

Dear colleague,

I'm writing to you on behalf of [Dr Peter Hemming](#) from the School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, with regard to his research on religion in the primary school, and related activities and events you may be interested in.

### **What is the Research About?**

The studies draw on original, in-depth qualitative research in English and Welsh primary schools, in both multi-faith, urban locations and rural village communities. Key findings summaries are attached to this email for your information. The research grapples with questions about the following issues in everyday school contexts:

- School ethos, values and community-building
- Inter-faith relations and cohesion
- Recognising and accommodating religious difference
- Engagement with local communities

### **What Related Activities and Events are We Planning?**

Following on from these findings, we are developing a number of activities and events that you may like to become involved in:

(1) On the issue of religious diversity, we are collating together a suite of materials for primary school staff to use across England and Wales. We plan to evaluate their use later in the year to evidence any impact they have made. Resources will include:

- A guidance document for primary school staff and governors
- Training materials for staff
- Materials for engaging with pupils

We are looking for input from experts in the field, such as yourself or your organisation, as to what should be included in these materials. Please reply directly to this email if you have anything that you think would be useful to contribute - we would be very grateful to hear from you and will be sure to acknowledge your organisation on the resource pack.

We then intend to present a first draft of the pack as part of a consultation workshop during our 'Religious Diversity in Primary Schools' seminar event, to be held at Cardiff University on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017**. We would also be delighted if you were able to attend. Further information will be circulated about this event in due course but numbers will be limited so please contact us if you would like to reserve a place at this stage.

(2) On the issue of the role of rural schools in their local communities, we are planning to collaborate with the Church in Wales on a 'webinar' programme and associated web resources, to be arranged for later in the year. Please let us know if you have any interest in participating in these activities by emailing back to this address.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts on the findings and how we can build on these to further support primary schools.

Kind regards,

Christopher Dye

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