

PREAMBLE:

A compassionate society, by definition, is one where all its citizens feel happy to live their lives and bring up their children in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance; one in which citizens hold common democratic values which encourage individuals to practice their own faiths, and retain their own cultural and historical heritage whilst at the same time subscribing to a shared sense of being British.

Britain is one of the most multicultural places on the planet. There is hardly a nationality or a major language group not found somewhere in the UK. Since the beginning of mass immigration in post war Britain educationalists have campaigned for and help construct an education system which recognises that valuing diversity and promoting equality are key to individual academic and vocational success; and key to the wider economic and social health of the country.

The CoEd Foundation's work in this area is to amass over time and place on line, materials that support these ideals. The major electronic book, *Multicultural Matters*, will be an on-line publication that covers the theoretical and practical aspects of building a more just society. In addition, as they become available, our free downloads will include much material already in existence but no longer easily accessible-materials like the Minority Ethnic Achievement Pupil (MEAP) strategy and the Raising African Caribbean Achievement strategy.

The first work to be uploaded is a significant piece of research commissioned by the Department for Education and written by Maurice Irfan Coles and Peter Chilvers, both of whom that time were members of Leicester City's School Development Support Agency (SDSA). Entitled the CREAM (Curriculum Related to the African Caribbean and Muslim Pupils) report, it remains a valuable source of information although the English national curriculum has moved on since the report was compiled. Its detailed curriculum analysis mapped against areas resources remain a valuable resource.

WORK IN PROGRESS

MULTICULTURAL MATTERS: *THE ESSENTIAL HANDBOOK FOR PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES IN MULTICULTURAL BRITAIN*

PREAMBLE

This electronic book has been over 35 years in the making. Originally conceived in 1976 as ' *The Essential Handbook for Schools in our Multicultural Society*' by Maurice Irfan Coles, sections have been written over time and have appeared in various journals. We are not starting from scratch, nor are we working alone. The overall aim is to edit much of our earlier work, to approach individuals for permission to use some of their articles, and to commission a number of friends to write various sections.

Our target audience is in the first instance, those in education but it is wider than merely education, as much of the work overlaps into the Social and Health Services and we would look to exploring these links proactively. **Essentially, the book aims to provide a one stop shop for the theoretical, practical and knowledge requirements of all those who strive to bring compassion, social justice, and equality into our multicultural interdependent world.**

THE CONTENT

Multicultural Matters will be divided into three sections: ***Our rationale, Our practice, Our people.***

SECTION ONE: OUR RATIONALE

This section outlines the main reasons for promoting a culturally inclusive, world class curriculum built upon compassionate principles that reinforce our modern sense of an integrated self in a world of multiple identities. It will include the following:-

- ✓ *Building a culturally inclusive compassionate society:* Coles
- ✓ *Building a heritage curriculum:* Coles and Rehana Mughal
- ✓ *Building a world class curriculum:* Professor Mick Waters
- ✓ *Building a Cohesive Society:* Professor Ted Cattle
- ✓ *Building a Creative Curriculum:*
- ✓ *Combating Islamophobia:*
- ✓ *Combating Racism in predominantly white schools*
- ✓ *Combating interethnic conflicts:* Coles and Bruce Gill
- ✓ *The mixed heritage dimension:*
- ✓ *The role of supplementary education :* Coles et al
- ✓ *Supporting refugees*
- ✓ *Supporting travellers*
- ✓ *Supporting Bilingualism*
- ✓ *Raising the Attainment of underperforming groups: Afro-Caribbean heritage, Pakistani/ Bangladeshis heritage and , white working class:*
- ✓ *Dealing with Controversial issues*

SECTION TWO: OUR PRACTICE

This section aims to provide practical examples of the theoretical thinking. It would include reference to and aspects of the National Strategies programmes related to Muslims and to Afro Caribbean origin pupils. Hopefully it would also include subject specific responses to diversity, cohesion and compassion. Much work is already available and will be uploaded and available without charge.

SECTION THREE: OUR PEOPLE

This section covers the major minority ethnic groups living in the UK today. It provides background notes on their cultures, faiths, histories, languages and practices. Further reading will signpost readers who want more detailed information. Each description will end with an issues section which describes the communities' perception of the major issues they face. It will include detailed descriptions of the following groups, sometimes described in faith terms and sometimes by country of origin, sometimes by both.

- ✓ Pakistani heritage
- ✓ Bangladeshi heritage
- ✓ Indian heritage groups
- ✓ Somali heritage
- ✓ Turkish heritage
- ✓ Kurdish heritage
- ✓ Eastern European heritage groups
- ✓ Muslim
- ✓ Sikh
- ✓ Hindu
- ✓ Jew
- ✓ Africa's major groups
- ✓ Chinese heritage
- ✓ African Caribbean heritage