

Bahá'í Council for South Eastern Australia

Incorporating the States of Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

Teacher Authorisation Processes

Verification of WWCC Clearance

In keeping with current child protection legislation, all SRE teachers are required to apply for a WWCC and obtain a <u>clearance number</u>. Approved providers must keep relevant WWCC documents for five years after the employment or engagement has been completed.

Child Protection Training

It is an approved provider's responsibility to ensure that all SRE teachers have participated in an initial child protection induction and annual update. This is to ensure that SRE teachers are aware of their obligation to advise the principal or workplace manager of concerns about the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and young people that arise during the course of their work. SRE teachers are mandatory reporters of suspected risk of significant harm and of the procedures for doing so.

Awareness of Department of Education's Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct clarifies the standards of behaviour that is expected of all SRE teachers in the performance of their duties. It gives guidance in areas where staff need to make personal and ethical decisions

Completion of Basic Training

SRE approved providers ensure that all SRE teachers have access to basic training standards which include context, knowledge of authorised curriculum, scope and sequence, classroom management and the importance of regular and continued training. SRE teachers are trained to deliver the curriculum with sensitivity and in an age appropriate manner. Baha'i Council, as an approved provider, provides ongoing training which includes child protection, classroom management and implementation of the curriculum. Baha'i Council will review SRE teaching using teacher self-reflection, student feedback and observation by a supervisor who will provide feedback, mentor support and further training where needed.

Baha'i Council will report the review results in the annual assurance process and include a description of efforts to address identified issues, such as further training and mentor support. Following teacher training and WWCC verification the local governing body will, on behalf of the Baha'i Council, provide a letter to the school which clearly identifies the approved provider and includes the name(s) of the authorised teacher(s), their date of birth and contact details. The letter is updated annually.

Statement in Relation to Specific Crimes

Each approved provider has given an undertaking that any SRE teacher authorised to enter NSW Government schools has not had a criminal conviction for any crime against a minor, a conviction for violence, sexual assault or for providing prohibited drugs.

Rationale: To increase public confidence and make more transparent what processes are used for the authorisation of teachers.