



CULHAM ST GABRIEL'S
CHAMPIONING RELIGION AND WORLDVIEWS EDUCATION

Inclusive Schools

Promoting and Protecting Freedom of Religion or Belief for All

Introduction

Culham St Gabriel's Trust has a strong track record of engaging with Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) and education. It has sought to explore how FoRB and FoRB principles might be taught in formal education settings.

The Freedom of Religion or Belief was first articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. Article 18 reads:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

Since then, other treaties and legal documents have given greater shape to the rights covered. Those treaties and documents include: the 1953 European Convention on Human Rights, the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the 1989 UNCRC Article 14 which guarantees children the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion and in the UK the Equalities Act of 2010.

Culham St Gabriel's, notably through the projects which it has supported, has been responsible for the emergence of a nascent evidence base for what constitutes FoRB Education. See for instance, [Culham St Gabriel's Primary Education project](#), or the [FoRB Ambassadors project run by AREIAC](#). More information about Culham St Gabriel's work on FoRB can be found [here](#).

Equipping school leaders

This document seeks to extend that work by considering how school leaders (such as chief executives, headteachers, directors of education, governors, trustees) can build cultures where, alongside other values, FoRB is promoted and protected. . The distinction between promotion and protection is important: in the UK discrimination or hate-crime is the most experienced violation of FoRB[1].

[1] <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-year-ending-march-2025/hate-crime-england-and-wales-year-ending-march-2025>