



# Elwood Primary School No 3942

Scott St. Elwood 3184  
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## **POLICY NO 17 : Special Religious Education**

Review: May 2010

### **PURPOSE**

1. To outline procedures for the provision of special religious education by external providers.

### **BROAD GUIDELINES**

1. The school adheres to DEECD guidelines as documented in Schools Reference Guide 3:22

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. Religious education is scheduled on the school timetable (30 minutes per week) where an accredited and approved instructor is made available by the relevant provider.
2. All potential instructors must provide documentation to the Principal, including a current Working with Children's Check, accreditation by their respective religious body and approval by DEECD. Appropriately accredited and approved religious instructors will provide a card or letter from either ACCESS Ministries, the Catholic Education Office, the United Jewish Education Board, or the World Conference on Religion and Peace.
3. A qualified teacher is required to remain in the classroom with the instructor to fulfil the duty of care required by DEECD policy.
4. The Principal ensures that prescribed form (GC566-revised 2007) or at least the precise words contained therein, is used to obtain parent consent or refusal to allow a child to take part in religious education. Failure to return the form within 14 days is taken to be consent to the child taking part in religious education. Parents/guardians may, by letter, withdraw consent previously given. Parent/guardians advice remains in place until written advice to the contrary is received from them. The above is DEECD policy: see Schools Reference Guide
5. For students whose parents request that they be excused, the Principal makes alternative supervisory arrangements, depending on staffing and facilities. Every effort is made to segregate participants from non-attenders and this is communicated prior to the commencement of the RE program in March each year. Non-attenders are given an appropriate program by the supervising teacher.
6. Where the agreed Christian syllabus is taught, students are to be taught in their usual classes. However, students of Catholic, Jewish, Islamic or other recognised faiths providing approved instructors have religious education lessons provided separately for each faith.
7. Students may not leave the school during school hours for religious education held elsewhere.

### **RESOURCES**

1. Syllabus for each faith
2. Approved and accredited instructors
3. DEECD Schools Reference Guide 3.22

### **EVALUATION**

Policy to be reviewed annually