



**Rationale**

The achievement of the Island Catholic Schools' Mission is strongly supported by the provision of formal religious instruction and religious celebrations within the school.

**Policy**

A program of religious education, approved by the Bishop of Victoria, shall be taught in all schools. The religious education program is a part of the core curriculum in Catholic schools and compulsory for all students.

**Regulation**

1. All schools shall follow the program in Religious Education as set down by the Catholic Independent Schools, Diocese of Victoria.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Principal to:
  - assist teachers in the teaching of the Religious Education program and to request additional help for staff as required;
  - encourage in-service activities in Religious Education within the school.
3. All teachers must be prepared to co-operate in the establishment of a Christian community in the school.
4. Religion shall be taught by Catholic teachers unless at the discretion of the Principal and parish priest if it is felt that a non-Catholic teacher is sufficiently knowledgeable of Catholic doctrine to be able to teach religion. Prior to these arrangements being put in place, the Principal must inform the Superintendent and Religious Ed Coordinator.

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| Reference:       | Approved         |
|                  | Date Approved:   |
| Cross-reference: | Date(s) Revised: |