

NAME OF SCHOOL: Glenstantia Primary School

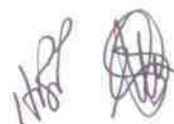


**Religion Policy**

<b>Date approved</b>	17/09/2012	<b>Date Policy will take effect</b>	17/09/2012	<b>Date of next review</b>	Annually
<b>Developed by</b>	Policy Development and review Committee (PDRC) of the School Governing Body (SGB)				
<b>Approved by</b>	School Governing Body (SGB)				
<b>Responsible Body</b>	School Governing Body (SGB)				
<b>Supporting documents, procedures and forms for this policy</b>	Legislation (see Below)				
<b>References and Legislation</b>	The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996) South African Schools Act 84 of 1996 National Education Policy Act 27 of 1996 Gauteng Schools Education Act No 6 of 1995 Government Gazette No 25459 Government Notice No 1307, 12 September 2003: National Policy on Religion and Education				
<b>Scope</b>	SGB, School Management Team (SMT), Educator Staff, Learners				
<b>Expiry date of policy</b>	This policy remains in force until replaced by a policy revised and approved by the SGB.				

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## 1. PURPOSE OF THE RELIGION POLICY

The primary purpose of the policy is to ensure that no religious discrimination of any description is practiced at Glenstantia Primary School. It will also ensure that the minority of religions in this school are accorded due respect and pride of place in the school.

Everyone involved with Glenstantia Primary School will feel comfortable that their rights are respected.

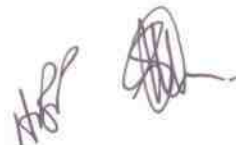
## 2. PRINCIPLES OF THE RELIGION POLICY

- 2.1 Religious observances of all religions will be accorded due respect as Glenstantia Primary School recognizes the religious and cultural diversity of its population.
- 2.2 The Governing Body of Glenstantia Primary School shall determine the Religion Policy of the school.
- 2.3 The Policy will be consistent with the required legislation, subject to the submission to the Head of Department.
- 2.4 Religion Education will be done during Life Orientation periods by the Life Orientation Educator as stipulated by the Curriculum.
- 2.5 Religion Education is contained within Outcome 2, in relation to Social Development, which requires that:

*The learner will be able to demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to constitutional rights and responsibilities/and to show an understanding of diverse cultures and religions.*

## 3 RELIGION POLICY OF GLENSTANTIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

- 3.1 In recognition of the religions and denominations (religious groupings) that are found at Glenstantia Primary School and based on the fact that the majority of learners, parents and Staff members are of the Christian faith, the Governing Body of this school decided that Glenstantia Primary shall be a Christian based school
- 3.2 However, freedom of conscience and religion shall be protected.
- 3.3 The Bible shall be read at formal school assemblies and school gatherings.

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- 3.4 All pupils are required to attend assembly and values periods during which time hymns are sung and prayers said. Pupils who do not wish to, need not participate. However, these learners need a letter from their parents requesting that they be excused from participation.
- 3.5 While the "official" ethos of the school is a Christian one, all other persuasions will be respected and where possible, representation of the other religions will be invited to participate in the assemblies.
- 3.6 Every school day begins with a prayer and/or a reading of a portion of the Bible and ends with a prayer.

#### **4 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF AND TOLERANCE TOWARDS LEARNERS, PARENTS AND STAFF WITH OTHER RELIGIOUS VIEWS**

- 4.1 The aim of Glenstantia Primary School is to create spiritual and moral awareness, tolerance cultural sensitivity and to make learners aware of religious diversity and be able to live in today's pluralistic society.
- 4.2 Religious tolerance will be shown towards all religious celebrations.
- 4.3 No learner or Staff member will be marked absent when adhering to official religious celebrations.
- 4.4 The School Hall may be used by private groups as a religious observance facility, provided that this has been sanctioned by the SGB in terms of Section 20 (2) of the SASA and the relevant conditions are met.
- 4.5 In keeping with the democratic ethos of Glenstantia Primary School, religious observances of the following religions are also approved on an equitable basis:
  - Muslim
  - Hindu
  - Jewish

It must be noted that attendance at these observances by learners and members of Staff is voluntary.

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## 5 VALUES

5.1 Glenstantia Primary School promotes the following values:

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Friendliness
- Tolerance
- Dedication
- Loyalty
- Humility
- Self-control
- Caring
- Sharing

5.2 These values are emphasized at all times and expanded upon during a values period once per cycle.

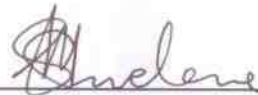
## 6 CONCLUSION

6.1 Glenstantia Primary School will at all times endeavour to ensure that the infrastructure caters for the requirements necessary to implement this policy.

6.2 Glenstantia Primary School will at all times endeavour to ensure that every individual respects and implements the policy in the "Ubuntu" spirit.

### SIGNED BY

Chairperson of the SGB:



Date: 17/09/2012

The Principal:



Date: 17/09/2012

IDSO:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_