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## The CASE Statement on Faith Schools

- CASE [The Campaign for State Education] believes that, in the pluralistic society that is modern Britain, public education should be secular in character. CASE recognises that religion has played a key role in our history and in the development of our culture and believes that all children should be properly taught *about* religion but should not be taught particular sets of beliefs at public expense. Regular surveys of public opinion suggest that this is the view of most British citizens. CASE believes that the current requirement for state schools to hold daily assemblies that are 'broadly Christian' in character is an anachronism that should be abolished immediately.
- CASE recognises that religion cannot always be easily dissociated from cultural identity and practice and, therefore, does not believe that it can be in the public interest to fund schools which are likely to reinforce cultural differences.
- CASE believes that, whatever the merits of church schools at different times in our history, their modern continuance at public expense cannot be justified in a society that can no longer be described as other than nominally Christian.
- CASE recognises that the transition to a wholly secular state education system cannot be achieved overnight and that the problem of faith schools has to be dealt with in the broader context of reforming the system as a whole. As a first step, CASE believes that no publicly funded school should be able to control its own admissions and that, in return for public funding, faith schools should be required to accept an intake that is broadly representative, in demographic terms, of the Local Authority as a whole.

**CASE and FORUM share the same aims and objectives. Feedback on this Statement can be sent to CASE by post: 98 Erlanger Road, London SE14 5TH, United Kingdom; by phone on 07932 149 942, or at [contact@campaignforstateeducation.org.uk](mailto:contact@campaignforstateeducation.org.uk) CASE's website: <http://www.campaignforstateeducation.org.uk>**

