

AGREED STATEMENTS OF SHIMNA COLLEGE

The Statements below were agreed by the Workshop of Founder Parents of the Newcastle Integrated College Project on 2nd October 1993 and shall be the Guiding Principles for the College.

- ❖ *We are committed to having a minimum of 40 percent of each of the two main traditions in the College.*
- ❖ *The College cannot be truly integrated unless children of all abilities are encouraged to attend.*
- ❖ *Care must be taken to avoid discrimination not only on the grounds of religion but also sex, class and culture, physical or mental ability.*
- ❖ *The College will be most effective in terms of academic learning, behaviour and attendance if it works closely with parents and welcomes parental involvement.*
- ❖ *All cultures / religious groups within the College shall be valued equally.*
- ❖ *Children shall be placed in mixed ability classes for the first year. After the first year, the children shall remain in the same form class, but will be taught for some subjects in similar ability groups.*
- ❖ *The aim of the College is to enable each and every child to realise his or her maximum potential; be it academic, creative, or vocational; and to flourish in personal development and self-esteem.*
- ❖ *We are committed to the establishment of a Sixth Form which will be in place for the 1994 intake of students. This Sixth Form will continue to cater for all abilities.*
- ❖ *The Children shall learn together all that we can reasonably expect them to learn together.*
- ❖ *Children will be introduced to the ideas, beliefs and practices of the major world religions and humanist philosophies, in addition to studying an agreed core Christian religion syllabus.*
- ❖ *Local religious leaders will be invited to the College on certain occasions to share in the life of Shimna.*
- ❖ *Children of parents who do not wish them to follow the religion syllabus shall be given proper alternative provision.*
- ❖ *Special care will be taken at assemblies in the selection of texts and music. Children shall be encouraged to continue with their normal practice, such as The Lord's Prayer and making the sign of the cross.*