

**Gloucestershire/Herefordshire SACRE Special RE Day October 2012**  
**RE in special schools: promoting spiritual development**  
**EVALUATIONS (15 delegates; 12 schools plus 3 LA/Diocesan advisers).**

	excellent	good	satisfactory
<b>Overall evaluation of the day</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>How was the venue?</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Specific comments about what you liked:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideas for how to plan for 5 important areas of RE</li> <li>• Fantastic ideas and resources I can take back and share. Thank you.</li> <li>• Very positive approach – looking forward to trying some new things.</li> <li>• Great to have learning and teaching materials specifically which are appropriate for SEN pupils. Great planning framework from Anne. This will help me when I revise current schemes of work.</li> <li>• Sharing of ideas, networking and discussing how the syllabus can be adapted.</li> <li>• Anne's idea of 5 Keys into RE would make an excellent planning tool. Ani-la's meditation techniques can be adapted and used across the school.</li> <li>• Having an excellent practitioner lead the day.</li> <li>• Really like the 5 Keys into RE planning sheet. Practical meditation session and how to adapt for SEN.</li> <li>• Calm approach to the day (not whistle-stop exhausting). Opportunities to talk to other delegates. Good central venue.</li> <li>• Pace, range of activities, practical, sensory, visual, interspersed with listening and absorbing information. Made me think in a different way. Lovely atmosphere. Left me wanting more!</li> </ul>			
<b>How will you make use of the ideas you have encountered today?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitely share ideas on how to plan on paper which should then focus lessons on the important issues</li> <li>• Use planning structure to help me evaluate current SoWs and adapt/write new ones. Implement teaching resources shared.</li> <li>• New to RE subject leader role. Many ideas can be used across the school (4-19), particularly music and movement.</li> <li>• As I visit schools I can share some of these wonderful ideas.</li> <li>• The planning sheets – easy to understand and implement.</li> <li>• Use practical ideas; try mindfulness with a few pupils who are very anxious.</li> <li>• This will help to inform my planning and practical classroom environment.</li> <li>• Pass on ideas to colleagues. Discuss the day with colleagues at teachers'/staff meeting. Link with another special school?</li> <li>• So refreshing to have something aimed at special schools, so good not to have to adapt information to meet our needs. Intend to take and aspect/aspects, try it, monitor it and evaluate it.</li> </ul>			
<b>How has this conference helped you to apply the revised agreed syllabus?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Permission" to focus on what our pupils can do rather than just learning about faiths.</li> <li>• Having just taken on the role (TLR) it has given me some confidence to go back and inject some enthusiasm, into the subject</li> <li>• I have been able to liaise with other special schools and look at planning together (feeder school and my school). Today has given me more clear ideas on how to structure SoWs.</li> </ul>			

- 5 Keys into RE gave me a real insight into how to apply the syllabus
- With key ideas and handouts to help plan lessons and deliver the syllabus effectively.
- Lots of ideas for activities. Focus on key skills. Importance of reality/real RE, not just pleasing Ofsted. Clear differentiation of RE and SMSC. How we can use filming and showing work as evidence and for pleasure.
- Helped me re-think planning – not just adapt a mainstream model. Lovely ideas to take forward and reassuring that we do not have to deliver irrelevant material – we can go to the meaningful core.

#### **How might we improve a future event?**

- More EY/primary ideas (mostly more able/secondary)
- Perhaps share current teaching practices in our schools so we can evaluate and magpie ideas
- Could we open it up to Special Needs across the mainstream too? Many schools have pupils with quite complex needs in mainstream.
- It was great to see the videos and photos of pupils doing RE. Perhaps we could gather views of pupils about RE, their ideas, likes, dislikes, etc and use these as a basis for devising the day?

#### **Any further comments?**

- Lovely day – going away feeling more positive
- Thank you – more please
- I thoroughly enjoyed my day! More of the same please.
- Very interesting event. Nice to have an event like this centred around Special Education rather than having to adapt.
- Invite other leaders in religion to share their experiences/ideas in special schools.
- A wonderful day – thank you for inviting me.
- A good way to network and discuss good practice.
- Really helpful especially as an NQT in an EBD school teaching RE.
- Today was so relevant to what we do and the needs we cater for. Wonderful.
- Thanks to Anne for some wonderful insights, ideas, tips and information. The day worked on so many levels. The best courses sent you out with an urgent enthusiasm to get back into school and try it out with the kids.
- A huge thank you to Anne for her skill and inspiration, gentle and encouraging delivery, clear explanation, so motivating and moving. Wonderful.

#### **Suggestions/requests for future support**

- More of the same please – advertise it for non-specialist teachers
- Could we have an annual special school RE network meeting?
- Any training available specifically for RE?
- Special schools to meet on a regular basis!
- Opportunities to share ideas and resources.

Stephen Pett  
16 October 2012