

# Inspecting RE

# Ofsted – Inspecting RE and religious worship

- Ofsted may select religious education (RE) as a deep-dive subject and inspect RE and collective worship in schools that are not designated as having a religious character.
- In VC (voluntary controlled) schools designated as having a religious character, Ofsted is able to inspect RE, but not collective worship.
- In other schools designated as having a religious character e.g. VA (voluntary aided) schools, the inspection of RE and/or collective worship is instead covered (under the Education Act 2005) by separate section 48 inspections arranged through (or in consultation with) the relevant religious authority.

# Ofsted – Inspecting the curriculum: implications for RE

- OFSTED is trying to inspect how the curriculum of a school meets the requirements of the national curriculum. RE does not have a national curriculum.
- An inspection team does need to inspect a foundation subject however they tend to choose one with a national curriculum.
- Inspection of RE is more likely to appear in the personal development strand of the inspection than a deep dive.

# Ofsted Inspections in Herefordshire schools

- The new EIF (Education Inspection Framework) was introduced in September 2019.
- Analysis of school inspection reports from this date has found no subject deep dives into RE in either primary, secondary or special schools.

# Ofsted Inspections in Herefordshire schools

**Under the old inspection framework (pre September 2019) analysis has found two reports from Herefordshire schools with references to RE in them:**

“Their writing is equally good in other subjects, such as science and religious education, as the same high standards are expected”.

“You have engaged parents well through writing workshops and extended opportunities for writing in other subjects such as science and religious education.

Current pupils experience more challenging work in music, science and religious education”.