



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich

D~A~R~E bulletin

Diocesan Adviser's RE bulletin Autumn 2020

Hi everyone –I am missing visiting you all in schools and celebrating what learning is happening. On the other hand, my competence with zoom seems to be growing at least which is helping me become more effective with delivering training online. It has been great to see so many of you online at least! Please do continue to get in touch if you need any advice or support. I am happy to arrange zoom meetings! Gemma

General news:

- **New REQM criteria**

The REQM has been updated. Find the new criteria at:

<https://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/new-regm-criteria/>

- **Over 95% of primary teachers report time spent on teaching RE has increased or stayed the same.**

NATRE surveyed over 500 primary teachers from ac

ross the country. NATRE's research found:

- 46% of academies without a religious character have reported an increase in time to teach RE
- 29% of Agreed Syllabus schools have reported an increase in time to teach RE
- 21% of schools including academies with a religious character reported an increase in time to teach RE

This is great news for RE!



Resources to help you:

- **New book - Where do I come from? By Bob Hartman** Celebrate how you are created by God through the clever set of instructions, DNA, and how this connects you with the big family of living things through God's imaginative and creative plan.

With additional information by the Faraday Institute about Science and the Bible to open up discussion.

Brand new teaching resource: ERA's Video Streaming Platform



The service features exclusive television content from the BBC archives, clipped and curated to support teaching the national curriculum at all key stages - including RE (clips from the very good **My Life, My Religion** series). Selected from an archive of over 2 million recordings, programmes are clipped to suit classroom use (1-5 mins), are permanently available to stream and searchable by key words, subject and key stage, helping to ensure that teachers find the best clips to share with their students. <https://era.org.uk/>

Visits and Visitors

Due to Covid-19, EEFA are suspending their organising of faith speakers into schools and places of worship indefinitely and so many of us are turning to the online world in search of enriching additional experiences and opportunities for our children. Cumbria SACRE have produced a directory which includes a chapter on virtual visits which has some good links (including the recommended TrueTube). Check this out: <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/537/6381/6528/6529/4407713399.pdf?timestamp=440799144>



Need to know:

- **Farmington Fellowships**



FARMINGTON INSTITUTE
HARRIS MANCHESTER COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Farmington Fellowships continue to be an amazing opportunity for any teacher of RE to have paid time out of class to explore areas of interest and/or write resources. If this is something you have always wanted to do, please get in touch and I am more than happy to help you write an application. Not sure what to do? I am looking for anyone who could help produce resources to enrich the

Emmanuel Project. Do get in touch. See: www.farmington.ac.uk for more information.

For further advice contact: gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org

- **Book a free remote visit from a humanist school speaker!**



Humanists UK now offer remote visits to schools via your school's online meeting platform – such as Zoom, Google Meets, Microsoft Teams, etc. The

remote visit could include: - Classroom talk with Q&A - Interfaith panel discussion - Pre-recorded video answering students' questions. See <https://humanism.org.uk/education/teachers/request-volunteer-school/>

- **Worldviews in Religious Education -Theos launch report**

This is another important report which follows on from the Commission for RE. You can read the report here: <https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/cmsfiles/Worldview-in-Religious-Education---FINAL-PDF-merged.pdf>

- **#REChatUK**

Occurs the first Monday of every month on Twitter if you're interested. Add it to your calendar! The next #REchatUK on Twitter is on Monday 07 December 2020 with the question 'How can I develop my leadership of RE?'

- **Teachers Talk blog**

A space for teachers of RE to share their views, ideas and discuss topical issues relating to the subject of RE. <https://teachers-talk.natre.org.uk/about/>

Walk through the Bible -FREE!



For over 20 years Walk Through the Bible has been Bringing the Bible to life for children in primary schools. Now they have created a series of 10 action-packed 20min videos online FREE so now every 9-11 year old

child in your school can know the storyline of the Old Testament - and it won't cost your school a penny! <https://www.bible.org.uk/video-lessons.php>. **This is ideal for UKS2 children.**

You will need to register at the link above. Each video has a short activity part way through. All teachers need to do is press play and encourage your children to join in. There is a teacher PDF Pack which includes activity outlines and extension materials and three printed resources will be sent to your school to accompany the children as they Walk Through the Old Testament (packed months ago and so covid secure). This is a great way for VC schools to supplement their Christianity teaching.

For further advice contact: gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org



Bible Chat Mats from the Diocese of Bath and Wells

Bible chat mats have been developed as a way for all ages to read the Bible and have a conversation together in many different settings. The sheets can be coloured and doodled on, allowing you to respond to the Bible story in your own unique way. A Christmas chat mat has been developed which you may want to use with your class at Christmas. There are more coming (I hope to include some of these in collective worship planning for Spring 2021).

Free to download from <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/supporting-children/youth-children/resources/bible-chat-mat/>

Christingle 2020



Now, more than ever, we must shine the light for those living in the darkest situations. Together, we can rekindle the hope for children and young people across the country.

The Children's Society website has all the resources you need for a Christingle service – either in bubbles or virtually, Christingles are great as an individual craft to explore Christmas.

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/fundraise-and-events/christingle>

Diocesan Training:

To book or for more information contact Jacqui Studd jacqui.studd@cofesuffolk.org

Tu 19 Jan 9.30 – 12.30	Basics of RE	Heads, Governors and Clergy
Wed 27 Jan 9.30 – 12.30	Basics of CW	Heads, Governors, new Subject Leaders and NQTs
Wed 10 Feb 9.30 – 3.30	New to Teaching RE	New and nearly new Teachers of RE including NQTs
Wed 24 Feb 9.30 – 12.30	Deeper Diving in RE	For RE Subject Leaders in preparation for Ofsted and SIAMS inspections

For further advice contact: gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org

Tu 2 Mar 9.30 – 12.30	RE Subject Leader Annual Update (Heart)	All RE Subject Leaders - Heart of Suffolk region (<i><u>can be anyone – as via zoom!</u></i>)
Wed 10 Mar 9.30 – 12.30	Assessment in RE	All RE Subject Leaders

Gemma Kingston, Diocesan Schools' Adviser

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The Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich provides an expert RE service to all church schools and primary schools in Suffolk, working alongside other INSET providers, helping schools work effectively and creatively on RE and Collective Worship.