.
- Student achievement in the Religious Education program will be reported on individual student academic reports twice yearly.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Leadership Team in....

Feb 2017