

Faith Schools v1 11 5 2018

Father Malcolm Uren.

Christian Faith Schools should have priority over any other religious persuasion.

We are, or have been until recently, a Christian nation. Our literature, especially the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer and Shakespeare have been the basic subjects regularly taught in our schools. To-day we are living on borrowed Christian Capital, which alas, is running out. The English Language draws heavily on our Christian past. I don't believe it is for us to replace what has served us well in the past for another faith discipline.

By all means let children be taught about other religious disciplines. But let us support wholeheartedly Catholic, Anglican and Methodist Schools. We also need teachers, even if not wholly committed believers, who know what the Christian faith is about. I hope that I'm tolerant of other faiths, including Islam, but Christianity is our faith as a nation and must not be compromised.

Of course Christian Education should be treated differently from any other religion. Our British values have evolved over a very long period of time, in fact since Pope Gregory the Great sent St Augustine to convert the English People in AD 596. He was the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

One of my favourite books is Bede's History of the English Church and Nation.

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