



Education
Public Schools

Dr Darrin Morgan & Mr Graeme Macpherson
NSW Co-operations Directors
Fairness in Religions in School
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RML17/3247

Dear Dr Morgan & Mr Macpherson

I write in response to your letter of 19 September 2017, to the Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Education, regarding Special Religious Education (SRE) in NSW Government schools. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

As you may be aware, schools are required to use information provided in the enrolment form to set up SRE classes. If a religious persuasion is provided on the enrolment form and available at the school, then the student will be placed in that SRE program.

If 'no' religion is written, or where there is no nominated persuasion or the persuasion is unavailable, then the school should send a SRE participation letter to parents/caregivers which outlines the options available for SRE including the option to withdraw.

Parents/caregivers may at any time notify the schools in writing that they wish to withdraw their child from SRE. Students are to continue in the same arrangement as the previous year, unless a parent/caregiver has requested a change.

Thank you for your comments on the SRE enrolment process. Your comments have been noted.

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul Wood

A/Director, Early Learning and Primary Education

29 September 2017