

# Agenda

## Standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE)

Date: **Friday 11 March 2022**

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Time: **2.00 pm**

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Place: **Conference Suite, Herefordshire Council Offices,  
Plough Lane, HR4 0LE**

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Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

**Simon Cann, Democratic Services Officer**

Tel: 01432 260667

Email: [simon.cann@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.cann@herefordshire.gov.uk)

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Simon Cann, Democratic Services Officer on 01432 260667 or e-mail [simon.cann@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.cann@herefordshire.gov.uk) in advance of the meeting.

# Agenda for the meeting of the Standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE)

## Membership

Group A	Mr Fawcett Canon Nugent Mrs Ault Venerable Tenzin Choesang* Ms Stainer	Roman Catholic representative Free Church representative Baha'i faith representative Buddhist faith representative Quaker faith representative
Group B	Mr Debenham Mr Harrington Mr Nicholas	Church of England representative Church of England representative Church of England representative
Group C	Mr Caldicott Mrs Barker** Ms Westlake	Primary teacher representative Secondary teacher representative Co-optee
Group D	Councillor Harvey Councillor Hewitt Councillor Stone	

\*Chairperson

\*\*Vice Chairperson

## Agenda

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<p><b>1. WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER</b> To welcome members to SACRE and receive a prayer</p>	
<p><b>2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> To receive apologies for absence.</p>	
<p><b>3. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)</b> To receive details any details of Members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a Member of the Committee.</p>	
<p><b>4. MINUTES</b> To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021.</p>	7 - 12
<p><b>5. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS (IF ANY)</b> To answer any pre-received written questions from members of the public.</p>	
<p><b>6. SACRE BUDGET 2022/23</b> To note the budget for SACRE 2022/23</p>	13 - 16
<p><b>7. NASACRE BRIEFING</b> To receive a verbal briefing from the local NASACRE representative.</p>	
<p><b>8. RE CONFERENCES 2022</b> To receive details of the 2022 RE conferences.</p>	17 - 22
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<p><b>10. MEETING DATES 2022/23</b> To note the dates below for meetings of SACRE in 2022/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022</li> <li>• 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022</li> <li>• 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023</li> </ul>	



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- Inspect minutes of the Council and all Committees and Sub-Committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
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## **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

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Please do not allow any items of clothing, etc. to obstruct any of the exits.

Do not delay your vacation of the building by stopping or returning to collect coats or other personal belongings.

**Minutes of the meeting of Standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE) held at Conference Suite, Herefordshire Council Offices, Plough Lane, Hereford HR4 0LE on Friday 19 November 2021 at 2.00 pm**

**Present:** Venerable Tenzin Choesang (Chairperson)  
Mrs Ault, Mrs Barker, Mr Debenham\*, Mr Harrington, Cllr Hewitt, Cllr Stone, Mr Fawcett, Ms Stainer and Ms Westlake

**Officers:** Strategic Finance Manager, School improvement advisor and Consultant to SACRE, Democratic Services Officer\*, Democratic Services Technical Officer

\*denotes virtual attendance

**1. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND PRAYER**

The Chair welcomed the new members of the Committee, Ms Stainer, the Quaker Faith Representative and Mr Fawcett, the Roman Catholic Representative, to their first meeting of SACRE. The Chair then led the meeting in a prayer.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr Caldicott, Councillor Harvey, Mr Nicholls and Canon Nugent.

Mr Debenham was attending the meeting remotely and was therefore able to speak on the items but not to vote on them.

**3. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)**

There were no named substitutes.

**4. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2021 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

**5. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS (IF ANY)**

No questions had been received.

**6. SACRE WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL**

The Chair introduced the Strategic Finance Manager who outlined the process to present the SACRE working group financial proposal to the Schools Forum.

The Strategic Finance Manager's presentation included the following points:

- Funding for SACRE was provided for in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which had a block of funding used for central services.
- The current proposal for SACRE funding was c£6k which provided for meetings and a quadrennial review of the syllabus.
- Any additional funding would have to be considered by Schools Forum at their meeting on 14 January 2022 as it was the Forum that had the statutory responsibility for making the decision on how the central services block of the DSG was spent.
- There were already proposals submitted which fully spent the central services budget so any increases would require Schools Forum to consider reducing someone else's budget.
- A detailed proposal showing some indicative funding values for all elements of the 4 proposals that the Chair had outlined in her paper would need to be completed and submitted ideally by the end of term so that the budget working group that advised the Forum had chance to examine the proposal.
- Schools Forum had taken the view that wherever possible money would be put into schools to allow them to choose which services to spend it on. Very little central funding was retained as schools were encouraged to buy back the services they wanted.

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At 2.16pm the Strategic Finance Manager left the meeting.

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During continued discussion the following principal points were noted:

- Additional funding was needed to cover an increase in costs of RE today, the costs for the next syllabus and the re-instatement of 3 meetings a year for the sake of continuity as there was too long a gap between the two meetings held currently.
- In addition, the proposal should determine extra funding that was needed to have an effective SACRE. This should include the fees to re-join NASACRE, so that SACRE members could take part in their training programmes and the cost of establishing annual school events, as outlined in the Chair's paper, to increase involvement with pupils and teachers.
- The Council had an internal training budget that had not been fully utilised due to Covid, and which SACRE could possibly benefit from.
- The Chair asked for volunteers to form a steering committee to organise these school events and for this to be done before finding out whether the bid for funding had been successful so that the Committee was ready to start work. The event at Madley Church could potentially go ahead without funding if parental support was forthcoming.
- The Chair clarified that she was proposing that a secondary school event be held in Autumn 2022 and the primary school event in Summer 2023.
- SACRE could also apply to the Westhill NASACRE grant for funding but the terms of the grants stipulated that any bids had to demonstrate that funds would be used to help more than a County area or just a handful of schools. The deadline for any grant applications was 31 March 2022.

**RESOLVED:**

Members of SACRE agreed that:

1. The Chair's outline proposals be approved.
2. That a proposal be put to Herefordshire Council asking that any unspent funds from their training fund be used for members to undertake NASACRE training.
3. That the SACRE working group financial proposal be presented to the Schools Forum at their meeting in January.



4. Additional funding be sought from the Westhill NASACRE grant
5. That any members willing to volunteer to work on the following contact the Chair:
  - the detailed financial proposal needed to present to Schools Forum
  - an application to the Westhill NASACRE grant
  - a steering group for the school events outlined in the proposal
6. That a member of the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) be invited to the next meeting.

## **7. DRAFT SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR SEPTEMBER 2020 - JULY 2021**

The Consultant to SACRE introduced the draft SACRE Annual Report for the academic year September 2020-July 2021 for comment and approval by the Committee.

During discussion the following principal points were noted:

- The draft report met the requirement to update NASACRE and the Department for Education (DfE) on the work SACRE had been doing throughout the year.
- A new, more school friendly report template would be introduced for next year's annual report.
- Information on local groups would be added in before the final report was sent to the DfE.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the draft SACRE Annual Report for the academic year September 2020-July 2021 be approved.

## **8. PLANS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2022**

The Consultant to SACRE reported on activity already undertaken and future plans for further Continuous Professional Development (CPD) to support schools in implementing the syllabus this academic year.

During discussion the following points were noted:

### Report on Summer Conferences and Proposals for 2022 Conferences

- The two conferences that had been held in the Summer were well received and teachers had given feedback that the information shared would greatly help them in implementing the new syllabus.
- There had been an increase in the number of teachers from Herefordshire attending the primary school conference but attendance at the three counties secondary school conference had been disappointing.
- The merits and disadvantages to holding virtual conferences were discussed. In general most members of the council felt that teachers benefited from in person interaction and that virtual meetings were more limiting but were mindful that this needed to be weighed against consideration of costs, ease of attendance and health concerns.
- A Special Schools Conference would need to wait until funding was confirmed.
- Teachers in the group offered to include a workshop on early years material and would discuss this further with the Consultant to SACRE ahead of next year's conferences.

### SACRE member training

- RE today ran SACRE member training but NASACRE's offering was more feasible because of the cost. The Chair would circulate to members details of the NASACRE training.

#### Updates on visitors into schools and Teacher Group Updates.

- A list of useful contacts for visitors into schools was circulated to the Committee. Although SACRE could legally not formally endorse these contacts, they were recommended to members as they had already been into school, knew how to interact with children, could adapt to different age groups and had passed safeguarding checks.
- There was an RE lead teacher group that was affiliated with NATRE and which met twice last year, with a third meeting at the conference. Members were keen to keep these meetings online as it enabled more of them to attend.
- The teacher networks had been useful for sharing resources and discussing how they could be developed in individual schools. There was to be a '12+ resources of Christmas' session which members were invited to contribute to.
- The SACRE newsletter was intended to be a celebration and a showcase for all the RE work being done in Herefordshire schools.
- The first edition of the newsletter had gone out in early 2021 and had contained information about the forthcoming conferences, the RE quality mark and the spirited arts competition being run by NATRE.
- A second edition of the SACRE newsletter was planned for after Christmas and any contributions to it would be welcomed.

#### Diocese Training

- A wide variety of training was offered by the Diocese including sessions for teachers on their religious views, world views and diversity, refresher training, subject leader training and curriculum design.
- A fee was charged for the training but was open to all.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Primary School Conference for 2022, if held jointly with Herefordshire, be held online but the practice then be reviewed for the following year.
2. That the three counties Secondary School Conference go ahead as planned and be held in person but this be reviewed nearer the time and depending on the Covid situation moved online if necessary.

#### **9. SACRE MEMBERSHIP**

The Chairperson asked the Committee to review the membership of SACRE and consider additional members. A statement from the Gloucestershire Humanist Representative was read out in support of this.

During the discussion the following principal points were noted:

- The Chair informed the Committee that although there had intended to be 2 visitors joining the meeting for this item, the Humanist Representative and the Diversity Officer, were both unable to attend.
- The Diversity Officer was also known as the Community Cohesion Officer but it was unclear whether this role still existed, whether it had been broken up and its parts taken on by other officers, or whether it had been absorbed into Talk Community. Details of the diversity officer would be looked into.

- Members voiced their support for having a Humanist representative on the Committee as there was a need to be seen as inclusive and world views were part of the syllabus.

**RESOLVED:**

That a Humanist Representative be invited to join SACRE

**10. UPDATE ON ANY NEW RE INITIATIVES**

The Consultant to SACRE asked the Committee to consider recent national initiatives and their implications for the teaching of Religious Education in Herefordshire Schools. This included an update on the worldviews project of the RE Council of England and Wales, and a presentation (appended to the minutes) on the Ofsted RE Research Review. A Theos video titled 'Nobody Stands Nowhere' and which unpacked the idea of world views, was also shown during this item.

Members were encouraged to use the links provided in the report to source lots of different resources and information on projects happening nationally.

**RESOLVED:**

That an item on 'worldviews' be added to the agenda for the November 2022 meeting.

**11. ROUNDTABLE UPDATES**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of SACRE would be held on 11 March 2022.

The meeting ended at 4,23pm

**Chairperson**





# Title of report: SACRE Budget 2022/23

**Meeting: Standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE)**

**Meeting date: Friday 11 March 2022**

**Report by: Lead Officer for SACRE**

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

## **Purpose**

To note the budget for SACRE 2022/23

## **Recommendation(s)**

**That: The SACRE budget of £6,120 for 2022/23 be noted.**

## **Alternative options**

1. This report is to inform SACRE of its budget for the forthcoming financial year.

## **Key considerations**

2. Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 requires Herefordshire Council to establish a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), to advise them on matters concerned with the provision of religious education and collective worship in county schools.

## **Community impact**

3. The provision of religious education and collective worship seeks to increase understanding and tolerance of all religions in all local communities. A stated aim in Herefordshire Council's corporate plan is to ensure that there is access to excellent education and learning opportunities at all levels, including early years/schools, Further Education, Higher Education and adult learning.

## **Environmental Impact**

4. Whilst this is a decision on back office functions and will have minimal environmental impacts, consideration has been made to minimise waste and resource use in line with the Council's Environmental Policy.

## **Equality duty**

5. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:  
  
A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:  
  
(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;  
  
(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;  
  
(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
6. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. The provision of religious education seeks to contribute positively to the specific duty by increasing the understanding and awareness of all religions in local communities.

## **Resource implications**

7. New funding arrangements following the abolition of the Education Services Grant in April 2017, require that SACRE is funded from the Central Services Block of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The current year budget is set at £5,000 pa and it has been agreed with Schools Forum that the budget will increase to £6,120 pa for 2022/23.
8. Around £4,000 is spent annually on a contract with RE Today which provides for a current annual surplus of approximately £1,000 which is accumulated each year to fund the quinquennial syllabus review. The accumulated rolled over funds to date are £1,945 from 2020/21 as the syllabus review was funded in 2019/20. Approximately £3,000 will be rolled forward from the current financial year and the amount rolled-over will increase over the next four years to provide sufficient funding to meet the cost of the syllabus review in 2024/25.
9. Future underspends will be rolled forward similarly although the precise amount cannot be guaranteed as it will depend on the actual costs each year. If the syllabus review is every four or five years then the current funding arrangements will provide sufficient funding to meet the costs of both the annual service contract with RE Today and the syllabus review. The budget will be reviewed annually in January each year with Schools Forum to ensure there is sufficient funding to provide for inflation and the quinquennial syllabus review.
10. The Budget Working Group of Schools Forum considered a request from SACRE to fund a bi-annual conference for pupils at key stage 4 in the Autumn term. The group considered there were other options to support the proposed SACRE activities. Two secondary headteachers agreed to speak with the chairperson of SACRE about arranging events at their schools which could be used as exemplars of an alternative approach.

## Legal implications

11. Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 requires Herefordshire Council to establish a SACRE to advise them on matters concerned with the provision of religious education and collective worship in county schools.
12. Section 2.9.19 of Herefordshire Councils constitution provides for the establishment and membership of SACRE.

**The non-statutory guidance Religious education in English schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010, pg 11 provides that Herefordshire Council should fund SACRE to enable it to carry out its functions. Risk management**

13. There are no risks associated with this report.

## Consultees

14. None.

## Appendices

None

## Background papers

None identified

## Report Reviewers Used for appraising this report:

Please note this section must be completed before the report can be published		
Governance	Sarah Buffrey, Democratic Services Officer	Date 25/02/2022
Finance	Malcolm Green	Date 21/02/2022
Legal	Ruth Whittingham	Date 25/02/2022
Communications	Luenne featherstone	Date 22/02/2022
Equality Duty	Carole Traconitis	Date 21/02/2022
Procurement	Lee Robertson	Date 21/02/2022
Risk	Chris Jones	Date 25/02/2022
Approved by	Claire Ward	Date 03/03/2022

**Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.**

**Standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE) – Standing advisory council for religious education DSG – Dedicated Schools Grant**



## **Religion, worldviews, ways of knowing: moving forward in RE**

**Date: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022**

**Venue: Puckrup Hall Hotel, Tewkesbury, GL20 6EL**

**Online via Zoom, if needed (surely not!)**

**9.00am-3.30pm Registration from 8.45am**

This will be a practical conference to explore a mix of practical strategies and classroom resources. There is a focus on current issues in RE – from the worldviews to ‘ways of knowing’. Our popular ‘TeachMeet’ slot gives you the chance to share great classroom ideas that work.

### **9.00 Introduction and welcome**

To include an update on Gloucestershire SACRE’s plans for revising the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus.

### **9.15-10.30 Religion and worldviews: a new approach in RE? Stephen Pett**

A practical exploration of what a “religion and worldviews” approach looks like in the classroom. Drawing on research and current national projects, this session will look at some of the benefits as well as the challenges. How can we use this kind of approach to deepen pupils’ knowledge and understanding? Practical examples from at least three worldviews.

Break

### **11.00-12.30 Approaches to Sikh worldviews: history, spirituality, ethics and community Lat Blaylock**

This session will provide seven learning ideas for 11-16s from Sikh tradition and community that explode some stereotypes and intend to open young people’s minds, using a variety of RE learning methods.

Lunch

### **1.15-2.30 Ways of knowing: multidisciplinary approaches Stephen Pett**

Ofsted is talking about substantive’ knowledge and ‘disciplinary’ knowledge. What do they look like in RE? This session will look at how we can enable students to apply different methods to examine and evaluate the content of RE. For example:

- How can we use different methods to study religion?
- What connections can anthropology make with the personal worldviews of pupils? Astrology, amulets and restless spirits.
- Digging into data on prayer: what can surveys tell us about religious and non-religious worldviews?

Short break

### **2.45-3.15 TeachMeet**

Five-minute slots to share practical and relevant ideas for your classroom. Sign up to offer an idea that works!

### **3.15-3.30 Evaluations and syllabus consultation**

In the light of the topics explored during the day, this is an opportunity to comment on the ideas for the new Gloucestershire agreed syllabus. Herefordshire and Worcestershire syllabus is very similar to the Gloucestershire syllabus – so while the changes in Glos won’t directly affect the other counties yet, they may in the future!

You will receive an electronic copy of all resources used on the day to take away, with additional material available to download afterwards. A wide range of resources from RE Today Services will be available to purchase or order on the day at discounted prices.

**Fee: £95 per delegate; £150 for two delegates from the same school.**

Booking details attached. Please email to [mark@retoday.org.uk](mailto:mark@retoday.org.uk) or post to  
**RE Today Services, 5/6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham, B30 3FH**

## Why should I attend this conference?

- An opportunity to meet colleagues and share ideas
- Receive a rich variety of resources for classroom use
- Receive up-to-date, creative and inspiring training on things that matter in RE

But don't just take our word for it!

## 90% of 2021 online attendees rated the day as excellent!

- Although very different - zoom! - still a fantastic day. As always I feel refreshed and positive about the future of RE. The ideas and topics were excellent and I will definitely be using many of the activities.
- I was surprised how close it came to the joy of attending a face to face conference. Lots of fantastic and inspiring ideas. Thank you both.
- As always, fantastic resources, ideas and new perspectives to explore. This conference reinvigorates me and at the end of this year, that has been especially needed! I particularly enjoyed the Anti-racist RS session. Thanks to all involved, brilliant.
- Interesting range of topics, very well hosted.
- Good useful and practical resources.
- Wonderful day- great resources and really user friendly ideas. Marvellous.
- Even though I've seen Lat's picturing Islam before at strictly in London, seeing it with fresh ideas and eyes (plus new content) was great.
- Love the approach where schools buy the day and can all get involved!
- Very well run, professional, friendly and incredibly useful. I will be using so much from this day as inspiration!
- I can actually use all the ideas and resources in the classroom!
- I really enjoyed the Anti-Racism session and will be implementing a lot I have learnt from today into my Programmes of Study.
- Even though we couldn't meet in person, it was still so lovely to catch up with everyone again.
- Great resources and ideas - many of these I plan to use in my own teaching. Thank you.
- Inspiring- it made me re think my plans and critically examine my thinking on Islam

## 100% of 2019 attendees rated the day excellent!

- Excellent resources – informative and practical
- As always, excellent value for money and relevant materials with easily implemented ideas
- Always good to get together with like-minded people – new ideas every year.
- Always good to meet up again, like a huge TeachMeet. Will use Islam resources to centre Y7 learning to be mosque focused.
- I absolutely love coming to these conferences and look forward to it each year. Stephen is so inspiring and always go back to my school with fresh and exciting ideas. Everybody should come to this!
- An excellent first experience. I enjoyed the diverse input.
- All very good, as per usual. Good length and variety of sessions linked clearly to research, resources, strategies and practice.
- Very practical ideas and accompanying resources. Very user-friendly.
- Great practical resources to use in the classroom. Very informative – clear structures and important information.
- This was my first RE Today conference and it was incredibly useful! I really enjoyed meeting new people and the quality of the content was amazing!
- Great resources and classroom techniques. GCSE support is always needed.
- This was a superb course. Angela and Stephen were so knowledgeable and great presenters. I've learnt so much! Thank you, this was a great event!
- Excellent selection of topics and concepts. Lots of great practical ideas to use.
- An excellent day to network and reflect on my own practice. Lots of practical ideas to revamp our curriculum and enhance learning in a deeper and more meaningful way.

**Booking form:**  
**Three Counties Secondary RE Conference**  
**Thursday 23 June 2022**  
**Puckrup Hall Hotel, GL20 2EL**  
**Fee: £95 per delegate; £150 for two delegates from the same school**

Full Name(s):			
School Name:			
School Address:			
	Postcode:		
Telephone:			
Admin email address:			
Attending teacher email:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes! I will bring something brief that really works for the TeachMeet!		
Payment details:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please invoice the school		
Invoice/ Credit Card billing address:			
	Postcode:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose a cheque, payable to RE Today Services		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I will pay by Visa, Mastercard or Switch		
Card number:			
Expiry Date:		Start Date:	
Security code <small>(last 3 numbers on signature strip)</small>		Issue no. (Switch)	
Signature:			
Date:			

**Send to:** RE Today Services, 5/6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham, B30 3FH  
**Tel:** 0121 458 3313 **Fax:** 0121 285 1816  
**Email to:** mark@retoday.org.uk



# **Enriching RE classrooms: knowledge, creativity, thinking**

## **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 ONLINE**

### **9.15am-3.45pm**

A day of inspiring support and ideas for your RE classroom. A suite of practical ideas and guidance for implementing the new agreed syllabus, from current theory to classroom practice. Clear advice on what makes for rich, engaging RE for you and your pupils – as well as meeting Ofsted requirements.

#### **9.15-10.15 Session 1: 'Ways of knowing' in RE Stephen Pett**

National guidance (such as the new Ofsted Research Review) increasingly supports the idea that pupils should use different ways of knowing in RE. What does that mean? Why does it matter? And what does it look like in the primary classroom? Practical strategies on Christians, Muslims and Jewish people in KS1 and KS2.

#### **10.30-11.30 Session 2: Teaching about Hindus in KS2 Adam Robertson**

How can we help teachers and pupils to understand the rich diversity and pluralism of Hindu (Sanatana) dharma? This lively workshop will showcase practical and engaging ways of teaching Hindu concepts, texts and practices in the classroom, as well as offering ideas for sequencing and progressing knowledge to build a coherent understanding of Hindu dharma for primary pupils.

#### **11.45-12.45 Session 3: What in the world is a worldview? Stephen Pett**

How can we transform our teaching by using a worldviews approach? Balancing organised teaching and practice with the lived beliefs and practice of individuals, a worldviews approach can give pupils the skills to engage with religious and non-religious perspectives, including their own. Creative classroom illustrations from 5-11s.

#### **1.45-2.45 Session 4: Opening up texts and stories with 5-11s Adam Robertson**

We are creatures who privilege story, and religions often use stories as a way of talking about big ideas and passing on traditions. In this workshop, we will look at stories from a variety of religious and non-religious worldviews – and show how they can be used to open up creative ways to engage with concepts and interpretation for 5-11s.

#### **3.00-3.45 RE update! What is going on in the world of RE, locally and nationally?**

Find out what training and support is on offer through local groups, SACRE events and national projects coming up in the next year!

Copies of all resources used on the day will be available to take away, and electronic copies available to download afterwards. A range of resources will be available to purchase or order on the day.

#### **Who is it for?**

The conference is aimed at teachers of RE from primary schools, including subject leaders and head teachers. It will also be valuable for governors to find out about and explore best practice in RE.

#### **Aims:**

- To explore excellent practice for implementing the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus for RE, in the context of the new Ofsted Framework
- To provide practical support and guidance to schools in thinking about the intent of the syllabus and planning creative, challenging, thoughtful RE to implement it, increasing pupils' knowledge and understanding, as well as their personal development
- To give teachers confidence in planning and delivering great RE, deepening subject knowledge and skills
- To model examples of thoughtful RE, challenging all pupils and promoting deeper thinking

**Cost: £95 per school. Attend as a staff for all or part of the day!**

Booking details attached. Please email to [mark@retoday.org.uk](mailto:mark@retoday.org.uk)  
or post to RE Today Services, 5/6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham, B30 3FH

**Booking form:**  
**Herefordshire Primary RE Conference:**  
***Enriching RE classrooms***  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022**  
 Fee: £95 per school

Use this as whole-school CPD throughout the day,  
 or teachers join different sessions live online.

Please include email addresses for all teachers, so  
 we can send Zoom links.

Full Name:			
School Name:			
School Address:			
	Postcode:		
Telephone:			
Admin email address:			
Attending teacher(s) email addresses			
Payment details:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please invoice the school		
Invoice/ Credit Card billing address:			
			Postcode:
<input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose a cheque, payable to RE Today Services		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I will pay by Visa, Mastercard or Switch		
Card number:			
Expiry Date:		Start Date:	
Security code <small>(last 3 numbers on signature strip)</small>		Issue no. (Switch)	
Signature:			
Date:			

**Send to:** RE Today Services, 5/6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham, B30 3FH  
 Tel: 0121 458 3313 Fax: 0121 285 1816  
**Email to:** [mark@retoday.org.uk](mailto:mark@retoday.org.uk)

## Inspecting RE: An examination of OFSTED inspections

The publication of the [Religious Education Research Review](#) was greeted positively by many teachers.

NATRE has examined the inspections reports published between 1st May - 14th Oct 2021. NATRE investigates whether inspectors are taking account of the factors identified in the research and if this is improving the potential of inspections to drive up standards in RE. A detailed article outlining sample reports and themes is available for NATRE members.

### Key themes that are commented on are

1. Studying the curriculum in depth, knowing more and remembering more
2. A well sequenced curriculum to ensure that pupils learn the knowledge they need for later topics.
3. Planning an ambitious curriculum
4. 'Collectively enough' – is subject content 'collectively enough' for pupils to gain a good understanding?
5. Adequate curriculum time is given to RE, so that leaders can deliver an ambitious curriculum.
6. Developing pupils' personal knowledge helps them to relate the content to themselves (for example, their own prior assumptions).
7. There is sufficient training and professional development so that teachers have appropriate subject professional knowledge.
8. The importance of visits and visitors
9. Links to SMSC and Personal Development
10. Generally poor or non-existent provision
11. The importance of subject leadership

NATRE members can download the full document [on this link](#).

Could SACRE encourage schools to become members of NATRE to gain up to date information such as this? Is SACRE monitoring OFSTED reports? How far does SACRE training help support teachers to meet these descriptions of good quality RE?

## Analysis of teacher survey on Secondary RE and RS

A ninth secondary NATRE Survey – July 2021 was conducted during the spring term of 2021 via a number of teacher networks supported by the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE), and RE Today Services. Conclusions can be drawn around provision, GCSE entries, timetabling and the supply of specialist RE teachers.

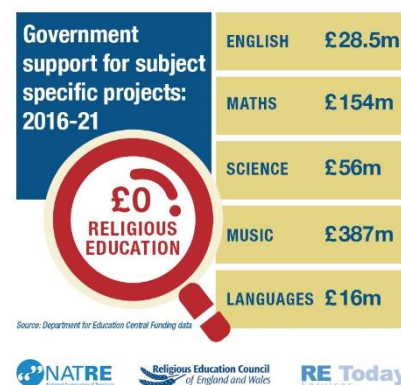
See the report [www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/an-analysis-of-a-survey-of-teachers-on-the-impact-of-government-policy-on-student-opportunity-to-study-gcse-rs/](http://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/an-analysis-of-a-survey-of-teachers-on-the-impact-of-government-policy-on-student-opportunity-to-study-gcse-rs/)

Is this something that should be discussed on our SACRE agenda? Are we aware of the picture in our schools? Are senior leaders aware of their duties around RE?

## Religious Education and the lack of support by government funding

A written parliamentary question tabled has led to the government sharing that it has been supporting curricular projects in many areas of the curriculum, but has allocated no funds on religious education specific projects in the last 5 years.

The RE community are asking people to write to their MP to ask if this can be changed. According to a Savanta survey commissioned by Culham St Gabriel's Trust, 64% of UK adults agree that RE is an important part of the school curriculum today. Religious Education requires support by the government.



Can SACRE talk to local MPs about this and ask them to press the government on this?

## NASACRE Conference 2022 - Ambitious SACREs

Taking place in Birmingham on Monday 23 May, this conference will provide an opportunity for SACRE members to engage in discussion around issues of RE and Collective Worship. Keynote speakers will be Sarah Lane-Cawte (new Chair of the REC - Religious Education Council), HMI Richard Kueh (Ofsted) and David Hampshire, a previous chair of NASACRE, who will present the analysis of the most recent (2021) SACRE annual reports.

Additional sessions will look at the new SACRE audit tool, Westhill award winners, the Local Area Network report and other topical issues of interest to SACREs.

Who can attend this on behalf of our SACRE?

## LAN (Local Area Network) report

'Still Standing' – the REC Local Area Network Report is now live [here](#).

### The report asks SACREs to consider the following points:

1. Reviewing SACRE membership in partnership with the LA to ensure that it is representative of the local community, and supports the religions and worldviews included in the Agreed Syllabus. Having a diverse range of voices with specific roles on SACRE is essential if an LA is to be able to discharge its legal responsibilities. SACREs can start the process of working with their LA to update membership now. This may require a change to the constitution or terms of reference; the LA legally approves your members and there is nothing in the present legislation that would hinder this.
2. Continue to build local partnerships with the LA to ensure necessary funding.
3. Within the present legislation regarding their ability to widen their membership, the CoRE report helpfully suggests SACREs think about adding to their membership - if they haven't done so already - education departments at museums and universities, local ITT providers, local RE CPD providers, training school hubs, parents, governors, pupil voice, academies and free schools, to name but a few possibilities. Widening representation and local buy-in strengthens the work of high quality RE in schools.

Claire Clinton, the report's author, believes that there are some useful documents developed by SACREs who participated in the project, for other SACREs to use in their work, including

- An audit tool for Agreed Syllabus reviews
- A simple participatory action research template
- A membership tool.



## Herefordshire SACRE Spring Term 2022 National SACRE updates from RE Today

NASACRE hopes that there will be an opportunity for SACREs to find out more about these tools and discuss the impact of the report at the (hopefully!) face-to-face May 2022 conference in Birmingham.

What can our SACRE learn about this? Could someone go back and find out more about this and lead a discussion at our next meeting?

### NASACRE's SACRE Self-evaluation tool

The NASACRE development group has worked hard on reviewing, updating, and improving the SACRE self-evaluation tool. This tool will enable SACREs to consider their effectiveness in all areas of its work in order to produce a targeted and costed Development Plan in partnership with your LA.

The SEF is available [here](#) for use at SACRE meetings.

There will be a workshop at the conference in May 2022 around how to use the tool to best effect.

Should this be on our summer agenda, led by whoever attends the NASACRE conference?

### NASACRE's new online training programme

NASACRE members can access these recorded sessions [here](#) along with the slide shows and resources.

The programme for 2021-22 can be accessed [here](#).

Can anyone from SACRE attend any of these? Which might be useful?

### Religion and Worldviews in Religious Education

This new page on the REC website hosts a series of resources relating to worldviews. It includes a new animation from Jason Ramasami, well known animator and former RE teacher, that captures the key characteristics of how this new approach represents religions in the classroom, a Bibliography from Dawn Cox of articles, blogs and other material that have been published in response to the CoRE Report and a series of FAQs.

[www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/worldviews/](http://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/worldviews/)

Do we need an item on our next agenda to discuss new developments in worldviews?

### The Culham St Gabriel's Leadership Programme

The programme is a one-to-two-year mentoring and coaching programme developing leadership skills in middle leaders. It is **free** to schools. Applications are open now for a September 2022 start. The programme works at 2 levels.

#### Stage 1

This stage is for those local or regional leaders who are beginning to work across more than one school. For example, leading Religion and Worldviews across a MAT or supporting other schools in a Federation and/or leading a local group or hub. Some NATRE Regional Ambassadors, SLEs, REQM Gold award RE leads or LTLRE Hub leads might find this Stage of CPD helpful.

#### Stage 2

This Stage is for teachers who have completed Stage 1 and/or for those who already have a regional/national role and would like to develop their expertise further. This stage is particularly for teachers/advisers who are likely to continue their specialism into senior leadership roles within or outside of their school situation. Those who are seeking to become advisers, ambassadors or an Executive member of one of the RE Organisations are particularly encouraged to apply.

## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN: Closing date for applications: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

For more details and a film outlining the programme go to [www.reonline.org.uk/leadership/leadership-programme/](http://www.reonline.org.uk/leadership/leadership-programme/)

Who should we be encouraging to join this programme? Can we share this with schools?

## NATRE Spirited Arts 2022

Will schools from our area join hundreds of schools from around the world taking part in this year's Spirited Arts competition? Entries are welcomed in (almost!) any art form pupils can think of. Winning entries will provide a good response to one of the 5 themes, and judges will be asking is it original? Is it well-crafted? And (most importantly!) is it excellent RE?

The 5 themes

1. "We have more in common than that which divides us."
2. God's good earth? ("Beautiful World, wonderful God?")
3. Searching for God
4. A view of the world
5. Celebrations: Big days and big ideas

Find out more details here [www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2022/](http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2022/)

## Lessons that make a difference

CSTG through RE:ONLINE have launched their blog writing competition. CSTG are inviting children and young people to write a 500-word blog or record a 2-minute audio or visual file about a Religion and about a Religion and Worldviews (or RE) lesson that has made a difference to them. Entries are due in by 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Winning entries will be notified and their blogs/vlogs posted on RE:ONLINE in Summer 2022. [www.reonline.org.uk/news/pupil-blog-competition-2022/](http://www.reonline.org.uk/news/pupil-blog-competition-2022/)

How can SACRE encourage schools take part in these two competitions? Can this link in with anything going on locally? Some SACREs have held local Spirited arts competitions and worked to display entries in a local museum. Is this something this SACRE might consider?

## New offer from 'Good News for Everyone': free Bible magazine to pupils and primary classrooms

The charity 'Good News for Everyone' – which used to be known as 'The Gideons' – have produced a 48-page magazine which provides children aged 7-11 with extracts from Bible stories, texts and teachings. The extracts include all the major Bible texts used in the 'Understanding Christianity' resources. There are questions for discussion and thinking, and quizzes, all illustrated in an age-appropriate style.

Good News for Everyone exists to give Christian scriptures away, and this new educational collection of Bible texts is available through schools to pupils – for example Good News for Everyone will be happy to send a visitor to schools to give a class set of copies for teachers to use and a personal copy to all school pupils for them to keep. The charity still visits secondary schools to distribute copies of the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs free to pupils.

Contact: <https://goodnewsuk.com/bibles-for/education>

## Websites refreshed and relaunched

### RE:Quest

The **RE:Quest** website has refreshed and relaunched with a series of new resources on key Christian concepts such as Salvation, resources for pupils with additional needs and a series of new films. You can also create boards of resources for particular units or topics for pupils and teachers to access. Resources on the key concepts provide sample lesson plans too.

<https://request.org.uk>

### Understanding Humanism

The **Understanding Humanism** website has relaunched with over 100 new FREE resources to support teaching about humanism and non-religious worldviews.

Resources for ages 5-18 organised into several core areas of knowledge to support young people's understanding of a humanist approach to life, humanist history, and the influence of humanism on the modern world. '

<https://understandinghumanism.org.uk>

### True Tube

The **Truetube** website has also had a refresh with a series of new films added for teachers in Primary and secondary schools.

[www.truetube.co.uk](http://www.truetube.co.uk)

## Online training

### Webinar series from University of Edinburgh

<https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/teachingbuddhism/2021/11/29/who-is-the-buddha-new-webinar-series-for-teachers-jan-march-2022/>

A series of webinars on the life of the Buddha – excellent for KS3 and KS4. The series has already started, but sessions are uploaded afterwards, so you can catch up later.

Register [here on Eventbrite](#)

### Online seminar series from University of Chester

The Chester Uni A level webinar series will be starting again soon. Look out [here](#) to find out about the programme. Details coming soon.

*National News Update prepared by RE Today/NATRE  
March 2022*

