

## LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

### REGIONAL NETWORK FOR SECONDARY RE TEACHERS GOES LIVE IN LEEDS

On Friday 1st July 2022 we hosted our first live Secondary RE Network for some time. It was a pleasure to see colleagues face to face once more, as well as having the opportunity of networking with colleagues from across different authorities (Leeds, Kirklees and Calderdale). The day focused on levelling up teachers' subject knowledge of Buddhism (as requested on the recent RE survey) and allowed time for professionals to utilize the materials provided to form their own bespoke unit of work. Further to this, we explored new teaching and learning ideas from schools in the best practice showcase, as well as exploring the requirements of the recent Ofsted update.



Our sincere thanks goes out to Jay from Jamyang Buddhist Centre for advising on resources and supporting subject knowledge delivery, as well as to Abbey Grange C of E School, Leeds for hosting the meeting. Further thanks go to the colleagues who contributed to the showcase, and to Caroline Dodgeon, Jake Womack and Alastair Ross for delivering.

The next Secondary Network Meeting takes place on **Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2022** at 9.00am – 12 noon. The venue is yet to be confirmed. Please contact [caroline.dodgeon@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.dodgeon@leeds.gov.uk) or [jake@penninelearning.com](mailto:jake@penninelearning.com) for details.

If you have not already discovered the local RE networks, why not join us this academic year? Primary and Secondary RE Networks meet termly. They are a great way to meet other teachers to share ideas and resources.

Primary RE Networks in 2022/23 – dates for your diary:

**Calderdale** (1545-1745): 4<sup>th</sup> October, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 23<sup>rd</sup> May

**Kirklees** (1545-1745): 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 25<sup>th</sup> May

**Leeds** (1545 -1745): 11<sup>th</sup> October, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 13<sup>th</sup> June

Please contact [helen.rivers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:helen.rivers@leeds.gov.uk) or [ian.ross@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:ian.ross@kirklees.gov.uk) for details.

### SUPPORT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEADERS IN WEST YORKSHIRE

Leading RE can be a lonely job in Primary and Secondary schools – but don't worry, there is plenty of support for teachers in our area!

**Courses** are a great way to network, learn from each other, share resources and support RE teachers either with their role as subject leader or in developing their subject knowledge. The course for Primary RE subject leaders runs several times through the year to give more teachers an opportunity to attend. All courses and networks are practical and inspiring, delivered by highly trained professionals and include hands on learning and resources to take away or download.

## Don't panic! Practical and effective leadership of Religious Education:

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (0900-1530) Denshaw Village Hall, Oldham.

Book via [alastair@penninelearning.com](mailto:alastair@penninelearning.com)

Friday 11th November 2022 (0900-1530) Hillside Centre, Leeds.

Book via [www.leedsforlearning.co.uk](http://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk)

Friday 10th March 2023 (0900-1530) Savile Park at Heath, Halifax

Book via [debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk)

As usual, amazingly prepared,  
resourced and knowledgeable  
consultant. Many fantastic ideas  
regarding assessments, next steps etc

RE leader in Leeds

## Other support and training for RE teachers and senior leaders:

RE consultants are on hand to offer bespoke support in reviewing and developing RE teaching and learning. They offer staff training as well as one-to-one support for RE teachers and leaders, including Ofsted Deep Dives, SMSC audits and RE curriculum reviews. There is also training and support for collective worship, including school governors and senior leaders.

## UNDERSTANDING ISLAM: FREE CPD FOR SCHOOL LEADERS AND RE TEACHERS

This practical and informative course will be invaluable for school leaders who want to develop their understanding of Islam and some of the issues and sensitivities that may arise in school. The introduction to Islam will include a tour of the mosque, important areas for awareness including Ramadan/Eid, prayer, food, clothing and head covering and curriculum matters such as sport, swimming, RE, PSHE and music.

There will be an opportunity for dialogue with local Muslim leaders and educators, as well as local authority advisers.



Date: **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022** at Makkah Mosque, Leeds Free (Funded by SACRE) Includes lunch and refreshments.

Book via [enquiries@penninelearning.com](mailto:enquiries@penninelearning.com)

## SACRE SURVEY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS: RESULTS SO FAR

Every local authority has a Standing Advisory Council on RE (SACRE). This has a statutory duty to produce a syllabus for RE and to support and monitor RE in all primary schools (including academies). As a way of fulfilling this duty, West Yorkshire SACREs have asked all primary schools and academies to complete a brief questionnaire about the provision of RE. This will help both SACRE and the local authority to understand the present situation and to see what support schools would value most.

Results so far suggest that nearly all primary schools are allocating an appropriate amount of curriculum time to RE. Teachers are generally positive about the local agreed syllabus and the associated materials, but there is a need for ongoing training and support to develop subject knowledge and best practice in assessment.

If you have not yet completed the survey for your school, please do so as soon as possible. The survey only takes 5 minutes to complete.

Click on the relevant link and it should take you directly to the correct questionnaire for each local authority area:

Calderdale <https://forms.office.com/r/X3APDBu36b>

Kirklees <https://forms.office.com/r/gqZj7gXfXW>

Leeds <https://forms.office.com/r/xEE2gYmBcc>



**Calling all teachers!** There are vacancies for primary and secondary teachers on all SACREs, and especially in Leeds. SACREs need to hear the voices and views of practising teachers. Membership of a SACRE will give you an insight into RE at the local authority level as well as worthwhile contacts with faith community members. There are four meetings a year, generally late afternoon. If you are interested contact Alastair Ross [alastair@penninelearning.com](mailto:alastair@penninelearning.com)

## RE TEACHERS INVITED TO INTERFAITH AFTERNOON TEA

Interfaith Week is a great opportunity for pupils to explore inter faith issues and for schools to build relationships with faith, belief and inter faith groups in their community. Here are some events leading up to Interfaith Week:

### Interfaith Afternoon Tea for Faith Leaders and RE teachers

North Kirklees Interfaith invites primary and secondary RE teachers and faith leaders to an Interfaith afternoon tea and discussion : “Exploring how we can work together better in our neighbourhoods and schools”.



Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022, 2:30 – 4:30pm at the Greenwood Centre, Ravensthorpe, WF13 3JR

RSVP to [Fazila26@gmail.com](mailto:Fazila26@gmail.com)

### Kirklees Community Interfaith Quilt

Kirklees schools, communities and individuals are invited to contribute a 25 x 25 cm panel for a community quilt. You can drop off your completed quilt panels at local libraries throughout Kirklees before **30th September 2022**. Schools may wish to create their own quilts using textiles or paper. Please tell us about any school-based quilt projects so that we can include them in Interfaith Week celebrations. The Kirklees quilt will be on display during Interfaith Week.

For further information about the quilt project contact Hannah McKerchar [theonelifewehave@gmail.com](mailto:theonelifewehave@gmail.com)

### Interfaith Week schools events:

‘Home’: An Interfaith online event for primary pupils on Thursday November 17<sup>th</sup>

Two-faiths visit: Explore the Parish church and the Hindu Mandir during Interfaith week.

For further information and to book schools events contact [helen.rivers@kirkleeseducation.uk](mailto:helen.rivers@kirkleeseducation.uk)

Information about Kirklees Interfaith events contact [Nisar.Mayet@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Nisar.Mayet@kirklees.gov.uk) or visit [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org)

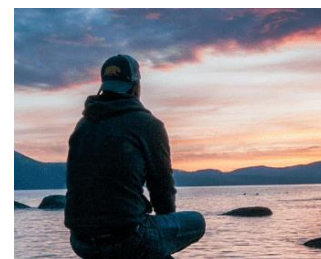
### Interfaith Week resources for schools

The Interfaith website has lots of ideas and resources for in-person classroom and whole-school activities. Interfaith Week resources and events can be [accessed here](#).

The Interfaith Network offers free [secondary school resources](#) and [primary resources](#) to help teachers when covering inter faith activity in the UK, especially but not exclusively in the lead up to and during Inter Faith Week.

## INTRODUCTION TO MEDITATION AT JAMYANG BUDDHIST CENTRE

This six-week introduction to meditation is a great way to find out what meditation is all about. Each week a topic will be explored through practice, discussion and presentation. You don’t need to know anything about meditation already, or have done any before. These sessions will be in person only to allow everyone to feel comfortable sharing their meditation journey. Led by long-term meditators at Jamyang, Jay Simpson and Kerry Prest.



Mondays at 7 – 8:30pm starting 12th September at Jamyang Buddhist Centre, Ingram Rd, Leeds, LS11 9RQ

Suggested donation: £6, including course materials.

Further information [www.jamyangleeds.co.uk/event/how-to-meditate/all/](http://www.jamyangleeds.co.uk/event/how-to-meditate/all/)

## ANNUAL CONCORD AND PEACELINK PEACE EVENT

The annual Peacelink and Concord event takes place on Wednesday 19th October, 7.15 for 7.30pm at the Banqueting Room, Leeds Civic Hall. It will be attended by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress and the Children's Mayor. Visit <https://www.concord-leeds.org.uk/> for further details.

## NATIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS

### SOLUTIONS NOT SIDES: LIVE TOUR TO VISIT BRADFORD IN MARCH 2023



Solutions Not Sides (SNS) is an education programme that aims to tackle Antisemitism, Islamophobia and polarisation around the issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the UK. It provides humanising encounters in order to empower young people with the knowledge, empathy and skills to promote dialogue and conflict resolution, and to challenge prejudice. SNS primarily engages students at the opinion-forming stage (14-18 years of age), ensuring that the

students engage with the subject of conflict within the safe space of a structured educational environment.

Live tours will be resuming in the 2022/23 academic year and the organisation comes to Bradford in March 2023. Both facilitators and speakers will be attending the session in person throughout a one week period. For more information about tours and to book, contact [tasha@solutionsnotsides.co.uk](mailto:tasha@solutionsnotsides.co.uk) or visit [www.solutionsnotsides.co.uk/schools](http://www.solutionsnotsides.co.uk/schools)

### IN CONVERSATION SERIES: FREE ONLINE SEMINARS IN AUTUMN 2022

'In conversation' is a series of free online seminars, exploring topics of interest to RE teachers.

**Monday 17th October 4-4.40pm** - In conversation with Professor David Clough and Scarlett Hayward

Theme: Christian ethics, animal welfare and the religion and worldviews classroom

**Monday 21st November 7-7.40pm** - In conversation with Professor Trevor Cooling and Dr Kate Christopher

Theme: Understanding Understanding! What do we mean by understanding?

**Monday 19th December 4.30-5.10pm** - In Conversation with Dr Kevin O'Grady

Theme: Conceptualising religion and worldviews for the school

Sign up here: [www.cstg.org.uk/activities/events](http://www.cstg.org.uk/activities/events)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### REXCHANGE: FREE ONLINE CONFERENCE 7-8 OCTOBER 2022

It is now less than a month to the RExchange research conference on 7 – 8 October 2022. This virtual conference enables RE teachers and researchers to meet and work together in order to share ideas and develop teaching and learning in RE.

There is still time to register – registration closes on **30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**. Over 60

teachers and academics will be contributing to the event this year so there will be a wide diversity of topics and discussion! Sign up via the website: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/research/rexchange-2022/>



### CULHAM ST GABRIEL'S SELF-STUDY COURSES

Culham St Gabriel's offers a number of free online self-study courses for teachers. Topics include an Introduction to Religion and Worldviews and Curriculum planning. The courses take about 60 – 90 minutes to complete. [Browse courses here.](#)



## UNDERSTANDING HUMANISM –TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Understanding Humanism (the education branch of Humanists UK), offers training for teachers at both primary and secondary level to deepen subject knowledge of humanism (a non-religious worldview), and support teachers with practical ideas for the classroom.

Primary training: 27<sup>th</sup> September and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Secondary training: 29<sup>th</sup> September and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

For further details and booking, visit the [training page here](#).



## STRICTLY RE IS BACK IN 2023: DISCOUNTS FOR EARLY BIRDS

Strictly RE online conference takes place on 28 - 29 January 2023. Use code STRICTLY15 to get 15% off your booking fee if you book before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022. [Click here](#) for details and booking form.

## FAIRTRADE CONFERENCE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN HUDDERSFIELD

Book now to join Fair and Funky at The Tolson Museum in Huddersfield in March 2023 for a day of learning around Fairtrade through arts, literacy, chocolate tasting, games and more!

Each school is invited to bring 8 students and 2 members of staff at a cost of £135. All participants receive a Fairtrade goody bag and each school a Fairtrade football.

Places are limited so please email [helen@fairandfunky.com](mailto:helen@fairandfunky.com) to book a place.

## RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

### BIG IDEAS FOR RE MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE FREE TO SCHOOLS

The **Big Ideas for RE** have been built on the work of 12 RE academics and professionals who came together for a summit in 2016 under the directorship of Dr Barbara Wintersgill.

The Big Ideas are:

1. Continuity, Change and Diversity (within and across traditions, through time and places)
2. Words and Beyond (expression/interpretation through texts and creative arts)
3. A Good Life (being a good person, living a good life, ethics)
4. Making Sense of Life's Experiences (life experience, religious experience, ritual)
5. Influence and Power (social, cultural, political influences and interactions)
6. The Big Picture (overall accounts of life/universe...).



The materials developed by the Big Ideas team are now available free of charge at: [www.bigideasforre.org](http://www.bigideasforre.org)

### SMALL GRANTS TO SCHOOLS: APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR AUTUMN TERM

The Jerusalem Trust's Small Grants to Schools Scheme supports teaching about Christianity within Religious Education. The scheme operates by providing schools with grants of up to £600 to purchase resources for use in RE lessons. The scheme is open to state-funded schools in England and Wales, with 60% awarded to secondary schools and 40% to primary schools. For further information about the application process visit [regrants.org.uk](http://regrants.org.uk)

### EDUCATE AGAINST HATE

The Educate Against Hate website has been developed by the Department for Education. It provides practical advice, support and resources to protect children from extremism and radicalisation. It also offers support and



resources relating to safeguarding and online safety. There is a wealth of information and resources for teachers, school leaders and parents to support pupils at all ages and Key Stages.

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

## HINDU CELEBRATION AND PRACTICE: RE RESOURCES FOR KS1 FROM THE BBC

Cbeebies Something Special series has a focus on Diwali in 'We're All Friends: Happy Diwali!'. Justin's friend teaches him how to make Indian chapatis as part of a family banquet. Meanwhile, Mr Tumble is preparing a Diwali surprise for the rest of his family. [Click here](#) to watch the programme.



BBC Bitesize have created some new resources to use with younger pupils. Look at these new pages containing useful information and animated films about how Hindus show care for others. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwv8q6f/articles/zgqsn9q>

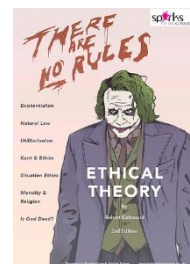
## ONLINE FILMS AND VIRTUAL VISITS TO PLACES OF WORSHIP

The North-East Religious Learning Resources Centre's YouTube channel has a variety of interesting films to improve subject knowledge or to use in the classroom. Look at the tour around an Orthodox synagogue.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DW52sJ\\_5DMA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DW52sJ_5DMA)

## NEW RESOURCE BOOKS FOR 'A' LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY

Three new and highly original resources for AS/A2 Religious studies, Philosophy and IB courses. All three books address the issue of mixed ability teaching at this higher level by using simple and direct language to make complex ideas more accessible. The art work is carefully chosen to aid understanding.



Sample pages and online purchase available at [www.sparksintheclassroom.org.uk](http://www.sparksintheclassroom.org.uk)

## COMMUNITY MATTERS: FREE PSHE RESOURCES FOR KS1 – KS3

With the cost-of-living crisis and climate crisis dominating the headlines and replacing Covid as the greatest threats to our communities, the Archbishop's Youth Trust is re-launching their free resource '**Community Matters**' this term.

The resource provides activities and ideas to help KS1-KS3 pupils explore why community matters, looking at a range of social and environmental issues, and consider how children and young people can become courageous advocates and play their part in creating positive change. Find out more here: [www.abyyt.com/communitymatters](http://www.abyyt.com/communitymatters)

There are some free after-school Zoom webinars throughout the autumn term for schools that wish to find out more about the **Archbishops' Young Leaders Award**. The sessions explore the programme materials, the learning outcomes and curriculum links as well as providing examples of social action projects carried out by schools.

Sign up here [www.abyyt.com/events](http://www.abyyt.com/events)



Pennine Learning is on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

The [Pennine Learning website](#) offers resources including guidance and advice for RE, SMSC and Equalities.

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