

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Purpose

Queensland state schools values the diverse cultural, religious, and non-religious beliefs of our students and their families. We support students to grow as whole individuals, developing their beliefs, values, and attitudes, while respecting the rights of all members of our school community.

This policy outlines how religious instruction (RI) is implemented at Ormeau Woods State High School in accordance with the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (EGPA), the Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2017 (EGPR), and the Queensland Department of Education's Religious Instruction Policy Statement.

Principles

- Ormeau Woods State High School does not promote, or appear to promote any particular belief system in preference to another.
- RI is provided in a way that respects the rights and diversity of all students and families.
- RI is available to students (except Prep) whose families have nominated a faith group on enrolment or in writing.
- Students not participating in RI will be provided with other instruction.

Establishing Religious Instruction

- Religious leaders wishing to deliver RI must apply in writing to the principal.
- The principal may approve single-faith or cooperative arrangements if students of that faith group are enrolled at the school.
- The principal approves accredited representatives of the faith group as religious instructors.

Delivering Religious Instruction

- Religious leaders approve the RI program to be used by accredited representatives.
- Religious leaders are responsible for program quality, ongoing training and ensuring instructors deliver only the authorised program.
- Each faith group (or cooperative arrangement) nominates an RI coordinator to oversee delivery at the school.

Religious instructors must:

- hold current accreditation with their faith group
- maintain a current Blue Card
- complete school-based induction, including Student Protection and Code of Conduct training
- follow the principal's directions while on school premises.

Administration and Records

- Principals register the attendance, dates, and times of all RI instructors.
- RI and other instruction are not conducted in the same classroom.
- Faith group publications are only accessible during RI and are securely stored or removed from the school at the completion of each session.

Student Placement and Participation

- Students (except Prep) are placed in RI or other instruction based on enrolment information or written instructions provided by parents/carers.
- Parents/carers may withdraw their child from RI at any time by notifying the principal in writing.
- Alternative meaningful instruction will be provided for students not attending RI.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or earlier if required, to ensure alignment with legislation and Department of Education policy.



Matthew Silcock
Principal
2 September, 2025