

# FAQs

## Special Religious Education (SRE)

### **What is SRE?**

SRE stands for Special Religious Education. This means education in one specific religion rather than an overview on all world religions. In this case, non-denominational Christianity.

### **What work will my child miss out on if they do SRE?**

Core work is not completed in time-tabled classes while SRE is on. This is so students who choose SRE don't miss out or get left behind in any way. This is DoE policy, to ensure students do not have a conflict of choice.

### **What will my child be taught?**

SRE is taught from the WBCEA Discovery Curriculum, which is approved by the NSW Baptist Association. To learn more and to read a program outline please visit <https://nswactbaptists.org.au/>. Please be assured that sensitive political and ethical issues are not addressed in SRE and SRE teachers must always abide by DoE policy regarding sensitive topics.

### **Should my child go?**

It's completely up to you as a parent/carer. However, any student is welcome in SRE regardless of their faith or religious observance at home. SRE aims to give students an opportunity to ask meaningful questions about how faith impacts a person's beliefs, values and identity. It never tells students what they must believe or how they must think.

### **Who teaches SRE at HSPA?**

SRE lessons will be taught by Lysander Lawrence who has over 14 years of experience teaching SRE across the Hunter. Lysander also holds a bachelor of Theology as well as a Graduate Diploma in Child and Adolescent Development.

### **Does SRE cost anything? Or does the school pay for it?**

There is absolutely no cost to you or the school if your child engages with SRE. It is funded by local churches and individual donations. There is also no special equipment required for SRE classes.