

# G.E.M.S. and Cadets and Your Church



Partners in Discipleship and Outreach

**GEMS** – Girls Everywhere Meeting Their Saviour  
**Cadets** – Living for Jesus in All That We Do





## The Vision and Goal of GEMS and Cadets?

Our vision, through individual clubs is to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to girls and boys, to nurture them, to accept Him as their personal Lord and Saviour and to encourage their growth towards spiritual maturity.

Our goal is to encourage each girl and boy to explore God's Word and to get to know God through the GEMS and Cadet programs. In doing so, we aim to encourage them to appreciate the wonder of God's world, to discover and develop their own God given abilities and to use them in His service.

## Our Approach

**We aim to achieve our aims and goals by:**

- Seeking and engaging leaders who are role models of Christian attitudes and behaviour.
- Implementing exciting and targeted programs and practices, which are consistent with biblical teachings.
- Conducting Bible studies and discussions, where God's Word is applied to our daily lives.
- Encouraging meaningful devotional habits.
- Encouraging girls and boys to explore and discover their God given abilities and interests and to use them with confidence.
- Encouraging the development of Christian values.
- Teaching girls and boys to express their Christian faith through acts of service.
- Helping girls and boys to become aware of the spiritual and physical needs of the world through support of Christian mission work.
- Developing the abilities of girls and boys to be good stewards of God's created world.
- Teaching girls and boys to value others as God values them.

## How Does GEMS and Cadets Help My Church?

GEMS and Cadets is a great practical and faith based ministry, targeted at the girls and boys within your congregation and local community.

- In every day situations, in practical ways, Christianity is lived out.
- Girls and boys from your local community are attracted to the fun and exciting club activities.
- Provides a structure and opportunity for outreach, witness and service in your local community.
- The National GEMS & Cadet Board provides leadership, mentoring, training and ongoing club support.
- GEMS and Cadets has a track record of training young girls and boys into leadership positions. Young leaders are trained and equipped to serve God, their local church and community.
- Provides an opportunity for every member of your congregation to be involved – through prayer support, becoming leaders or helpers, sharing gifts and talents with the young girls and boys, connecting mothers and fathers with their children.

## What is GEMS?

The name GEMS stands for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour. This name represents both the mission and vision of GEMS Girls' Clubs.

GEMS is a Christian organisation, run by volunteers, with a programme that is created especially for girls from ages 9-15, with some groups also including a programme called Busy Bees for girls ages 6-8.



**At GEMS the girls learn about God by participating in the following activities:**

- Serving others in activities that may include, for example, visiting nursing homes
- Badge work
- Games, craft, drama and singing
- Outings such as swimming, walks and other recreational activities
- Club and/or state camps

**The GEMS programme is divided into 3 different levels:**

- Busy Bees (Awareness): for girls aged 6-8
- Discovery level: for girls aged 9-13
- Advanced level: for girls aged 13-15

Each level is designed to meet the spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs of girls. Girls learn how to apply the teaching of the Bible to their own lives and discover answers for the challenges facing them today.

## GEMS Verse

The Bible is central to the GEMS programme. At each meeting the girls are asked 'What does the Lord require of us?' All girls respond with the answer 'To act justly, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God.' (Micah 6:8).

## GEMS Mission & Vision

The mission of GEMS is to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. The vision of GEMS is to see girls actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others by equipping and encouraging them to live out their faith.

## What is Cadets

Cadets is a Christian organisation, run by volunteers, with a programme that is created especially for school aged boys from ages 9-14.

**At Cadets we aim to teach the Cadets about God through the following activities:**

- Service activities
- Complete badge work
- Create crafts
- Play games
- Make new friends
- Camps and outings

## Cadeting...

- **brings Christian men to boys**
  - working with boys in small groups, the leader has the ability to minister to the unique needs of each boy and provide them with a model of Christian manhood.
- **brings the Bible to boys**
  - through Bible studies and discussions, boys discover who God is.
- **brings meaningful growth and experiences to boys**
  - the cadeting program and activities helps boys grow more Christlike in all areas of life: mental, physical, emotional, social, and devotional. Boys are encouraged to explore and develop their God-given talents and interests. Cadeting emphasises the "whole" boy.
- **brings the boys to boys**
  - community outreach is natural as boys share their Cadet experiences with other boys.

The Cadet programme is divided into 3 different levels:

- Junior Cadets: for boys aged 6-8
- REPB (Recruit, Explorer, Pathfinder, Builder) Program: for boys aged 9-12
- Guild Trails: for boys aged 12+

Each level is designed to meet the spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs of boys. Boys learn how to apply the teaching of the Bible to their own lives and discover answers for the challenges facing them today.

## The Goal of Cadeting

Luke 2:52 states that "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men." The goal of Cadets, based upon that verse, is to help boys to grow spiritually in all areas of life (devotional, mental, physical, and social) by providing Christian men with a uniquely designed structure, program, and materials so that they can mentor boys effectively.

## Cadet Motto and Cadet Verse

### Living for Jesus

"If you love Me, you will obey My commands." *John 14:15*

## Where To From Here?

**Our National GEMS and Cadet Board Secretary will support your congregation as you seek to establish your club. This may involve:**

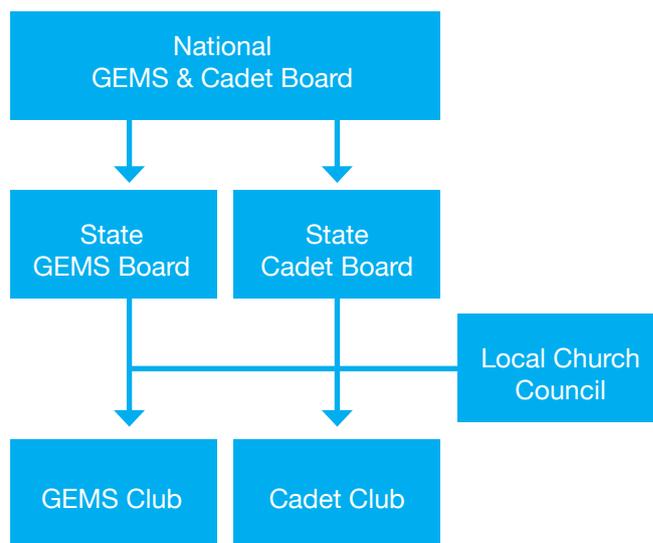
- Speaking to a business meeting of your church and/or providing additional information.
- Encouraging and provide information for potential leaders and organise training.
- Provide support with administrative requirements.

### What is the Church Responsible For?

**Your local church needs to:**

- Provide formal approval to establish a Club.
- General over-sight and ensure the ongoing well being of the Club.
- Selecting and appointing leaders.
- Upholding the GEMS and Cadet Leaders and girls and boys in prayer.
- Assist the Club in practical ways as opportunities present.
- Involve the GEMS and Cadets in the life of the Church.
- Contact the families of GEMS and Cadets and encourage them into Church life.

## How are GEMS and Cadets Organised?



## FAQ's

### Why a uniform?

A uniform enhances and encourages a sense of belonging, responsibility and helps create discipline and self-respect. It also helps equalise the girls and boys, preventing any barriers that may arise because of different social and economic backgrounds.

The wearing of the uniform also signals our commitment to the aims and purposes of GEMS and Cadets.

### Do we have a military background?

Neither GEMS nor Cadets have military connections. The perception of a military connection is commonly due to the uniform and badges and a comparison with Navy Cadets.

### Do I need to be part of the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia Denomination to have a GEMS or Cadet Club?

GEMS and Cadets is an independent youth ministry whose purpose is to provide the local church with a ministry program that will enable them to effectively share Christ's love with girls and boys from their church and community. Full membership is available to churches that are members of the CRCA and associate members available for all other churches.

#### G.E.M.S. & Cadets National Board

**GEMS Website:** [www.gems.org.au](http://www.gems.org.au)

**Cadets Website:** [www.cadets.org.au](http://www.cadets.org.au)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/GEMSandCadetsAust>

**Email:** [secretary@gcboard.org.au](mailto:secretary@gcboard.org.au)