

Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

Report Form

Date of report: (02/10/2020) _____

Name of municipality: Manchester _____

Name of country: United Kingdom _____

Title of peace education initiative	Mahatma Gandhi Statue
The initiative was implemented by (Choose one ✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Joint initiative by:
Theme/Aim	Non-violence
Participants (age, school grade, number, etc.)	All citizens of Manchester 16 schools and 1,750 children took part in the run up to the unveiling
Location	Outside Manchester Cathedral
Date(s) of initiative	Ongoing
Please answer the questions below clearly and concisely.	
<p>Please describe the initiative.</p> <p>A 9ft statue of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled outside Manchester Cathedral on 25 November. The statue is marking the 150th anniversary of Gandhi’s birth, and has been brought forward by the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur, a worldwide spiritual movement headquartered in India. The project has also been supported by Manchester Cathedral, the council, and the High Commission of India.</p> <p>Gandhi came to the UK in 1931 and visited textile mills in Lancashire to meet with mill workers to explain the Indian perspective on the boycott of British goods.</p> <p>Manthan Taswala, head of public relations, SRMD UK, said: “Mahatma Gandhi’s teachings remain as potent today as when he first said, ‘be the change that you want to see in the world. Following the 2017 Arena attack, Manchester’s unique civic pride displayed the values of non-violence and compassion. We are inspired by the people of Manchester for their strength, decency and community in the face of this unparalleled tragedy.”</p> <p>“The statue of Gandhi will celebrate the universal power of his message. A statue in Manchester will ensure that the heart of our politics and democracy can all be blessed with his ethos.”</p>	
2. Please tell us about the response from participants.	
3. Please tell us about positive outcomes that resulted from the initiative. In the run up to the unveiling, Manchester City Council assisted Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur organisation in developing a peace education programme in which 16 schools and 1,750 children took part, learning about Gandhi's values of peace and non-violence as well as highlighting the multi-faith and multi-cultural diversity of Manchester.	
4. Please tell us about the challenges encountered in the initiative if any.	
5. Please identify any materials used in the initiative.	
6. May the Mayors for Peace Secretariat post the material mentioned in Question 5 on its website? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes *Please attach the material(s). <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know.	