



MERCEDES COLLEGE

COMPASSION LOYALTY JUSTICE INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY MUTUAL RESPECT

2 August 2016

Dear Parents/Caregivers

RE: Religious Literacy Assessment Tool (ReLAT)

I am writing to inform you that we will be participating in an assessment in Religious Education for all students in Year 4 in Catholic Schools in South Australia. This assessment has been developed by the Catholic Education Office and will take place during Week 7 of Term 3, Tuesday 6 September.

Religious Education is a core Learning Area in all Catholic schools. It is a foundation for all learning and is integrated into the life of the school through prayer, liturgy and social justice programs.

The assessment, known as ReLAT, is an assessment for students in Year 4 who are nearing the completion of Standard 2 of *Crossways*, the Religious Education Framework for Catholic Schools in South Australia, and is based on the learning outcomes identified in *Crossways*. ReLAT is designed to assess some of the *basic knowledge* taught in Religious Education lessons. Please note that the assessment is not a measure of a child's faith or their participation in the broader life of the Catholic community. It is known that it is essential to draw upon a variety of assessment strategies in order to develop a comprehensive picture of student progress and understanding in Religious Education.

The ReLAT assessment tool is an online multiple choice test with 35 questions. Students are given up to an hour to complete the test. If your child usually receives some form of adjustment for their learning needs, that same assistance will be available to them in this assessment.

The data from the ReLAT assessment will be collated and used by the school to inform whole-of-school professional learning needs and the continuous improvement of teaching in Religious Education. Individual results will be made available to your child's teacher. An individual ReLAT report for parents, designed to complement the school report will be provided to you. As always, you are welcome to discuss your child's learning in Religious Education with the class teacher.

Assessment results will *not* be used publicly to compare students, teachers or schools.

If you have any questions regarding the Religious Literacy Assessment Tool please contact Sister Duyen Nguyen RSM, dnguyen@mercedes.catholic.edu.au

Yours sincerely

Julie Hann
Assistant Principal
Head of Junior School

