address

date

RELIGION AND WORLDVIEWS: THE WAY FORWARD – A national plan for RE

Dear xxxxxxxxxxxxxx MP

We are writing as students at xxxxxxxxx School. We have been fortunate to receive high quality teaching in religious education throughout our time at xxxxxxxxx School, which coupled with our own growing enthusiasm for the subject, has led us to choose to continue studying RS for 2 more years.

Throughout our study at xxxxxxxxx School, we have become more knowledgeable about religions, developed deeper understanding of the influence of different worldviews and been able to engage in discussion and debate on a wide range of important ethical, philosophical and religious matters. We believe that this part of our education has challenged our thinking, helping us to develop and articulate our own points of view. It has given us a better grasp of some the complex issues we hear about in the news and has enabled us to be better informed about the diverse range of opinions and beliefs in our society.

However, we are also aware that in many schools, students like us do not receive good quality RE, and in some schools, they have no RE at all. This means that these students will be ill prepared for life in the modern world. Furthermore, without a comprehensive religious education, those students risk leaving school with a level of ignorance about religions and worldviews that will perpetuate the lack of respect and understanding for people with different the beliefs and values that we see all too often in our society.

Therefore, we would like to request your support in helping to ensure the recommendations of a new report on RE teaching in schools are adopted by the Government. The final report from The Commission for Religious Education is called: **Religion and Worldviews: The Way Forward.** The report can be downloaded here: www.commissiononre.org.uk/final-report/

The report calls for a religious education that helps students explore the important role that religions and worldviews play in all human life, and in order for there to be such an education, there

needs to be expert teachers in every classroom. We have been fortunate to be taught by enthusiastic and expert teachers, Mrs xxxx, Miss xxxx and Mr xxxx, and we believe that every student should have the same standard of teaching we have had.

We would be grateful if you would write or speak with the relevant Ministers. Please will you ask how the Government intends to respond to this report and what action is planned to reverse the decline in this vital subject? If possible, we would like to see a copy of your response, any reply you receive from the minister.

Thank you in anticipation for your support.

Yours sincerely,