

Gwynedd Secondary Schools Religious Leaders Questionnaires Report – Summer 2010.

A questionnaire was sent to every secondary school in Gwynedd. Responses were received from the following schools:

Botwnnog; Brynrefail; Eifionydd, Tryfan, Ardudwy, Dyffryn Nantlle; Glan y Môr; Syr Hugh Owen; Y Berwyn; Y Moelwyn.

Collaboration:

The majority of the schools stated that they:

- Held special lessons
- Visited a chapel/church
- Invited religious leaders to the school
- Invited representatives of various charities to the school

A minority of the schools stated that they:

- Held a weekly Christianity Club
- Organized activities in collaboration with a local chapel/church
- Made use of leaders to assist with GCSE religious studies

When making enquiries on who had visited the school, the following were mentioned:

- Ministers.
- Rectors.
- Youth leaders.
- Representatives of Charities such as Christian Aid.
- Representatives of other religions such as the Gideons, The Orthodox Church, the Sedemists.
- Local Mosque Representative.

With regard to the future, some schools stated that they would enhance the collaboration through inviting more leaders to visit the school - one school stated that they intended to visit a Synagogue and a Buddhist Centre in Manchester.

A substantial number of schools wish to maintain the current effective arrangements.

Two schools stated that they intended to review the arrangement, e.g. consider providing more input in PSE lessons.

Any other comments:

- One school has hosted the evangelical Church's annual conference.
- Another school intends to review its collective worship provision.
- One school feels that their contact is extremely valuable and demonstrates faith in action to the pupils.
- One school is extremely fortunate in being able to utilize the contributions of two youth workers in the area.
- One school expressed their intention to expand the contact through inviting other nominations from the town.

To conclude, all the schools expressed their willingness to collaborate with different denominations and to use representatives for the benefit of the development of Religious Education.

A response from 10 out of 14 schools shows that the majority of Gwynedd secondary schools are enthusiastic, and strive hard to develop and nurture pupils' interest in Religious Education.

Ken Robinson, June 2010.