



# OPTIONAL RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AT IRONSIDE STATE SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As part of a holistic education, the opportunity to conduct weekly classes in Religious Instruction (RI) is provided in the curriculum by Education Queensland for Grades 1-6. This is a completely optional program and parents may also choose for their child not to attend. At Ironside weekly classes of 25 minutes are held on Fridays catering to the denominations listed below. Students are expected to attend classes each Friday unless notified in writing by parents to change religion or to not attend. If you nominated a religion on your child's enrolment form, they will be enrolled in the RI class of that religion, if available. All students enrolled in RI last year will automatically continue to be in the same RI option the next year. All parents are able to opt their child into or out of RI at any time by writing to the school administration ([admin@ironsidess.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@ironsidess.eq.edu.au)). A brief description of each affiliation is provided below for your information. Please nominate your preference for this optional class by ticking your selection in the table below. You do not need to belong to a faith group to enrol your child in RI.

Child 1: ..... Class:.....

Child 2: ..... Class:.....

Child 3: ..... Class:.....

### PLEASE SELECT AN OPTION BY TICKING THE BOX

<p><b>Non- Attendance</b> These students will continue classroom or specialist work in a supervised classroom or area.</p>	
<p><b>Buddhist</b> <i>Buddhist studies in English</i> is designed for Buddhist and Non-Buddhist students. The program will incorporate Buddhists belief and value systems – The Four Noble Truths, The Noble Eight-fold Path and The Five Precepts.</p>	
<p><b>Combined Christian</b> A group of 7 local Churches joins together to discuss the central teachings of the Christian faith under the banner of Combined Christian RI. The group is facilitated by the St Lucia Uniting Church. Other churches involved include St Lucia Bible Church; Chinese Christian Church St Lucia &amp; Taringa Baptist Church. You do not need to attend any of these churches or any church at all to come to these classes. Any child is welcome to join this group. The agreed aims of this group are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To enable an understanding of basic Christian ideas and the values that underpin them</li> <li>2. To note the worth of these values as contributing to positive individual and community living</li> <li>3. To enable skills in dealing with and reading sacred texts, in this case, The Bible</li> <li>4. To nurture children's spiritual side by giving informed answers to spiritual questions.</li> </ol> <p>Contact: Mrs Karen Grenning 0408493421, <a href="mailto:grenning@bigpond.net.au">grenning@bigpond.net.au</a></p>	
<p><b>Anglican</b> In Anglican Religious Instruction we talk about the bible and the beliefs of Christians. Questions are warmly encouraged and students are invited to approach the study of scripture mindful of their knowledge from other disciplines such as science, history and geography. Classes include stories, songs, craft, games, puzzles and discussion to help students engage in ways that are suited to their age level.</p>	
<p><b>Catholic</b> A team from the Catholic Church of Australia coordinates a religious education program for all Catholic students at the school. The teachers come from St Thomas Aquinas Church and the students at Ironside State School are invited to participate in the sacraments of reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation.</p>	
<p><b>Islam</b> In the name of Allah, the most Merciful, the most Kind. In Islam, the ideal role models that all Muslims love and respect are the Messengers and Prophets of Allah (Arabic word for God). The aim of Islamic RI classes is to inspire the young generation to develop noble characteristics of patience, truthfulness, trustworthiness, piety, love, strength, compassion and empathy. Join us on an interactive journey through the lives of the Prophets: Adam, Nuh, Houd, Salih, Ibrahim, Ibrahim, Ismail, Ishaq, Ya'qub, Yusuf, Moosa, Haroon, Dawud, Sulaiman, Yunas, Zakaria, Yahya, Isa (Jesus) and Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon them all). There are heaps of fun stories and interactive learning activities.</p>	

Mrs Jennifer Bairstow  
Deputy Principal