

19/08/05

Mr Kevin Maguire
Daily Mirror
1, Canada Square,
London E14 5AP

Dear Mr Maguire,

I read with great interest, enjoyment and agreement two recent articles you wrote concerning the divisiveness of faith schools and the segregation they encourage.

I do not know whether you are aware of us, but the British Humanist Association has campaigned hard for a number of years for an end to the increase in number of religious schools and the gradual assimilation of those that exist into a system of non-religious community schools.

Our work since 2002 has been based around our report of that year, *A Better Way Forward*, produced after extensive consultation with educational, religious, and other groups. I have enclosed a copy with this letter.

I also wanted to point you towards our online resources on faith schools, which have proved useful to other journalists writing on the subject. Our website, www.humanism.org.uk, contains much information you may find interesting, choosing 'Education Policy' from the left hand menu. Specifically, we have a section of news articles, official reports, quotes from politicians, and other collated comments on the topic of religious schools, indexed by topic and year which is available at:

<http://www.humanism.org.uk/site/cms/contentViewArticle.asp?article=1915>

Alternatively, you can go to <http://tinyurl.com/avqy6> which will link you to this page.

I hope you find this a useful resource. As an organisation keen to build a greater public understanding of the issues with which we are concerned, we welcome contact with journalists, so if you have any questions or need further information on any of our range of campaigns, please do let me know.

Yours,

Andrew Copson
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