

Visits and visitors for Religious Education



Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) 2012

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Updated by Gloucestershire SACRE representatives, April 2012.

Visits and visitors for Religious Education

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Guidance and contacts

This directory has been compiled to support the work of schools in Gloucestershire and encourage increased links with local faith communities and beliefs.

Meeting visitors and going on visits to faith communities is a key learning experience and one of the essential experiences and opportunities for all pupils identified in the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE (2011-2016).

The valuable educational experience which can be gained by visiting places of worship is dependent upon the goodwill of the communities. It is essential that visits are planned carefully in conjunction with members of the faith communities and that there is utmost respect for people's sensitivities and traditions both in the place of worship and in the surrounding area.

Using people and places as a resource for Religious Education

Visits are a useful resource and add another dimension to RE by providing pupils with the opportunity of experiencing religion as a living vibrant community. Visits can be used as a stimulus to start a piece of work or to reinforce learning undertaken in the classroom.

Encounter and dialogue with people from different religions and beliefs is a key way of encouraging and developing respect. It is also a key way of building understanding of the role religion and belief plays in the lives of individuals and communities. Both are important aims of Religious Education

Guidance for teachers planning a pupil visit to a place of worship

There are many benefits to be derived from visiting places of worship, but in practical terms you will need to think through the points listed below:

Before you go:

- Make initial contact with the faith community to find out if you can visit and when is the best time – both for you and the faith community.
- Try to visit the faith community yourself to explore learning opportunities and to discuss your needs with the person who will be involved in the visit. Share with him/her what you hope pupils will get out of the visit. Clearly planned aims help to fit the visit into a scheme of work. A general 'look around' is the least likely activity to be

successful. If possible try to arrange for the pupils to meet some believers other than the ordained leaders. Talk about how long you will stay. As a rule of thumb, under an hour is usually too short to make the most of the learning opportunity.

- Get parental permission: Schools should send a letter home with each pupil to make clear that this is an educational visit and that pupils will observe, not participate, in worship. Invite parents and other adults to help out on the visit.
- Prepare pupils. It is likely to be a completely new situation for them. Provide guidance about appropriate attitudes and any dress requirements such as removing shoes, covering heads. Encourage pupils to ask and respond to questions during the visit. Talk over, in advance, questions they may wish to ask during the visit. Identify ways in which the visit will be followed up back in the classroom.

Some key points to remember when visiting faith communities

Dress – in addition to any specific requirements, *modest dress* is the usual guideline. *Shoes* are removed before entering the prayer rooms of the Mosque, Mandir, Gurdwara and Buddhist Vihara.

Check specific requirements when organising the visit – the following are the usual practice:

Mosque: Female: Head, legs, arms covered.

Male: Heads covered during prayer time.

Gurdwara: Female: Head and legs covered. Male: Head covering.

No cigarettes to be taken into the Gurdwara.

Photographs – many places of worship will allow photographs to be taken at the appropriate time but prior permission should be sought.

Behaviour – normal good behaviour standards are appropriate. In all places of worship it would be disrespectful to chew, talk loudly, run around or touch things without invitation. In places where sitting on a carpeted floor is usual, it is disrespectful to sit with legs open facing the focal point e.g. a deity, a holy book, Qibla wall etc.

Hospitality – a number of places of worship will show hospitality to visitors by offering food or refreshment. It is important to prepare pupils for this.

Hindu: prashad – this may take the form of crystal sugar, almonds, sweets or snack food. It is not sacred and should be accepted with thanks and eaten on the spot.

Gurdwara: Kara prashad – a semi-solid cold food made from butter, semolina, sugar and milk, or a cup of tea boiled with milk. This is not a sacred food and should be accepted with thanks. Kara prashad can be kept for eating later.

Donations – places of worship do not, as a rule, charge for visits, but a donation is recommended.

Guidance for faith communities: Schools visiting places of worship

Many schools would like to plan visits to local places of worship into their RE lessons, but either do not know how to make the first approach or what to expect when they have made contact.

- Before receiving a group of pupils on a visit, you should plan carefully with the teacher and prepare, in discussion with the teacher, some activities that will be engaging for pupils. In general, a combination of listening, doing, talking, questioning and recording is the best plan for variety!
- If possible try to arrange to have some believers, and not just ordained leaders, but some 'lay' people present to meet the pupils. If possible the faith representative might talk about how and why their faith is important to them; show pupils anything they use in their religious worship or special days and perhaps retell a favourite faith story and say what it means to them.
- If you have frequent school visits you may find it helpful to produce a short checklist of things to remember that can be sent to the school in advance of the visit. This will be very helpful to the teachers in preparing pupils for the visit.

Code of practice for religious visitors going into schools

Schools can provide rich opportunities for pupils by welcoming visitors from local religious communities. Some schools remain hesitant about this, so this Code of Conduct is offered to encourage good relations between schools and visitors, and to make the most of the opportunity.

The code of conduct

Religious visitors taking part in the life of a school should:

- Be willing to share their own experiences, beliefs and insights, but avoid (a) criticism of the experience and insights of others and (b) imposing their views on pupils in any way.
- Be familiar with the school's aims, ethos and policies, and plan their involvement in the light of the aims and curriculum at the school. It is more effective to take part in the regular programme of teaching and learning, rather than make an isolated or one off contribution to the curriculum
- Seek to use engaging teaching and learning methods which involve the pupils actively, and to communicate at appropriate levels for the age group(s) concerned. The two most common problems for pupils when visitors make a classroom contribution are that they listen to a lengthy monologue, with more or less attention, and that they can't understand; the material presented is too hard, or the language is over the pupils' heads. Visitors who avoid these two pitfalls will be more effective.
- Make clear to pupils who they are, who they represent and what they are offering to the pupils during their visit to the school.
- Be willing to respect and value the faith of children and young people when it is different to their own.
- Develop ways of speaking to children which communicate their open approach, avoiding any hidden agenda to convert young people.

A question to help visitors reflect on their approach in the classroom:

'If a member of another religion visited my child's school and contributed in the same way that I have done, would I, as a parent, be happy with the education given?'

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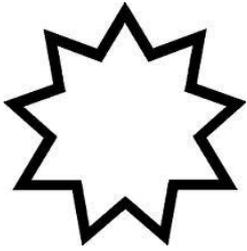
Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus 2011: Programmes of study

(Used with permission)

The following programmes of study are the context for involving visitors from faith communities and visiting local places of worship. For full details see the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus 2011.

Foundation	KS1	KS2	KS3	14-19
	1a Believing What people believe	1a) Beliefs and questions People's beliefs about God and the difference believing makes	1a Beliefs: Big questions	Visits to places of worship and visitors from faith communities are essential components of examination courses in Religious Studies.
Special People Links to early learning goal: knowledge and understanding of the world – religion in the local community.	1b Leaders and teachers Includes why Christians follow Jesus; believers follow leaders from at least one other religion.	1b Teaching and authority The meaning of Jesus and key sacred writings for people today	1b Teachings The meanings of key teachings of key religious leaders for believers today	
	1c Story: Stories from sacred texts and their meanings for believers.	1c Inspirational people How key religious figures have influenced the actions of followers	1c Sources of inspiration, guidance and authority Questions of truth and authority for believers today	
Special Times Celebrations of religious festivals	2a Celebrations Meaning of key Christian festivals and those of another religion for believers, how and why these are celebrated	2a Symbols and religious expression How people express beliefs through religious festivals.	2a Expressions of spirituality How people express spirituality today.	
Special Places Church building as a special place	2b Symbols How symbols objects and actions are used in worship	2b Journey of life and death How religions mark milestones in life/beliefs about death	2b Religion Today Exploring the diversity of belief and practice today.	
	3b Belonging: How people show they belong; what is important about belonging to a faith community.	2c Worship, pilgrimage, sacred places How and why Christians and followers of other religions worship	3a Ethics and values Key values and principles for living from religions today	
		3a Religion and the individual Principles for living within religions	3b Beliefs into action Justice & human rights – religious beliefs in relation to these	
		3b Religion family and community. How religious belief influences daily lives	3c Beliefs and Global issues Religion and Poverty Religion, peace and conflict	
		3c Beliefs in action in the world Care for the world; Justice and fairness.		

The Bahá'í Faith



There are Bahá'í communities in Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud. The Bahá'ís do not have a place of worship but can arrange to come to schools to participate in lessons, present assemblies and participate in Interfaith activities. Groups of pupils may also be able to participate in celebration of Bahá'í festivals

The Bahá'í Faith is an independent world religion whose purpose is to unite all the races and peoples in one universal Cause and one common Faith.

Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of the Bahá'í Faith (1817-1892), taught that God has revealed, and will continue to reveal His message to humanity progressively over the ages through a succession of great Messengers and Prophets. The central principle of the Bahá'í Faith is unity. Bahá'ís believe that Bahá'u'lláh is the great personage whose teachings will enable humanity to build a united and peaceful world, based on spiritual principles.

The Bahá'í Faith has more than five million followers worldwide, and is represented in more than 200 countries and territories.

Websites: <http://www.bahai.org.uk>
<http://www.bahai.org>

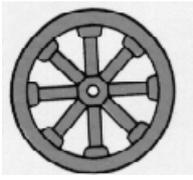
Contact: Jenny Lockwood

Tel: 07789 818361

Email: illumine.jl@gmail.com

Can offer: Assemblies, assistance in lessons and interfaith activities, visits to Bahá'í events oriented toward young people (this last may be out of county). Visitors have experience working with primary and secondary age groups.

We can also offer speakers competent to present and debate the spiritual dimension of specific topic areas, e.g. science and religion; the advancement of women; environmental challenges.



Buddhism

Ani-la Choesang

The Venerable Tsuiltrim Tenzin Choesang was ordained by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. Ani Choesang is a Gelongma, a fully ordained nun in the Tibetan tradition, holding the title of Tsuiltrim. She now mainly teaches in the UK and at her nunnery in Nepal. Living in Herefordshire, she is able to visit schools, working with pupils from ages 5-19.

Email: choesang@the-hermit-online.co.uk

Can offer: teaching sessions on Buddhism in primary and secondary schools

Buddhist Prison Chaplain (Gloucestershire)

Contact: Ivan Hatvany

Ivan first studied Buddhism as part of his Philosophy degree twenty years ago. Since then he has studied numerous books on the subject and practiced meditation under the direct guidance of three of the most senior Western Buddhist teachers. His experience covers all the main Buddhist traditions, mostly centring on Theravada Buddhism and he now teaches meditation to others. He qualified as a Business and Economics teacher in 1996 and was Head of that Department at St. Edwards School, Cheltenham 2000 to 2002.

Tel: 01242 577215

Email: lhatvany@aol.com

Can offer: teaching sessions on Buddhism in local secondary schools

Bristol Buddhist Centre

162 Gloucester Road, Bishopston, Bristol, BS7 8NT

Tel: 0117 924 9991

Email: info@bristol-buddhist-centre.org

Web site: www.bristol-buddhist-centre.org

Tradition: Triratna (Formerly FWBO Friends of the Western Buddhist Order)

Can offer: The Buddhist Centre welcomes visits from schools with students of all ages. They can also, on occasion, provide speakers to come and visit your school. Contact them via the website.

Further information useful to schools: The FWBO was founded in 1967. It stresses the unity

of all Buddhism and draws its teachings from all schools of Buddhism. It sees itself as adapting the traditional forms of Buddhism to make them relevant to those brought up in a Western culture.

Birmingham Buddhist Centre

Website: www.birminghambuddhistcentre.org.uk

Email: info@birminghambuddhistcentre.org.uk

Manchester Buddhist Centre / The Clear Vision Trust

16-20 Turner Street, Manchester, M4 1DZ

Contact: Munisha (Education Officer)

Telephone: 0161 839 9579 **Fax:** 0870 139 1699 (education only)

Email: education@clear-vision.org

Website: <http://www.manchesterbuddhistcentre.org.uk/>

The Clear Vision Trust is a charity promoting the understanding of Buddhism through audio-visual media. Run by practising Western Buddhists, Clear Vision is associated with Triratna (formerly FWBO) .

It is located in the Manchester Buddhist Centre and runs the Buddhist Centre's school visits service. Please ring or email for information.



Christianity

Church of England Diocese of Gloucester

The Church of England has churches in every parish and village.

Department for Children and Young People at the Diocese of Gloucester will advise schools of the contact details of their local parish priest and other local Christian speakers.

Contact: The Diocesan Resource Centre (Centre manager: Hannah Hauxwell)

Tel: 01452 385217

Email: hhauxwell@glosdioc.org.uk

Gloucester Cathedral

Education Centre, St Mary's Gate, St Mary's Street, Gloucester, GL1 2QR

Contacts: Education Officers: Mrs Chris Crago, Mrs Sarah Law

Tel: 01452 521010 (Enquiries and information)

01452 528095 (Bookings: Lin Henderson, Chapter Office)

Website: <http://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/educationcentre.asp>

Email: education@gloucestercathedral.org.uk

Able to offer: RE focused educational visits to the Cathedral. The Education Officer will discuss your requirements and tailor a tour to suit your needs. There is no admission charge to the Cathedral, but a donation is requested from visitors. School parties are charged according to their chosen tour.

Tewkesbury Abbey

Abbey Office, Church Street, Tewkesbury, Glos.

Tel: Abbey Office 01684 850959

Website: <http://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/esch.htm>

Able to offer: RE focused educational visits for Primary schools

Further information: see website for details

Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton

To arrange a visit or a speaker from the Roman Catholic tradition:

Contact : Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton, Department for Schools and Colleges,
Alexander House, 160 Pennywell Road, BRISTOL ,BS5 0TX

Tel: 0117 902 5593

Email: Jenny.Fitzgerald@CliftonDiocese.com

Baptist Church

There are many Baptist Churches in Gloucestershire. To find out details of your local Baptist Church or further information contact WEBA website (West of England Baptist Association. This website offers a comprehensive list of churches that are affiliated to the Baptist Association, many of whom also have their own website, usually providing additional contact details.

Contact: West of England Baptist Association, The Old Forge, Broom Hill, Stapleton, Bristol
BS16 1DN

Tel: 0117 9658 828

Website: www.webassoc.org.uk

Methodist Church

The Methodist Church in Gloucestershire falls within the Bristol District. This consists of five circuits: Gloucester, Forest of Dean, Tewkesbury and Cheltenham, Stroud and Dursley and Cirencester.

Contact: Rev A Ward Jones, District Chair

Tel: 01373 462092

Website: <http://bristolmethodist.org.uk/district.htm>

Pentecostal

Elim Christian Centre, 117 St Georges Road, Cheltenham Glos GL50 3EG

Contact: Rev Gareth Lewis **Position:** Minister

Tel: 01242 524476

Email: gareth.lewis@cheltenhamelim.org

Further enquiries: contact Christine Bond Centre Manager

Salvation Army

Salvation Army Citadel: 150 Eastgate street Gloucester GL1 1 QU

Contact: The Commanding Officer

Tel: 01452 311332

Email: info@gloucestersalvationarmy.org.uk

Website: <http://www.gloucestersalvationarmy.org.uk>

Able to offer: visits to the Citadel, speakers to visit schools, details of Salvation Army centres in Cheltenham, Forest of Dean, Stroud and Tewkesbury.

Quakers/Society of Friends

Friends meeting houses in Cheltenham, Cirencester, Gloucester and Nailsworth.

Contact: Richard Lacock

Tel: 01242 224335

Email: rlacock@btinternet.com

Able to offer: speakers and possible visits to Meeting Houses.

United Reformed

West Midlands Synod, Digbeth-in-the-Field United Reformed Church, Moat Lane, Yardley, Birmingham B26 1TW

Contact: Mr Chris Burgham, Young Persons Training Officer

Tel: 01743 246320

Able to offer: details of local clergy willing to provide church visits or speak in schools.

Website: www.urcwestmidlands.org.uk

Churches Together in Cheltenham

Website: http://home.clara.net/rowil/quaker/chelt_churches.html

The above website offers a map showing the Christian churches in central Cheltenham. A useful resource for Cheltenham schools when exploring churches in the local community.

Churches Together in Stroud

Website: <http://www.stroudchurches.org/dir.htm>

This website provides details about the Stroud and district Christian churches listed below including information about how to contact them.

Church of God of Prophecy; Church of the Holy Spirit (Paganhill); Church of Immaculate Conception (RC); Farmhill Baptist Church; Holy Trinity (Slad) CofE; Holy Trinity (Stroud) CofE; Life Church' Rodborough Tabernacle; Salvation Army; St John the Baptist (Randwick); St Laurence(Stroud); St Mary Magdalene (Rodborough); St Pauls (Whiteshill); Stroud Baptist; Stroud Christian Fellowship; Stroud Congregational; Stroud Methodist; Stroud Uplands.



Christian Aid

9 College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LX

Tel: 01452 309115

Website: www.christian-aid.org.uk Children and teachers: www.globalgang.org.uk

Able to offer: 'Christian Aid teacher' scheme offers a trained individual to deliver curriculum based lessons or assemblies. Christian Aid produces curriculum based resources for schools



Unitarian

There are 3 Unitarian worshipping communities in Gloucestershire- Cheltenham, Gloucester and Cirencester.

Unitarian Website – for more information: www.unitarian.org.uk

Contact: Rev Don Phillips

Email: Don.Phillips@btinternet.com

Bayshill Unitarian Church, Royal Well Lane, Cheltenham, GL50 3ET

Website: www.bayshillunitarian.org.uk

Able to offer: Speakers to visit schools and visits to Unitarian places of worship



Hinduism

Gloucestershire Hindu community:

Krishna Mandir, Cheltenham

64 Swindon Road, Cheltenham, GL50 4AY

Contact: by email to Daxa Mehta (see below) Daxa will contact the Mandir on behalf of schools. Schools are asked to confirm arrangements in writing.

Mandir able to offer: visits to the centre

Further information: The Hindu community of 200-300 families uses the centre for worship and community meetings. Groups (to a maximum of 30) can visit the temple and, dependant on time of visit, observe daily worship and hear about the deities. Modest dress; shoes removed before entering the temple. A donation is very welcome.

Wheelchair access available to temple only.

Weblink - for an article on the Gloucestershire Hindu Community:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire/untold_stories/asian/hindu_community.shtml or

<http://www.irespect.net/Untold%20Stories/Asian/index.htm>

Daxa Mehta - Hindu Workshops for schools

Able to offer: Workshops on Hinduism and how it affects our daily lives – KS1-2. Workshops can be developed to meet schools needs.

Further information: Also offers workshops on cooking demonstration, henna painting, Indian folk dancing & Gujarati language.

Email: daxajmehta@gmail.com

Website: www.helloindia.co.uk **Facebook:** [helloindia.co.uk](http://www.helloindia.co.uk)

Tel: 07786 246 602

Cardiff Swaminarayan Temple

Merches Place, Grangetown, Cardiff, CF1 6RD

Tel: 029 2039 4769

Contact: President of the Hindu Mandir

Website: <http://www.swaminarayanwales.org.uk/default.asp>

Visit this site to see details of arranging school visits and a list of schools that have been. Visits to the Mandir are in the mornings only with prior arrangements. The visit normally lasts approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.

The visits can consist of:

Description and feel of the artefacts; Playing traditional Indian musical instruments; Performing "Yoga"; Different symbols; Worksheets can be used to accommodate the schools syllabus; Hindu greetings and their morning activities at home.

Wolverhampton:

Main contact: Wolverhampton Inter-faith group,

Office and resource centre: 2 Clarence St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HZ

Tel/Fax: 01902 427601

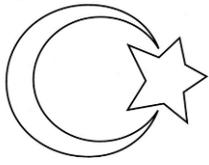
Email: interfwolv@aol.com

This organisation organises the itinerary for the visits and advises on dress codes and religious sensitivities. Contact the group to arrange a visit to.....

Shree Krishna Hindu Temple 123 Penn Road, Wolverhampton

School comment: ' *a great experience* '

School Advice: *ensure you have a clear speaking guide who can communicate at a level appropriate to children*



Islam

Schools wishing to arrange visits to the Gloucester Mosques or speakers from the Muslim community should contact:

Mufti Abdullah Patel Director, Gloucestershire Islamic Academy

Tel: 01452 300465

Email: iacademy@yahoo.co.uk

Details: Mufti Abdullah is Chair of the Islamic Shuraa (committee) for Gloucestershire which comprises Imams of all the Mosques and Chair of their respective Mosques. He is respected scholar in Islamic theology and Jurisprudence. He also heads the Gloucestershire Islamic Girls School since 1994. He is very well informed on educational matters.

Mosques in Gloucester:

Jamia Al Kareem Mosque

All Saints Road, Gloucester GL1 4EE

Tradition: Sunni

Contact: Anwar Limalia

Tel: 01452 506870

Masjid-e-Noor, 44-46 Ryecroft Street, Gloucester, GL1 4LY

Tradition: Sunni

Contact: Ahmed Bham **Tel:** 01452 416682 **Email** sabham@blueyonder.co.uk

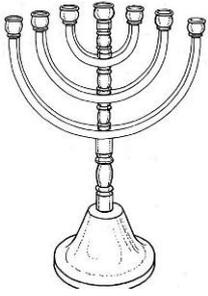
Details: Ahmed is Chair of Gloucester Inter Faith Action and also represents Muslim community on the SACRE. He deals with the issues of Islamic Faith and issues about contemporary British Muslim issues; offers workshop and lectures.

Khoja Shi'a Muslim Community of Gloucester

Wainsbridge, 69 Bristol Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester GL2 6NE

Tradition: Shi'a

Further information: All visitors remove shoes on entering prayer hall. Females: cover legs, arms, head.



Judaism

Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation

The Synagogue, St James Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PU

Contact: Ms Abigail Fisher (Secretary)

Email: abharv@gmail.com

Mr Michael Webber, 23a Alma Road, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 3LU

Email: emandem.webber@blueyonder.co.uk

Able to offer: guided explanatory visits to the orthodox synagogue for pupils aged 6-18, and, occasionally visits to schools. No charge is made but donations are welcomed. Boys' heads should be covered, if at all possible. Maximum number 50. Sessions last about an hour.

Birmingham Hebrew Congregation

Singer's Hill, Ellis St, Birmingham

Website: <http://www.singershill.com/>

Contact: Synagogue office

Tel: 0121 643 0884 **Email:** office@singershill.com.

Can offer: Educational Visits provided for schools, colleges, universities and other education establishments. This is subject to prior booking.

More information: Singers Hill has been an important hub of Jewish worship and communal life for 150 years, and is termed the "Cathedral" Synagogue of Birmingham.

Weekly Shabbat (Sabbath) services are held, as well as daily morning and evening services in conjunction with the Birmingham Central Synagogue.

Website – several sections are particularly useful for schools, including a question and answer session with the Rabbi; a photo gallery showing features of the synagogue and a photo album showing community activities.

Jane Silver Corren: Jewish Education Workshops for schools

Jane offers A wide variety of workshops offered exploring different aspects of Judaism for students and teachers from pre-school age to adult education. The workshops are also suitable for people with special needs. 1-3 hour sessions including song, dance, story telling and religious artefacts for students and teachers from pre-school to adult education. She is Jewish, has 20 years' experience teaching Jewish education in London and the South West and is a qualified Occupational therapist with a degree in performing arts.

She is willing to travel to Gloucestershire schools. She charges an hourly rate and mileage charge for travel.

Address: The Trees, 26 Uplands, Walditch, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 4LE

Email: janesilvercorren@gmail.com

Telephone: 01308 459320 or 07887 675161

Cardiff

Judaism: Reform synagogue

Administrator for school visits:

Mrs Maggie Kyiet, 8 Llandennis Green, Cuscoed. CF23 6JX

Tel: 029 20750019 **Mobile:** 0781 3636709

Telephone Mrs Kyiet on either of the above numbers. She is happy to arrange a 1-2 hour visit for groups of no more than 50 pupils. Adults are in addition to this.

The synagogue serves a community of 200 families. It was converted from a church in 1949 and is just off the Newport Road, on the Hereford side of Cardiff city centre. The synagogue makes a small charge of £25.00 per group to cover expenses.

Pupils can take part in activities, touch artefacts, try on prayer shawls, look at the Torah scroll, watch as the candles are lit. Many schools have visited. The administrator has a small team of volunteers who help her make the visits as enjoyable and worthwhile as possible. A pupil pack is available from Mrs Kyiet.



Sikhism

The nearest Sikh gurdwaras are in Bristol, Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Cardiff.

Bristol

Initial contact should be made via the:

Sikh Resource Centre

114 St Mark's Road, Easton, Bristol BS5 6JD

Contact: Narinder Vir Kaur – Project Co-ordinator

Tel: 0117 952 5023

Email: sikhresourcecentre@supanet.com

Further information: The centre can provide information and current contact details for Sikh places of worship in Bristol. They can also arrange workshops on Sikhism in schools and advise on resources to support teaching Sikhism in the classroom.

Ramgharia Sikh Temple

81-83 Chelsea Road, Easton, Bristol, BS5 6AS **Tel:** 0117 9554929

Contact: Further details from Sikh Resource Centre

Singh Sabha Gurdwara

303-307 Church Road, St George, Bristol BS5 8AB

Contact: Further details from Sikh Resource Centre

Further information: 5 minutes on foot away from Bristol Hindu Temple

Singh Sabha Gurdwara

71-75 Fishponds Rd, Eastville, Bristol, BS5 6OR **Tel:** 0117 9020104

Contact: Further details from Sikh Resource Centre

Summerhill Gurdwara

11 Summerhill Rd, St George, Bristol BS5 8HG **Tel:** 0117 9559333

Contact: Further details from Sikh Resource Centre

Birmingham

Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha,

18-20 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B21 9BH

Tel: 0121 551 1123/4/5

School Comment: *'A wonderful visit – the gurdwara offers 'langar' free meals 24 hours a day. Lots of prayer halls'*

Guru Nanak Gurdwara , 629/631 Stratford Rd, Sparkhill, Birmingham

Tel: 0121 2473235

Cardiff

Sri Dasmais Singh Sabha Gurdwara Bhatra Sikh Centre

97-103 Tudor Street, Cardiff CF11 6AE

This Gurdwara has been visited by many Welsh schools, primary and secondary. The Gurdwara will provide someone to show you around and respond to questions. Refreshments are provided.

Contact: Write to the Secretary at the above address requesting a visit, giving details of the age group and numbers of pupils, possible dates and times of visits, together with your contact name and telephone number.

Website: <http://credo.ysgolccc.org.uk/addoldai/gurdwaraone.html>

This website contains 14 images of the Bhatra Sikh Gurdwara for younger pupils. Click to Places of worship in Wales to find a link to 16 images for older pupils.

Wolverhampton

Main contact: Wolverhampton Inter-faith group.

This organisation organises the itinerary for the visits and advises on dress codes and religious sensitivities.

Office and resource centre: 2 Clarence St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HZ

Tel/Fax: 01902 427601 **Email:** interfwolv@aol.com

It is highly recommended by schools in Herefordshire.

Contact the inter-faith group to arrange a visit to...

Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara, Sedgley Street, Wolverhampton.

Secular Philosophies



Cotswold Humanists

Contact: Phil Cork (Chairman)

Email: phil.cork@blueyonder.co.uk

Website: <http://www.cotswold.humanist.org.uk/>

Resources: BHA learning packs: Humanist perceptions [Primary teachers (Pack 1) Secondary teachers (Pack 2)] available free of charge from the above and to borrow from the Gloucester Diocesan Resource Centre. Also see the BHA's excellent educational resources at <http://www.humanism.org.uk/education>

Education about Humanism is a crucial aspect of the BHA's mission and we provide much other information elsewhere on this website about Humanism today and the humanist tradition. The site has pages for teachers, students and parents to support education about Humanism, whether in school RE, philosophy and ethics, or in informal educational settings.

There are toolkits, ideas for assemblies, humanist discussions of a range of topics studied in school, with discussion questions, and downloadable resources, see our website www.humanismforschools.org.uk

Teachers and governors will also find information about the inclusion of non-religious pupils and their parents in schools and colleges. Use the navigation on the left to locate information and resources relevant to you.

We also have a variety of publications for sale and materials for teachers and schools in our own online shop.

Together with the South Place Ethical Society and the New Humanist magazine, we also run the Hemming essay prize for sixth-formers and a programme of post doctoral Blackham Fellowships for those seeking to convert theses into publishable books.

We also provide speakers to talk about Humanism in your school, college or community group - email us for details

Other sources of information

Places of worship – online

Website: <http://pow.reonline.org.uk>

This very useful site provides teachers with

- descriptions of the main places of worship,
- links to places of worship that offer opportunities for educational visits around the country,
- links to places of worship that can provide virtual tours,
- advice about how to make a visit to a place of worship successful.

Race Equality and Diversity Service (READS)

Tel: 01453 427261

Email: reads@gloucestershire.gov.uk

And finally..... your help is needed

Schools: if you would like to recommend a visit or visitor to other schools to support teaching and learning in RE please let us know.

Faith communities: if you would like schools to visit you or you can offer visitors to schools to support their work in Religious Education please let us know.

Please contact: Liz Warwick, Clerk to SACRE

Email: liz.warwick@gloucestershire.gov.uk **Tel:** 01452



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