Gumdale State School

Religious Instruction Consent

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) each week if approached by a faith group seeking to provide RI and students of that faith attend the school.

Religious Instruction 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.

Consent
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 school. Consent is sought though QParents.

A description of the RI available at Gumdale State School is provided below.

Christian Religious Instruction

- Participating faith groups: *Bayside Christian Ministers Association*
- Authorised program: *'Beginning with God'* and *'Connect'* by Christian Education Publications
- Aims and goals: 'Beginning with God' (Christian Education Curriculum for Year 1 students) / 'Connect' (Christian Education Curriculum for Year 2-6 students)
- Lesson structure: 30 minutes per fortnight
    - Lesson aim & outcomes
    - Memory verse
    - Introduction
    - Bible focus (optional suggested songs / resources)
    - Connections
    - Concluding prayer - optional participation
- For further information, including module and/or lesson descriptors visit: cepstore.com.au or cepconnect.com.au

Cost
Parents of students participating in these programs will be invoiced annually to cover the expense of materials used in RI. In 2026, the amount invoiced per student was $7.90. *Costs may vary slightly year to year.*

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 the school
- 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.

You may also wish to access the Department's RI policy statement for further information.