

## Member Organisations of the Inter Faith Network for the UK

### Faith Community Representative Bodies

Baha'i Community of the UK  
BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha  
Board of Deputies of British Jews  
British Muslim Forum  
Buddhist Society  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland  
Churches Together in England  
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales  
Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches (UK)  
Druid Network  
General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches  
Hindu Council (UK)  
Hindu Forum of Britain  
Inter Faith Working Group of the Baptist Union of Great Britain  
Islamic Cultural Centre  
Jain Network  
Jamiat-e-Uluma Britain (Association of Muslim Scholars)  
Methodist Church in Britain  
Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board  
Muslim Council of Britain  
National Council of Hindu Temples (UK)  
Network of Buddhist Organisations (UK)  
Network of Sikh Organisations (UK)  
Pagan Federation  
Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations  
Spiritualists' National Union  
Sri Lankan Sangha Sabha of GB  
United Reformed Church in the UK  
Vishwa Hindu Parishad (UK)  
World Ahlul-Bayt Islamic League  
World Islamic Mission (UK)  
Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

### Educational and Academic Bodies

Cambridge Inter-Faith Programme  
Community Religions Project, University of Leeds  
Institute of Jainology  
Islamic Foundation  
National Association of SACRES  
Religious Education Council of England and Wales  
Shap Working Party on World Religions in Education  
Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter  
Wales Association of SACRES  
Woolf Institute

### National and Regional Inter Faith Organisations

Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum  
Interfaith Scotland  
Inter-faith Council for Wales/Cyngor Cymru  
Faiths Forum for London  
North East Regional Faiths Network  
South East England Faith Forum  
All Faiths Network for the UK

Children of Abraham (Imams and Rabbis Council of the United Kingdom)  
Christian Muslim Forum  
Christians Aware Interfaith Programme  
Coexist Foundation  
Council of Christians and Jews  
Council of Dharmic Faiths  
East of England Faiths Agency  
Hindu Christian Forum  
Interfaith Alliance UK  
International Association for Religious Freedom (British Chapter)  
International Interfaith Centre  
Joseph Interfaith Foundation  
Lokahi Foundation  
London Boroughs Faiths Network  
London Inter Faith Centre  
London Society of Jews and Christians  
Maimonides Interfaith Foundation  
Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby  
Religions for Peace (UK)  
Scriptural Reasoning  
St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace  
St Philip's Centre for Study and Engagement in a Multi Faith Society  
Three Faiths Forum  
United Religions Initiative (UK)  
Westminster Interfaith  
Women's Interfaith Network  
World Congress of Faiths

### Local Inter Faith Groups

Altrincham Inter Faith Group  
Learning Together, Living in Harmony (Aylesbury)  
Barking and Dagenham Faith Forum  
Barnet Multi-Faith Forum  
Bedford Council of Faiths  
Birmingham Council of Faiths  
Blackpool Faith Forum  
Bolton Interfaith Council  
Faith Links (Bournemouth and Poole)  
Bradford Concord Interfaith Society  
Brent Multi-Faith Forum  
Brighton and Hove Inter-Faith Contact Group  
Bristol Inter Faith Group  
Bristol Multi-Faith Forum  
Building Bridges in Burnley  
Calderdale Interfaith Council  
Cambridge Inter-Faith Group  
Canterbury and District Inter Faith Action  
Cheltenham Inter Faith  
Cherwell Faith Forum  
Cleveland and Tees Valley Inter Faith Group  
Cornwall Faiths Forum  
Coventry Multi-Faith Forum  
Crawley Interfaith Network  
Faiths Together in Croydon  
Cumbria Interfaith Forum  
Devon Faith and Belief Forum  
Doncaster Interfaith  
Dudley Borough Interfaith Network  
Eastbourne Faiths Forum  
Elmbridge Multi-Faith Forum  
Exeter Faith and Belief Group  
Gateshead Inter Faith Forum  
Harrow Interfaith  
Hastings and District Interfaith Forum  
Hillingdon Inter Faith Network  
Horsham Interfaith Forum  
Hounslow Friends of Faith  
Huddersfield Inter Faith Council  
Hull and East Riding Interfaith  
Inter Faith Isle of Man  
Inter-faith North/West (Northern Ireland)  
Islington Faiths Forum  
Keighley Interfaith Group  
Kingston Inter Faith Forum  
Kirklees Faiths Forum  
Faiths Together in Lambeth  
Lancashire Forum of Faiths  
Faith in Lancaster  
Leeds Concord Interfaith Fellowship  
Leeds Faiths Forum  
Leicester Council of Faiths  
Interfaith Forum for Leicestershire  
Loughborough Council of Faiths  
Luton Council of Faiths  
Faith Network for Manchester  
Mansfield Interfaith Group  
Medway Inter Faith Action Forum  
Merseyside Council of Faiths  
Interfaith MK (Milton Keynes)  
Milton Keynes Council of Faiths  
Newcastle Council of Faiths  
Newham Association of Faiths  
North Herts Faith Forum  
North Kirklees Inter-Faith Council  
North Lincolnshire Multi Faith Partnership  
North Staffordshire Forum of Faiths  
Northampton Inter Faith Forum  
Norwich Interfaith Link  
Nottingham Inter Faith Council  
Oldham Inter Faith Forum  
Building Bridges Pendle - Interfaith Community Project  
Peterborough Inter-Faith Council  
Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity  
Portsmouth Inter Faith Forum  
Preston Faith Forum  
Redbridge Faith Forum  
Rochdale Multi Faith Partnership  
Rugby Inter Faith Forum  
Salford Interfaith Network  
Sheffield Inter Faith  
Solihull Faiths Forum  
South London Inter Faith Group  
South Shropshire Interfaith Forum  
Southampton Council of Faiths  
Southwark Multi Faith Forum  
Stafford and District Friends of Faith  
Stratford-on-Avon Interfaith Forum  
Faiths United (Tameside)  
Torbay Interfaith Forum  
Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum  
Wakefield Interfaith Network  
Walham Forest Faith Communities Forum  
Warwick District Faiths Forum  
Watford Inter Faith Association  
Wellingborough Inter Faith Group  
Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group  
Westminster Faith Exchange  
William Campbell-Taylor (City of London Interfaith)  
Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum  
Wisbech Interfaith Forum  
Interfaith Wolverhampton  
Worcestershire Inter-Faith Forum  
Wycombe Sharing of Faiths  
York Interfaith Group



**Building Good  
Relations with People  
of Different Faiths  
and Beliefs**

Published by the Inter Faith Network for the UK, 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH

Tel: 020 7730 0410 Fax: 020 7730 0414 Email: [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk) [www.interfaith.org.uk](http://www.interfaith.org.uk)

Price: 20p each, £3 for 20 cards; and £10 for 100 cards

Registered Charity no. 1068934. Company limited by guarantee no 3443823. Registered in England.

© Inter Faith Network for the UK 1993. Member list updated 2017.

ISBN 1 902906 18 7

The Inter Faith Network for the UK was founded in 1987 to promote good relations between the faith communities of this country. This code is endorsed by all its member bodies.

### **Building Good Relations with People of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

In Britain today, people of many different faiths and beliefs live side by side. The opportunity lies before us to work together to build a society rooted in the values we treasure. But this society can only be built on a sure foundation of mutual respect, openness and trust. This means finding ways to live our lives of faith with integrity, and allowing others to do so too. Our different religious traditions offer us many resources for this and teach us the importance of good relationships characterised by honesty, compassion and generosity of spirit. The Inter Faith Network offers the following code of conduct for encouraging and strengthening these relationships.

As members of the human family, we should show each other respect and courtesy. In our dealings with people of other faiths and beliefs this means exercising good will and:

- Respecting other people's freedom within the law to express their beliefs and convictions
- Learning to understand what others actually believe and value, and letting them express this in their own terms
- Respecting the convictions of others about food, dress and social etiquette and not behaving in ways which cause needless offence
- Recognising that all of us at times fall short of the ideals of our own traditions and never comparing our own *ideals* with other people's *practices*
- Working to prevent disagreement from leading to conflict
- Always seeking to avoid violence in our relationships

When we talk about matters of faith with one another, we need to do so with sensitivity, honesty and straightforwardness. This means:

- Recognising that listening as well as speaking is necessary for a genuine conversation
- Being honest about our beliefs and religious allegiances
- Not misrepresenting or disparaging other people's beliefs and practices
- Correcting misunderstanding or misrepresentations not only of our own but also of other faiths whenever we come across them
- Being straightforward about our intentions
- Accepting that in formal inter faith meetings there is a particular responsibility to ensure that the religious commitment of all those who are present will be respected

All of us want others to understand and respect our views. Some people will also want to persuade others to join their faith. In a multi faith society where this is permitted, the attempt should always be characterised by self-restraint and a concern for the other's freedom and dignity. This means:

- Respecting another person's expressed wish to be left alone
- Avoiding imposing ourselves and our views on individuals or communities who are in vulnerable situations in ways which exploit these
- Being sensitive and courteous
- Avoiding violent action or language, threats, manipulation, improper inducements, or the misuse of any kind of power
- Respecting the right of others to disagree with us

Living and working together is not always easy. Religion harnesses deep emotions which can sometimes take destructive forms. Where this happens, we must draw on our faith to bring about reconciliation and understanding. The truest fruits of religion are healing and positive. We have a great deal to learn from one another which can enrich us without undermining our own identities. Together, listening and responding with openness and respect, we can move forward to work in ways that acknowledge genuine differences but build on shared hopes and values.