

# Welcome to AREIAC



**AREIAC** is the **Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants**.

It is an organisation run by its members for its members. We are passionate about high quality multi-faith religious education and inclusive collective worship and seek to promote this wherever we find it.

Members of AREIAC are all involved in a professional capacity training teachers, writing and producing resources or advising teachers on RE or collective worship.

They may work for a local authority or a Diocesan Board of Education or they may be independent or work for a faith community. Many also have responsibilities for their local SACRE

## AREIAC seeks to promote:

- ◆ the equal status of religious education with other curriculum subjects,
- ◆ the contribution of religious education and collective worship to pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development,
- ◆ high quality of teaching and learning in religious education for all pupils,
- ◆ opportunities for pupils to study world religions, including Christianity,
- ◆ opportunities for pupils to develop their own beliefs and values, and to respect the rights of others to have different beliefs and values,
- ◆ a religious education curriculum which challenges disadvantages and inequalities,
- ◆ collective worship as an educational activity which protects and affirms the integrity of all those taking part,
- ◆ links with international, national and local faith communities to advance the aims of religious education and collective worship in schools and colleges.

## The Principles of RE:

In **AREIAC** we believe that religion and belief education:

- ◆ helps learners understand the living world of religion and belief, its significance for many people and its impact on societies and cultures,
- ◆ makes a significant contribution to learners' spiritual development through helping them to reflect upon their feelings, relationships and uniqueness as human beings,
- ◆ develops important skills of reflection, empathy, communication, enquiry, analysis and evaluation,
- ◆ develops important attitudes of respect, sensitivity, open-mindedness and self-esteem,
- ◆ helps learners explore important questions of meaning and the responses religions have made to these questions,
- ◆ like any curriculum activity requires effective planning, delivery, assessment and resourcing,
- ◆ has a vital role to play in the education of the 'whole' person,
- ◆ helps learners consider their own beliefs and values and commitments and what is of ultimate significance to them.

## Totally Independent

**AREIAC** is funded by its members and so is totally independent. The executive is unpaid and support AREIAC in their 'spare time'. They represent AREIAC on various bodies, such as the RE Council and are responsible for reporting back to the regions on any initiatives in RE, particularly those that are government led or curriculum orientated. In this way it keeps its members up to date and involved in policy changes which may affect Religious Education.

## Becoming a member

**AREIAC** welcomes new members in order to apply for membership please visit the website at [www.arei.ac.org.uk](http://www.arei.ac.org.uk) where you will find an electronic application form. We offer two kinds of memberships.

**FULL MEMBER:** For those who are working full-time in an advisory for professional support role for RE - **Cost £70pa.**

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** For those working part-time in one of these roles (thought they may be full-time workers) - **Cost £35pa.**

## for its members

**AREIAC** provides for all of its members:

- ◆ access to its website with up to date information and an extensive archive,
- ◆ a regular termly newsletter,
- ◆ regular regional meetings,
- ◆ contact with other RE inspectors, advisers and consultants for mutual support and to share ideas,
- ◆ publications which explore and support the effective delivery of high quality RE and inclusive collective worship,
- ◆ a voice in national and local decision making which may impact on RE and collective worship,
- ◆ access to a two day Summer Conference
- ◆ access to other AREIAC Conferences at a specially reduced member's rate,
- ◆ AGM attendance and voting rights,
- ◆ regular professional development webinars.

## regional groups

**AREIAC** has a number of regional groups



Members of these groups meet, usually termly for mutual support and to share ideas. The groups may vary in format and content depending on the needs and interests. Regions select their own chair and secretary and have a representative on the executive of AREIAC, whose role is to reflect any issues that the group raises and also to report back from the executive.