

5. Visiting groups, or speakers must:

- conform to Child Protection Policy and protocols
- understand the representative nature of SRE and be sensitive to other denominational beliefs and understandings of both students and other leaders.
- be aware that the students will be coming from a variety of backgrounds
- be sensitive to the different stages of learning development and learning styles
- not use the occasion to proselytise or give an evangelistic appeal
- receive a clear indication of what is expected from those who have invited them.

6. Promotion of local Church celebrations.

- Where there is agreement that local celebrations will be advertised, promotional material must be agreed to by all participating churches/committee members and the school.
- If a visiting group is involved it is not sufficient to only advertise the activities of the visiting group, eg. a handout could include all local Easter/Christmas celebrations/ services and times; combined local 'Sights and Sounds' event.

7. Evaluation of assembly.

- What form will the evaluation take? eg. questionnaire, discussion
- Who will be involved? local churches, SRE teachers, school staff, students
- Will those participating in the evaluation have the option of remaining anonymous?
- Who will receive a copy of the evaluation?

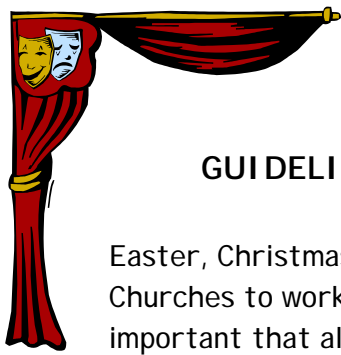


Guidelines for Christian SRE Assemblies



CCRESST
**Committee for Christian Religious Education in
Schools: Support & Training - Hunter Region**

(Affiliated with ICCOREIS (NSW) Inc)



GUIDELINES FOR RUNNING CHRISTIAN SRE ASSEMBLIES

Easter, Christmas and Education week offer opportunities for the Churches to work together in preparing a celebration. It is important that all churches involved in Special Religious Education (SRE) are invited to participate regardless of whether SRE is taught denominationally, joint-denominationally or both. It is advisable to nominate a small committee with representatives of all those religious persuasions teaching SRE in the school to ensure that the activity is inclusive.

An assembly or joint activity follows the same guidelines as a normal SRE class. The local churches are the authorising body and the assembly content must respect the views of the participating churches and parents. The school will need to be advised of the general content and organization of the assembly.

The combined assembly must be a genuine educational activity and is not to be used as an opportunity for an evangelistic appeal. Consideration must be given to developmental stages, understanding and learning styles of children during the preparation of the session. It may be advisable to have separate assemblies for infants and primary children.



The success of an assembly depends on good preparation and communication. The following suggestions could form the basis of

discussion prior to the preparation of an Assembly.

1. Authorisation.

All visiting speakers, presenters, team members and small group leaders must be properly authorised. Therefore all visitors involved in an assembly/seminar must have signed:

- a. A Declaration and Volunteer Engagement Form that complies with Department of Education and Training requirements
- b. Prohibited Employment Declaration. (Sometimes the school will require another PED form to be signed for their own records).

2. Determine the purpose of the assembly or seminar.

- The aim of the assembly must be clear and agreed to by all participating churches.
- At the conclusion of the event, an evaluation must be carried out to determine the extent to which aims have been achieved.

3. Content of the Assembly.

- All participating churches must be informed of and agree to the content of the assembly.
- The content must reflect the theological understandings of all participating churches.
- The content must be educationally sound using appropriate teaching techniques.
- Content includes: script, video, props, plot.

4. Assemblies involving visiting groups/speakers.

- Whichever religious persuasion arranges for visiting speakers or groups to come to the school should do so in agreement with the authorising body or committee.
- Visiting groups or speakers must present an outline of the session to the authorising body or committee and the school.