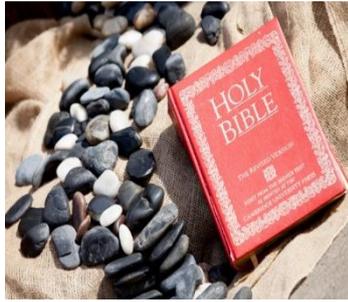


Educational Context



Each Archdiocesan school seeks transformation of the whole person so that those in the school community are empowered to live the gospel of Jesus Christ in their everyday lives. In the Catholic Christian tradition, education is a work of love and service. Schools seek to nurture and develop the faith of individuals in ways that are mindful of their cultural and religious identity.

St Flannan's School is primarily a place for learning and teaching. Individually and collectively the Catholic and ecumenical schools of the Archdiocese of Brisbane seek to educate all to live the gospel of Jesus Christ by being empowered to shape and enrich our world (Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework, 2012).

The scope of education has broadened and become increasingly complex. Rapid and constant social change requires the development of fresh educational frameworks and approaches and the building of new capacities to meet the demands of the present and the future. Educators are constantly challenged to respond to the realities they face in the light of their evangelising mission to live and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. In short, Archdiocesan schools are called to be relevant; to read the signs of the times by integrating faith, life and culture.

St Flannan's School seeks to be counter-cultural, challenging negative societal influences that impact upon the spiritual wellbeing of our students, such as excessive individualism, moral relativism and consumerism. In doing so, our educators in their mission of evangelisation also draw upon positive social values such as care for the environment, justice and peace, outreach to the poor and the marginalised and community service.

In the Catholic school's educational project there is no separation between time for learning and time for formation, between acquiring notions and growing in wisdom (The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium, 1997, n.14).

Therefore, Religious Education at St Flannan's School builds on best practice of the broader educational community. The classroom learning and teaching of religion reflects the philosophy, content, structure, academic rigour and assessment and reporting modes used in other learning areas. The religious life

of the school forms and skills our students to negotiate the tension of maintaining Christian integrity when confronted with the complexities of life in contemporary society.

St Flannan's ENCOURAGES quality teaching and learning of religious education by:

- Teaching of Religion is anchored in our Mission Words – UNITE, ENCOURAGE, EMPOWER, RECOGNISE, NURTURE
- The teaching of the Religious Education Curriculum is planned for by using a Reconceptualist Approach and an Inquiry Process where content is assessed and reported upon. KWeb resourcing supports this process e.g. Learning Bytes, Theological Background, Ways to Pray
- Morning Prayer (as a whole school and at class level) begins everyday
- All children from varying faiths, including Hindu, Sikh, Jehovah Witness, Islam and non-religious, are catered for in the teaching of religion e.g. When teaching about World Religions and celebrations in Year 6, students have the opportunity to share personal experiences of celebrations from their own religions
- The Religious Education program is linked to community events including St Vinnie's Sleep-out, Soup Drive, Project Compassion, India Mission Appeal
- Sacraments are taught and experienced
- Key religious events, including Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas, are taught
- Contemporary teaching styles are implemented to link Religious Education with other Learning Areas