

RE newsletter for schools in Devon and Torbay and Exeter Diocese

September 2018

Welcome to the September RE newsletter. I hope you enjoyed your summer break and you're all set for the challenges of a new academic year! The Final Report of the Commission on Religious Education, *Religion and Worldviews* has been published. It sets out a National Plan for RE comprising of 11 recommendations, and calls on the Government to consider and adopt it. Key changes would be to rename RE as **Religion and Worldviews** and to establish a national **statement of entitlement for RE**. This will stop short of being a national syllabus, but it would give far greater clarity and consistency of RE across all schools.

For RE support, please contact Ed Pawson at efpawson@gmail.com or ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org
Church school contact: Tatiana Wilson at tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org



Courses and CPD opportunities

Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE) <http://ltlre.org/events>
Hubs are free and open to all teachers of RE, primary and secondary. See [website](#) for more details

East Devon hub, Exmouth Community College
TBA

Exeter hub, St Peter's High School
4.00-5.30pm Thurs 13th Sept, Thurs 4th Oct

North Devon hub, Boston Tea Party, Barnstaple
4.30-6pm, Wed 26th Sept

Plymouth hub, St Matthews Primary School
4.15-5.30pm Thurs 27th Sept; Thurs 8th Nov

South Devon hub, Wolborough P Sch, Newton Abbot
4.00-5.30pm Thurs 8th Nov

Torbay hub, Warberry School
TBA

West Devon and Dartmoor, Tavistock CC
TBA

Exeter Diocese courses

Teaching Buddhism and Hinduism Mon 19th Nov

Understanding Christianity 22nd Nov (one day course plus twilight)

(all courses at the Old Deanery, Exeter EX1 1HS)

For further details [contact](#)

STOP PRESS

Learn, Teach, Lead RE conference

Different voices: Engaging with similarity and diversity in RE. One day [conference](#) for primary and secondary teachers of RE on Friday 12th October 2018 at St Melion Resort, Saltash. £60 per delegate

Interfaith Week 2018 (11-19 Nov)

Dying Matters GCSE [conference](#) Fri 9th Nov 2018, Exeter Racecourse

Hope in Conflict [conference](#) Sat 17th Nov with Pádraig Ó Tuama leader of the Corrymeela Community, Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation witness

RE survey for new Agreed Syllabus



What's RE like in your school? Devon and Torbay SACREs are seeking teacher feedback on RE in their schools. The Devon, Torbay and Plymouth RE agreed syllabus is being reviewed, with a view to making a radical overhaul, so we are asking teachers to give us their views on what needs to change. Teachers of RE in **primary** schools, please complete this (5 minute) [questionnaire](#).
Secondary RE teachers: use this [link](#) to download the survey, giving feedback on RE in your school.

New RE resources sheet

Find the new [RE Resources sheet](#) here

RE support and resources

[Exeter Diocese](#) for C of E schools
[Devon SACRE RE](#) for all Devon schools: RE Agreed Syllabus and support for **assessment** in RE
[Learn, Teach Lead RE](#) RE hub network groups
[NATRE](#) National Association of Teachers of RE
[RE Quality Mark](#) to audit and celebrate your RE
[Re-online](#) RE subject knowledge site
[True Tube](#) free video resources
[RE definitions](#) free info about key RE words
[Religious Education Council](#) national voice for RE

Making PEACE

PEACE CHARTER

[INSPIRE](#) has been set up to help schools commemorate the centenary of the First World War and to encourage our pupils to become agents of peace. It aims to remember the sacrifice of all those who gave their lives in violent conflict by working to build peace in our communities. Schools are encouraged to research, discuss and engage in activities that explore the armistice and what it means to build peace. You can get involved by exploring the values of peace through the [INSPIRE Peace Charter](#), holding a remembrance and peace service on Friday 9 November and by using resources specially created by the [Church of England](#).

“It isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn’t enough to believe in it. One must work at it.”

Christianity resource book

Where in the World?

[Where in the World?](#) is a global Christianity resource for primary school teachers of RE. It provides lesson outlines, a five-week scheme of work, background information and a section on learning objectives and outcomes. It also contains useful material for assemblies and collective worship.

Strictly RE 2019



Join the throng of teachers of RE at NATRE’s annual conference on Sat 26th Jan 2019: [Strictly RE](#). Book now for a bargain price. It’s even cheaper if you are a NATRE member.

‘Dying Matters’ GCSE conference



An interfaith conference for GCSE students on death, dying and euthanasia; Friday 9th Nov 2018

This free [conference](#) for Devon and Torbay schools will be held at Exeter Racecourse. It will bring together teachers, health professionals and members of diverse faith and belief communities to discuss issues relating to death and dying, end of life care, assisted death and palliative care. The talks and workshops will be linked to topics featured in the various GCSE Religious Studies specifications, including a debate on euthanasia.

Learn, Teach, Lead RE conference



Different voices: Engaging with similarities and diversity in RE. One day [conference](#) for primary and secondary teachers of RE on Friday 12th October 2018 at St Melion Resort, Saltash. £60 per delegate

Global Neighbours



[Global Neighbours](#) is a new and exciting school accreditation scheme developed by Christian Aid. It aims to encourage a deeper understanding of global injustice and the Christian response to it in primary school pupils across England. It is a great tool to help to empower young people to become agents of change themselves. It has been developed working in partnership with the Church of England’s Education Office.

Connect your classroom

[Connecting Classrooms](#) is a global education programme supported by the British Council, in partnership with the Department for International Development. For teachers and pupils inspired to connect with children around the world please visit the [Connecting Classrooms](#) website. You can also access lots of great [resources and lesson](#) plans to help pupils learn about the lives of children affected by war across the world.

Palestine and Israel



Eye witness in the classroom: this [lesson plan](#) is a rich primer for secondary schools on Palestine and Israel today, but more than that, it’s an opportunity to invite a human rights observer to your classroom. Speakers from [Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme](#) in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) are ready to visit your school to share their eyewitness stories. The lesson sets up a rich discussion of human rights and how to respond to conflict.

Thinking Biblically about ...



What does the Bible have to say about contemporary issues? This (free-of-charge) series of [13 pamphlets](#) provides accessible introductions to biblical perspectives on a range of modern ‘hot topics’, from consumerism, to social media, to surveillance. These 8-page pamphlets are concise, thought-provoking and attractively presented. Suitable for KS3-5.

GCSE RS revision resources



Seneca is a social enterprise that offers free [revision and homework resources for GCSE](#) students. The content applies effective learning strategies to help students learn more effectively and accounts can be created to track pupils' progress in the platform. Only AQA material at present, but more exam boards as well as KS3 and KS5 content to follow.

System Leader Qualification in RE and school ethos

Last call for the [System Leader Qualification course](#) starts on 25/9/18 at MarJon Plymouth. It has been designed for teachers who want to develop their leadership skills in RE and school ethos. It offers teachers who lead in RE and/or school ethos a study route developing practical skills in coaching and mentoring and an understanding of the theoretical perspectives that underpin good practice. It is open to primary and secondary teachers and to staff from all types of school (community and Church schools).

SIAMS hubs

Autumn Term dates for CofE school SIAMS Hub meetings (4-6pm) at the following locations:

19 Sept	All Saints Thurlestone PS
20 Sept	Ilfacombe Academy
3 Oct	St Luke's, Exeter
8 Oct	Plympton St Mary's Infants
9 Oct	St Cuthbert Mayne, Torquay
10 Oct	Holsworthy PS
18 Oct	Ashleigh PS, Barnstaple

The main topic will be the new SIAMS framework, along with a Q and A session. These meetings will be free and open to all, but please book in through [Fran Bradley](#).

Exeter Diocese courses Autumn 2018

RE					
Learn, Teach, Lead RE Conference	Fri 12 th Oct	St. Mellion Resort, Saltash	09:30 – 15:30	£60	RE Leaders and teachers
Teaching Hinduism & Buddhism	Mon 19th Nov	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:30	Standard charges (see Pg 3)	Teachers
Understanding Christianity	Thurs 22 nd Nov*	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:30	£150 including resources, 2 nd delegate £75 (no resources)	Teachers, Leaders, Governors

Why RE Matters

The ability to understand the faith or belief of individuals and communities, and how these may shape their culture and behaviour, is an invaluable asset for children in modern day Britain. Explaining religious and non-religious worldviews in an academic way allows young people to engage with the complexities of belief, avoid stereotyping and contribute to an informed debate. (Statement from the [Religious Education Council website](#))

The Torbay and Devon Civic Award



The [Torbay and Devon Civic Award](#) is for children in their final year at primary school. They need to demonstrate they have achieved:

- Active Citizenship in their home and school communities
- Commitment to an active hobby and a non-active hobby
- Take part in residential experience and adventure training
- Adopted a cause or charity which they feel strongly about

Trends in religion and belief

If you are looking for an overview of religions around the world and current trends of belief, [this article](#) gives some really helpful stats and commentary.

- 84% of the world's population identifies with a religious group
- The world is getting more religious, not less
- Rowan Williams, the former archbishop of Canterbury, says efforts to pit science against religion are a "phoney war". A YouGov poll carried out last year found that only 16% of believers accept the creation myth