

Visits to faith communities

ENRICHING UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE OF DIFFERENT BELIEFS

**Supporting RE and SMSC through
visits for schools in Leeds, Kirklees
and Calderdale**

October 2020



Introduction

This list is provided to help schools contact faith communities. Such engagement can enrich students' religious education and enhance awareness, understanding and tolerance of religious diversity in our region.

The list covers Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds but we have also included details about neighbouring possibilities in a few cases. It includes individuals who are willing to come into school to support your work and bring some direct engagement with faith communities. It also includes some general information about places and organisations.

The list is only as good as the information offered and received. We know there are many gaps! We very much welcome additions and suggestions from schools, faith communities and individuals. Please contact enquiries@penninelearning.com if you would like to offer or suggest ideas to share with colleagues.

You can make contact directly with local places of worship. Anglican and Roman Catholic churches operate parish systems where there is always a local church with pastoral responsibility for the local community. It is generally easy to make contact directly or, if necessary, through the Anglican Diocese of Leeds www.achurchnearyou.com or the Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk

We are very clear that the purpose of visits envisaged here is to support the education of young people, not in any way to persuade or proselytise. However, we hope that direct engagement with people of faith will enliven and inspire pupils' thinking so they can make their own judgments and develop their own understanding. Guidance has been written locally and is available in all three local authorities. It can also be downloaded from www.penninelearning.com.

Although due care has been taken to check that individuals and organisations are appropriate and bona fide, it is neither apt nor possible for us to conduct safeguarding or quality assurance checks in a comprehensive way. Please be clear that is the responsibility of individual schools to undertake normal safeguarding and quality assurance procedures for themselves. However, we are very happy to have your feedback which will help us to ensure this list is as useful and up-to-date as possible.

Any arrangements should be made directly with the people on this list. We're sorry we are not able to undertake a booking service on behalf of schools. It is also up to schools to check any financial arrangements. Many of the people and organisations do not make a charge. In other cases they are commercial organisations or individual people whose livelihood derives from this educational work. We have indicated where charges are likely. Even where these visits are pro bono, it is always appropriate to offer travel and incidental expenses.

Welcoming Schools Quality Mark and free training



Free training is available for faith communities supporting understanding of the RE syllabus, modelling activities to use with pupils and providing guidance on protocols. Faith communities can also gain recognition of the quality of visits through the 'Welcoming Schools' logo. Communities which have gained this award are marked in the list. For more details please contact helen.rivers@kirkleeseducation.uk

Useful guidance has also been published by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE). It can be found on their website natre.org.uk

The benefits of visits

Diversity is multi-faceted and does not only apply to ethnicity or faith. Nevertheless, engagement with people of different faiths is a critical element of this. This can take the form of a visit to a faith community or receiving a visitor in an assembly, class or special event. Many schools find it invaluable to arrange such engagement to help students to broaden their understanding and experience of our communities and world. These occasions can:

- Contribute to our obligation to promote fundamental values of respect and tolerance;
- Broaden pupils' experience and perspectives and develop their critical thinking skills;
- Build bridges in our local communities;
- Enrich the provision for religious education and fulfil requirements of the syllabus.

Doubts and reluctance

Sometimes parents or carers are reluctant to allow their child to participate on a specific visit. All school visits require parental consent and as a concomitant, parents have a legal right to withhold such consent. While schools must always respect (and be seen to respect) parents' statutory rights, teachers can try to encourage full participation as part of every child's right to a broad and balanced education.

Be aware that parental reluctance may stem from a number of reasons and should not be automatically dismissed as ignorance or prejudice. Although these may be a factor for some, there can also be genuine fears and doubts and it is always good to encourage a parent or carer to articulate their questions.

Schools have found some of the ideas below useful in dealing with doubts or in building a culture where visits and visitors are part of the yearly routine and welcomed by all.

- It is good practice to ask to discuss such an issue face to face. There may be specific reasons why a parent is reluctant to allow consent. A meeting gives the opportunity to reassure and for the parent to think through what is best;

- Be very clear about the facts – communicate the nature, purpose and content of the visit at an early stage and continue to do so;
- Be clear about the value of the visit – how and why it will be helpful for pupils and how it links to the curriculum;
- Celebrate the event through displays and information on newsletters, website or parents' evenings. Use last year's pictures to help promote this year's event;
- Link it into a wider school context, for example as part of a sequence of visits or events that engage with diversity or as a contribution to a wider anti-bullying or tolerance agenda;
- Communicate the enjoyment and participation involved. It's a shame if a child misses out on the experience shared by others in the class;
- Involve parents – as helpers or through sharing what is happening.

Visitors to school

Schools often use visitors as well as, or instead of, arranging an external visit. Unless such an occasion is specifically part of the RE curriculum or an act of collective worship, there is no statutory right to withdraw. It can still enable pupils to understand about different people and cultures.

The Faith Visits Contacts list may help with ideas but there will also be local and personal contacts within the school community. If their contribution is supported appropriately, they do not have to have extensive teaching skills or public speaking experience. An interview or prepared questions can be a very effective way of helping pupils to learn about a visitor's faith, culture or experience.

There are some key things to consider in planning the visit:

- What are the aims? Have these been discussed and shared with the visitor?
- Ensure the school is managing the event throughout. This will help the visitor as well as you.
- Follow normal safeguarding procedures, while also offering appropriate welcome and hospitality.
- Prepare the pupils, staff and parents; celebrate the occasion and links with the wider community.

It is good to remember that staff (not just teaching staff) and parents may be a source of diverse experience that can be celebrated in school and learnt from by pupils. Sensitivity is needed, and such contributions need to be appropriate to the willingness, confidence and experience of the person concerned. At the same time this participation can affirm and enrich the participant.

Further information

We welcome feedback, suggestions or ideas and will include any changes or amendments in future editions.

For queries contact helen@penninelearning.com

We have carefully checked information in this list but neither Pennine Learning Associates Ltd, nor any of the local authorities we serve, can be held liable for any inaccuracies or for any consequences arising from the use of this list. Please always ensure your safeguarding and quality assurance procedures are in place and check details directly.

Many places of worship are already offering online material and virtual tours – this has been noted in their entry. Others are beginning to develop their resources in this area, so it is worth checking.

Updated October 2020

Baha'i

Marion Pollitt is a retired secondary teacher, also responsible also for assemblies and pastoral care. Can offer assemblies at primary or secondary level, secondary carousels and children's classes at all key stages. **Alan Pollitt** has Experience of taking children's classes at primary level, lunchtime groups and school assemblies.

Contact: 01422 311048

John Butterfield is a retired Senior Educational Psychologist, with extensive school experience at all phases. He is a trustee of Calderdale Interfaith Council and a member of Calderdale SACRE.

Jill Butterfield is a retired educational psychologist with experience in schools at all key stages and now also a volunteer at St Augustine's centre, Halifax.

Contact: 01422 881230 and 07799801417

Ramona Cleasby is a counsellor in the Health Service with extensive experience in primary schools.

Dr Steven Cleasby is a GP with experience of primary and secondary schools, as well as youth groups. **Contact:** via John Butterfield as above

Buddhism



Vajrapani Kadampa Buddhist Centre, Huddersfield

Wheathouse Terrace, Huddersfield, HD2 2UY

The centre offers well-organised, thoughtful visits for all ages, including an introduction to Buddhist teaching and daily life. Visits are usually on Tuesdays and Wednesdays - other days by arrangement. Coach drop off and public transport links available on Wheathouse Rd.

Contact direct to book school visits – 01484-943119 or admin@meditateinhuddersfield.org

Website: www.meditateinhuddersfield.org

Manchester Buddhist Centre

Offer educational visits

16-20 Turner St, Manchester M4 1DZ

Website: www.manchesterbuddhistcentre.org.uk

Contact: 0161-834 9232

Jamyang Buddhist and Meditation Centre, Leeds

Clyde Works, Ingram Rd, Leeds LS11 9RQ

Website: www.jamyangleeds.co.uk

Contact: 0113-345 2626

Kagyü Dechen Dzong Buddhist Centre, Harrogate

Offer help with delivering Buddhism in the classroom. Happy to meet individual or small groups of teachers or subject leaders of RE on a one-off or on-going basis. Drop in sessions for teachers on Friday evenings.

Website: www.yorkshirebuddhistcommunity.com (local) and www.lamajampa.org (wider)

Contact: Howard Quinn at howard.quinn@dechen.org or 01423 881647 07462 758353

Christianity

You can contact your local church. The churches below offer a particular service to schools:

Calderdale

Halifax Minster

Website: www.halifaxminster.org.uk

Contact: 01422-355436

St Hilda's Church

Gibraltar Rd, Halifax, HX1 4HE <https://sthildashalifax.wordpress.com>

St John's Church

Warley, Halifax HX2 7LY <https://stjohnschurchwarley.wixsite.com/stjohn>

Both churches available Monday to Friday, welcoming visits from primary and secondary schools.

Aspect of the RE syllabus can be addressed in bespoke visits as well as spirituality and prayer events.

Contact rev.caroline14@gmail.com 01422 363623

Mount Zion Methodist Heritage Chapel, Halifax

KS2 visits welcome with a variety of activities linked to history and practical learning.

Per Lane, Upper Brockholes, Halifax HX2 8XG

Website: www.mountzionhalifax.org.uk

Contact: Paula Prosser at schools.mountzion@gmail.com or on 07563-733148

Kirklees



Dewsbury Minster

Rishworth Road, Dewsbury, WF12 8DD

The Minster Church of All Saints, Dewsbury offers visits reflecting its rich history and its present-day service to the community as it feeds those in need on a daily basis. Directly opposite Dewsbury Bus station, providing easy access via public transport.

Website: www.dewsburyminster.org.uk Contact: simon@dewsburyminster.org.uk 01924 465491



Huddersfield Parish Church

Byram Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1BU.

St Peter's Church offers well-structured visits for all ages. It is a short walk from Huddersfield Rail and Bus stations, and its central location allows for the possibility of a two-centre visit to include a Mosque or Gurdwara. Cost £75.

Website: www.huddersfieldparishchurch.org Contact: huddspc@btconnect.com 01484 427964



St John's, Newsome; St Paul's, Armitage Bridge; Holy Trinity, South Crosland

School visits welcome. Rev Julie Anderson is also available to support RE lessons within local primary and secondary schools, by arrangement.

Contact: Julie_anderson51@yahoo.co.uk

Huddersfield Methodist Circuit

Huddersfield Methodist Circuit welcomes invitations to work with schools; offering assemblies, support with RE lessons, Godly Play, festivals (other RE) workshops, lunchtime clubs and also visits to places of worship.

Ministers and lay workers include:

- Suzanne Bridges (Children's Work Coordinator for the Huddersfield Methodist Circuit, KS1/KS2 focus).
- Chris Mason (Circuit Youth Worker for the Huddersfield Methodist Circuit, KS3-KS4 focus)
- Rev Sue Burton (Methodist Minister for Holmfirth, Linthwaite, Slaithwaite and Gatehead)
- Rev Andrew Marchington (Methodist Minister for Marsden and Meltham)
- Rev Nancy Ndoho (Methodist Minister for Berry Brow, Golcar and Netherton)
- Rev Sue Pegg (Methodist Minister for for Gledholt, Kirkheaton and Lepton)
- Rev Helen Roberts (Methodist Minister for Brockholes, Honley Trinity, Scholes and Shepley)
- Rev Sue Taylor (Methodist Minister for Bradley, Fartown Trinity and Lindley)

Contact: Suzanne Bridges suzhmc@gmail.com

Website: www.huddersfieldmethodists.org.uk



Lepton Methodist Church

The Square, Highgate Lane, Lepton, HD8 0HB.

Lepton Methodist Church offers assemblies to local schools and welcomes school visits for activities and workshops at Christian Festivals and other times.

Contact: revsuepegg@outlook.com



Christchurch, Moldgreen and St James' Parish Church, Rawthorpe

School visits welcome by arrangement. Rev Charlotte Cheshire is a former youth and schools worker and currently also Chaplain to Huddersfield University.

Contact: Charlotte.cheshire@leeds.anglican.org 01484 982373



Longcauseway Church (United Reformed and Methodist), Dewsbury

Princess of Wales Precinct, Dewsbury, WF13 1NH

The church hosts school visits and offers 'Rewind to Christmas' and 'Rewind to Easter' for local schools. Short walk from Dewsbury Bus station, providing easy access via public transport.

Website: www.longcauseway.org.uk **Contact:** 07591582848 (Office)



United Reformed Church, Moldgreen

Contact: Church Office 01484 430556

Christ the King, Battyeford, Mirfield:

Contact: Sheena Grills ctkyouth@christ-the-king.co.uk

Holy Trinity Church, Huddersfield

Contact: 01484 513213 office@holytrinityhuddersfield.com

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon)

116 Halifax Rd, Huddersfield HD3 3BS

Contact: Eileen Webb ewebblds@yahoo.co.uk Phone: 07903-552610

Leeds



Leeds Minster

St Peters House, Kirkgate, Leeds LS2 7DJ

Website: www.leedsminster.org

Contact: 0113- 245 2036 or contact@leedsminster.org

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Leeds LS6 3LF

Able to offer church visits and also offer: Rewind to Christmas, Rewind to Easter and 'It's your Move'.

Contact: info@cbcl.org.uk or 0113 275 4989 **Website:** www.spbc.org.uk

General

Christian Aid

Available for primary and secondary schools, based in Kirklees.

Contact: Barry Lee barryslee@live.com

Christian Initiative in Calderdale Schools (CICS) works alongside staff in both Primary and Secondary schools and seeks to support the spiritual development of young people through assemblies, RE/PSCHE lesson delivery, Info Point, Faith/RE days, out of school activities and individual/group mentoring.

Free of charge except for mentoring (£20 per hour donation).

Website: www.cicscalderdale.org.uk

Contact: office@cicscalderdale.org.uk

Hand to Mouth is a Christian charity that works in primary schools in Kirklees and Calderdale, supporting the spiritual development of children through RE Days, assemblies, Godly Play and Spiritual Journeys. **Online Collective worship recordings are available from November 2020.** Charges approximately £300 a day.

Website: www.handtomouth.org.uk

Contact: office@handtomouth.org.uk **Tel.** 01484 315600 or 07905112345 or 07905466393

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds

The diocese covers most of Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds and can put you in touch with a local parish.

Contact: the diocesan RE coordinator, Chris Devanny chris.devanny@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

You can also contact your local parish direct.

Hinduism



Hindu Temple, 20 Zetland St, Huddersfield , HD1 2RA

Visits can be arranged on most days. The temple welcomes all ages, offering group activities, personal reflections and music as part of the learning experience. Suggested donation £70.

Contact: Kiran Bali huddersfieldmandir@googlemail.com 07944 335855

Humanism

Humanists UK can arrange for a member of their trained team of visitors to visit schools throughout the area. You can discuss this with Dermot Bolton or Rob Billson, a member of Calderdale SACRE, if you wish, but please book through the BHA as below.

Contacts: Dermot Bolton: dermotb@blueyonder.co.uk or 07811 197053

Rob Billson: rbbillson@gmail.com or 07540 888641

Bookings through: <https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/school-speakers/>

Islam

Equilibria Experience: Explore Islam Workshops, Assemblies and Mosque Visits



Equilibria Experience is a West Yorkshire-based resource for all schools concerned with approaches to the study and understanding of Islam. It is a non-profit organization committed to encouraging a better understanding of Islam through interactive pupil workshops, assemblies and mosque visits, covering objectives from the local RE syllabus in West Yorkshire. Workshops include: Calligraphy (with bamboo pens and water based ink), Islam and Nature, Diversity, and many more. **Workshops are currently offered online with accompanying artefacts and resources delivered to schools in advance.**

Website: www.equilibriaexperience.org.uk

Contact: contact@equilibriaexperience.org.uk

Kumon Yall

Kumon Yall is an organisation offering school workshops and mosque visits in the Dewsbury area. A number of Imams in the network are available to take assemblies, Q and A sessions and workshops on social and religious issues, particularly aimed at secondary age pupils. Mosque visits are based at Zakariya Mosque, Savile Town; the visit includes lively, interactive activities, Q and A and refreshments. No charge, but donations welcome.

Contact: farook@kumonyall.co.uk 07515 634970

Calderdale

Dr Fiaz Farooq

Member of Calderdale SACRE and local GP.

Available to offer sessions to primary and secondary school pupils about Islam, the Arabic language and culture.

Contact: fiazf@yahoo.com

Kirklees



Dawatal Islam Masjid

West Acre Drive, Soothill, Batley, WF17 6PE

School visits welcome by arrangement. Up to 60 pupils may be accommodated; visits are well-organised and interactive.

Contact: Suleman Aswat (Chairman) sulemanaswat@hotmail.co.uk 07736-871173

Email: dawatalislam.mosque@gmail.com

Imam Saeed Makda

Imam from Batley who also teaches in a madressah.

Contact: mohammedsaeedmakda4@gmail.com T: 07498-280022



Jamia Masjid Noor

Crosland Road, Thornton Lodge, Huddersfield, HD1 3JS

The mosque welcomes visits from up to 60 pupils. Sessions are exceptionally well-organised including a wide range of activities. Visits to schools can also be arranged.

Contact: Abdul Majid jamiamasjidnoor@gmail.com T: 01484 423081 or 07553 693325

Website: www.jamiamasjidnoor.com

Al-Hidayah Mosque

Caledonian Rd, Dewsbury

School Visits by arrangement. Visits include interactive learning, question and answer as well as a tour of the mosque.

Contact: Kaushar Tai kaushartai@hotmail.com 07813 811914

Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (Huddersfield South)

Baitus Samad Mosque, 41 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield HD1 6AS

Visits to schools or to mosque arranged, including information about charitable work. Presentations available on any topic related to Islam or any contemporary issues.

Contact Fatihul Haq 07547-870197 or fatihul-haq@hotmail.co.uk

Mashuda Shaikh works for Communities in Kirklees Council

Contact: mashuda.shaikh@kirklees.gov.uk T: 07967-547110

Yahya Delair is involved with work of humanitarian nature, and has a special interest in youth work and the study of the Qur'an.

Contact: yahyadelair01@gmail.com T: 07592-110594

Leeds

Jamia Masjid Abu Huraira, Catherine Grove, Beeston, Leeds LS11 6LU

School visits to masjid welcome. Also offers visits to schools to enhance learning about Islam in an assembly or class setting. Display and exhibits available. Can help to organise a panel of interfaith speakers to talk about faith and wider duties to community. **The mosque is currently offering pre-recorded tours. They can also facilitate a teacher coming to record a tour.**

Contact: Faisar at kmwa.leeds@hotmail.com

Lincoln Green Mosque, Cherry Tree, Cherry Row, Leeds LS9 7LY

Welcomes school visits.

Contact: Shaho shaho84@gmail.com or T: 07746-454969

UKIM Leeds (Iqra Centre and The Lingfield Centre), 4-6 Carr Manor Cres, Leeds LS17 5DH

School visits welcomed.

Contact: Eatsam Ahmed Danish admin@iqracentre.org.uk or 07735-533703

Judaism

Leeds



Sinai Synagogue, Leeds (Reform)

Roman Avenue, Leeds. LS8 2AN

School visits welcome by arrangement and can be tailored to your priorities

Website: www.sinaileeds.uk

Contact: education@sinaileeds.uk or 0113-266 5256

United Hebrew Congregation, Leeds

151 Shadwell Lane, Leeds, LS17 8DW

School visits welcome by arrangement.

Website: www.uhcleeds.com

Contact: Sue Dorsey sue.dorsey@ntlworld.com

Makor Jewish Culture Centre, Leeds

Offers Primary and Secondary school visits mostly in Leeds and West Yorkshire tailored to curriculum needs and introducing Judaism. Examples include: an introduction to Sabbath with hands-on activities such as plaiting and baking challah bread; an introduction to Hebrew writing, comparing English and Arabic alphabets.

Contact: Ellie Ruhan 0113-218 5873 or email ellie@makor.co.uk

Other Jewish organisations

Manchester Jewish Museum

Cheetham Hill Rd, ½ mile from Victoria Station.

School visits welcome by arrangement.

Website: www.manchesterjewishmuseum.com

Freddy Naftel

Enrichment presentations and workshops for students aged 7-13, focusing on the legacy of the Holocaust and antisemitism today. from a personal point of view, concentrating on my family history. **I am currently providing Zoom presentations and have prepared a number of CD presentations, aimed at different year groups.** Charges apply.

Contact: Freddy Naftel 0161-280 3046 or fredericknaftel@virginmedia.com

Sikhism

Leeds



Guru Nanak Niskam Sevak Jatha Gurdwara, Leeds

78 Ladypit Lane, Beeston, Leeds LS11 6DP

Welcomes school visits, which are free of charge, donations can be made. Visits include Gurdwara tour with question and answer time. Also turban tying and music.

The Gurdwara can be reached by public transport and short 10 minute walk.

Contact: gsdeagon@hotmail.co.uk or via Info@gnnsjleeds.com

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

Huddersfield



Guru Nanak Gurdwara, Huddersfield

2 Prospect St, Springwood, Huddersfield, HD1 2NX

Welcomes visits from upper KS2 upwards which are free of charge. The visit includes a tour of the Gurdwara and a chance to eat in the Langar Hall. The Gurdwara is an easy walk from the bus and railway stations in Huddersfield.

Contact: To book direct contact gurdwarabooking@gmail.com

General

Bradford Interfaith and Diversity Team

Can arrange for class visits to a variety of places of worship in Bradford. The six major world faiths are represented by a team of faith tutors and associates who are able to work with schools and other educators to foster religious literacy, enhance spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and promote British Values.

'Virtual' visits to a Hindu temple, Sikh Gurdwara, Mosque, Buddhist Temple and Synagogue are offered as pre-recorded sessions. Schools can purchase them as a link for 24hrs or link with faith tutor who can do Q&A or storytelling to the group of learners. There are sessions for collective worship and special festivals during all terms. Follow this link for promotional offers

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwTvbEKUWNYdr_zrhoJVkbA

Contact: Margaret McMillan Tower Princes Way Bradford BD1 1NN

T: 01274 439379 or interfaith@bradford.gov.uk

Community Cohesion Initiative

Joint teaching and Q and A sessions are offered to schools by arrangement in order to allow pupils to ask questions and learn how those with different faith perspectives live well together.

Mufti Mohammed Amin Pandor/ Rev Simon Cash **Contact:** mpandoor@gmail.com 07479 464 428

Rev Mark Umpleby/ Sheikh Irfan Soni **Contact:** markumpleby@hotmail.com 07872 333127