



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – 29TH SEPTEMBER 2011

SUBJECT: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2012

REPORT BY: ESIS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform SACRE of the Holocaust Memorial Day 2012.

2. SUMMARY

Holocaust Memorial Day is an annual event that takes place on January 27th. HMD was established in the UK in 2000 and the first HMD was held in January 2001. January 27th marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz - Birkenhau concentration camp by soviet troops in 1945. Holocaust Memorial Day seeks to change the future by learning from and remembering the past. Schools are encouraged to participate in Holocaust Memorial Day in order to remember the victims of the Holocaust and more recent genocides. It provides a framework to explore issues of morality, human reactions, individual experiences, responsibilities and larger questions of the role of governments and democracies. The government, including the Welsh Government, encourages schools and LAs to commemorate this event in some way.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust produces materials specific to the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme for 2012 is ***SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT.***

The idea behind the theme is to give voice to the things which we believe. History has taught us that when people don't speak out, when people don't speak up, terrible things can happen. During the Holocaust many millions of people stood by and they did nothing. The same happened in Cambodia, Armenia, or more recently in Bosnia or Darfur. Holocaust Memorial Day 2012 aims to show and to give examples of ways in which we can speak up and take inspiration from the past and the historical figures, people from the present day, people who live in our own communities and neighbourhoods speaking up.

Free educational resources containing material suitable for primary to post 16 students is available online at www.hmd.org.uk.

3. RECOMMENDATION

To write to schools reminding them of HMD and ask them to commemorate it in some way.

To circulate to schools the information on HMD and reference the website for appropriate resources www.hmd.org.uk.

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