

Parents in public schools have the right to have their children receive instruction in their preferred religious persuasion, where authorised teachers of that persuasion are available.

SRE programs are available at the school and are run by authorised volunteers of approved religious persuasions. Currently, Chatswood High School provides Christian SRE (Combined Churches and Catholic) which is offered to all students in Years 7 – 10.

SRE Christian (Combined Churches) classes involve open discussion and philosophical debate. Students will gain a basic outline of Christian beliefs, develop biblical literacy, interact with other belief systems and undertake studies of contemporary issues in relation to the Christian faith. Local Christian Churches (under the auspices of REACH Inc.) employ a teacher at the school to teach Christian (Combined Churches) SRE in fortnightly classes for student in Years 7-10. REACH website: <http://www.reachinschools.org/> SRE Christian (Combined Churches) co-ordinator: Matthew Pettett: matthew.pettett7@det.nsw.edu.au

SRE Christian Catholic classes are offered in the format of two seminars per term which are taught by trained catechist teachers. The local Catholic church of Our Lady of Dolours in Chatswood employ a Catholic SRE coordinator to serve at the school teaching with other volunteers for students in Years 7-11. The seminar material and discussion is an age appropriate authorised Catholic SRE curriculum "Walking with Jesus, Pathways of Discipleship", approved by Bishop Peter Comensoli of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay. SRE Christian Catholic contact: office@chatswoodparish.org.au or phone: 9410 9000

In addition, whole year or whole school combined Christian seminars are organised in Term 1 and Term 4 to celebrate Easter and Christmas.

A parent/caregiver may withdraw their child from SRE at any time. If you do not wish your child to attend any of the school's SRE programs please nominate the 'withdraw from SRE' option below and return this form to the school office.

Where a withdrawal form is not returned, the school will include your child in Christian SRE. At any time you have the right to change your SRE nomination or to withdraw your child from the nominated lessons by returning a withdrawal form (see below) to the front office. Students will continue in the same arrangement from year to year unless a parent/caregiver has requested a change. Additional forms are available at the student office.

Students who do not take part in the program will be expected to do productive private study and will be fully supervised. Regular classes do not run in conflict with SRE.

Please choose the SRE program you wish your child to attend, or indicate you wish to withdraw your child from the school's SRE programs.

• **I wish my child to participate in:**

SRE Christian (Combined Churches)
(once per fortnight)

SRE Christian Catholic
(seminars twice per term)

OR

• **I wish to withdraw my child from SRE**
*(Student **will not** take part in Special Religious Education – SRE)*

Withdraw from SRE

Student name _____ Class Year _____

Signature of parent _____ Date _____