



*Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham*

***Town Hall,  
Moorgate Street, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. S60 2TH***

29<sup>th</sup> September, 2014

Dear Headteacher and Chair of the Governing Body,

**Rotherham Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education - Collective Worship**

Since the publication of the Rotherham Local Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in 2011, one of Rotherham's Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education's (SACRE) priorities has been to focus on Collective Worship. SACRE have now produced a guidance document to accompany the Agreed Syllabus offering support with Collective Worship. Please find enclosed a copy of this document for your use.

The requirements of the Education Acts (1944; 1988; 1993) states that a daily act of Collective Worship should be followed that is 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian Character'.

If you wish to withdraw your School from the legal requirement to deliver Collective Worship of 'broadly a Christian character', you should write directly to Hannah Etheridge, Clerk of SACRE, ([hannah.etheridge@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.etheridge@rotherham.gov.uk)) to request this and outlining the reasons why it is necessary for your School. SACRE will then consider your request and conduct a visit to decide whether a 'Determination' should be granted for your School.

A Determination does not take away the requirement for collective worship that should have a 'spiritual' character so that at least some assemblies should offer children the opportunity to pray, reflect or be silent for a little while according to their choice.

Kind regards,

*Vanessa Gregory*

*Nicki Goodwin*

Vanessa Gregory  
Curriculum Consultant for RE

Nicki Goodwin  
Chair, Rotherham SACRE