

**Paper to Derby City SACRE
for consideration at the 6 February 2007 meeting**

Religious Resources

Background

In October 2006 I was approached by a local vicar Revd William Bates whether I would be prepared to meet with a group of local, Allestree, teachers and Head teachers to discuss ways in which the Multi-Faith Centre might help them to deliver their RE Curriculum.

Meeting

We meet at the end of November to try to find out what, if anything, the Centre could do to facilitate and help the teachers with their concerns. From the meeting it emerged that what they were looking for was "Human Resources" people prepared to talk about their faith in a way which children could both understand and relate.

They had tried to use some parents but most were not experienced in talking about their faith either to children or adults and we as a group recognised that it takes a certain type of person who could do this without any training.

We also recognised that there are some people in the Derby community prepared to do this task but there was perhaps a need for more "bodies" in order to spread the load.

This may also be an issue in other areas of the city and I felt that SACRE might be the place to further explore these matters.

Proposal

- 1 To recruit more people to talk to children about faith experiences
- 2 To provide training in how to do this, to give confidence etc
- 3 To have a database of well trained and able "bodies" to assist in the delivery of the RE Curriculum

Methodology

- 1 Use local publicity Derby Evening Telegraph, M
- 2 FC Newsletter, Forum of Faiths for Derby,
Radio Derby, Personal contacts
- 3 Arrange some training for the recruits.

It was recognised that there may be existing resources that could be used eg the Multi Faith Centre as a venue, trainers who maybe prepared to train for "free", the University of Derby lecturers in Education and more.....

However, we felt this type of initiative needed a public body backing and to that we look to SACRE to support in principal an initiative to recruit more "bodies".

Eileen Fry
Multi-Faith Centre Director
January 2007