

How you can help

The RE Council has an ambitious agenda for the next five years.

To achieve our aims we need the support of organisations and individuals who understand the importance of RE in today's society.

You can help us by:

- Making a one-off donation to help us continue our work.
- Giving a small amount of money on a regular basis to help us plan our future activity.
- Funding one of our projects or a specific aspect of our strategic programme.
- Leaving us a gift in your will, to help us secure high quality RE for children in the years to come.

We would also welcome your ideas about how you'd like to help. Please get in touch with us to talk about them. Call 020 7842 8514.



Our members

The RE Council's 55 member organisations represent a broad spectrum of faiths, beliefs and professional bodies. A full list is available on our website: www.recouncil.org.uk

Our officers

Chair: John Keast OBE

Deputy Chair: Helen Harrison

Treasurer: Prof. Trevor Cooling

Company Secretary: Deborah Weston

Our Resources Committee

Dr Mark Chater, *Director*, The Culham Institute

Maurice Irfan Coles, *Director*, Islam and Citizenship Education Project

Prof. Trevor Cooling, *Professor of Christian Education* at Canterbury Christchurch University

Malcolm Deboo, *President*, Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

John Keast OBE

Jay Lakhani, *Chair*, Hindu Council UK

Barney Leith OBE, National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United Kingdom

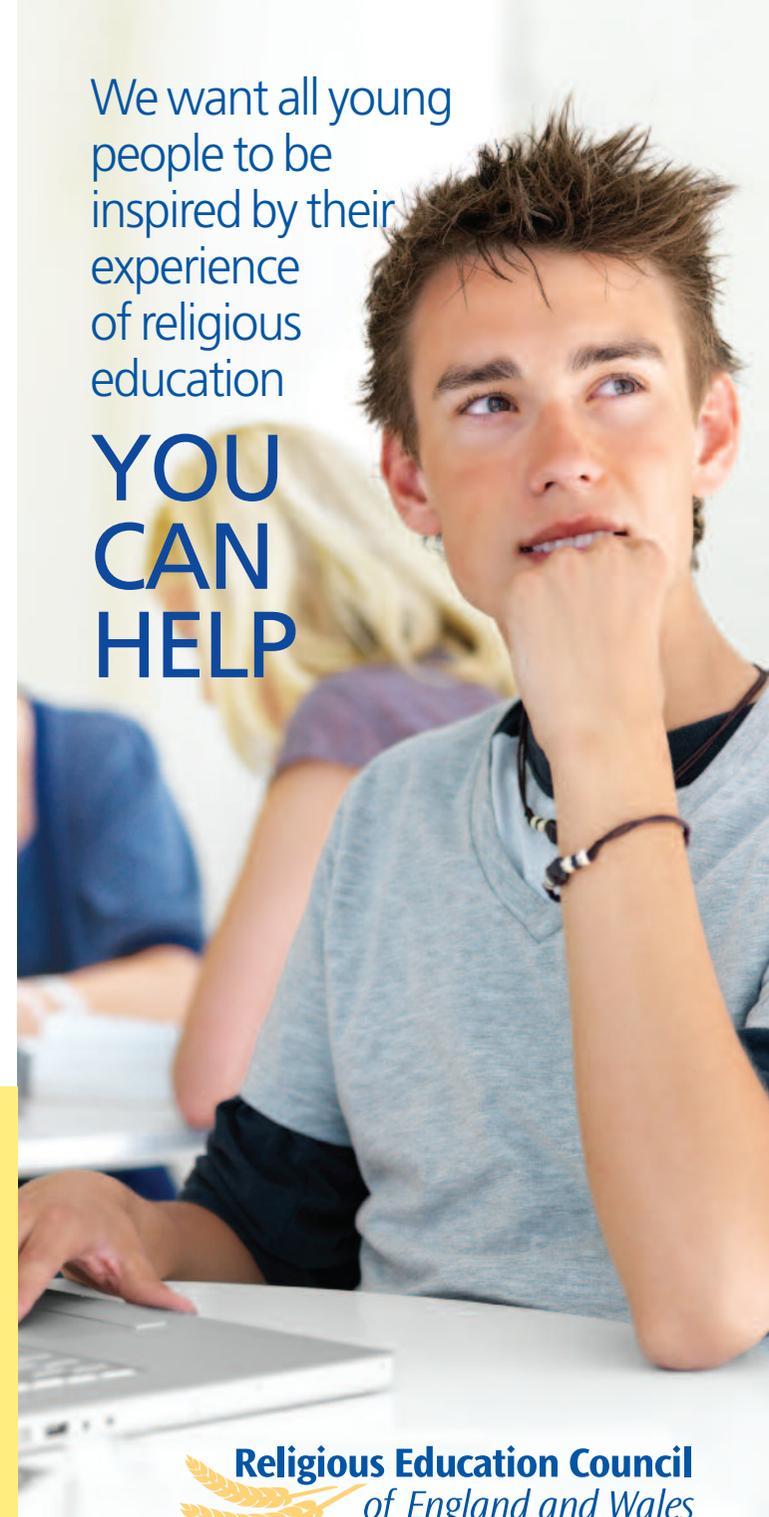
Dr Harshad N Sanghrajka, *Secretary and Director*, Institute of Jainology

Sandra Teacher, The Board of Deputies of British Jews



We want all young people to be inspired by their experience of religious education

YOU CAN HELP



RE is important. Be part of its future.

To find out more about how you can help the REC continue its work, please contact Sarah Smalley at sarah@religiouseducationcouncil.org or call 020 7842 8514. www.religiouseducationcouncil.org

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Religious Education matters

RE has a vital role to play in children's lives today:

- It introduces them to the richness of our world religions – their origins, art, culture, music, stories and sacred places.
- It helps them examine and develop their own beliefs about life.
- It fosters thought about their own spirituality.
- It gives them space to reflect on what it is to be human.
- It promotes understanding of the beliefs and values of others.



The RE Council – a unique organisation

The RE Council is a national organisation, uniquely placed to safeguard the future of RE for our children:

- It brings together 55 diverse organisations, all with an interest in ensuring high quality RE is taught in our schools.
- A very wide range of world religions is represented on the Council, as is humanism.
- Members are also drawn from professional associations of teachers and many are eminent educationalists.
- We operate on a basis of mutual respect and in a spirit of cooperation, creativity and critical engagement.



Building the future together

Our task over the next five years is to:

- Help people understand the importance of high quality RE for all children.
- Talk to parents, politicians and young people about their views on what makes good religious education and work with them to promote excellence in RE teaching.
- Ensure RE teachers have access to the best possible opportunities for professional development.



"We need RE because religion and culture are all around us and we cannot help but ask questions about them."

Molly, Year 7 student.

"Our young people are the future. RE is so important today because it enables young people to understand the world."

Solly Irving, Holocaust survivor.

"Bigotry and intolerance are the bedfellows of ignorance, and the more that young people in particular know about each other's beliefs, the more optimistic we can be about our shared futures."

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, 2012.

"The RE Council is a vital mouthpiece working on behalf of those involved in religious education."

Ed Pawson, Chair, National Association of Teachers of RE.

"Meetings of the RE Council are an inspiration in themselves – I greatly value the opportunity to discuss key issues with members of other faith and belief organisations."

Dr Harshad N Sanghrajka, Secretary and Director, Institute of Jainology.

"In addition to the academic value of the subject, RE also supports pupils articulating moral judgments, and it equips young people to deal with issues in their neighbourhoods, the workplace and in adult life."

Stephen Lloyd MP, Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group on RE, for which the RE Council provides the secretariat.

"Good quality RE today has never been more needed and has never been more under threat. The RE Council does a superb job."

The Rt Revd John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford.

"As religious and secular diversity increases, students need to be able to articulate their own beliefs, and engage with those of others, as never before. Respect and social harmony depend upon it."

James Conroy, Professor of Religious and Philosophical Education, University of Glasgow.