



**S**upport  
**A**gainst  
**R**acist  
**I**ncidents



9<sup>th</sup> June 2008

Dear Headteacher

**Re: Free S.A.R.I. Pro-active Services**

As you may be aware S.A.R.I. (Support Against Racist Incidents) is a specialist voluntary organisation which offers support and advice to victims of racial harassment, including victims in schools. However, another important aspect of our work that we are very proud of is the anti-racist pro-active work we do in schools, which is something we are nationally reputed for. Our pro-active education work focuses on raising awareness about multi-culturalism and diversity and on generating understanding about the effects of racism amongst pupils and staff. Please find enclosed a S.A.R.I. information leaflet and annual report which will give you a general idea of some of the work we do and services we provide. I am writing to see whether your school would have space to accommodate some input of this nature from S.A.R.I..

My role is funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government. It involves supporting pupils and their families who have suffered racial harassment in and around the school environment; and to deal effectively with the presence of racism in schools and also in society at large. My focus is particularly all schools in B&NES, South Gloucestershire, and North Somerset.

I have listed below some of the pro-active education services we provide. Please bear in mind that we are happy to tailor inputs that could meet specific requirements within your school, and we can work within the requirements of your timetables.

Our services include:

- Assemblies - focusing on our different cultural backgrounds and providing tools for tackling racism.
- Classroom sessions - to raise awareness and understanding of racist incidents among young people; and to address issues around diversity, multi-culturalism and racism.
- Workshops to help pupils understand the nature and effect of racism.
- Staff training - to identify and deal effectively with racist incidents.
- Support with developing policies and procedures on tackling racism.
- One-to-one support for victims of racial harassment and those with identity issues.
- One-to-one work or group work with perpetrators.
- Mediation between victim and perpetrator(s); this can involve parents of both parties.
- Drop-in sessions at secondary schools to encourage pupils to report incidents of racial harassment, and discuss how the school can best meet their needs.
- Library of multi-cultural resources that schools can borrow from.

Some of the things that past participants have said about our input:

*"Absolutely amazing. You really gave a good picture of what happens in Bristol and how scary it can be. If I ever do get involved or even see evidence of this, I will do something about it. Thank you lots!" (a pupil who attended a S.A.R.I. workshop)*

*"Thank you - really thought provoking and will be really helpful in my work." (a member of staff who attended a S.A.R.I. training session)*

I would welcome an opportunity for us to talk, so that we may discuss how S.A.R.I. can support your school through pro-active services. I would appreciate it if you could call me once you have had the chance to read this letter and perhaps discussed it with your staff team. You can call the S.A.R.I. office on 0117 9420060 - my direct extension number is 234. If I am not available please leave a voicemail message and I will call you back. I hope we are able to work together to promote an inclusive educational environment and a positive multicultural ethos within schools.

I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

Niva Pandya  
Education Worker

Ext 234