

## **SCRIPTURE CLASSES IN SCHOOLS**

A specially developed scripture program is facilitated by volunteers of the Church of Holy Resurrection providing religious education to primary-aged Armenian students in our community schools as well as government schools.

The program focuses on a course of Biblical teaching from both the Old and New Testaments with outcomes-based teaching. It aims to build strong foundations highlighting Christian principles and morals in keeping with the faith of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

The volunteer facilitators are faithful members from the Church Bible Study groups and parishioners who devote their time and service each week to visit schools and enlighten children.

### **Special Religious Education**

The following information is provided as a requirement by the NSW Department of Education in the provision of Special Religious Education (Scripture) in government schools which is a voluntary program.

Scripture lessons complement the general education of children in the Armenian Apostolic Church faith.

The curriculum developed for and implemented in schools by the Armenian Apostolic Church is a Bible-based program founded on the stories, truths and principles of our Christian faith, in keeping with the teachings of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

The curriculum is designed to engage children in knowing God, understanding His love for us and developing a relationship with Him.

The curriculum is organised around a yearly program taking the children through a Bible journey to experience God's hand at work through the lives and stories as found in the Old and New Testaments. The three-year program is rotated in the fourth year.

Even though lessons each week are generally based on the same theme and similar outcomes, they are adapted and delivered with content that is age appropriate. Classroom activities to reinforce the day's teaching to Years 3 to 6 classes are tailored to provide deeper understanding of belief concepts.

There is an ongoing review of the curriculum every three to five years. Each lesson is reviewed and amendments are made where required.

Teaching notes are available to guide facilitators through the weekly lessons and age-appropriate hands-on activities are provided to students to reinforce the learning outcomes.

Participation is free and entirely voluntary and only at the discretion of the parents or guardians.

The Armenian Apostolic Church is a Department of Education approved provider.

**MODES OF DELIVERY:**

The Armenian Apostolic Church authorises, trained volunteers to deliver an approved curriculum.

Teachers must have the appropriate *Working with Children Check* and evidence of their clearance is kept on record in the parish.

A system is in place to ensure that all special religious education teachers attend initial and ongoing training in classroom management and child protection issues.

**RECOMMENDED CURRICULA:**

Click here for an overview of the curriculum.

<http://armenianchurchsydney.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Curriculum-Outline-for-Website.pdf>

There may be minor variations in the delivery of the program across schools due to timetables or combined classes.

For more information contact the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church. If you wish to make a complaint about a specific teacher, or the material being taught, or any other issue, please use the complaint procedure provided below.

**COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE:**

Our complaints process is designed to encourage the fast and efficient resolution of your issue. For non-urgent matters we encourage that you send us an e-mail explaining your complaint, if this is not possible, or if it is urgent, please call the Church Office as soon as possible.

During your complaint, we will aim to tailor any proposed resolutions to provide a fair and reasonable outcome to all parties involved. We will aim to deliver our mutually agreed resolution to you within 10 business days, or 2 business days where the complaint is urgent.

Please follow the steps below to raise your complaint. If you require assistance with making a complaint, please do not hesitate to call us.

**NON-URGENT COMPLAINTS:**

If your complaint is of a non-urgent nature, then please send us an e-mail explaining the situation to: [church@armenian.com.au](mailto:church@armenian.com.au)

In the message, please provide a detailed description of the complaint, including the date and time, the school or place, and the people involved. The more information we have, the easier and quicker the complaint will be processed and resolved.

**URGENT COMPLAINTS:**

If you believe your complaint is urgent, please call the Church Office directly, or visit us, as soon as possible.

**10 Macquarie Street, Chatswood NSW 2067 | Tel. 9419 8056**