

# RE Newsletter June 2017



Welcome to the last RE newsletter of the year. We have been working hard to develop **new assessment tools** for RE in Exeter Diocese and Devon, Torbay and Plymouth schools. For details of how to access this guidance see below.

In 2016, the Religious Education Council (REC) set up a [Commission on RE](#), to make recommendations designed to improve the quality and rigour of RE. You may want to try to attend the next Evidence Gathering session in Exeter, 2.30-7pm on Tues 20<sup>th</sup> June, to listen to the submissions on what RE should look like in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

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## Up-coming RE courses

Course	Date	Time	Cost (no SLA/ SLA)
Effective RE	Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2017	09.30- 15.30	£150/75
SIAMS Introduction	Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	09.30- 15.30	£150/75

Courses held at the Old Deanery, Exeter. For more information contact Fran Bradley [educationevents@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:educationevents@exeter.anglican.org)

## Assessment in RE

New guidance on assessment in RE for all schools in the Diocese of Exeter has now been published. This can be found on the [Exeter Diocese](#) website and also on the [RE pages](#) of the Babcock/LDP website. There is a planning document which explains the 'how and why' of assessment. This is accompanied by a set of templates for summative assessment in RE. These templates can be downloaded and customised for use in schools, to be adapted to your own planning and teaching patterns.

## Email your pupils' RE questions to a believer

RE online offers a great facility to get direct access to a religious believer. You can [email your questions](#) to any or all of our team and ask them about their beliefs and how these affect the way they live. Simply click on the email address of the person you'd like to contact, introduce yourself with a few words about who you are and why you are writing, ask your question, and they'll get back to you as soon as they can.



## Free Bibles for schools

Bibles for Children are offering to provide copies of *The Children's Bible* for Year 2 pupils and the complete *Rainbow Good News Bible* for older pupils.



Contact [Bibles for Children](#) to find out more.

## Free units of work for pilot project

In advance of a review of the RE syllabus for Diocesan schools, we are asking teachers if they would like to trial some new schemes of work. Please [contact me](#) if you would like to trial either of the following RE Today SoW:

- Lower KS2: what does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?
- KS3: does religion help people to be good?

NB. These units do not reference the Understanding Christianity materials, but can clearly be supported by the UC material if the school has access to these resources.

You can also buy sets of lesson outlines from the [NATRE website shop](#). These cover topics like Celebrating: how do we celebrate special times; How do people express their spiritual ideas?; How do we say thank-you for our beautiful world?



## Develop your expertise in RE

The [Teach RE course](#) is designed to support all those who currently teach RE in primary and secondary schools, and those who are planning to enter Initial Teacher Training. It offers courses for people who want to teach RE and people who are already teaching RE.



## Learn, Teach, Lead RE conference

Booking is now open for this year's LTLRE conference: **speaking wisely about religion and belief**, to be held at St Mellion Golf Club from 6pm Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> to 4pm Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017. Keynote speakers are Dave Wells (3D Catholicism) and Ian Jamison (speaking wisely and listening well), plus lots of stimulating workshops. Email [educationevents@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:educationevents@exeter.anglican.org) to apply. For information on your nearest LTLRE local group, go to <http://ltlre.org/>.



## Faith and Belief School Visitors directory

A new directory is now available to contact [faith and belief visitors](#) who can come to your school to talk about their beliefs and commitments. The list of visitors can be accessed through the resources page on [the Learn, Teach, Lead RE](#) (LTLRE) website.



## TrueTube

[Truetube](#) is a useful site that provides Videos, Lesson Plans & Assemblies for RE, PSHE & Citizenship. Resources for events coming up soon:  
Good new material on: [Allah and creation](#) (KS1) and [The Anglican Church](#) (KS2)



## NATRE membership



[Join the National Association of Teachers of RE \(NATRE\)](#) and receive: RE resources, RE Today magazine, Curriculum books, reductions on courses and conferences, advice from RE Today advisers, access to NATRE local groups plus added benefits.

## Advice to schools on the Right to Withdraw from RE

The Diocese of Exeter has published new advice for Church schools on the right to withdraw pupils from RE and Collective worship. You can access this document on the [Diocesan website](#).

## RE Quality Mark



The [RE Quality Mark](#) has been developed to celebrate high quality religious education. It provides all types of schools and academies with a framework to capture good practice and it encourages the development and celebration of school wide commitment to excellent teaching and learning in religious education. An REQM assessment of a school looks at five strands: Learners and Learning, Teachers and Teaching, Curriculum, Subject Leadership and CPD, awarding at three levels: bronze, silver and gold. Schools applying for the REQM highlight where they think they meet the criteria.

## Religious festivals

16<sup>th</sup> June: **Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev**, the fifth of the ten Sikh Gurus (Sikhism)

11<sup>th</sup> June: **Trinity Sunday** celebrates the Christian belief in God as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Christianity)

21<sup>st</sup> June: **Summer Solstice** when pagans celebrate Midsummer (or Litha, which means 'standing still of the sun') Paganism

25<sup>th</sup> June: **Ratha Yatra** is a festival where statues of Hindu gods are pulled by chariots through the streets (Hinduism)

25<sup>th</sup> June: **Eid-ul-Fitr** is the festival of fast-breaking, where Muslims mark the end of Ramadan (Islam)

9<sup>th</sup> July: **Dharma Day** is when Buddhists celebrate the teachings of the Buddha (Buddhism)

10<sup>th</sup> July: Martyrdom of the Bab, when Baha'i's remember the execution of the Bab in 1850 (Baha'i)

Find more details at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/timelines/zpkc4wx>