

2024 New SRE Helper & Teacher Authorisation

SRE (Scripture) is an amazing ministry and an incredible opportunity to engage children and young people with the Christian faith. We are excited you are starting your journey as an SRE helper/teacher and to join the statewide SRE team! Use this document to chat through with your pastor, church SRE coordinator or a current SRE teacher to help demystify and explain what is required. We also encourage you to contact our SRE team leader before you proceed further, to discuss any questions you may have about the SRE teacher application process. Whilst it may feel daunting initially, we are here to help you throughout the process. We look forward to authorising you to teach SRE very soon!

Simple Checklist below. Additional notes page 2.

CHECK	STEPS TO TAKE
INITIAL CONVERSATIONS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chat with pastor or SRE rep in church to express an interest and investigate what is required. You could also seek to observe a lesson or two first to see what is involved in teaching a class.
CHILD PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Valid Working with Children Check Number (WWCC) - apply online if don't currently have one)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete Child Protection Training via Creating Safe Spaces Course- this is valid for 4 years. This training is completed in two parts- Part 1 online and Part 2 via zoom/face to face .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Department of Education annual Child Protection course (see additional notes)
ENDORSEMENT & COMPLIANCE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interview with Pastor including a Pastor Endorsement Form .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete the Baptist Association's Code of Conduct & Screening Questionnaire & DoE Declaration and submit to our office.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Read the Association's related policies and procedures located on our website- https://nswactbaptists.org.au/policies-and-procedures/
SRE MODULE TRAINING	
<input type="checkbox"/>	For Teacher status- Complete our 7 module Essentials SRE Course (online) or via zoom or face to face (subject to availability). For available dates check our website . Our SRE team can also provide information on upcoming training available. For Helper Status- complete Essentials Modules One , Four & Seven online or via zoom/ face to face if available.
APPLICATION FORM	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete our online application form .
POST APPLICATION & TEACHING!	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once the processing of your application is complete, you will receive an email notification with a letter to teach/help. You will also receive an authorisation card which acts as your school identification. Your card is valid for 3 years.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Each year SRE teachers are required to complete a lesson reflection and observation and 2 hours of ongoing professional development. This is explained in the module training and easily achievable. Helpers are exempt from lesson observations.

Additional Information

Observing a Lesson- you can seek to observe a couple of lessons first before you commit to the authorisation requirements. We have a separate Come and See Observer document that explains in further detail. Talk to your church SRE contact person or contact our office for details.

Teacher Authorisation- This authorisation is for someone who wishes to teach a class on their own or with a helper assisting. All training modules must be completed to be classified SRE Teacher.

Helper Authorisation- This authorisation is for someone who wishes to provide assistance to the teacher. Note helpers are not authorised to teach a class on their own, so if the SRE teacher is away on a particular day a helper can not take the class on their own.

Pastor Endorsement- If there is no pastor in your church, a senior member of the leadership team acts in this role.

Child protection Training- Please note we do not accept other denominations child protection training in the main. If you have recently completed training elsewhere, please contact our office to discuss. Your application may be delayed if this is not disclosed early on.

DoE Child Protection -Currently recommended, not mandatory for volunteer teachers. In paid HS roles may be required. Contact our office to discuss. The course is very informative and actually worth doing. Free to complete.

Screening Questionnaire- The preference is to have the Screening Questionnaire submitted early if you answer yes to any of the questions. This helps any possible delays in processing your application. In most cases this will not exclude you from teaching, (depending on the severity of the disclosure), but we will need time to discuss your situation and determine if you can proceed to the SRE related training.

Recognition for Prior Learning- Trained school teachers may qualify for recognition of Prior learning for a couple of the SRE training modules. Contact our office for further information.

SRE (Scripture) is a wonderful way to serve your school community and is just so incredibly rewarding. Start a conversation with your SRE contact person today and if you need reach out to the Baptist Association, we are here to help!

Contact Shelley Ashton -Team Leader SRE | Baptist Association NSW and ACT

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