



## FAB Zone – IST Guidelines



When we talk about matters of faith with one another, we need to do so with sensitivity, honesty and straightforwardness. This means:

- Recognising that listening as well as speaking is necessary for a genuine conversation.
- Being honest about our beliefs and religious allegiances.
- Not misrepresenting or disparaging other people's beliefs and practices.
- Correcting misunderstanding or misrepresentations not only of our own but also of other faiths whenever we come across them.
- Being straightforward about our intentions.
- Accepting that in formal inter faith meetings there is a particular responsibility to ensure that the religious commitment of all those who are present will be respected.

All of us want others to understand and respect our views. Some people will also want to persuade others to join their faith. In a multi-faith society where this is permitted, the attempt should always be characterised by self-restraint and a concern for the other's freedom and dignity. This means:

- Respecting another person's expressed wish to be left alone.
- Avoiding imposing ourselves and our views on individuals or communities who are in vulnerable situations in ways which exploit these.
- Avoiding proselytism through words or use of improper documents at a multi-faith event.
- Respecting others when they feel religious body language or rituals negate the essence of their faith.
- Being sensitive and courteous;
- Avoiding violent action or language, threats, manipulation, improper inducements, or the misuse of any kind of power.
- Respecting the right of others to disagree with us in a gentle and respectful way.