Special Religious Instruction

Religious Education classes will commence Friday February 19 for Year 3 to 6 students for semester one. Information about these sessions is attached. Participation is optional.

Parents have the choice for their child/children to attend either:-
1. Religious Education classes that support the Christian United Churches;
2. Bahai classes; or
3. Neither of the above.

One option is selected and will be maintained for the semester. Students not attending SRE will be supervised.

Please return the slip to the class teacher by Monday February 15th so that materials may be ordered.

Thank you for your support.

Tamara Doig
10th February 2016

-------------------------------

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION SELECTION 2016

My child __________________________ in year _____ room _____ will participate in

☐ United Churches Christian syllabus;
☐ Bahai
☐ None of the above.

Signature of parent/guardian ________________________________
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

YOUTH CARE CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All welcome

The YouthCARE Christian Religious Education (CRE) program is offered at Dalkeith Primary School in accordance with Western Australian State Legislation which allows a thirty minute lesson per week throughout Primary school. All children are welcome, regardless of religious or cultural background.

The Department of Education has approved the curriculum and recognises YouthCARE as the provider and trainer of the voluntary teachers. YouthCARE CRE teachers are trained to be respectful of the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of the children they teach.

The YouthCARE CRE Curriculum

Using stories from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, the YouthCARE CRE curriculum supports the Australian Curriculum and teaches students about the Christian beliefs and values which have profoundly shaped Australian culture.

Colourful and contemporary activity books use the literature of the Bible, games, drama, puzzles, discussion, art, film and music to teach the key beliefs, values and practices of the Christian faith – based on the teachings of Jesus.

Children develop the ability to express and discuss their thoughts and ideas as they explore behaviours and attitudes in line with the nine values for Australian schooling which include ... care and compassion, doing your best, honesty and trustworthiness, fair go, freedom, integrity, respect, responsibility, understanding, tolerance and inclusion.

The YouthCARE CRE curriculum is specifically designed to be implemented within the public education system, aiming to nurture and educate, not convert.

The YouthCARE CRE Curriculum and the Australian Curriculum

The YouthCARE CRE curriculum links directly with the core values and General Capabilities of the Australian Curriculum. These are ...

- Self-awareness  Social awareness  Understanding ethical concepts and issues
- Self-management Social management

A YouthCARE CRE leaflet accompanies this letter to supplement this information.

The YouthCARE CRE Teachers

CRE teachers are trained and accredited by qualified educators. They are also registered with the Department of Education and work separately to chaplains. Through YouthCARE CRE, students get the best possible opportunity to explore their own values, beliefs and ideas.

Further enquiries

More information about YouthCARE can be found on the website www.youthcare.org.au. A sample copy of the material can be viewed in the School Office if required. Please complete the attached participation slip for your child and return to the School Office.
Bahá’í Special Religious Education Classes

The Peace Pack

Bahá’í SRE Classes are being offered at Dalkeith Primary School
to run concurrently with Christian SRE. All students, regardless of religious or cultural
background are welcome to attend.

The Curriculum

The curriculum, called *The Peace Pack*, is based on the teachings of Bahá’u’lláh, the founder of the
Bahá’í Faith. Bahá’u’lláh’s teachings centre on unity and the building blocks for world peace. The
teachers, who are trained volunteers registered with the Department of Education, use ‘hands-on’ activities like craft, drama
and music to teach the curriculum.

The Development of Character

One of the main purposes of Bahá’í education is to help students grow spiritually. This largely means the development of good
qualities or virtues. Virtues such as kindness, honesty, love and courtesy, which are the building blocks of character, are
explored in depth. Bahá’ís believe that every child is a storehouse of virtues waiting to be developed. By noticing when a child
is practising a virtue, and by encouraging a child to practise the virtue, we support the child in his or her spiritual development.
The development of spiritual qualities, or virtues, in individuals is the foundation of a peaceful world.

The Unity of Faiths

Another purpose of Bahá’í religious education is to foster in students the understanding of the unity of the different faiths. The
students learn that the world’s faiths are like chapters of one book – the title is different but the story continues. The other
major faiths of the world, such as indigenous spirituality, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism and Islam are briefly
covered and students learn about them from a Bahá’í perspective. The teaching of virtues is like a golden thread of
commonalty that runs through them all.

A Peaceful World

In addition, the students explore universal principles that lay the foundation for a peaceful world as taught by Bahá’u’lláh. Some of these are: that we are all one human family, no matter our colour, race, education, or nationality; promoting unity and
valuing diversity; the equality of women and men; the need for the elimination of all forms of prejudice; caring for our
environment and the skills of peaceful problem solving through consultation.

Inner Peace

The students learn that peace in the world begins with inner peace and that prayer, meditation and service to humanity will
help them along this path.

Independent Thinking

One of the fundamental principles of Bahá’í education is to facilitate the development of children’s capacity to think,
independently and objectively, and actively seek truth by this means. Thus, Bahá’í education does not seek to convert or
indoctrinate. Students are encouraged to question and explore.

Further Information

An information folder about Bahá’í SRE Classes is available at the school office. For further information, please contact Agneta
Mavaddat on 9330 3058. For further information on the Bahá’í Faith, please visit www.bahai.org.au

Dalkeith PS CRE Permission Form

Christian Religious Education is offered at Dalkeith PS in accordance with Western Australian State legislation which allows a
thirty minute lesson per week throughout Primary school.

The Department of Education has approved the curriculum and recognises YouthCARE as the provider and trainer of the
voluntary teachers. CRE teachers are trained to be respectful of the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of the
children they teach.

Using Bible stories and contemporary examples, CRE explores values in a way that helps children understand their own and
others’ beliefs. The values taught through the program include the 9 Values for Australian Schooling.

Please fill in and return the attached permission slip for your child to participate in CRE in 2016.
More information about YouthCARE can be found on the website www.youthcare.org.au. A sample copy of the material can
be viewed in the School Office.

All students need written permission from their parents or guardian to attend SRE classes.
Permission slips need to be returned next Monday 15th February 2016