



Pallara State School

Religious Instruction Policy



Rationale:

Queensland state schools embrace a multitude of cultural, religious and non-religious beliefs and encourage students to grow and develop as a whole person, in particular, in beliefs, values and attitudes. State schools respect the background and beliefs of all students and staff by not promoting, or being perceived as promoting, any particular set of beliefs in preference to another.

Queensland state schools provide religious instruction in accordance with Chapter 5 of the [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 External link](#) (EGPA) and Part 5 of the [Education \(General Provisions\) Regulation 2017 External link](#) (EGPR) by making available up to one hour per week for the provision of [religious instruction](#) to students (except Prep students) who are members of a [faith group](#) that has approval to deliver religious instruction at the school.

**Religious Instruction (RI) is defined as a program of instruction approved and provided by a religious denomination or religious society to eligible students.

**Religious Instruction (RI) as the study of an approved curriculum relating to religion (eg Authority subject Study of Religion of Authority – registered subject Religion and Ethics)

Delivering a religious instruction program:

In accordance with s.28 EGPR, religious leaders approve the program of religious instruction to be used by their accredited representatives as religious instructors. The religious leaders are responsible for the quality of the religious instruction program that is to be delivered in schools and are required to screen their accredited representatives, provide them with ongoing support and training and ensure they are delivering only the [authorised program](#).

The religious leader (or leaders in a cooperative arrangement) nominates a [religious instruction coordinator](#) to manage and monitor the religious instructors and the delivery of the authorised program in a school.

Religious instructors are required to maintain accreditation with their faith group, have a current and valid [Blue Card](#) and deliver only the authorised program of the faith group.

As part of school-based induction, religious instructors are required to complete [Student Protection External link](#) and [Code of Conduct External link](#) training.

As defined in s.31 and s.32 EGPR, principals register the attendance dates and times of the religious instructors who attend the school and ensure religious instruction and [other instruction](#) are not conducted in the same classroom.

[Faith group publications](#) used for religious instruction are not to be accessible for other students and are to be securely stored or removed from the school premises at the completion of religious instruction.

The religious instructor is required to follow the advice and directives of the principal while on school premises.

Pallara State School (PSS) Religious Instruction Program

Students from Years 1 – 6 have the opportunity to participate in a Religious Instruction class once a term. This class focuses on the beliefs and values of the Protestant (Christian) religion. The class takes place during week 8 of each term and is broken up into Year 1-2 and Year 3-6. The class runs for approximately 45 mins.

Parents can choose for their children to participate in RI classes as part of the enrolment process and can elect for their child to be withdrawn from RI by informing the administration office / Principal in writing.

If a child does not participate in the RI classes, then alternative learning will be offered during the RI scheduled time.

This policy is to be reviewed every 4 years or if a departmental policy change is announced.