### **Appendix 6: Template email to schools from parents**

To: [Headteacher]

Subject: Including humanist and non-religious perspectives in RE

I am the parent of x in year y.

[Include something positive about your child’s education so far (if you can think of something).

E.g. I have been delighted with... / x enjoys...]

I am writing to request that teaching about humanism is included in religious education lessons and to let you know about free local support available from [Humanists UK](https://humanism.org.uk/).

Today over half the population of the UK (and over 70% of young people) are non-religious and more schools than ever are including humanism as part of inclusive RE. [Humanism](https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/what-is-humanism/) is a **non-religious worldview**. Humanists believe the world is a natural place and look to science as the best way to understand and explain it. They try to live ethical lives based on reason and empathy and seek happiness for themselves and others in the one life we know we have.

[Mention the fact that humanism or non-religious worldviews feature on the locally agreed syllabus if they do.]

I believe young people should have the opportunity to explore the full range of principal religious *and* non-religious beliefs and values in the UK. An inclusive RE can help inform students about the landscape of religion and belief and can help to foster social cohesion and respect for others.

I am aware that [Humanists UK](https://humanism.org.uk/) offers schools a **free visit from a trained school speaker** who is able to support teachers with teaching young people about humanism. It would make me very happy to know that the school had taken advantage of this offer. You can request a visit from a school speaker at [understandinghumanism.org.uk/school-speakers](http://understandinghumanism.org.uk/school-speakers/). The website also has an extensive range of teaching resources about humanism to support teachers.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,