### THE IMPORTANCE OF INTER FAITH DIALOGUE

**Aylesford School** 

November 2024

Maidstone Inter-Faith Network www.mifn.org.uk







What is Inter Faith

Why is it important to have Inter Faith dialogue How can Inter Faith dialogue make a difference

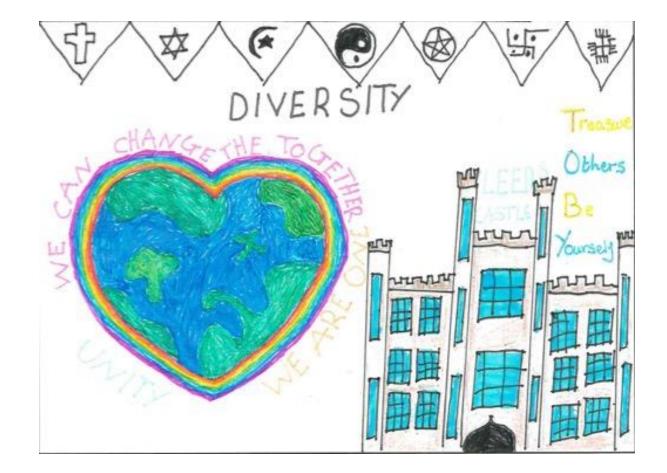
#### What is Inter Faith?

"Inter Faith is a term to describe interactions between people of different faiths and In some cases between those of religious and no religious beliefs."



### MAIDSTONE INTER FAITH NETWORK

Bringing faith communities together in Maidstone



INTER FAITH DIALOGUE is the process of seeking understanding and mutual respect between different

Religions

Beliefs

Cultures

Plays a crucial role in promoting peace, harmony & tolerance in today's world.

Can:

Prevent conflict and violence

Address common global challenges

Address human rights and social justice

Is a tool for positive change in today's world

-tilkingdomcomefilm.com





"Inter Faith activity takes many forms, including dialogue; sharing a meal; sport; arts or cultural activities; roundtable discussion; panels; workshops; and working together to meet a practical need of the community."

UK home to people of many different faiths and non religious beliefs. Important that people of different backgrounds are able to interact well with each other.

Inter Faith activity creates opportunities for Encounters

Learning

Development of friendships between those involved

Can lead to formation of coalitions for change as people and communities build on their shared values and concerns Work together on practical projects for the

common good

Getting involved in Inter Faith activity can be a great way of gaining an understanding of other cultures and of challenging misconceptions about particular traditions

You will also gain knowledge and skills that enable you to interact well with people whose ways of seeing the world differ from your own.

-Inter Faith Network for the UK

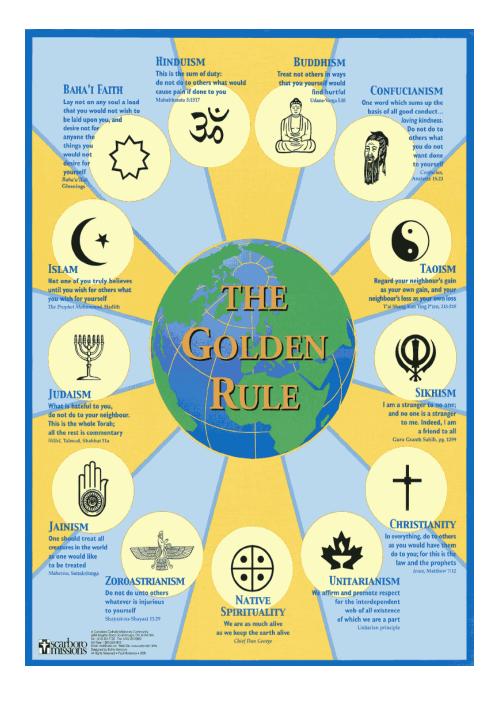


### MAIDSTONE INTER FAITH NETWROK

Tree planting for the Queens Platinum Jubilee at the Maidstone Methodist Church

March 2022

### SHARED VALUES



Can Inter Faith dialogue help each student to build character strengths?

#### The ethos of this school is "Courage, Confidence and Character"

COURAGE has many aspects; but believing in yourself and how you can change yourself for the better is true courage.

CONFIDENCE to do what you know is right also takes courage, especially when others around you don't do what is right.

CHARACTER: understanding, respect, tolerance, perseverance, kindness to others are some of the virtues that help shape your character as a member of society. And it takes courage to strive to these ideals!

"If you wanna make the world a better place

Take a look at yourself and then

Make that change"

-Michael Jackson "Man in the Mirror"

To summarise:

## Inter Faith dialogue is important because it can:

Promote understanding of other faiths and beliefs; develop mutual respect and tolerance

Build trust; overcome misconceptions

Promote peacebuilding and peaceful co existence

Combat intolerance; hate speech and discrimination

Create opportunities for learning, friendship and skill development

# **FINAL THOUGHTS**

"The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens"

"So powerful is the light of unity that it can illumine the whole earth."

-Bahá'í Faith

# THANK YOU!

