



RELIGIOUS STUDIES RESOURCE CENTRE 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

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This Annual Report is produced now, at the end of 2011, to reflect some changes taking place at the RS Resources Centre. 2012 sees the RS Resource Centre moving forward into a new era.

From January 2012 the Nottingham Bluecoat School becomes an Academy and we are delighted to say that the Academy will continue to host the Centre in its present location within the Aspley Lane Campus.

This report reflects a continuing reduction in our reserves, following the earlier loss of all financial support from the local Education Authorities, in 2010.

The centre has continued to explore sources of alternative funding, as yet to no avail. Our finances will in future come under the care of the Bluecoat Foundation Trustees, which is a registered charity and future subscriptions and other payments to us will be payable through this body. There will be further information about this on our website.



HOSTED BY THE NOTTINGHAM
BLUECOAT SCHOOL & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE
DURING 2011



The Centre has continued to offer loans to subscribers as well as advice and guidance on a range of issues relating to Religious Education. It has worked closely with the Nottingham Inter Faith Council [NIFC], which has been in partnership with the Centre since the early days.

There has been considerable expansion in the Faith Experience Project, particularly across schools in the County. One local district Council has been so pleased with the pilot that we ran in some of their schools that they have offered subsidised experiences to other schools in their area.

The evaluation comments we have received from schools have shown that this is a valued way of teaching RE and has been welcomed by pupils and teachers alike. It has been pleasing to receive requests for return visits from schools as we build up positive relationships with the school communities.

We have also been grateful to NIFC for assisting in finding faith members to accompany these visits whenever possible.

A report about the Faith Experiences appeared in the Autumn Term Newsletter of the RE Council of England and Wales.

During this period the Centre has attended the County Primary Head Teacher's Conference and has delivered training about RE. to students from Nottingham SCITT.

We are members of the National Federation of RE Centres and through this have engaged in dialogue with other centres.

You can find the Agreed Syllabus in County SACRE pages, which we host on our website- www.rsresources.org.uk

The centre has also worked with St John's College, to promote a RE training conference for Post 16 students, during this period.



Our Vision

Our vision is to provide a unique opportunity for Personal Teaching and learning Development across all faiths, for both the City and County of Nottingham.

Our Aims and Objectives

To make available a collection of resources for loan to teachers, faith communities, and other organisations exploring the faiths of our world and community.

To improve access to resources by generating our own materials; developing a resource bank of other teachers' materials and good practice; guidance & signposting to other sources of support; as well as giving opportunities to inspect published materials.

To encourage connections between users and faith communities, e.g. by building a network of reliable contacts, providing guidance on visits to places of worship.

To provide an environment for teachers' research and learning, e.g. through short courses.

To develop community education in faith issues, using our facilities to support courses, discussions, events, exhibitions, small group meetings and facilitating conferences.

To develop the Faith Experience project to engage young people in discovering more about religion in new ways

Management.

The Centre Manager has overall responsibility for the project. There is a Management Committee which consists of various stakeholders

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INCOME & EXPENDITURE

(April - December) **2011**

<i>INCOME</i>	£
Funding	0
Faith Experiences	1945
Subscriptions	105
Miscellaneous	399
TOTAL	2449
<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
Staff costs	2701
Stationary & printing	186
Books & Subscriptions	10
Miscellaneous	85
TOTAL	2982
Income / exp surplus	[533]
Balance at start of the year	1771
End of year balance	1238

We acknowledge the continuing support of the Bluecoat Academy, which hosts the RS Centre and provides infrastructure amenities, enabling us to operate and further develop our expansion. We also acknowledge the support of the Nottingham Bluecoat Trustees and the Nottingham Inter Faith Council, as we work together to promote social cohesion within our schools and communities .

The NIFC Faiths Exhibition is available on loan, from the Centre to schools and community groups.

