

Multimedia Policy

Summary

Every SRE teacher using the authorised curriculum of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, including Beginning With God, Connect, Big Questions, and Think Faith, must submit all additional multimedia for approval. Multimedia is approved at Youthworks' discretion and the teacher will be notified of the approval status by email. A number of approved resources will be added to an online library to be made available for primary and secondary SRE teachers who use the authorised Anglican curriculum and resources.

This policy has been prepared in consultation with the Department of Education Policy on the use of multimedia and is administered in cooperation with CEP (Christian Education Publications) and Generate Ministries.

- To request approval for a Primary SRE/RI multimedia resource or to view authorised resources go to: <http://cepconnect.com.au/myconnect>
- To request approval for a Secondary SRE/RI multimedia resource or to view authorised resources go to: <http://www.highschoolsre.net/>

Please allow 7 days for the viewing and approval of any unrated video clip, music clip or website.

Stage refers to the school year of the students:

- Pre-stage 1= Kindergarten
- Stage 1= Years 1-2
- Stage 2= Years 3-4
- Stage 3= Years 5-6
- Stage 4= Years 7-8
- Stage 5= Years 9-10
- Stage 6= Years 11-12

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, multimedia means video, websites and music that is used in the SRE classroom.

Context

In NSW state schools, Special Religious Education (SRE) is defined as "the beliefs and practices of an approved religious persuasion delivered by authorised representatives of that persuasion. It is the distinctive religious tenets and beliefs of the home and family, provided by the churches and other religious groups for children of parents expressing the desire that they receive such teaching."¹

¹ NSW Education (2019) 'Special Religious Education Procedures: Implementation Document for Religious Education

The proper use of multimedia in a lesson can enhance student learning and engagement by creating opportunities to explore issues of faith in dialogue with external expertise, alternative perspectives, popular culture, and the media. This Multimedia Policy provides a framework for assessing the suitability of a multimedia resource for use in SRE/RI and takes into consideration the media rating, themes, contribution, and age-appropriateness of the content.

Non Compliance

The local Anglican rector, on behalf of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, is responsible for the conduct of SRE teachers representing the Diocese. Non-compliance with this policy may constitute grounds for the rector to withdraw the authorisation of the teacher.

Policy

1. Every teacher using the authorised curriculum of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney must submit all additional multimedia for approval. A Senior Minister or SRE Board cannot approve multimedia.
2. Once a resource has been approved the teacher will be notified by email. A number of approved resources will be added to the respective Primary or High School online library to be made available for SRE teachers who use the authorised Anglican curriculum and resources.
3. Age appropriateness and the importance of the classification system determining the suitability of use of multimedia in the classroom:
 - Material classified **G** is for general viewing and still needs to be approved for all stages. Only **G** rated material is appropriate for viewing in a Primary SRE Classroom.
 - Material classified **PG** should only be used after careful consideration given that material in this classification might upset, frighten or confuse some students and an adult may be required to provide guidance to students. The school may also choose to inform parents in advance of the presentation of this material to allow them the opportunity to withdraw their child from the viewing.
 - Material classified **M** should only be considered for students who are **15 years and over**. However the teacher would need to be able to demonstrate that the material had particular relevance to the course of study and should only be considered when other related resource material is limited.
 - Material classified **MA 15+** is legally restricted and will only be considered for students in Stage 6. It is unlikely to be approved and would need to demonstrate a particular and unique contribution to the lesson. Parents are to be informed in writing in advance of presentation of the content and classification of any authorised **MA 15+** material. Parents' written approval will be required for their child's participation in viewing this material. Students who are 18 years or older and living apart from their parents may sign their own approval.
 - Regardless of the students' ages, films classified **R18+** and **X18+** must not be shown to school students under any circumstances.
4. Multimedia content that is not classified needs to be assessed for suitability through the Multimedia approval process. The form includes a self-assessment framework and can be completed prior to the

Policy'. <https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/REimplementproced.pdf>
(Accessed 15th Jan, 2021)

content being submitted.

5. Approval will be subject to the suitability of the entire multimedia resource and not just the section shown. Therefore an entire movie must be suitable irrespective of the suitability of a particular section.
6. All content should be reviewed prior to the media being submitted for authorisation and approval must be granted before going into the classroom.
7. When deciding to use an authorised multimedia resource the teacher still needs to take into consideration the age and developmental maturity of the students, as well as the individual needs of the students.
8. Authorised multimedia can only be used with students in the approved stage and higher.
9. Teachers should be aware of any copyright restrictions and ensure that there are no breaches of copyright law.
10. Multimedia content should supplement, rather than replace, the SRE lesson as one of a number of teaching activities. Multimedia content should take up no more than 20% of your total lesson time to allow for student engagement in other activities.

Using copyrighted material

Section 28 of the Copyright Act (1968) allows teachers to play copyrighted multimedia in a classroom for educational and non-profit purposes. This includes videos, DVDs, CDs and other music recordings. The teacher must possess a legal copy of that material (such as physical DVD disk, or legal digital copy).

Using Online Videos (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.)

Online video sites such as YouTube and Vimeo provide valuable resources. Videos from these sites are legal to be used in SRE classrooms so long as they were uploaded legally. A clip that has been uploaded from a DVD, movie or TV show is unlikely to be legal, and does not come under an education exemption because the teacher does not own a legal copy of the work (see above). Many organisations use sites like YouTube to publish and share their videos on official channels, and these are legal to use.

Video sharing sites often play ads at the beginning or throughout a video, display their recommended videos, and auto-play a recommended video after the first one has finished. Any of these scenarios can result in inappropriate content to be played. To prevent inappropriate content being displayed, Youthworks recommends that teachers use “safe” playback sites to play online videos. Examples of these sites include viewpure.com and safeyoutube.net.

Downloading Online Videos

Some schools may not have access to streaming sites in the classroom due to local school policies or poor internet signal. In these circumstances, the SRE teacher may download the video prior to using the video in the classroom if this is permitted from the relevant website.

Section 200AB of the Copyright Act (1968) permits teachers to make limited use of copyright material for free, for educational instruction. This includes temporarily storing (downloading) that material on a computer to show in class. The use must satisfy all of the following criteria:

- It is for the purpose of educational instruction and is not for profit or fund-raising
- It is not from a copyrighted work that comes under another legal framework (such as music and videos, see above)

- You cannot otherwise purchase or obtain a licence for the multimedia
- You do not play more than you need for the educational purpose
- You do not keep a copy for longer than the time needed to teach the lesson(s)
- You download the video yourself
- You do not share the downloaded copy with students, parents or other people
- You do not use the downloaded material outside of the SRE lesson

For more detail, see

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/ca1968133/s28.html

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/ca1968133/s200ab.html

<http://www.smartcopying.edu.au/information-sheets/schools/performance-and-communication-in-class>

<http://www.smartcopying.edu.au/information-sheets/schools/flexible-dealing>

<http://www.smartcopying.edu.au/information-sheets/schools/format-shifting>

<http://www.smartcopying.edu.au/copyright-guidelines/what-can-i-copy-communicate-/2-8-internet-and-websites/2-8-internet-and-websites>

https://www.copyright.org.au/ACC_Prod/ACC/Information_Sheets/Special_Case_or_Flexible_Dealing_Exceptions_Section_200AB.aspx