

# Keeping faith in Schools: Getting the balance right

Wednesday 29 September 2010, King James Thistle Hotel, Edinburgh

## AGENDA

**09:00-09:45 Registration**

**09:45-10:00 Welcome Address**

*Councillor Ewan Aitken, City of Edinburgh Council*

### Morning Session: Understanding policy

**10:00-10:25 Keynote Address**

*Mike Russell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Scottish Government*

**10:25-10:45 Question and Answer Session**

**10:45-11:00 Morning refreshments**

**11:00-11:20 Topic: Religious and Spiritual Observance and Participation in Scotland's Schools – where are we now?**

*Scott Duncan, Development Officer for RME, Learning and Teaching Scotland*

**11:20-11:40 RME within Curriculum for Excellence: the contribution of RME to personal development and faith**

*Patricia Watson, HMIE National Specialist for Religious and Moral Education*

**11.40-12.00 Topic: Local Authority guidelines for religious observance and RME in schools: a case study**

*Councillor Peter MacKenzie, Convener, Committee for Education, East Lothian Council*

**12:00-12:30 Panel and audience discussion**

**12.30-13.25 Lunch** (opportunity for networking, prayer and reflection)

## **Afternoon Session: Informing Practice**

**13:25-13:30 Afternoon Welcome Back**

**13:30-13:50 Faith and values at the heart of a school**

*Michael McGrath, Director of the Scottish Catholic Education Service*

**13:50-14:10 Developing a greater understanding of Islam within Scotland's schools**

*Representative from the Islamic Society of Britain (invited)*

**14:10-14:20 Joint Question and Answer session**

**14:20-14:40 Respecting faith in Secondary schools**

*Ken Cunningham CBE, General Secretary, School Leaders' Scotland*

**14:40-15:00 Keeping faith in schools**

*Dr Alastair Noble, Educational Consultant for CARE in Scotland*

**15:00-15:30 Panel and audience discussion**

**15:30 Chair's Closing Remarks**