

1.1 John Pujajangka-Piyirn Catholic School Religious Education Policy

Rationale

At John Pujajangka-Piyirn Catholic School Christ is at the centre of our very being. God calls people together in Mulan to discover him in Love, Truth, Justice and Reconciliation. As we walk and work together with Jesus as our guide, the spirit reveals in us, and to others our identity in the church, as we grow in faith as members of God's Family.

It is the task of the adults in our community that students develop an understanding of this. As students wonder at the Creator and the Promise of Christian salvation they are able to form their Christian response.

While teachers at the school are responsible for the Religious education of students the responsibility of catechesis lies with the parents. It is only through working together that we may enable students to develop a full understanding of their Catholic faith.

Religious Education Guidelines

The Perth Archdiocesan Religious Education Guidelines are used at John Pujajangka-Piyirn Catholic School with teachers making adaptations to fit in with the local situation. When the Kimberley Companion (which is an adaption of the Perth Guidelines for Kimberley schools) is completed it will be the guidelines used by the school. The teaching process as outlined in the guidelines encompasses wondering at the Creator, the Promise of Christian Salvation and Christian Response.

In accordance with the CEO requirements, Religious Education is presented by teachers who are Catholics unless a special exemption is given by the Bishop. Ongoing courses and training workshops are made available through the course of the year, and the schools are notified about this.

Values and Outcomes

Outcomes

It is expected that all the Learning Area Outcomes outlined in the Perth guidelines will be addressed throughout the year through the different topics undertaken.

Values

Self acceptance and respect of self

Respect and concern for others and their rights.

Teaching/learning strategies

- Pray, listen and reflect on God
- Liturgy, Gospel stories, Dreamtime stories, other stories



- Group and independent work
- Stimulus pictures, art, children's own art
- Discussion, Role-play and drama, songs, poems
- Community involvement
- Mission collection

Assessment/ Evaluation

Assessments of children's knowledge in Religious Education can be gauged by enthusiasm, quality of work, observation, oral response, retelling, how they relate to and react with other children and adults.

It should be noted that while we may see some indications of faith development we are not able to assess this as we cannot see into children's hearts.

Organisation

Religious Education permeates the class and school atmosphere

- Classroom teacher adapts the CEO guidelines and the Kimberly companion for the Aboriginal culture of Mulan
- Taught in class groups
- School comes together for celebrations
- On average:

Pre-Primary - 1	140 Minutes per week
Years 2 to 7	150 Minutes per week
Secondary	180 Minutes Monday –Friday
- The whole school comes together for an R.E. lesson based on one of the readings of the week once a week.
- Church Leaders give a lesson once a week based on the topic being studied.

Family/Community Involvement

Parental and other community members are the PRIME educators and are responsible for

- The sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist
- Reading/presenting of stories in own language
- Playing music
- Organising liturgies

It is envisaged that from 2004 onwards parents and Church Leaders will take a more active role in the Religious Education program in the school.



Prayer

Prayer is an essential part of our relationship with God and should permeate all aspects of school life. We are committed to

- Daily class prayer
- Prayer at assemblies
- Prayer tables in each classroom
- Exposing students to a wide range of types of prayer e.g., meditative, thanksgiving, song, petitions

School Liturgy

- The School supports community liturgical celebrations, eg Specified funerals, Ash Wednesday,
- School liturgies once a term and to celebrate special occasions. Eg commissioning mass, John Pujajangka-Piyirn School Feast

Sacramental Program

- The Sacramental Program is co-ordinated by the Church leaders with support from the school.

Resources

- Bible (Good-News, Dramatised)
- Community people
- Perth CEO guidelines, Kimberly Companion (adaptation of CEO guidelines)
- Church songbook
- Materials in the RE cupboard
- AV material and literature
- The created world
- Music
- Teaching assistants
- Stories from own, and other communities
- The student's own culture

Year created : 2003

Minor review : 2004

Major review :2006

