

DARE

Diocesan School Adviser's RE Bulletin Summer 2021

Welcome to the Summer Term DARE Newsletter!

My training events continue to be well attended and I am enjoying meeting you all on screen and a few of you more recently in person. I hope to be able to see more of you in schools from September onwards. Please do get in touch if you would like to arrange training for your school through a staff meeting. I get booked up very quickly so the more notice the better.

Suffolk SACRE are beginning the process of reviewing the RE syllabus – there is a link to an online survey on the following page and I would encourage you all to complete this. Please also take note of the Ofsted Review Report on RE (see below). It is a significant piece of research we all need to be aware of and act upon.

Keep well,
Gemma

10 th June 9.30 – 12.30	RE Subject Leader Annual Update	All RE Subject Leaders
15 th June 9.30 – 12.30	Spiritual Development in the Primary school	All RE Subject Leaders/SLT/Heads
24 th June 9.30 – 12.30	Assessment in RE	All RE Subject Leaders
1 st July	HLTA Forum	All HLTAs who teach RE

What's new?

RE Assessment

The New RE Assessment training event has been a great opportunity to share ideas and what is working well. Some schools are trialling a different way of assessing RE this term using new assessment sheets which outline the expected standard. These will be available free on the website in the Autumn term for all units. For many RE Subject Leaders, how to assess

Year group:	Term:	Date:	Class:						
<p>What do Christians mean when they talk about the Kingdom of God?</p> <p>Teachers will enable pupils to be able to achieve some of these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Working towards:</th> <th>Expected:</th> <th>Greater depth:</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils will be able to talk about Jesus being a King and Christians following his example. With some prompts, they will be able to recall some of Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God, they will be familiar with the words of the Lord's Prayer but may not understand without support its importance to Christians today.</td> <td>Pupils working at an expected level will know that Christians believe in Jesus Christ's saying in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you. They will understand that it is through reading the Bible that Christians learn about Jesus Christ's say, such as through the parables of Jesus. They are able to recall at least one parable about God's Kingdom.</td> <td>Those pupils have an excellent grasp on what the Kingdom of God is. That it is not a place, but present wherever people live God's way. They understand the reason why Christians need to be part of spreading God's Kingdom on earth and the important role of charity work within this.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ultimately, pupils understand the key ideas from this unit: Christians believe Jesus is their King and want to follow his way of life.</p>				Working towards:	Expected:	Greater depth:	Pupils will be able to talk about Jesus being a King and Christians following his example. With some prompts, they will be able to recall some of Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God, they will be familiar with the words of the Lord's Prayer but may not understand without support its importance to Christians today.	Pupils working at an expected level will know that Christians believe in Jesus Christ's saying in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you. They will understand that it is through reading the Bible that Christians learn about Jesus Christ's say, such as through the parables of Jesus. They are able to recall at least one parable about God's Kingdom.	Those pupils have an excellent grasp on what the Kingdom of God is. That it is not a place, but present wherever people live God's way. They understand the reason why Christians need to be part of spreading God's Kingdom on earth and the important role of charity work within this.
Working towards:	Expected:	Greater depth:							
Pupils will be able to talk about Jesus being a King and Christians following his example. With some prompts, they will be able to recall some of Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God, they will be familiar with the words of the Lord's Prayer but may not understand without support its importance to Christians today.	Pupils working at an expected level will know that Christians believe in Jesus Christ's saying in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you. They will understand that it is through reading the Bible that Christians learn about Jesus Christ's say, such as through the parables of Jesus. They are able to recall at least one parable about God's Kingdom.	Those pupils have an excellent grasp on what the Kingdom of God is. That it is not a place, but present wherever people live God's way. They understand the reason why Christians need to be part of spreading God's Kingdom on earth and the important role of charity work within this.							
Name <when assessed, list names of children in class here>	Name <when assessed, list names of children in class here>	Name <when assessed, list names of children in class here>	Name <when assessed, list names of children in class here>						
%	%	%	%						

RE is still a concern and if this is true for you, I would strongly recommend you join this training to take place on **24th June 2021** or look out for dates next year. Further information:

<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/training-opportunities/>

RE network meetings

The first meeting took place on the 20th May by zoom and was so well attended – thank you! The minutes have been circulated to all so even if you aren't always able to attend you can still benefit from seeing what was discussed. The next meeting is 29th June at 4pm: <https://zoom.us/j/95578618329?pwd=K0ozR1R1VWZhREJNdTBYSzdnbnmhnUT09>

Upcoming Training

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

Please try and attend at least one network meeting per term. This could be you as the RE subject lead, your shadow, or another member of staff.

Ofsted's Research review report on religious education

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-review-series-religious-education/research-review-series-religious-education>

This is an important, welcome and interesting read for anyone in RE and a key document for 2021 subject leaders and SLTs. The report highlights the priority Ofsted places on the importance of high quality RE in all schools and identifies what the features of high-quality and ambitious RE might be. This includes discussions about subject content, structure, progression, pedagogy, assessment and overall curriculum design. I would encourage all leaders of RE – even in VA schools where RE is not inspected by Ofsted – to read it and share key aspects of this report with the school senior leadership team and governors.

Headlines from the report:

- The report identifies three areas of subject-specific knowledge in RE: **Substantive knowledge, Disciplinary knowledge** and **Personal knowledge**.
- The curriculum should carefully select and cover substantive content and concepts rather than covering excessive amounts of content superficially.
- The RE curriculum must ensure that what is taught and learned in RE is grounded in what is known about religion or non-religion from academic study.
- Pupils should study certain areas of the RE curriculum in depth and acquire a range of detailed knowledge of different concepts and ideas, which they remember long term.

- The curriculum must be well sequenced.
- Teachers and leaders must ensure that the way in which the curriculum is taught and assessed focuses pupils' attention squarely on the knowledge they need to learn.
- Leaders must ensure that adequate curriculum time is given to RE, so that leaders can deliver an ambitious curriculum.
- Leaders must ensure that there is sufficient training and professional development so that teachers have appropriate subject professional knowledge.

Ofsted will publish a review of the quality of RE curriculums in spring term 2022. This will be based on 'deep dives' carried out during inspections under the EIF.

EEFA Services to Schools

No longer acting as a broker between schools and faith communities, EEFA now proposes to become a signpost for schools to faith speakers and places of worship. It proposes to display on its website all relevant details to enable school teachers to contact speakers and contacts for booking visits to places of worship. EEFA will not charge for this service, nor will it be collecting fees from schools or remunerating speakers. All arrangements will be between the client and the service provider. EEFA now has a dedicated web site for schools - www.eefa.co.uk.

Suffolk's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) Agreed Syllabus consultation



One of the most important functions of SACRE is to produce the Locally Agreed Syllabus. This specifies what must be taught in religious education (RE) within an authority and should reflect the latest

developments in education, be relevant and engaging for all pupils and support high quality teaching and learning.

Teaching of the current Suffolk Agreed Syllabus began in January 2013. This syllabus was then renewed in 2018. SACRE is now beginning to develop a new Agreed Syllabus and wants to consult with schools and school leaders to ensure that everyone's views are taken into consideration.

Therefore, SACRE invites all teaching colleagues in Suffolk schools to share their thoughts about the Agreed Syllabus by completing [this](#) online survey by the 20th July. Your views really do matter and will help to shape the future of RE in Suffolk.



Anti-Racist RE

RE Today have produced materials on anti-racist RE designed to help teachers of Religious Education plan and provide excellent learning in the classroom that encourages pupils to learn about religion and beliefs, racism and prejudice in challenging ways that promote the well-being of all in our richly plural communities. The project provides a unit of work for Key Stage 2 on 'What can be done to reduce racism? Can religion help?' Free and available from <https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/anti-racist-re/primary-classroom-resources/>

INSIGHT UK report on the state of Hinduism in Religious Education (RE) in UK schools

In 2020, INSIGHT UK conducted a project with a team comprised of highly experienced members of the Hindu community, amongst whom are well-known academics, including professors and teachers. The project goal was to assess the current state of Hinduism in RE in UK schools as perceived by Hindus

in Britain and recommend changes to improve it. The main findings conclude:

- 75% of respondents feel that Hinduism is not taught in a positive light.
- 86% of the respondents are either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the teaching of Hinduism in schools within the United Kingdom. 76% of primary school parents are unhappy about RE teachers' knowledge of Hinduism.
- There is growing evidence of inaccurate resources used by classroom teachers for teaching Hinduism.

The full report can be read [here](#) and is good reading for RE subject leaders, particularly around the accuracy of some resources.

Spirited Arts Competition 2021



Entries to be submitted by 31st July. This year's themes are:

1. 'We have far more in common with each other than that which divides us.'
2. God's Good Earth
3. Where is God?
4. Healing
5. Inspiring!

Details found here:

<https://www.retoday.org.uk/uploads/Spirited%20Arts/2021/Spirited%20Arts%202021%20competition%20details%20PDF.pdf>

Humanist Heritage website launch

To mark the 125th anniversary of Humanists UK, Understanding Humanism have launched a new, free online resource that will support teachers and students to explore the rich history and influence on the UK of

humanist thought and action.

<https://heritage.humanists.uk/>

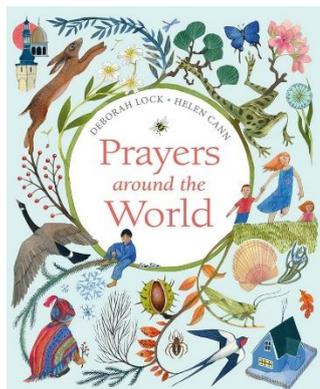
BBC – Being series

The BBC have produced a series of films on the themes of big celebrations. There is an available episode on being a British Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jew and Christian. Great for teacher subject knowledge.

[click here](#)

NEW Prayers around the World by

Deborah Lock and Helen Cann



Across the continents, this beautifully illustrated book of prayers reflects on God's amazing world, celebrating different countries, landscapes and traditions. From fishing villages to the African

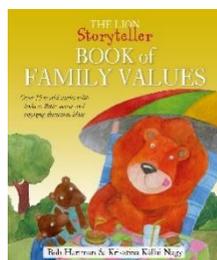
plains, farming in Peru to the snowy landscape of Greenland, blossoms in Japan and leaf kicking in eastern Europe and to the shores of the Pacific ocean, these prayers share God's love and care for his world.

NEW - The Lion Storyteller Book of

Family Values by Bob Hartman and

Krisztina Kallai Nagy

Over 30 world stories with links to Bible verses and engaging discussion ideas. A practical, engaging resource about the moral, spiritual, and cultural values that shape our lives and society for families, children's church groups and schools to share, explore, and respond with children together.



Bible Chat Mats

Series 1 of Bible Chat Mats by the Diocese of Bath and Wells continue to be freely downloaded from:

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

Series 2 of the Bible Chat Mats can now be purchased from their online shop for £20.00 as a downloadable pack. There are 19 Chat Mats themed around Christian Values. Each Bible Chat Mat links to a well-known Bible story. If you have access to a Lion Storyteller Bible, they recommend using that version, but any age-appropriate Bible will work. The 19 Christian values are: Compassion, Courage, Creativity, Forgiveness, Friendship, Generosity, Hope, Humility, Justice, Koinonia, Peace, Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility, Service, Thankfulness, Trust, Truthfulness and Wisdom.

**Gemma Kingston,
Diocesan Schools' Adviser**

To contact me:

gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org

St Nicholas Centre, 4, Cutler St, Ipswich IP1 1UQ / 07394 568404

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.