



Bellingen High School

Special Religious Education Enrolment – Year 7

Special Religious Education (SRE) will be made available to all Year 7 students in 2020 at Bellingen High School. The subject is being delivered by the Waterfall Way Christian Education Committee (WWCEC) and being implemented in accordance with the NSW Department of Education Special Religious Education and General Religious Education Policy.

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/curriculum/schools/spec_religious/REimplementproced.pdf

Parents/Carers in public schools have the right to have their child receive instructions in their religious persuasion, where authorised teachers of that persuasion are available and parents have the right to choose not to have their child attend SRE. A parent/carer who chooses for their child **to participate** can return the attached consent slip, contact the school's Front Office or send a note in with their child at any time during the year. Children not doing SRE will be supervised by a teacher in a separate space and will be provided with meaningful activities such as reading, private study or completing homework. Department of Education policy documents and curriculum information for parents are available on the Bellingen High School website:

<http://www.bellingen-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

The Waterfall Way Christian Education Committee's vision for the program is to: "strengthen the outcomes of public education at our school and inform students of the faith practices, beliefs and values of the Christian Faith".

The Waterfall Way Christian Education Committee will employ an authorised person to teach SRE who will join the Bellingen High School staff and receive all necessary support to assist in the delivery of the subject in an engaging and meaningful way. Those students who participate in SRE will be offered one period every week.

Paul McGovern, President of Waterfall Way Christian Education Committee writing on behalf of the Committee said *"SRE scripture is a dynamic part of a student's educational experience. When done well, it brings students in contact with a values-based exploration of life that will help to shape them in a more responsible and assured worldview. Such a program can help them in their studies, in their life generally and in the school community. We have also witnessed situations where closer contact with the church community has provided a wonderful avenue for the school to draw on outside resources and strength in times of tragedy. Waterfall Way Christian Education Committee is looking forward to developing a positive and fruitful relationship with your school community."*

Churches currently members of WWCEC supporting SRE at Bellingen and Dorrigo High Schools are Anglican Parish of the Bellinger, House of Hope, Bellinger, Bellinger Valley Christian Gathering, Bellinger Uniting Church, Dorrigo Anglican Church, Dorrigo Uniting Church and Dorrigo Life Springs Church.

Parents/Carers choosing to enrol their child into SRE can complete this form and return it to the Front Office at any time during the year.

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I wish to **enrol my child** _____ into Special Religious Education.
(Name of Student)

I **wish** my child to attend **all** of the school's SRE programs provided by providers of SRE.

(Name of Parent/Carer)

(Signature of Parent/Carer)

_____/_____/_____
(Date)