



# Miller Avenue School

*"Creating brighter futures together"*

## Miller Avenue School Christian religious Education Policy 2020

1. The Education Act 1964 is clear in stating that teaching in all primary and intermediate schools must be 'entirely of a secular character'. The Ministry interprets secular to mean 'non-religious' and 'non-spiritual'.
2. Annually, the Board of Trustees will approve the Christian Religious Education (CRE) programme, the curriculum, the tutors and the timing of any such programme. Part of this approval will be that all tutors have been through a Vulnerable Children's Check.
3. During CRE, parts of the school being used for the programme will be closed for normal curricula activity.
4. Children, whose parents inform the Principal in writing either at enrolment or subsequently that they don't wish their child to receive CRE, will not attend. Children that don't attend will be the responsibility of the school. These children will have the opportunity to experience a range of purposeful curriculum experiences, and not simply remain supervised. The Principal will inform parents about the nature of any programme provided. This will be called 'Friday Explorers'.
5. All teachers will greet their class and mark the attendance register at 8.55 am and settle them in readiness for their tutor. CRE will end after 30 minutes and no later than 9.30 on each occasion.
6. CRE will be provided for half an hour a week on no more than 40 occasions per year.
7. Teachers not directly involved in 'Friday Explorers' will oversee the behaviour of their own class and that of any rooms next door (if this teacher is required for Friday Explorers).
8. The Principal will liaise with the CRE Co-ordinator termly and meet with all teachers at least twice per year.
9. In providing CRE or any other religious observance, the school must ensure that it is done in a way that does not discriminate against anyone who doesn't share that belief.
10. It is generally accepted that karakia may be performed as part of a powhiri, kapa haka or any other significant special occasion as approved by the Principal, but not during regular class time.
11. CRE, in accordance with the Ministry of Education and School Trustees' Association guidelines, will not be funded or part-funded from Board of Trustees' funds.
12. Any instruction can only be led by voluntary instructors and not staff.

### Related Documents

- List of CRE Tutors
- CRE Curriculum Framework
- [www.cec.org.nz](http://www.cec.org.nz)

### Legislation

- Education Act 1964
- Human Rights 1993

**Ratified: November 2020**

**Review: November 2022**

