

#### 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 students come from a variety of backgrounds
- have had some instruction on small group leadership
- 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.
- For example a handout could include all local Easter/ Christmas celebrations/services and times; Combined local 'Sights and Sounds' event.

#### 7. Evaluation of seminar.

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



#### 8. Follow up (of students who "want to know more"):

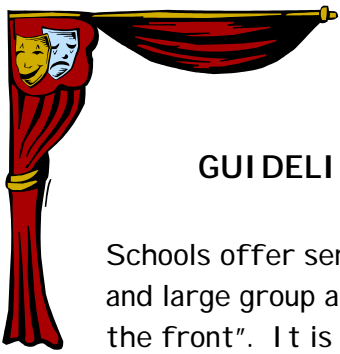
- Must be organised in advance
- Must be agreed to by the authorising body/committee.
- Must have the approval of the school

# Guidelines for Christian SRE Seminars



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

(Affiliated with ICCOREIS (NSW) Inc)



## GUIDELINES FOR RUNNING CHRISTIAN SRE SEMINARS

Schools offer seminars as educational events that may involve small and large group activities and discussions as well as “teaching from the front”. It is important that all churches involved in Special Religious Education (SRE) are invited to participate in the planning of the seminar regardless of whether SRE is taught denominationally, joint-denominationally or both. It is advisable to nominate a small representative committee (the “organizing committee”) to ensure that the activity is inclusive.

A seminar follows the same guidelines as a normal SRE class. The local churches are the authorising body and the seminar 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 seminar.

The combined seminar 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 event.



*The success of a seminar depends on good preparation and communication.* The following suggestions could form the basis of discussion prior to the preparation of a seminar.

### 1. Authorisation.

All visiting speakers, presenters, team members and small group leaders must be properly authorised. Therefore all visitors involved in a 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 its own records).

### 2. Determine the purpose of the seminar.

- The aim 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 Seminar.

- All participating churches must be informed of and agree to the content of the seminar.
- 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. Seminars involving visiting groups/speakers.

- Visiting speakers or groups are only invited to come to the school with the approval of the authorising body or organizing committee.
- Visiting groups or speakers must present an outline of the session to the authorising body or organizing committee and the school.