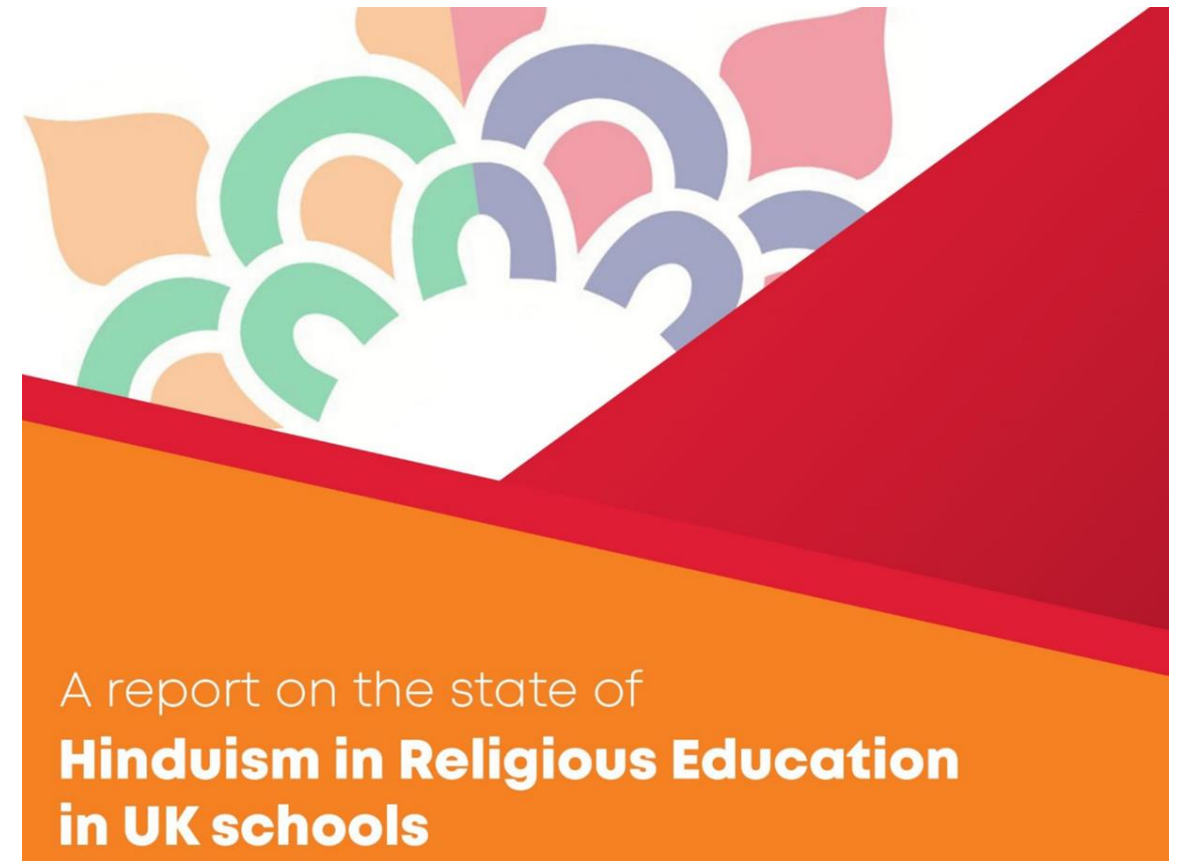


A report on the state of

**Hinduism in Religious Education
in UK schools**

Hinduism Education Board UK Report 2021

- INSIGHT UK presented the 2021 report on the state of Hinduism in Religious Education (RE) in UK schools. The project goal was to assess the current state of Hinduism in RE in UK schools and recommend changes to improve it.



Key Findings



- 97% of survey respondents say it is important and paramount for their child to learn about Hinduism.
- 98% of survey respondents say the study of Hinduism in RE is low quality and deficient.
- 75% of respondents feel that Hinduism is not taught in a positive light.
- 86% of the respondents are either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the teaching of Hinduism in schools within the United Kingdom.
- 76% of primary school parents are unhappy about RE teachers' knowledge of Hinduism.
- 81% of Key Stage 3 and 87% of Key Stage 4 parents are discontented about RE teachers' knowledge of Hinduism.



Additional Conclusions

- There is growing evidence of inaccurate resources used by classroom teachers for teaching Hinduism.
- Hindu parents and pupils feel they do not have a choice to study Hinduism at GCSE level.

Key Findings

Hinduism is the third largest religion practised in the UK, yet this report finds that the teaching of Hinduism in mainstream UK schools is very limited, flawed and often ignored. This imbalance has led to an inaccurate portrayal of Hinduism and can result in feelings of negativity and ignorance when meeting UK citizens belonging to the Hindu faith.



It is found that the lack of awareness and an incorrect portrayal of Hinduism in RE results in:

- 1. Depriving students of a world view and understanding of the nature, diversity and impact of religion and belief in the contemporary world.
- 2. Depriving the knowledge of the world's third-largest religion which is followed by one of the most contributing minority communities in the UK.
- 3. Insensitivity towards Hindu people and their beliefs resulting in bullying and hate crimes. British Hindus are a well-integrated and highly contributing community in British society. Hinduism teaches values such as peace, universality, inclusivity and oneness. These values when taught in the right context can enrich and build a more inclusive society. Unfortunately, the current RE curriculum and its teaching of Hinduism does not correctly represent factual Hindu beliefs and values.

In Conclusion



- All maintained schools have a statutory duty to teach RE. This report provides evidence of the views on how Hinduism is currently taught as part of the RE curriculum.
- The Hindu Education Board UK would like to work with SACRE to assess and support the delivery of teaching and learning of Hinduism in Barnet. HEB request that we ensure that Hinduism is fairly and accurately represented in the locally agreed RE syllabus.
- HEB are willing to offer support and have requested our Barnet Agreed Syllabus document, and this has been sent, to gauge the quality of teaching Hinduism in RE in Barnet.

Hinduism Education Board UK Report 2021

- Barnet SACRE:

Discussion led by our Hindu
representative

Sury Khatri

Q & A

