## **SACRE Members Visiting Schools**

A critical aspect of SACRE's work is its partnership with schools. At times, SACRE members will have the opportunity to visit schools. Faith community representatives may by investigation, be regular visitors to schools to support RE and/or collective worship.

In order to maximize the value of such visits it is helpful if visitors:-

- ➤ liaise with the Headteacher and RE subject leader where possible
- ➤ are well-supported by the class teacher who should always be present and take an active role in question and answer sessions, and ensure visitors are well-briefed.
- know that they are not present in an inspectorial role to judge the quality of teaching
- are willing to share their beliefs, values and experiences but without being critical of others or imposing their own views
- communicate at an appropriate level for the age group concerned, recognising that content and language may be, at times, inappropriate and confusing.
- > familiarise themselves with the school's aims, ethos and policies in RE
- familiarise themselves with the schools Collective Worship policy and termly plans
- ➤ if in an RE lesson, know where the lesson 'fits' into the scheme of work and what pupils' prior and future learning might be
- complete the form below and send to the SACRE clerk

## NB VISITORS SHOULD NEVER TRY TO PERSUADE/CONVERT PUPILS TO THEIR OWN FAITH/BELIEF SYSTEM

For many years RE struggled with being regarded as indoctrinatory (i.e. putting forward one view as though no other existed)
RE today is about developing pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding, and encouraging personal learning from the material which is encountered.