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*Diocese of Broken Bay  
Confraternity of Christian Doctrine*



*Special Religious Education  
Curriculum*

*Syllabus*

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## 1. AIM

The aim of this syllabus is to elicit Catholic Discipleship Responses from students by developing their awareness, understanding and appreciation of the Catholic tradition as it is witnessed in the Sacred Scriptures and in the teaching of the Church, so that they may participate as active members of the Church within the wider community.

## 2. STRAND

The Broad Learning of the Syllabus is organised into 5 Strands enabling the progressive study of the beliefs and practices as expounded in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

<b>God, Revelation and Human Destiny (GRHD)</b>	Throughout this Strand students encounter the mystery of God reaching out to humanity in history and culture, and through that self-disclosure as Creator, Word and Spirit, the plan for all of creation revealed to humankind.  Students are introduced to God's invitation to all to share in eternal life, to the realities of good and evil, and to Catholic teaching regarding reward and punishment.
<b>Jesus: Human and Divine (J)</b>	Students learn about the life of Jesus of Nazareth in the context of his socio-religious background, and examine the titles attributed to Christ. They are introduced to the dogmas of the Catholic faith handed down through the tradition of the Church. The implications of the life, death and resurrection, and words and actions of Jesus for his disciples are addressed in an historical and contemporary context.
<b>Church and Discipleship (CD)</b>	Through their historical and ecclesiological studies students will sharpen their awareness of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus; They will study how the Church interprets the words of Jesus and applies them to contemporary life. The study of the Church's guidance of its members in moral decision-making and in reading the "signs of the times" will assist students in their appreciation of how discipleship involves the response of the whole person.
<b>Prayer and Sacraments (PS)</b>	This strand ensures an exploration and experience of the sacramental, spiritual and liturgical life of the Church; the place of personal and communal prayer and traditional forms of Catholic prayer. The structure and purpose of liturgical responses and liturgical language will all be examined in context. The study of the centrality of the sacramental life is designed to support and complement, but not take the place of parish sacramental programs.
<b>Sacred Scripture (S)</b>	As the inspired Word of God Sacred Scripture forms the backbone of this Special Religious Education Curriculum. Through this strand students are introduced to the systematic study of the Scriptures in accord with contemporary Catholic scholarship and teaching. Such study will assist in their appreciation of the place of the Scriptures in the Liturgy and in the application of the message of the Scriptures to issues in contemporary life.

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### 3. OBJECTIVES

#### Knowledge and Understanding

Through the study of Special Religious Education students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the key areas of the Catholic tradition founded in the Sacred Scriptures.

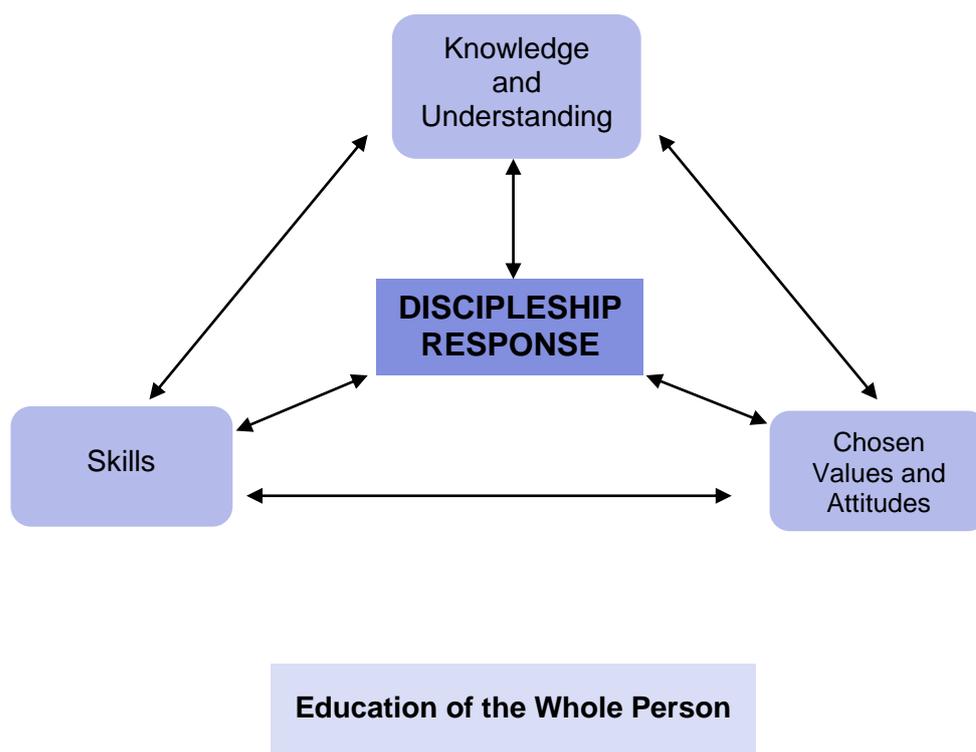
#### Skills

Through the study of Special Religious Education students will develop skills in acquiring, processing, communicating and reflecting on matters of religious significance.

A key focus will be the development of students' religious literacy, through Scriptural analysis and the use of Scripture in prayer.

#### Chosen Values and Attitudes

The study of Special Religious Education offers students the opportunity to freely respond to the Gospel at the centre of their education. Such response is not restricted to the Special Religious Education classroom but is enhanced by it. The learned values and attitudes become a major component of the Discipleship Response when the student desires and freely chooses to embrace those values and attitudes and act on them in day-to-day living.



Each objective describes the active commitment students will make to the acquisition of knowledge, understanding and skills in Special Religious Education and the culture of the community of the disciples of Jesus. The effective delivery of Special Religious Education will emphasise the significance and interdependence of all objectives. However, depending on the stage of learning, one or other of the objectives may be emphasised at any given time.

Objectives	
Strands	Students develop:
<b>God, Revelation and Human Destiny (GRHD)</b>	1. a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of God's love for all; the <b>ability to investigate and demonstrate</b> the meaning of God's self-revelation; and a <b>desire</b> to enjoy the fullness of life with God.
<b>Jesus: human and divine (J)</b>	2. a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of the words and actions of Jesus; his relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit; the <b>ability to illustrate</b> the significance of his life, death and resurrection for all, and a <b>desire</b> to respond to Jesus in love.
<b>Church and Discipleship (CD)</b>	3. a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of the Catholic Church, as a community of the disciples of Jesus, the <b>ability to analyse</b> its responses to the human condition and a <b>desire</b> to follow Jesus as members of the Church.
<b>Prayer and Sacraments (PS)</b>	4. a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of Catholic prayer, sacraments and liturgical action as expressions of an ongoing relationship with God, a <b>capacity</b> to plan and participate in them, and a <b>desire</b> to pursue a mature spiritual life enriched by the sacraments.
<b>Sacred Scripture (S)</b>	5. a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of the Sacred Scriptures as the Word of God, the <b>ability</b> to apply their implications in a contemporary setting and a <b>desire</b> to live accordingly.

#### 4. OUTCOMES & DISCIPLESHIP RESPONSES

Outcomes in Special Religious Education are derived from the Objectives and illustrate the continuum of learning from K-12. The student, through the learning opportunities provided by the content, will achieve these outcomes. The breadth of learning possible in each outcome may be extrapolated either through its verb stem or its theological content.

Discipleship responses are the desired Spiritual outcomes of the Special Religious Education syllabus. These are what will ultimately achieve the aim of the entire teaching/learning process. Clearly then all learning activities are directed towards providing students with the stimulus and the opportunity to genuinely make this response.

For students with special education needs, particularly those students with an intellectual disability, the individual planning process may determine that the following outcomes and content are not appropriate. For these students Life Skills outcomes and content can provide a relevant and meaningful program. In Stages 5 and 6 modified Life Skills Outcomes (LS) have been provided along with associated content, in *Italics*, to be adapted to meet the needs of individual students.

# SCOPE AND SEQUENCE CHART

## OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES AND DISCIPLESHIP RESPONSES

Objectives	Early Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 2 Outcomes	Stage 3 Outcomes	Stage 4 Outcomes	Stage 5 Outcomes	Stage 6 Outcomes
<p><b>Students develop:</b></p> <p>a <b>knowledge</b> and <b>understanding</b> of God's love for all; the <b>ability to investigate</b> and <b>demonstrate</b> the meaning of God's self-revelation; and a <b>desire</b> to enjoy the fullness of life with God</p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>ES1.1. expresses an understanding of God's love in the world</p> <p><i>ES1.1. realises God's love for all creation</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S1.1. explores ways a relationship with God is experienced</p> <p><i>S.1.1. recognises God's presence in the world</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S2.1. identifies God's activity in the world today</p> <p><i>S2.1. responds as Christians to the presence of God in the world</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S3.1.a. identifies and expresses ways in which God calls all to share in the work of creating and renewing the Kingdom of God</p> <p><i>S3.1.a. acts responsibly in response to God's call</i></p> <p>S3.1.b. describes how Christian life, nurtured by the Holy Spirit, is a response to God's love for creation</p> <p><i>S3.1.b. cares for God's creation</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S4.1.a. identifies and describes the Catholic understanding of the mystery of God</p> <p><i>S4.1.a. recognizes mystery and awe as dimensions of their relationship with God</i></p> <p>S4.1.b. describes ways God invites people to respond</p> <p><i>S4.1.b. responds to God's call in their own lives</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S5.1.a. communicates the relationship between respect for creation and creation as an act of God</p> <p><i>S5.1.a. acknowledges and cares for all creation as God's gift</i></p> <p>S5.1.b. identifies various manifestations of the Spirit's activity in the world</p> <p><i>S5.1.b. develops a consciousness of the Holy Spirit's activity</i></p> <p>S5.1.LS. expresses ways in which God calls us to embrace the stewardship of creation through harmony and reconciliation *</p> <p><i>S5.1.LS. cares for the environment and one another as God's creation</i></p>	<p><b>A Student:</b></p> <p>S6.1.a. identifies and explains how God is revealed through history and culture</p> <p><i>S6.1.a. develops a hope-filled God-centred philosophy of life</i></p> <p>S6.1.b. explains the impact belief in eternal life has on the way Catholics perceive and interact with the world</p> <p><i>S6.1.b. interprets and responds to the world from a Catholic perspective</i></p> <p>S6.1.LS. <i>investigates religious beliefs and practices and their impact on daily life *</i></p> <p><i>S6.1.LS. responds to the world from a Catholic perspective</i></p>

# GOD, REVELATION AND HUMAN DESTINY

Objectives	Early Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 2 Outcomes	Stage 3 Outcomes	Stage 4 Outcomes	Stage 5 Outcomes	Stage 6 Outcomes
<p><b>a knowledge and understanding</b> of the words and actions of Jesus; his relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit; the <b>ability to illustrate</b> the significance of his life, death and resurrection for all, and a <b>desire</b> to respond to Jesus in love.</p>	<p>ES1.2. identifies Jesus of Nazareth as the Son of God and names some of his friends <i>ES1.2. hears and celebrates stories about Jesus</i></p>	<p>S1.2. sequences, records and communicates stories about Jesus <i>S1.2. recognises the implications of Jesus' words and actions</i></p>	<p>S2.2. names and describes the modes of Christ's presence in the world today <i>S2.2. recognises Jesus in others and treat them accordingly</i></p>	<p>S3.2.a. recounts the stories of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus relating them to the Church's liturgy <i>S3.2.a. celebrates Jesus through liturgy</i> S3.2.b. identifies those for whom Jesus shows particular concern <i>S3.2.b. reaches out to others in love as Jesus did</i></p>	<p>S4.2.a. identifies the cultural and historical influences on Jesus of Nazareth <i>S4.2.a. identifies with the humanity of Jesus</i> S4.2.b. interprets the teachings of Jesus and applies them to a contemporary setting. <i>S4.2.b. seeks out opportunities to live out the Gospel</i></p>	<p>S5.2.a. identifies and describes a distinct feature of a portrait of Jesus in the Gospels <i>S5.2.a integrates characteristics of Jesus into their own lives</i> S5.2.b. constructs a project to promote social justice grounded in the message of Jesus <i>S5.2.b. reflects on their personal response to the message of the Gospel</i> S5.2.LS. examines the relationship between the portrait of Jesus in the Gospels and social action in the world today * <i>S5.2.LS. adopts characteristics of Jesus into their own lives</i></p>	<p>S6.2.a. identifies the doctrine of Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate as central to Catholicism <i>S6.2.a. articulates a personal relationship with Jesus and the Church</i> S6.2.b. explains how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus give new meaning to human life, suffering and death <i>S6.2.b. reflects on life as a Christian response to salvation</i> S6.2.LS. identifies the centrality of Jesus in Catholic teaching and the meaning he gives to human life * <i>S6.2.LS. articulates their relationship with Jesus and the Church</i></p>
<h1>JESUS: HUMAN AND DIVINE</h1>							
<p><b>a knowledge and understanding</b> of the Catholic Church, as a community of the disciples of Jesus, the <b>ability to analyse</b> its responses to the human condition and a <b>desire</b> to follow Jesus as members of the Church.</p>	<p>ES1.3.a. identifies communities where God's love is expressed <i>ES1.3.a. feels part of family communities</i> ES1.3.b. identifies examples of Christian behaviour <i>ES1.3.b. cares for self and others</i></p>	<p>S1.3. identifies and describes the place and purpose of Catholic worship <i>S1.3. participates in school and parish worship</i></p>	<p>S2.3. identifies the Church as a community of disciples of Jesus guiding and supporting Christians through moral teaching and example <i>S2.3. is part of the parish and local faith communities</i></p>	<p>S3.3.a. identifies the centrality of the sacraments in the life and mission of the Church <i>S3.3.a. makes choices as a response to God's call</i> S3.3.b. reports on significant figures in the history of the Catholic Church <i>S3.3.b. is involved in their local faith community</i></p>	<p>S4.3.a. identifies and describes ways people respond to the call to discipleship <i>S4.3.a. models their daily living on Jesus</i> S4.3.b. describes how Christian life requires informed moral decisions and appropriate actions <i>S4.3.b. discerns Gospel values appropriate to particular decisions and acts in accord with them</i></p>	<p>S5.3.a. names and describes a range of expressions of Christianity <i>S5.3.a. proclaims the Gospel</i> S5.3.b. demonstrates an appreciation of the Church as committed to authentically proclaiming the Word <i>S5.3.b. identifies with the Catholic community</i> S5.3.LS. identifies key characteristics of the Catholic Church * <i>S5.3.LS. engages in actions that promote Catholic social justice</i></p>	<p>S6.3.a. explains how the Church works through a range of ministries <i>S6.3.a. identifies with the community of disciples of the Diocese of Broken Bay</i> S6.3.b. interprets the role of the Church in guiding its members' responses to moral and social issues <i>S6.3.a. assumes responsibility for moral choices and social action based on Catholic discipleship</i> S6.3.LS. examines a range of ministries of the Catholic Church and their response to contemporary social issues * <i>S6.3.LS. assumes responsibility for choices and actions based on Catholic discipleship</i></p>
<h1>CHURCH AND DISCIPLESHIP</h1>							

Objectives	Early Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 1 Outcomes	Stage 2 Outcomes	Stage 3 Outcomes	Stage 4 Outcomes	Stage 5 Outcomes	Stage 6 Outcomes
<p>a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of Catholic prayer, sacraments and liturgical action as expressions of an ongoing relationship with God, a <b>capacity to plan and participate</b> in them, and a <b>desire</b> to pursue a mature spiritual life enriched by the sacraments.</p>	<p>ES1.4. participates in the ways Catholics communicate with and celebrate God's presence</p> <p><i>ES1.4. prays both traditional and spontaneous prayers</i></p>	<p>S1.4.a. identifies Catholic symbols and signs, naming sacraments as sacred actions.</p> <p><i>S1.4.a. participates in the life of the Church</i></p> <p>S1.4.b. identifies the purpose of prayer</p> <p><i>S1.4 b. prays in a variety of ways</i></p>	<p>S2.4.a. explains sacraments as celebrating the presence of God</p> <p><i>S2.4 b. participates in the Sacraments</i></p> <p>S2.4.b. plans and participates in communal celebration</p> <p><i>S2.4 b participates in liturgical celebrations</i></p>	<p>S3.4.a. explains how prayer, sacraments and liturgical action are integral to the faith life of a Catholic</p> <p><i>S3.4.a. embraces Catholic liturgical and sacramental life</i></p> <p>S3.4.b. explains how Catholics are nourished and sustained as they reach out in service to others</p> <p><i>S3.4.b. reaches out and ministers to others</i></p>	<p>S4.4.a. explains the significance of the Sacraments of Initiation</p> <p><i>S4.4.a. integrates the celebration of Sacraments into life</i></p> <p>S4.4.b determines and describes features of a Catholic community.</p> <p><i>S4.4. b. identifies themselves as part of the Catholic community</i></p>	<p>S5.4.a. identifies and describes the relationship between the Church's celebrations and its mission</p> <p><i>S5.4.a. renews their appreciation of the relationship between Catholic liturgy and life</i></p> <p>S5.4.b. names and describes a range of ways the Christian life is nurtured through prayer</p> <p><i>S5.4.b. explores new ways of nurturing their prayer life.</i></p> <p>S5.4.LS. describes Christian celebrations and practices *</p> <p><i>S5.4.LS. renews their appreciation of the relationship between liturgy and life within a Catholic community</i></p>	<p>S6.4.a. demonstrates the relationship between the sacramental life and the Church's missionary activity</p> <p><i>S6.4.a. chooses to participate in Catholic liturgy, ministry and the sacramental life</i></p> <p>S6.4.b. defines the nature of both spirituality and religion and suggests how the Catholic heritage contributes to personal spirituality and identity</p> <p><i>S6.4.b. embraces the spiritual life as members of the Catholic community</i></p> <p>S6.4.LS. explains the various roles in ministry and liturgy and identifies ways to participate *</p> <p><i>S6.4.LS. participates in liturgy and ministry and embraces the spiritual life as mature members of the Catholic community</i></p>
<h1 style="color: blue; font-style: italic;">PRAYER AND SACRAMENTS</h1>							
<p>a <b>knowledge and understanding</b> of the Sacred Scriptures as the Word of God, <b>the ability to apply</b> their implications in a contemporary setting and a <b>desire</b> to live accordingly</p>	<p>ES1.5 identifies the Bible as a book containing special stories about God and God's people</p> <p><i>ES1.5. hears and celebrates the Word of God</i></p>	<p>S1.5. identifies and recalls stories from Sacred Scripture through which God is revealed</p> <p><i>S1.5. shows reverence to and appreciation of the Bible</i></p>	<p>S2.5. explains the messages of specific Scripture passages and their relationship to prayer, worship and the Christian life</p> <p><i>S2.5. prays the Scriptures</i></p>	<p>S3.5.a. identifies the nature and purpose of Biblical writings through which all are invited to share eternal life</p> <p><i>S3.5.a. values the richness of the Sacred Scriptures</i></p> <p>S3.5.b. demonstrates how the message of Scripture can be applied to contemporary life</p> <p><i>S3.5.b. relates messages from the Sacred Scriptures to daily life</i></p>	<p>S4.5.a. locates and explains a range of Scripture passages relevant to Biblical and contemporary life</p> <p><i>S4.5.a. responds to Christ's message in daily life</i></p> <p>S4.5.b. identifies influences on a number of Biblical authors</p> <p><i>S4. b. renews their appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures</i></p>	<p>S5.5.a. analyses Biblical writings as the Word of God revealed in history and culture</p> <p><i>S5.5.a shares their appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures with others</i></p> <p>S5.5.b. locates examples of the Gospel in action in contemporary Australia</p> <p><i>S5.5.b. participates in Gospel motivated activity</i></p> <p>S5.5.LS. recognizes the relationship between Gospel stories and contemporary Christian living *</p> <p><i>S5.5.a. participates in Gospel motivated activities with others</i></p>	<p>S6.5.a. demonstrates an awareness of the impact contemporary Biblical scholarship has on Catholic discipleship</p> <p><i>S6.5.a. makes life choices consistent with principles of Catholic discipleship</i></p> <p>S6.5.b. investigates the manner in which the Scriptures are able to nurture prayer, reflection, ritual and action</p> <p><i>S6.5.b. integrates Sacred Scripture into personal and communal prayer</i></p> <p>S6.5.LS. identifies the role of Sacred Scripture in Christian life in relation to prayer *</p> <p><i>S6.5.LS. integrates Sacred Scripture into personal and communal prayer</i></p>
<h1 style="color: blue; font-style: italic;">SACRED SCRIPTURE</h1>							
						<p>* Life Skills Outcome</p>	

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