

# RE Newsletter

Northamptonshire SACRE and  
RE Adviser

08/05/2017

Summer Term

*Welcome to the final term!*

Welcome to the Summer Term newsletter. We hope you had a good Easter break and are looking forward to the new and final term for the academic year.

## *Statutory Provision of RE in Schools*

We would like to remind all schools of their statutory duty regarding RE and the school curriculum. RE is an important curriculum subject. It is important in its own right and also makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports wider community cohesion. The Government is keen to ensure all pupils receive high-quality RE. Although there is not a National Curriculum for RE, all maintained schools must follow the National

Curriculum requirements to teach a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes RE. All maintained schools therefore have a statutory duty to teach RE. Academies and free schools are contractually required, through the terms of their funding agreement, to make provision for the teaching of RE.

For further details can be found at the following websites;

<http://www.natre.org.uk/about-re/legalrequirements/>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/190260/DCSF-00114-2010.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190260/DCSF-00114-2010.pdf)

## *Faith Direct Event (Secondary)*

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On Thursday 9th November Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Northamptonshire SACREs are holding a Faith Direct Event for students in year 9 and above at the Marriott Hotel, Huntingdon from 11am to 2pm. This event enables students to engage directly with people from the major faiths and beliefs from our local communities. Community cohesion and SMSC and can help with the new GCSE curriculum. This is a free event though schools will have to pay for the cost of transport. More information will be coming out to all schools in the near future.

## Agreed Syllabus

The new Agreed Syllabus is evolving and will be ready for piloting in September. The working parties have nearly finished the framework and will begin to look, in more detail, at the curriculum. The assessment criteria is also making headway, so thank you to the various schools over all LA authorities for their input and advice. We will be contacting those schools who have volunteered to pilot the new syllabus in the near future.

We would like to remind schools that until the new syllabus is launched all schools should carry on using the current syllabus and assessment should still be done to make sure progress is being made. Please see link below for advice on assessment without levels in RE.

<http://www.reonline.org.uk/news/new-guidance-assessment-in-re/>

## Assessment

Assessment – reminder that no data to be collected this year, carry on assessing but using school based assessment methods.

Guidance will be forwarded ASAP. If you are unsure of how to proceed then use the following link.

<http://www.reonline.org.uk/news/new-guidance-assessment-in-re/>

## Training

### *Exploring Judaism*

On the 16th March we held a training event on 'Exploring Judaism'. The event looked at different aspects of Jewish life and faith and how this can be translated into a creative approach in the primary classroom. We are hoping to hold a similar event in the future to explore the other major faiths.

*"I came away with lots of ideas for activities for the children's learning. I'm very excited to pass on Jo's knowledge."*

*Leading RE at Primary School,  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017*

This course is targeted at both new and current RE coordinators who need advice and support on how to lead RE. The aim is to provide practical advice and ideas to ensure that RE is taught and monitored effectively. There will also be an emphasis on how to raise the profile of RE in your school and how RE can be linked to other curriculum areas. There will be examples of good/outstanding lessons and resources that aim to challenge all age groups.

Leading RE at Primary School – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 09:00-12:30 at Buckden Village Hall.

**Cost: £65**

Please book at [http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/homepage/31/religious\\_adviser](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/homepage/31/religious_adviser)

## Primary Network Meetings

The next round of primary network meetings will be held in June. The theme for the summer meeting will be focusing on 'P4C as a method

for enquiry based learning'. The session will focus on the concepts behind P4C and how it can be used successfully to deliver outstanding RE in the classroom. There will be consideration on how this enquiry method can be used with both the Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity. Please see below for date and venues. All meetings start at 16:00-17:15.

Lumbertubs Primary School  
Tonmead Road  
NN3 8HZ  
15<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## GCSE and A Level

RE in today's society is an extremely important subject and the SACREs of Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Northamptonshire encourage all secondary schools to offer GCSE and A level RE to their students. RE is a relevant qualification for all young people entering either the work force or going onto further and higher education. The UK is a multi-faith society and an understanding of different faiths and world views help us all live and work together peacefully. RE-

Online sum up why RE should be offered as an academic qualification;

*'If it is thought that RE's aim is to develop young people intellectually, it can provide a mental discipline to sharpen young minds. Since religious and philosophical systems offer a rich and complex field of study, they can bring intellectual stretch and challenge even if they are not directly relevant'*

Please also take the time to look at the NATRE link below that gives a very good argument for RE as an exam subject. It must also be remembered that all children have a right to RE in the curriculum from the age of 5 to 19.

<http://www.natre.org.uk/about-re/about-re/re-infographic/>

<http://www.reonline.org.uk/knowing/why-re/>

## Notices and Events

### *Muslim Learner Services*

I have attached the latest Islam RE support for Primary schools flyer. They provide a range of workshops for both primary and secondary schools. All of their assemblies and workshops

help schools promote British values of respect and tolerance for others.

Their website is [www.muslimlearnerservices.org](http://www.muslimlearnerservices.org)

Schools wishing to discuss a visit can email Imran Kotwal direct [imran@muslimlearnerservices.org](mailto:imran@muslimlearnerservices.org) or telephone 01204896115

## Contact

SACRE meeting dates (Cripps Hall,  
Billing Road, Northampton)  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 16:30-18:30

ASC meeting dates (Peterborough  
Cathedral, Peterborough)  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 17:00-19:00

SACRE contact -  
[SACre@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:SACre@northamptonshire.gov.uk)