**Example of a parental consultation letter**

#### (a) For a new determination

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Community schools in England are required to provide a daily act of collective worship. Without a ‘determination’, the majority of these must be broadly of Christian character. I am, therefore, writing to you about our proposal to apply to Ealing SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) for a determination.

Our pupils come from a wide range of religious and non-religious backgrounds and we wish to provide a more balanced approach to ‘collective worship’ that meets everyone’s needs. Ealing SACRE recommends a ‘reflection’ approach with no formal worship. We would replace formal worship with a presentation based on a religious or ethical theme which concerns us all, such as ‘community’ or ‘peace’. We would follow this with a moment silently praying, meditating or reflecting on what has just been heard. In this way, in an otherwise busy school day, we can have a moment of quiet which is

inclusive, meeting all our pupils’ needs.

The school governors support my proposal to apply for a determination so that [**name of school**] can follow this approach. It is educational, promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, and drawing on a range of religious and non- religious traditions. A copy of the guidance document is available on the EGfL website: [www.egfl.org.uk/religion](http://www.egfl.org.uk/religion)

We will, of course, continue to mark the main religious festivals and special days such as Remembrance Day. I very much welcome the opportunity a determination offers our pupils. It will make our daily reflections relevant to everyone, in our very diverse school.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me within the next two weeks. Yours sincerely,

**Example of a parental consultation letter**

**(b) For a renewal of an existing determination**

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Community schools in England are required to provide a daily act of collective worship; without a ‘determination’, the majority of these must be broadly of Christian character. Since [**date of first determination**], [**name of school**] has had a determination, which means that the focus does not need to be predominantly Christian. I am writing to you about our proposal to apply to Ealing SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) for a renewal of our determination.

Our pupils come from a wide range of religious and non-religious backgrounds and we wish to provide a more balanced approach to ‘collective worship’ that meets everyone’s needs. Ealing SACRE recommends a ‘reflection’ approach with no formal worship. We would replace formal worship with a presentation based on a religious or ethical theme which concerns us all, such as ‘community’ or ‘peace’. We would follow this with a moment silently praying, meditating or reflecting on what has just been heard. In this way, in an otherwise busy school day, we can have a moment of quiet which is inclusive, meeting all our pupils’ needs.

The school governors support my proposal to apply for a determination so that [**name of school**] can follow this approach. It is educational, promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, and drawing on a range of religious and non-religious traditions. A copy of the guidance document is available on our school website. [www.egfl.org.uk/religion](http://www.egfl.org.uk/religion)

We will, of course, continue to mark the main religious festivals and special days such as Remembrance Day. I very much welcome the opportunity a determination offers our pupils. It will make our daily reflections relevant to everyone, in our very diverse school.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me within the next two weeks.

Yours sincerely,