

## INTER-CHURCH COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS (NSW) Inc

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# MEDIA RELEASE 26.4.2017 SRE Review

- 1. We welcome the findings of the Review. It continues to affirm the important place of Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education and Ethics (SEE) in Public Education.
- 2. We look forward to working in partnership with the Department of Education around the Policies and Procedures for SRE and SEE.
- 3. In the interests of securing the future of SRE we will be working collaboratively with authorised Providers of all faiths to make SRE a strength of public education in NSW in a multi-cultural and multi faith environment.

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### NOTES ON THE RELEASE OF THE SRE REVIEW

- We welcome the release of the Report on the Review of SRE and SEE and trust in coming weeks and months it will provide rich information to ensure that SRE and SEE providers can implement continuous improvement in the way they resource and deliver quality SRE and SEE in NSW.
- Having SRE and SEE in schools is about providing:
  - o choices for families within a public school setting; and
  - o students with the opportunity to question, explore, and discover the faith of their family.
- A particular strength of the SRE and SEE timetable in NSW Public Education is the choice it offers parents in the formation of the faith of their family or Special Education in Ethics, or neither.
- We appreciate the independence of the Review and the government expenditure in providing a quality Review with the full support of SRE Providers.
- SRE Providers were pleased to be able to supply all of the information required to assist the Government, Education Minister and Department of Education with the Review process, the aim being to ensure the quality delivery of SRE well into the future.
- We acknowledge the scope of the Report about SRE and SEE and how both are valued by schools, parents, students, school communities and faith groups who acknowledge the contribution made to society with authorised curricula, trained SRE teachers and quality student and teacher resources and workbooks.
- Additionally, providers look forward to partnering with the Education Minister and the Department of Education to further strengthen the delivery of SRE and SEE.
- We are gathering a community group in support of Christian SRE at <a href="http://facebook.com/christiansrensw">http://facebook.com/christiansrensw</a>. We'd welcome your prayerful support there.