

## COLLECTION LEVEL

<b>Ref no</b>	GB3228.4
<b>Name of collection</b>	<b>Macdonald Inquiry</b>
<b>Date of donation</b>	2014
<b>Donor name</b>	Robert Lizar, Solicitor
<b>Box number/s</b>	1 - 24
<b>Type of collection</b>	Donated collection (fonds)
<b>Dates of creation</b>	1981-1988
<b>Extent</b>	24 boxes
<b>Name of creator</b>	Macdonald Inquiry Panel and Solicitors
<b>Archival history (Background to the collection)</b>	The collection was transferred from the office of Robert Lizar Solicitors, Moss Side, Manchester, in 2014. Robert Lizar was appointed as independent solicitor to the Macdonald Inquiry in 1987.
<b>Administrative history (Quick description)</b>	<p>The Macdonald Inquiry into Racism and Racial Violence in Manchester was set up by Manchester City Council in 1987 following the death of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah, aged 13, who was killed by a fellow pupil in the playground of Burnage High School on 17 September 1986. The Inquiry opened on 21 May at Longsight Library chaired by Ian Macdonald QC, leading barrister and specialist in immigration and race relations law. He was assisted by three assessors, Lily Khan, Gus John and Reena Bhavnani.</p> <p>Manchester City Council initially appointed Jack Thornley as independent solicitor to the Inquiry, who was subsequently replaced by Robert Lizar Solicitors. Statements and evidence were taken from a wide range of individuals and groups involved in education including pupils, teachers, parents, community organisations, social workers and youth workers.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Macdonald Inquiry were to examine the extent to which there was a racial aspect to the circumstances surrounding the death of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah, the extent to which there were racial aspects to problems of violence and discipline in Burnage High School and other Manchester schools and to recommend actions intended to eliminate or reduce racial harassment, racial violence and racism in schools.</p>
<b>Scope and content (Detail of content)</b>	<p>This collection consists of archive material relating to the activities of the Macdonald Inquiry and supporting documentation. The archive contains papers recording the process of the Inquiry including guidelines and procedures, and details of witnesses and interview schedules. Correspondence relates to the recording of statements and evidence and the publication of the Inquiry, including letters to individual witnesses and members of the Inquiry panel. Sources of information used for the Inquiry include papers relating to Burnage High School and other Manchester schools, and reports and recommendations from a number of organisations involved in education and race relations.</p> <p>The collection also contains newspaper articles about the Inquiry and wider educational issues, and publicity relating to the Inquiry itself. A large proportion of the collection consists of witness statements and evidence taken from pupils, parents, teachers and individuals and groups involved in education and relate both to the death of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah and issues concerning multiculturalism and racism in Manchester schools.</p>

<b>System of arrangement</b>	<p>The collection is arranged into the following series:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Correspondence</li> <li>2. Burnage High School</li> <li>3. Inquiry guidelines, procedures and administrative papers</li> <li>4. Newspaper cuttings</li> <li>5. Supporting documentation</li> <li>6. Inquiry Proceedings: Evidence of witnesses</li> <li>7. Statements</li> <li>8. Reports and publications</li> </ol>
<b>Related material</b>	<p>Available in Manchester Central Library:  Macdonald, Ian, <i>Murder in the playground: the Burnage report, the report of the Macdonald Inquiry into racism and racial violence in Manchester schools</i> (London: Longsight Press, 1989)</p>
<b>Conditions of use and access</b>	<p>Access conditions apply to a number of records in this collection.</p>
<b>Language/s</b>	<p>English</p>

**SERIES LEVEL**

Ref no	Name of series	Dates of creation	Extent	Name of creator	Background	Scope and Content	Detail of	Related material	Conditions of use and access	Language/s
GB3228.4/1	<b>Correspondence</b>	1987-1988	15 items	n/a	n/a	Solicitors' correspondence relating to the Macdonald Inquiry including letters to schools, teachers, and relevant organisations and correspondence concerning the recording of witness statements and evidence, the publication of the Inquiry and solicitors' fees.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to a number of these records.	English
GB3228.4/2	<b>Papers relating to Burnage High School</b>	1985-1987	11 items	n/a	n/a	Files contain reports relating to Burnage High School including Headmaster's Report to Governors, School Inspection and Multicultural/Anti-Racist Education. Other papers relate to Anti-Racist Strategies Group and Ethnic Minorities Strategies Group.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to a number of these records.	English
GB3228.4/3	<b>Inquiry guidelines, procedures and administrative papers</b>	1987-1988	24 items	n/a	n/a	Terms of reference and procedure relating to Inquiry, details of witnesses and schedules for interviews, public information leaflets and photographs, working notebooks and appointment diaries and notes recording meetings with various groups.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to a number of these records.	English
GB3228.4/4	<b>Newspaper cuttings</b>	1987-1988	3 items	n/a	n/a	Newspaper cuttings relating to Macdonald Inquiry, Burnage High School, additional Manchester schools, racism in schools and other educational issues.	n/a	n/a	Open	English
GB3228.4/5	<b>Supporting documentation</b>	1984-1988	9 items	n/a	n/a	Documents used in course of the Macdonald Inquiry including papers relating to racial tension and multicultural development in schools, recommendations submitted to the Inquiry, papers from Manchester City Council, accounts relating to the death of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah and witness statements from trial at Manchester Crown Court.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to a number of these records.	English
GB3228.4/6	<b>Inquiry Proceedings: Evidence of witnesses</b>	1987	23 items	n/a	n/a	Transcripts of evidence recorded at the office of the Macdonald Inquiry in Longsight Library, Manchester. Witnesses were interviewed between May and September 1987.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to these records.	English

GB3228.4/7	<b>Statements</b>	1987	232 items	n/a	n/a	A large number of statements were taken as part of the Macdonald Inquiry and groups approached included pupils, parents, and teachers and staff from Burnage High School and other Manchester schools. Statements were also sought from people working with schools and pupils, and with experience of the education sector. Further individuals came forward in response to advertisements in local newspapers relating to the Inquiry. The statements contain accounts and reaction relating to the death of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah, individuals experiences in schools, accounts, opinions and suggestions regarding the current climate in schools, multiculturalism, race issues and experience of racism.	n/a	n/a	Access conditions apply to these records.	English
GB3228.4/8	<b>Reports and publications</b>	1981-1988	26 items	n/a	n/a	Reports and publications referred to in the Inquiry produced by organisations including community groups in Manchester, Manchester Education Committee, Manchester City Council, National Union of Teachers and Department of Education and Science. Reports relate to community projects in Manchester, racism in schools, multicultural education and policies for combatting racism.	n/a	n/a	Open	English

**ITEM LEVEL**

*Due to sensitive nature of this collection please contact the Centre for details*