



Special Religious Education Participation Letter

A feature of the public education system in NSW is the opportunity to provide time in class for education in ethics, faith and morality from a religious or non-religious perspective at the choice of parents. Special Religious Education (SRE) is education in the beliefs and practices of an approved religious persuasion by authorized representatives of that persuasion. SRE was previously known as 'scripture'.

In our school context, our SRE providers are not available on a weekly basis and instead visit our school once a term. The program includes bible readings, songs and drama based around significant religious days throughout the year. All staff have a Working with Children Check and are affiliated with local churches. They deliver a message based on general Christian principles, rather than a specific religious denomination. Each assembly is supervised by our school staff.

A parent/carer may at any time notify the school in writing that they wish to change their decision about their child's participation in SRE. Students will continue the same arrangement as the previous year, unless a parent/carer has requested a change in writing.

For more information about Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education in Ethics (SEE), including the list of approved providers, please visit: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/religion-and-ethics>

Students not attending SRE are given supervised alternative meaningful activities based around our Tree of Values Program.

The following options are available at Charlestown East PS.

1. Special Religious Education which involves an assembly run by SRE providers once a term

OR

2. You do not wish for your child to attend SRE. Your child will participate in alternative meaningful activities.

Please choose **one** option on the slip below and return to your child's class teacher by Friday 18th March.

✂ _____

SRE Participation

Please return this slip to the class teacher by Friday 18th March, 2019

☐ Special Religious Education which involves an assembly run by SRE providers once a term

OR

☐ Please check this box if you do not wish for your child to attend SRE. Your child will participate in alternative meaningful activities.

Student name: _____ Class: _____

Signature of parent/carer: _____ Date: _____