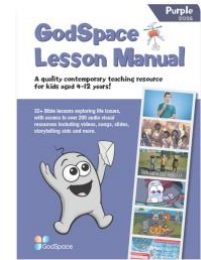


Curriculum Review – GodSpace Purple

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Reviewed January 2026.

RI Curricula are referred to by the Department of Education Qld as RI Program Materials.



Executive Summary

In 2019, the Multi-Faiths RI Network commissioned an independent review of common curriculum materials used by Religious Instructors in Queensland Schools. The focus of the review was to assist Principals to be confident that curriculum materials comply with Department of Education Queensland policy requirements. This report is a review of the curriculum materials used by many Christian Religious Instructors, against 15 policy areas of focus. The review purpose and process is outlined in a separate document on the website multifaithsri.org.au.

Outcome:

GodSpace Purple 2026 is highly compliant with the relevant Department of Education Queensland policies.

GodSpace is a three-year curriculum that provides an enriching environment for kids to question, explore and discover the relevance of the Christian faith in their own lives. A diverse team of theologically qualified education specialists write and review the curriculum, and the stories and activities are age appropriate in an educational setting for children ages 4 to 12.

The 2026 syllabus is accompanied by a comprehensive scope and sequence chart. There are eight (8) units. Units 1 – 7 each with 4 lessons, and Unit 8 has 3 lessons, which would adequately cover a school year. Additional lessons are available for important occasions during a normal primary school's academic year.

These include:

- Introductory lesson
- Book Week
- ANZAC Day
- NAIDOC Week
- Easter
- Peace for Every Occasion

A brand new GodSpace Lesson Manual guides Instructors through appropriate lesson plans for the whole year. Each lesson includes a variety of engaging activities to suit all learning styles. Lessons are provided for 4 different age groups and a combined/assembly style lesson outline. The Instructor Manual provides support for community members who may not be teachers to confidently organise themselves and engage with students and schools in respectful and sensitive ways. The lesson manual includes access to over 200 multimedia resources downloadable from the GodSpace website to be shared with the children, including animations created specifically for each unit.

Magazines to consolidate the learning of each lesson can be purchased separately. *

On the GodSpace website there is a GodSpace Purple Launch video. This one-hour presentation provides a comprehensive and useful outline of the curriculum. There are additional videos for the following topics:

- Songs and Puppets
- Back-Up Lesson

- Questions
- Storytelling
- Prayer
- Planning
- Engaging Children

*The reviewer had access to the GodSpace Lesson Manual, presented as a black and white PDF document. However, previous reviews of GodSpace materials have shown the materials to be of high-quality colour publications and there is no reason to think otherwise about this new material.

The quality colour magazines for students with engaging activities aligned to each lesson are available for order from the GodSpace Website: <https://godspace.org.au>

Unit 5 has the theme of PEACE. As Unit 5 is unpacked across the year children are exposed to a number of strategies for dealing with conflict. These strategies would normally be in step with the behaviour management plans operated by most schools.

Each lesson has a comprehensive outline including:

- Aim
- Overview
- Bible Verses
- Lesson Outline
- Unit Theme
- Content Flow Chart
- Unit resources are available to account holders and can be accessed through a QR code.

The analysis was conducted by a retired Queensland State School Principal, who has over 35 years as a school leader. He undertook a lesson-by-lesson review for compliance with Department of Education policy.

Reviewer

Peter Doyle DipT; B Ed; MACE; MQASSP; Commissioner for Declarations

Curriculum details

GodSpace Purple

GodSpace Purple is a one-year program for Instructors.

Instructor's manual with detailed instructions

- Each lesson has differentiated plans and suggestions for four age groups, and a mixed age group outlined in the instructor's manual, with each age group having a separate student booklet. As the lessons are organised around the same idea and Bible concept, the instructor can choose activities that are appropriate for the ages and interests of their groups.
 1. Explorers age 4 - 6
 2. Adventurers age 6 - 8
 3. Navigators age 8 – 10
 4. Voyagers age 10 – 12
 5. Mixed ages
- Each lesson plan contains information for the instructor about
 1. Aim, overview, Bible verse and resources in an overview
 2. Big idea and core value
 3. Lesson aim
 4. Learning Outcomes
 5. Lesson Notes
 6. Question activity – such as a game, song, show and tell
 7. Explore activities – such as a Bible focus with scripted teaching sections and links to visual aids or activity in workbook
 8. Discover activities - such as a prayer or song.
- There are reflections points for Instructors throughout the manual, including a detailed mid-year review guide.

Student Magazines

- Quality colour magazines for students include engaging activities aligned to each lesson, are available for download from the GodSpace website.
- The magazines have activities that are highly visual with engaging and inclusive illustrations, puzzles, opportunities to draw and reflect.

Lesson by Lesson Review

- Reviewed as compliant.
- Reviewers noted that while these activities are compliant, RI Instructors would need to take additional care with these activities.
- Reviewers indicated that caution should be exercised and that this lesson or part of the lesson may cause compliance concerns.

- Sections of this lesson were not compliant.
- N/A Not applicable.
- * Updates in new edition have addressed the issues raised.

Unit	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8			
Lesson	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
1. Appropriate age and lesson time																																
2. Supporting a cooperative arrangement. No leaving of materials																																
3. No proselytizing or promotion of outside school activities and publications																																
4. No activities or content that would cause harm to a child (physical, psychological or emotional well-being)																																
5. Supports and promotes a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment																																
6. Responds to diverse learning needs – level and age																																
7a. A safe physical and cyber learning environment - supports wellbeing																																
7b. Fosters behavioural strengths																																
7c. Builds positive relationships (peers, staff, parents, community) and promotes positive social interactions																																
7d, e. Encourages inclusivity, diversity																																
8. Safe supportive environment, free from bullying, discrimination, harassment																																
9. Responsive to school behaviour plan, safe supportive and disciplined learning environment																																
10. Smart choices - healthy food and drink																																
11. Consistent with Code of School Behaviour																																
12. Risk - suggests undertaking an assessment and identifies where risk assessment is needed																																
13. Promotes responsible care and use of animals																																
14. Does not include activities using items that may cause allergic reactions																																
15. Supports effective communication between students, parents, communities that is inclusive and valued																																

Review Commentary

Strengths

- 1. The Instructor handbook is detailed and well designed.** The lessons are clearly outlined with scripted suggestions for Instructors, that are in clear and child-friendly language.
- 2. The Instructor handbook provides practical advice to support community representatives in their roles.**

Each lesson has clearly outlined learning outcomes, lesson notes and choice of activities. This is so that the RI Instructors may choose appropriate activities based on the students' needs within the class. The introductory pages of each of the manuals provides reminders to get to know students, to respectfully acknowledge different views, and suggestions of what to say when students ask challenging questions.

There is a clear emphasis on the use of appropriate language and respect for students by the RI Instructors. Sensitivity to student experience is shown throughout. Instructors are advised to use prayer language that Jesus will 'help' friends and family.

- 3. The resources promote inclusion and diversity in engaging and sensitive ways.**

The resources present diversity as a strength. Where there are activities that could involve props e.g. balloons. Instructors are reminded that some students have sensory sensitivities. The lessons about managing anxiety through trusting God and managing big emotions give age-appropriate strategies and teaching tips about being sensitive to student responses. The curriculum is presented in such a manner as to be suitable for multi age classes or in small schools. The lessons have a variety of interactive learning activities.

- a. A number of different teaching strategies are suggested to elicit student engagement and interaction, such as using visual aids, songs, puppets, drama, crafts, and real-life case studies.
- b. Uses age-appropriate language for students to explain biblical stories and implications. Scripts for Instructors to use with puppets are age appropriate and engaging.
- c. Each lesson contains numerous options for the teacher to select from depending on the diversity of each class. Options for songs and PowerPoint resources are high quality.
- d. Lesson plans are clearly scaffolded. All lessons are planned for an indoor classroom with no specialist equipment needed. The usual resources that children would have and regularly use in their classrooms are used such as glue, scissors, pencils, crayons. They are low risk.

Policy Compliance

The curriculum materials are highly compliant with the 15 policy areas of focus identified in collaboration with the Department of Education policy advisors, drawn from:

- The Education (General Provisions) Act 2006.
- The Department of Education's Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment Procedure
- P-12 curriculum, assessment and reporting framework
- Student Learning and Wellbeing Framework
- Inclusive Education Policy
- Statement of expectations for a disciplined school environment
- Smart choices - healthy food and drink supply strategy for Queensland schools
- The Code of School Behaviour
- Managing Risks in School Curriculum Activities
- Animal Use in Queensland state schools
- Smart choices - healthy food and drink supply strategy for Queensland schools
- Parent and Community Engagement framework

The curriculum materials offered many opportunities for students to consider issues and develop values that are identified as desirable educational goals within the Australian curriculum. Some of the strengths of the curriculum in helping students develop as responsible, caring and global citizens are outlined.

Chapter 5 - Section 76 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 requires that materials are for Year 1 students or older ages.

Overall Comment from the reviewer:

GodSpace Purple is an innovative and well-considered resource that aims to provide clear scaffolding and appropriate pedagogies for non-trained teachers (i.e. RI Instructors who are volunteers in school classrooms). The lessons are appropriate for primary-school children. The engaging lessons provided ample opportunities for all children to get involved and contribute through discussions, reflections and activities.