

RE Newsletter January 2016



Happy New Year to you all.

Here is the latest newsletter, giving up to date info on RE related matters that might be of interest to you. Please keep in touch if you would like support, information etc
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Up-coming RE courses at the Old Deanery

Course	Date	Venue	Time
Fundamental British Values	Tues 19th Jan	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 13:00
Effective RE	Wed 10th Feb	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:00
Teaching Judaism & Islam	Tues 23rd Feb	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:00
Preparation for Quality Mark application	Tues 15th Mar	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 13:00
Philosophy for children in Primary School	Mon 18th Apr	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:00
Inclusive Spiritual Development	Tues 28th Jun	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:00
Effective RE	Wed 6th July	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:00

To get more information about these courses or to make a booking, please contact Fran Bradley at educationevents@exeter.anglican.org

Holocaust Memorial Day 2016



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

The 27th January marks Holocaust Memorial Day again next year, when we will be remembering victims of genocide. The theme for HMD 2016 is 'Don't stand by'. There will be an exhibition of pupils' work at the Exeter Guildhall on the day, with

presentations and talks at Southernhay United Reform Church. There are useful resources available at hmd.org.uk

If you would like to know more about events in Exeter you can find a detailed programme at: [http://www.babcock-](http://www.babcock-education.co.uk/ldp/v.asp?rootid=17&depth=2&level2=91&level2id=91&nextlevel=91&folderid=91)

[education.co.uk/ldp/v.asp?rootid=17&depth=2&level2=91&level2id=91&nextlevel=91&folderid=91](http://www.babcock-education.co.uk/ldp/v.asp?rootid=17&depth=2&level2=91&level2id=91&nextlevel=91&folderid=91)

NATRE: 2016 national conference

NATRE's 2016 national conference will take place on Saturday 30th January 2016 in central London. There will be inspiring speakers, a packed programme of seminars, an exhibition of resources and support networks and the chance to chat with your fellow RE practitioners.

Booking: <http://www.natre.org.uk/courses-events/strictly-re-2016/>



NATRE national Primary RE survey

NATRE is conducting a third national primary RE survey to obtain information about the current state of RE in all types of schools for Primary age children so that it can continue to support the teacher in the classroom by raising awareness of the impact of government policy on RE.

You can access the survey here:

<http://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/2016-natre-primary-survey/>



Spirited Arts competition

Spirited Arts is an annual competition for Primary and Secondary schools organized by NATRE. Ask your pupils to create a piece of artwork (drawing, painting, video, sculpture or other media). Topics for Primary

schools this year are: seeing Jesus, where is God today? and it's not fair. More info at:

<http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/introduction/>

The Christianity Project

The Christianity Project is due to be published in the Spring. We are excited about this initiative and expect it to have a major impact on the way we teach about Christianity. Look out for the launch events around the Diocese towards the end of the Summer Term.

Advice about Ramadan 2016

In 2016 Ramadan runs from 6th or 7th June and lasts for a month. Id-ul-Fitr (the festival marking the end of Ramadan) will fall on 7th July (plus or minus 1 day). Teachers need to bear in mind that the routine of Muslim families is entirely different during Ramadan. The whole household will be awake much earlier in the morning and will stay up later at night, particularly when, as in 2016, Ramadan falls in the summer months with long daylight hours. Young children may well become more tired or excitable in school during this time, even if they are not fasting themselves. Those students who are fasting may become very tired and thirsty during the school day. The NASACRE website gives detailed guidance on how schools can cater for the needs of their Muslim pupils during this period.

<http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=b1bda1b734&id=1896004ba0&e=1e3402b07b>

Hindu Council UK website on Reincarnation

The Hindu Council UK has set up a website focusing on reincarnation, one of the key beliefs of Indic religions. The website looks at Reincarnation in relation to issues such as gender orientation, phobias, child prodigies, abortion and euthanasia. Visit <http://reincarnationuk.org/> for more info.

Learn, Teach, Lead RE

Are you accessing support and training through Learn, Teach, Lead RE (LTLRE)? This project was established in 2012 to build RE communities across Devon and Cornwall, with the aim of improving the quality of Religious Education in all our schools. For information on your nearest local group, go to <http://ltlre.org/>. This year's conference will be held at St Mellion Golf Club in Oct 2016. There are currently vacancies for hub leader roles in some areas. If you are interested, please contact ludge@waitrose.com



Assessment without Levels in RE Project

Learn Teach Lead RE is working with Dr Barbara Wintersgill (ex HMI) to develop an exciting new approach to improve the quality of assessment in RE. The old system of levelling was linked to a predetermined, abstract statement of theoretical standards (levels). The advantage of the method being proposed is that it ties assessment to expectations of pupils' understanding in relation to what they are learning in the curriculum. It utilises Bloom's taxonomy, but related to each unit of learning, rather than as a pattern of progression through school life. You can find details on the LTLRE website (link below). If you would like to be a part of the project please email [Linda Rudge](mailto:Linda.Rudge@ltlre.org) <http://ltlre.org/projects/assessment-without-levels-in-re/>

GCSE and A Level Examination Reform update

There is still nothing significant to report regarding GCSE and A level RS specifications. The Awarding Organisations (exam boards) have been re-submitting their specifications to Ofqual for accreditation, but none of them have, as yet, been passed. The link below, to the NATRE website, shows a summary of the specifications as far as we know at present, with a useful comparison table.

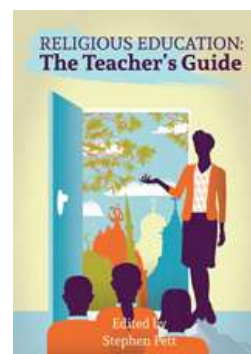
<http://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/examination-reform-2015-your-one-stop-shop-for-all-the-materials-published-so-far/>

Religious Education: The Teacher's Guide

By Stephen Pett

Religious Education: The Teacher's Guide explores the landscape of RE in the UK, setting the context for the teacher and leader of RE. It focuses on the essential information needed by teachers of RE, and offers a wealth of practical strategies for effective subject leadership, from active learning and assessment through to visits, visitors and British values. Brief guides to religions and worldviews support teachers' subject knowledge as well as suggesting ideas for the classroom. Cost: £25

<http://shop.natre.org.uk/9781910261002>

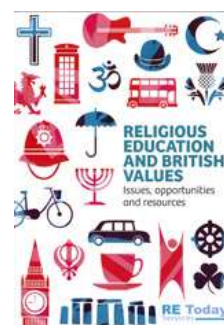


Religious Education and British Values

By Lat Blaylock, Kate Christopher & Fiona Moss

This book of guidance has been written and edited by the RE Today Advisory Team. It aims to help schools and teachers of RE to understand and respond to the requirements to promote British Values in schools.

Inside you will find up-to-the-minute guidance, a review of the inspection requirements, suggestions for policy and curriculum development and some tried-and-tested RE lesson ideas that explore tolerance, respect, democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty. Cost: £15



RE Twitter chat

You are warmly invited to join in with #REchatUK – NATRE's monthly twitter chat. Take part in the discussion and read what others have to say on RE related topics each month. Chats take place from 8-9pm, so you can participate from the comfort of your own home. Upcoming topics are:

Date	Topic
Monday 11 January 2016	Questioning in RE. What makes for excellent questioning?
Monday 1st February	Religious literacy in Hinduism
Monday 7 th March	

Farmington Scholarships

Applications are now open for the 2016-17 Farmington Scholarships for Teachers of Religious Education to conduct research in RE.

The Scholarships are for teachers of Religious Education in UK schools (both primary and secondary). Applicants should have completed at least two years in their present post.

The Scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, board and lodging where appropriate, essential local travel and, by negotiation with the school, the salary of a replacement teacher up to point 6 of the main pay scale. For further information, contact:

http://www.farmington.ac.uk/scholarships_and_awards/scholarships.html



Teach RE course

The Culham St Gabriel's Teach RE course is a distance learning course designed to support teachers' subject knowledge. The course is appropriate for all teachers of RE or those planning to teach the subject. We currently have teachers from primary, special and secondary schools taking the course as well as those who are entering Initial Teacher Training.



The course costs £150. Every trainee has a tutor allocated to them, so 1:1 support is provided throughout the course. More information from kathryn@cstg.org.uk or www.teachre.co.uk.