

ST EUPHEMIA COLLEGE

K-12



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROCEDURES

2014

Religious Education - Procedures

Introduction

These Procedures should be read in conjunction with the St Euphemia College Religious Education Policy.

Procedures

St Euphemia College was founded under the auspices of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia and as such is committed to providing and promoting an Orthodox Ethos and Environment for all members of the College community.

Religious Education is a lifelong process and not limited to the classroom experience. All programs are aimed to promote spiritual development and progress. The College aims to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to practise their faith and live their lives in an increasingly changing, secular, multicultural and pluralistic society while strictly maintaining Orthodox Beliefs and Traditions.

Teachers K-12 will contribute to the development of teaching programs and resources in partnership with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia and apply these in the classroom setting.

Promoting Spiritual Development

This will be achieved in the following ways:

- the provision and delivery of an inspiring classroom academic program
- opportunities for prayer and reflection through participation in the Sacraments and prayer services of the Church.

St Euphemia College seeks to promote spiritual development by:

- ensuring that the school day begins and ends with the communal saying of prayer
- ensuring that students' fasting requirements are supported with the provision of appropriate foods in the school canteen
- maintaining a community of spiritual growth and support team in partnership with the Parish Priest/Chaplain to assist in spiritual progress
- aligning available resources to programs designed to abide by and achieve Archdiocesan goals
- applying programs which support whole school approaches to achieve spiritual development
- incorporating staff induction and development strategies into school management plans that empower all teachers to teach in an Orthodox manner
- including professional learning for all teachers, regardless of subject area, on how to teach in an Orthodox way
- including a spiritual/religious focus in all induction programs
- providing opportunities for students to practise Christian virtue through organised charitable collections and events
- providing opportunities for communal worship as both a school community and as part of the Body of the Church
- providing students the opportunity to participate in the Sacraments of the Church
- use the special section in the School Diary for prayers and awareness of the cycles of the Orthodox Liturgical Calendar
- incorporating an Orthodox perspective in all School programs.

Time Allocation

The Primary School allocates 1 period per week to a Religious Education lesson. This is taught by the classroom teacher with some visits by the Parish Priest/Chaplain. Time is also set aside daily for morning and afternoon prayers.

The High School allocates 3 periods per fortnight of Religious Education for all classes from Year 7 to Year 10. While these lessons involve a formal program (Board Endorsed for Stage 5), their aim is not simply the provision of knowledge but also the empowering of students to think and act in an Orthodox way. Time is also set aside daily for morning and afternoon prayers.

Students and teachers also attend

- Church
- religious ceremonies/feast days
- Communion
- religious retreats
- Confession.