

Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC) (2013)

1. Name

The Association shall be called the “Association of Religious Education Advisers, Inspectors and Consultants” (AREIAC). The Association of Professionals in Education and Children’s Trusts (ASPECT) is a group within PROSPECT and shall be referred to as the parent Association.

2. Statement of Principles

AREIAC seeks to promote:

- the equal status of religious education with other curriculum subjects
- the contribution of religious education and collective worship to pupils’ spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development
- a high quality of teaching and learning in religious education for all pupils opportunities for pupils to study world religions, including Christianity
- opportunities for pupils to develop their own beliefs and values, and to respect the rights of others to have different beliefs and values
- a religious education curriculum which challenges disadvantages and inequalities
- collective worship as an educational activity which protects and affirms the integrity of all those taking part
- links with international, national and local faith communities to advance the aims of religious education and collective worship in schools and colleges

3. Membership

3.1 Regular membership at the annual subscription rate will be open to all those who subscribe to the Statement of Principles of AREIAC, who work to the Standards for CPD providers in RE and whose professional duties include:

- i) inspecting religious education and collective worship; and/or
- ii) advising SACREs, LAs, schools, colleges and/or individual teachers in matters relating to religious education and collective worship

Regular members will be entitled to:

- receive the termly mailing
- access the members’ section of the AREIAC website
- attend regional meetings and the AGM

- attend the annual conference and training days at the appropriate rate
- receive copies of all AREIAC publications in print

3.2 Retire (life) membership at a single payment of twice the annual subscription rate will be open to former members of AREIAC who are 65 or of state of pensionable age, whichever is the later. Retired (life) members will be entitled to:

- receive the termly mailing
- access the members' section of the AREIAC website
- attend regional meetings and the AGM
- attend the annual conference and training days at the same rate as for full members
- purchase individual copies of AREIAC publications at cost price

3.3 Associate membership at 50% of the annual subscription rate will be open to former members of AREIAC who are in full or part time employment but no longer have any involvement in RE. Associate members will be entitled to:

- receive the termly mailing
- access the members' section of the AREIAC website
- attend regional meetings and be non-voting attenders at the AGM
- attend the annual conference and training days at the same rate as for regular members
- purchase individual copies of AREIAC publications at cost price

3.4 European membership at the annual subscription rate (at the current rate of exchange on application) will be open to all those with qualified teacher status or equivalent national teaching qualification who subscribe to the Statement of Principles of AREIAC, and whose professional duties include:

- a) inspecting religious education and/or collective worship; and/or
- b) advising schools, colleges and/or individual teachers in matters relating to religious education and collective worship.

European members will be entitled to:

- receive the termly mailing;
- access the members' section of the AREIAC website;
- attend the AGM;
- attend the annual conference and training days at the appropriate rate;
- receive copies of all AREIAC publications in print.

4. Management

4.1 The Executive Committee will comprise the following:

- i) Chairperson
- ii) Deputy Chairperson
- iii) Secretary
- iv) Treasurer
- v) Membership Secretary
- vi) REC representative
- vii) One representative from each regional group in England and one each UK Country which has members but excluding the group(s) represented by the officers indicated above.

4.2 Elections

- i) The Chairperson will serve for a period not exceeding two years, after which s/he is eligible for election to the Executive as a regional representative for a further two years.
- ii) The office of Deputy Chairperson would normally lead to appointment as Chairperson on the retirement of that officer.
- iii) The Deputy Chair will service for two years in that capacity, after which s/he becomes the Chair for the next two years
- iv) The treasurer, secretary and membership secretary will serve for four years in that capacity
- v) The regional representatives will serve for two years, followed by a further two years if re-elected by their regional group.
- vi) No member of the executive can serve for more than six consecutive years.

4.3 Role of the Executive

The Executive will:

- i) meet at least twice a year
- ii) receive reports from regional group meetings
- iii) be responsible for the content, planning and organisation of an annual National Conference
- iv) act on behalf of the Association and report such actions to the AGM
- v) coordinate the production of documents published on behalf of the Association
- vi) report to the regional groups on matters of current concern, through regional representatives and distribution of the minutes of the Executive meetings
- vii) produce at least two newsletters each year and ensure the website is kept up to date

4.4 Secretary

The Secretary will:

- i) make arrangements for the conduct and organisation of all meetings as directed by the Executive
- ii) record minutes of meetings
- iii) conduct correspondence of the Association

The Executive may delegate some of the duties to other members as they deem fit.

4.5 Treasurer

The Treasurer will act in accordance with the following guidelines

- i) a separate bank account will be used for all money transactions
- ii) The account will be called the 'Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants'
- iii) accounts for each year will be independently examined or audited (according to legal need) and circulated to members with National Conference material
- iv) the Treasurer will handle the finances for the National Conference including speakers' expenses. Deposits for the annual conference will be non-returnable
- v) the National Conference accounts will be completed and submitted to the Chairperson for circulation to members within three months
- vi) there will be an annual subscription to the Religious Education Council
- vii) submit accounts annually to the parent Association

4.6 Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary will:

- i) maintain an up to date record of the membership
- ii) produce full and regional lists at the request of the Executive
- iii) compile the Annual Membership Directory
- iv) inform the Treasurer of all membership payments received
- v) monitor applications for membership

4.7 Vacancies to the executive

Any vacancy occurring during the period of office of the Executive may be filled by the Executive at its discretion until the next AGM.

Expenses

- i) appropriate expenses incurred by Executive Committee members will be reimbursed by the Association;
- ii) no member shall incur any expenditure on behalf of the Association without the prior agreement of the Executive Committee.

5. Group Structure

The Association will meet in regional groups as well as holding an Annual General Meeting during the National Conference.

6. Annual Conference

An Annual Conference is open to all members of the Association. Non-members may attend part or all of the Conference, except the AGM, at the discretion of the Executive.

7. Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General meeting held during the National Conference, the following business will be transacted. Other items for the agenda should be received by the Secretary ten days before the AGM. There shall be one vote per member present at the AGM.

a) Election of Officers.

Nomination of Association members can be received by the Secretary up to 24 hours before the AGM. A nomination should be proposed and seconded by members of the Association and should have the agreement of the nominee. The elections will be by a simple majority vote of the members of the Association present at the AGM and may be by secret ballot. In the event of a tie, the Chair's vote will be the casting vote.

Representatives of regional groups will be elected by their own groups (simple majority) following the election of officers.

b) Reports from Regional Groups.

c) Report from the Executive.

d) Reports from representatives on various national religious education bodies and other appropriate professional groups.

e) Presentation of accounts and review of annual subscription.

8. Alteration to the Constitution

This constitution may only be amended by a two-thirds majority of those members present at the AGM provided that any proposal to amend it is submitted to the Secretary in writing two months before the AGM and circulated to all members at least two weeks before the AGM. Approval would have to be given by the parent Association which is ASPECT (ASPECT is a group within PROSPECT).