

RE Newsletter September 2016



Welcome back to a new school year. Here is the latest RE newsletter, giving up-to-date information on RE-related matters including a list of courses available this year. Understanding Christianity training will be running again and Helen Matter is presenting a course on teaching Christianity for Early Years. Both are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!** There is a conference to introduce Interfaith Week on Sat 5th November (am) called “Not in God’s name”; **ALL WELCOME!**

Please let me know if you would like information about faith and belief visits and visitors. Ed Pawson: ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org

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The Understanding Christianity

Understanding Christianity is an exciting and powerful new RE resource for EYFS, KS1, 2 and 3. It has been developed by the Church of England and RE Today, with the aim of helping pupils to become knowledgeable about the Bible, Christian belief and practice. It works through well-planned, distinct steps, encouraging pupils to ‘make connections’ whilst ‘making sense of the text’, learning how to ‘think theologically’. It will be the benchmark by which RE is inspected in future SIAMS inspections. Schools can only receive a copy of the pack if a member of staff attends 12-15 hours CPD in order to fully grasp its potential so we are offering a 2 day training package for £250 (includes a £50 for the extensive teachers’ resource pack). Details of dates below.



Creative Teaching on Christianity in Early Years RE

We are excited to be hosting an Early Years conference on creative ways of teaching about Christianity (Wed 19/10), led by the outstanding [Helen Matter](#), (Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich). This course is based on an enquiry model for RE and supports the Early Learning Goals. It will be full of creative, challenging ideas from real EYFS practitioners.

Creative Teaching on Christianity in Early Years RE
Tutor: Helen Matter
Date: Wednesday 19th October
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Venue: Tiverton Hotel
£75 (per attendee)
£150 (per of delegates) (2 days for £150/£300)

This course:

- is full of creative, challenging ideas from real EYFS practitioners
- gives confidence for the way to try it and make adaptations for a range of situations
- takes a theological approach, helping teachers look at their concepts and stories of Christian life
- is based on enquiry models for RE and Christianity in Early Years Learning Goals

If you would like to make a booking for the training, please email ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org or call 01392 262222. For further information please contact 01392 262222 or www.exeter.anglican.org

Up-coming RE courses

Understanding Christianity courses

Understanding Christianity Day one (cohort C)	Thurs 10 th Nov 2016	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£250 (cost includes both days + £50 resource pack)
Understanding Christianity Day two (cohort C)	Tues 17 th Jan 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	
Understanding Christianity Day one (cohort D)	Mon 6 th Feb 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£250 (cost includes both days + £50 resource pack)
Understanding Christianity Day two (cohort D)	Mon 12 th June 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	

Other Diocese courses

Course	Date	Venue	Time	Cost (no SLA/ SLA)
Helen Matter: creative teaching on Christianity in early years RE	Wed 19 th Oct 2016	The Tiverton Hotel	09.30-15.30	£75 (no resources) £150 (full resources)
Teaching Hinduism and Buddhism in the primary school	Mon 21 st Nov	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£150/75
New to Church of England schools	Tues 29 th Nov	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£150/75
Fundamental British Values: what do schools need to know?	Mon 9 th Jan 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-13.30	£80/40
Teaching Judaism and Islam in the primary school	Mon 27 th Feb 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£150/75
Preparation for RE Quality Mark	Mon 13 th Mar 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-13.30	£80/40
Philosophy for Children (P4C)	Mon 24 th Apr 2017	The Old Deanery	09.30-15.30	£150/75

To get more information about these courses or to make a booking, please contact Fran Bradley at educationevents@exeter.anglican.org

Not in God's name conference



Devon Faith and Belief Forum event
In preparation for Interfaith Week 2016 (14th-20th Nov)

NOT IN GOD'S NAME Tackling prejudice and alienation in Devon

Steve Shepherd online extremism and radicalisation
Sushma Sahajpal sacredness, empathy and living well together
Jonathan Marshall building resilience in young people

The Mint Methodist Church, Exeter EX4 3AT
9.30am-1.00pm
Saturday 5th November 2016
No admission charge

- Open to:
- faith and belief communities
 - members of the public
 - teachers
 - school leaders
 - governors
 - parents
 - young people

#livingwelltogether

"For the sake of humanity and the free world, the time has come for people of all faiths and none to stand together and declare: Not in God's Name." Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

- To book a free place, contact gerry.rufolo@devon.gov.uk
- For more information contact Ed Pawson at edpawson@gmail.com

Devon Faith and Belief Forum (DFBF) and Devon Standing Advisory Council for RE (SACRE) are organising a free conference in Exeter for **Interfaith Week 2016**, 9.30am-1pm on Sat 5th November. '**Not in God's name**' will bring together people from local faith and belief communities, schools, school governors, students and the wider public to discuss issues of inclusion, harmony, conflict and radicalisation.

Questions to be raised on the day:

- What does it mean to practice 'living well together'?
- What contributions do faith and belief communities bring to the well-being of our shared society?
- How can we prevent radicalisation without silencing free debate?
- How can we create safe spaces for individuals and communities to grow and thrive together?

Contact [Gerry Rufolo](mailto:gerry.rufolo@devon.gov.uk) to book a free place.

Interfaith Week 2016

Interfaith Week runs from 13th – 20th November 2016
Why not consider running an Interfaith Week event at your school? You can download the Interfaith Week toolkit [here](#).

Inter Faith
Week



The Three aims of Interfaith Week are:

- Strengthening good inter faith relations at all levels
- Increasing awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society
- Increasing understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

New Ofsted Handbook



Ofsted have made some minor alterations to the Section 5 (Full Inspection) and Section 8 (Short Inspection) School Inspection Handbooks, to be used in all inspections conducted from September 2016 onwards. Sean Harford, Ofsted's National director for Education, reiterated Ofsted's pledge to make as few changes as possible to these key documents. The main aim of these changes is to give 'clarification on some aspects in the framework to make sure that information for inspectors and schools is as clear as possible.' For full details, see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-handbook-from-september-2015>

Learn, Teach, Lead RE

Are you accessing support and training through **Learn, Teach, Lead RE** (LTLRE)? This project aims to build RE communities across Devon and Cornwall, with the aim of improving the quality of Religious Education in all schools. For information on your nearest local group, go to <http://ltlre.org/>. This year's conference will be held at St Mellion Golf Club from 6pm Thurs 20th to 4pm Fri 21st Oct 2016. There are currently vacancies for hub leader roles in some areas. If you want to know more about LTLRE, please contact [Ed Pawson](#).



Learn Teach Lead **RE**
Improving quality: building community

RE resources from CLEO

CLEO Cumbria and Lancashire Education Online (CLEO) have produced a series of interactive resources covering different faiths. These resources are suited for teaching RE at Primary level.

<http://www.cleo.net.uk/index.php>



RE subject knowledge: RE-online

The Re-online website provides a subject knowledge resource covering core areas relating to the ten belief traditions listed in the non-statutory National Framework for RE as well as Post 16 ethics, philosophy and religion. The belief traditions have been sorted by the Six strands for RE, with all sections being written by experts in each area.

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



RE:quest resources for teaching Christianity



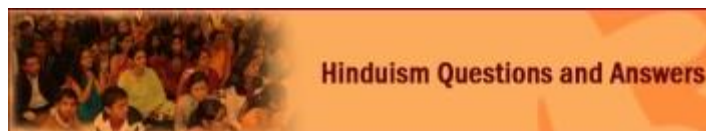
RE:quest is a very useful site for resources to teach Christianity. The RE:quest tab takes you to secondary materials, including the Christianity Basically series which gives bitesize overviews of key beliefs, including the nature of God, doctrines around sin and the fall, and the resurrection. The RE:start tab takes you to resources for Primary teachers. <http://request.org.uk/>

Understanding Humanism resources

Understanding Humanism is a new web-based resource for teachers. On this site you can find materials arranged into a variety of themes, including Celebrations and Ceremonies, Ethics, Knowledge and Belief, Life and Death, Meaning and Happiness. Each theme contains lesson plans, classroom activities, humanist perspectives, films and presentations. <http://understandinghumanism.org.uk/>



Hinduism: questions and answers

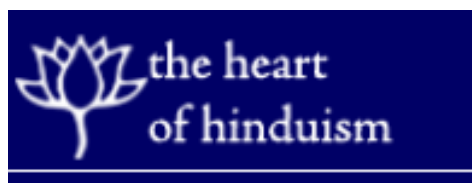


The Hindu Council has set up a website that deals with question and answers on Hinduism, covering topics such as why there are many gods in Hinduism; a

mature understanding of the law of karma; the caste system; reincarnation; and a Hindu take on abortion and euthanasia. Please visit the website to find out more:

<http://www.hinduismquestionandanswer.com/>

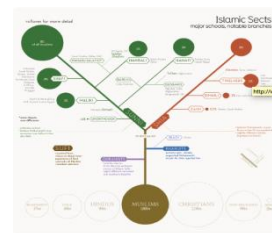
The Heart of Hinduism: ISCKON



[Heart of Hinduism](#) is an educational resource produced by ISCKON educational services that explains the Hindu traditions in clear terms. It is produced by Hindu practitioners and is meant for all who wish to broaden their knowledge of Hindu traditions. The site contains a comprehensive index and glossary.

A Visual Guide to Islamic sects and groups

Log onto [Information is Beautiful](#) to access diagrams and statistics on Islam: sects, major schools, notable branches of Sunni, Shia, Hanbali, Ismaili, Deobandi.

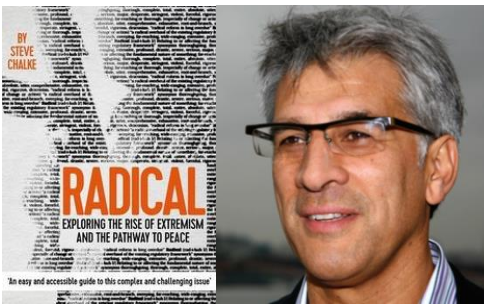


RE Twitter chat

You are warmly invited to join in with #REchatUK – NATRE's monthly twitter chat. Take part in the discussion and read what others have to say on RE related topics each month. Chats take place from 8-9pm, usually on the first Monday of the month, so you can participate from the comfort of your own home. <http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/natre-executive/rechatuk/>



Positive radicalisation



In his recent book 'Radical', Steve Chalke says the answer to radicalisation is radicalisation. He explains how we can tackle the age-old problem of extremism by utilising 'positive radicalisation'. "If you want to change society, then you have to offer people a more compelling narrative than the one they currently serve." He argues that it is vital that we are able to articulate a deeper and more powerful sense of meaning, value and purpose to engage vulnerable young

people in our schools and communities.

<http://www.oasisuk.org/news/fight-radicalisation-radicalisation-says-steve-chalke>

Educate Against Hate

The Secretary of State has launched the [Educate Against Hate website](#). This site brings together the best advice, support and resources available for parents, teachers and school leaders who want to learn how to protect young people from extremism and radicalisation, and is the result of successful collaboration between the Department for Education, the Home Office, the NSPCC, Internet Matters, Childnet, ParentZone, UK Internet Safety Centre, and the many other organisations who have contributed resources. And should you need reminding, here is the [Prevent duty](#).



Global Learning Partnership

The GLP is a funded programme of support that is helping teachers in Primary, Secondary and Special schools to deliver effective teaching and learning about development and global issues at Key Stages 2 and 3. Find some excellent resources at <http://glp.globaldimension.org.uk/>



Thank Your Vicar week



Hundreds of Church of England parishes and primary schools will be saying a big thank you to their vicar this autumn, as Thank Your Vicar Week launches nationally across every Anglican diocese this October. Schools are invited to hold a special Thank Your Vicar assembly, using free downloadable resources available from 8 September from <http://stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events/>

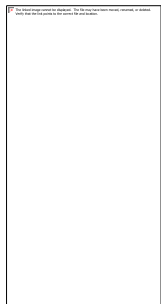
Send a Cow to a family in Africa

Celebrate God's faithfulness with [Send a Cow's](#) exciting new Harvest resources and give families in Africa the tools and training they need to grow a **Harvest for Life**. Every family each school supports with our **Gifts that Grow** will pass on the seeds, knowledge and training to at least another five families! Students can learn about how their fundraising will provide families in rural Africa with Gifts that Grow- the basic essentials that families



need to manage their land, market their produce, share their knowledge with neighbours and start educating their children.

How Can Life Go On? (HMD2017)



Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) is seeking 12 groups (one per region or nation of the UK) to [create a permanent artwork](#) in their local community which commemorates Holocaust Memorial Day. In keeping with this year's theme, **How can life go on?**, the artworks created will explore the themes identified for this year's HMD Arts Programme - motifs of absence and the roots needed for life to regrow after a genocide. The permanent artworks could include sculpture, murals, mosaics, gardens, pathways or structures - there are many possibilities, and we would love a broad range of ideas! This opportunity is open to all.

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. Find out more about why it makes sense to apply, and how to go about it, go to <http://www.reqm.org/>

Teach RE course

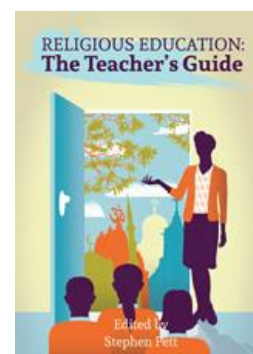
The Culham St Gabriel's Teach RE course is a distance learning course designed to support teachers' subject knowledge. The course is appropriate for all teachers of RE or those planning to teach the subject. We currently have teachers from primary, special and secondary schools taking the course as well as those who are entering Initial Teacher Training.



The course costs £150. Every trainee has a tutor allocated to them, so 1:1 support is provided throughout the course. More information from kathryn@cstg.org.uk or www.teachre.co.uk

Religious Education: The Teachers' Guide by Stephen Pett

Religious Education: The Teacher's Guide explores the landscape of RE in the UK, setting the context for the teacher and leader of RE. It focuses on the essential information needed by teachers of RE, and offers a wealth of practical strategies for effective subject leadership, from active learning and assessment through to visits, visitors and British values. Brief guides to religions and worldviews support teachers' subject knowledge as well as suggesting ideas for the classroom. Cost: £25 <http://shop.natre.org.uk/9781910261002>



Religious Education and British Values

by Lat Blaylock, Kate Christopher & Fiona Moss

This book of guidance has been written and edited by the RE Today Advisory Team. It aims to help schools and teachers of RE to understand and respond to the requirements to promote British Values in schools.

Inside you will find up-to-the-minute guidance, a review of the inspection requirements, suggestions for policy and curriculum development and some tried-and-tested RE lesson ideas that explore tolerance, respect, democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty. Cost: £15

<http://shop.natre.org.uk/9781910261101>

