



# MARIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## PROCEDURE: **Religious Education**

Religious education is a specific part of the curriculum, sensitive to all cultures, and integrated into the total life of the school. Regular prayer has a vital place in the classroom, assemblies, and staff life.

Active participation in mass and liturgies is a regular feature of our school's religious education.

Our parish-based sacramental programme involves parents, school, and parish in a meaningful way.

At Marist Catholic School we fulfil the teaching mission of the Church by living and teaching the values of Jesus Christ.

### **Leadership**

The principal and the director of religious studies provide leadership and sound management in religious education.

- Regular meetings are held to focus on religious education.

### **Religious education curriculum**

The religious education programme is soundly managed and professionally delivered.

- The National Curriculum is implemented.
- Teaching is effective, creative, and meets the needs of individual students.

### **Integrated curriculum**

The teaching of religious education is integrated with other curriculum areas, especially those which include ethical issues, personal relationships, and sexuality education.

- The national curriculum is implemented and religious education is a compulsory subject at each level.
- The health programme reflects the Catholic special character of the school.
- Sexuality education is set in the context of the Church's teaching.

### **Resources**

The board of trustees makes financial provision for religious education and Catholic special character resources.

- The school makes appropriate use of Catholic Education advisory services and the religious education programme is well resourced.
- Staffing time is allocated, and resources given, to religious education as recommended by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (NZCBC).

### **Professional development**

The school provides opportunities for regular religious education, professional development and spiritual development for all staff.

- The school expects all teachers of religious education to be working towards a suitably approved qualification in line with the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference requirement for certification.
- In-school professional development is available at least once per term.
- Catholic Education Office courses are attended by all staff.

- Teachers are encouraged to complete the New Zealand Diploma in Christian Studies (Level 6) – Religious Education.
- Induction and support is provided to new staff.

### **Communication**

The school communicates with parents about religious education programmes.

- This is done on a regular basis through school newsletters.
- Parents/caregivers are expected to provide input at parent meetings or if the need arises.
- Religious education may be reported as part of each student's assessment and reporting.