Parent overview of the Special Religious Instruction (Christianity) Instructional Material

FOUNDATION LEVEL

This provides an introduction to the main beliefs and tenets of the Christian faith within the context of a young child.

The students are introduced to the Christian belief that there is a God who cares for the world and its people and that the Bible is the book on which Christian beliefs are based. The theme of care is introduced through stories from the Old Testament, through stories of Jesus, through the concept of the church as the Christian community and through the events of Easter and Christmas.

YEAR 1/2 LEVEL

At this level, the themes and beliefs introduced at the Foundation level are further developed and explored. At this level, the students learn about the qualities of Jesus. They hear about what God is like and how this is communicated to people. The students consider what might be learned about forgiveness from some stories from the Bible. They learn that they have a role to play in their community.

YEAR 3/4 LEVEL

The material at this level draws on the same biblical material as presented at the Year 1, 2 level but develops the concepts further as appropriate to this age group. The students investigate what Jesus did and what may be learned about Him from these actions. They examine that natural world as an amazing place. Hope as a Christian concept based on the actions of God is introduced. The events and characters of Easter and Christmas, and the church as a community of Christian believers are explored in more detail.

YEAR 5/6 LEVEL

Material for this level is explored from the perspective of issues. The issues that are explored include friendship, making a difference, communicating, communities, hope and purpose. The students are encouraged to make connections between the issues at hand and the biblical material that is examined, drawing their own conclusions about what is important and helpful to them.