

Notice of Meeting

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Tuesday, 6th June, 2023 at 4.30 pm
in Newbury Mosque, 33 Pound Street,
Newbury, RG14 6AE

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Jack Karimi on 01635 519644
e-mail: janet.giddings@westberks.gov.uk



Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education to be held on Tuesday, 6 June 2023 (continued)

To: Group A – Other Faith Members

Dilip Ladwa (Hindu), Mobasshir Mushtaq (Muslim), Rabbi Zvi Solomons (Jewish) and Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

Group B – Church of England Members

Val Bolan (Church of England) and Mary Stagg (Church of England)

Group C – Teaching Association Members

Amanda Bedding (NEU), Clare Hawkins (NASUWT), Roseanna Obsiye (NASUWT) and Chris Ward (NEU)

Group D – West Berkshire Councillors

Councillor Paul Dick, Councillor Billy Drummond and Councillor Tony Vickers

Agenda

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**Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education to be held on Tuesday, 6
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- 10.1. Secondary and Primary Networks (David Rees and Amanda Bedding)
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Sarah Clarke
Service Director: Strategy and Governance

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Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Current Members as of 6 June 2023

Group A

Other Faith Representatives

Mr Dilip Ladwa

Hindu Representative
drladwa@gmail.com

Mr Mobasshir Mushtaq

Muslim Representative
mobasshirmushtaq@hotmail.com

Rabbi Zvi Solomons

Jewish Representative
rabbi@jacob.org

Revd David Taylor

Thatcham Baptist Church
Chair of SACRE
david@thatchambaptist.org.uk

Group B

Church of England Representatives

Mrs Val Bolan

Church of England
valeriebolan@btinternet.com

Mrs Mary Stagg

Church of England
mary@stagghome.co.uk

Group C

Teaching Association Representatives

Ms Amanda Bedding

National Education Union
Vice Chair of SACRE
amandabedding@hotmail.co.uk

Ms Clare Hawkins

NASUWT
c-hawkins@garthhillcollege.com

Ms Roseanna Obsiye

NASUWT
robsiye@willink.w-berks.sch.uk

Mr Chris Ward

National Education Union
cward@willink.w-berks.sch.uk

Group D

West Berkshire Councillors

Councillor Paul Dick

Paul.Dick1@westberks.gov.uk

Councillor Billy Drummond

Billy.Drummond@westberks.gov.uk

Councillor Tony Vickers

Tony.Vickers1@westberks.gov.uk

Advisers

Mr David Rees

Professional Consultant
david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com

Miss Kate House

Local Authority Adviser
office@ilsleys.w-berks.sch.uk

Clerk

Jack Karimi

Democratic Services Officer
Jack.Karimi1@westberks.gov.uk
01635 503605

WEST BERKSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023 VENUE: VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

Present:

Group A – Other Faiths Members

Dilip Ladwa (Hindu), Mobasshir Mushtaq (Muslim), Rabbi Zvi Solomons (Jewish) and Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

Group B – Church of England Members

Val Bolan (Church of England)

Group C – Teaching Association Members

Amanda Bedding (NEU)

Group D – WBC Councillors

Councillor Tony Linden and Councillor David Marsh

Also Present: Jack Karimi and David Rees

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting: Councillor Lynne Doherty, Councillor Billy Drummond, Clare Hawkins (NASUWT), Roseanna Obsiye (NSAUWT) and Chris Ward (NEU)

59 Membership

Replacement for Robin Sharples

The Chairman reported that he had contacted Simon Thorn but he had declined to become a Member of SACRE.

Val Bolan reported that she had contacted someone who may be interested in becoming a Member of SACRE, and suggested contacting St Nicholas' Church.

Councillor Tony Linden suggested the pastor at St. John's Church, Revd Gary Collins.

Val Bolan would follow up and report back.

60 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

61 Actions

None raised.

62 Exam Results (David Taylor)

The Chairman noted that SACRE's inability to get exam results was a difficulty for the committee and proposed contacting NASACRE for further information.

David Rees noted that NASACRE were likely to already be aware of the issue and would potentially be seeking to find a solution for all SACREs.

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MINUTES**

63 Collective Worship: Next Steps (David Taylor)

The Chairman presented the Willink School's Collective Act of Worship and Assemblies Policy.

The Chairman noted that SACRE were likely in the dark when it came to the policies of other schools, and suggested sending them a questionnaire to gauge their policies. Amanda Bedding supported the idea of a questionnaire as a starting point, but stated that its success would be dependent on how many schools responded.

Councillor David Marsh stated that, as a Governor, he would be interested in hearing the activities engaged in by other schools and expressed frustration that they may not respond.

David Rees noted that there was a large range of things such as surveys sent into schools, and there was a bias towards responses from schools that were proud of their work and wanted to share it. David Rees supported the idea, however, and suggested that other SACREs were consulted to determine how they collect information.

. Dilip Ladwa suggested phoning schools directly if they did not respond to the questionnaire, and volunteered to assist. The Chairman agreed, and resolved to ask SACRE Members after the meeting whether they were able to phone schools.

64 2022-23 Budget Update and Action Plan (David Rees)

David Rees presented the attached Action Plan and Budget. David Rees noted that there was little in the way of change from the previous budget.

David Rees noted that Clare Hawkins was eager to be involved with the new syllabus.

Part A: Core Business of SACRE. David Rees noted that Point 7 on monitoring and offering advice on Collective Worship had been strengthened.

Part B: Supporting teachers to continually improve RE learning in their schools. David Rees noted that these were suggestions and ideas, and the newsletter and networks were the main points. David Rees asked for any Members to contact him if they had an item for the newsletter.

Part C: To support the ongoing work of the pan-Berkshire Hub. David Rees suggested that a Teacher Conference would be beneficial for teachers, but noted that the ongoing Hub was a Part B item. David Rees noted that Real People, Real Faith was always included in the newsletter.

David Rees noted the benefits of NASACRE membership and proposed continuing to pay the fee.

65 2023-24 Proposed Budget (David Rees)

The Chairman noted that the item was not usually raised until the Summer SACRE when the Budget had been set by the Council, but he thought it better to bring it forward so the items could be discussed.

Councillor Tony Linden noted that the Council would not be using Zoom from May 2023, and so it could be removed from the Budget. David Rees responded that he still used it, but his did not need to be funded by the Budget. Councillor David Marsh noted that the move from Zoom had not been made as a Council decision and so may not go ahead after May.

The Chairman asked the Clerk whether he could use his Church account for hosting the Zoom meeting. Jack Karimi clarified that as far as he was aware, the move to Microsoft

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Teams was not certain, but it had been raised and discussed with Democratic Services. Jack Karimi suggested that the host of the Zoom meeting did not necessarily matter, as long as it was livestreamed and hosted within the Council.

The Chairman suggested that it was possible that the Council would allocate the same funding, and that he would contact Beverly Batty regarding this.

66 Schools

Primary and Secondary Networks

David Rees noted the next Secondary Network would be held on 21 March, which he would attend. David Rees stated that he would raise the issue of exam results, perhaps as a proposed item, as he was usually given a section within the meeting.

David Rees reported that he was in the process organising a change of date for the Primary Network to a date in March, as there were a number of different smaller groups which were attempting to network together. David Rees stated that the meetings typically went well, with a core group attending each meeting. At the last meeting, an attendee from the Iqra Primary School in Slough presented an item on how RE was structured at the school, and made suggestions on how to teach about Islam. David Rees added that a number of schools were independently networking together.

Amanda Bedding reported that she would be attending a Network meeting on 7 March, with a focus on how assessment could be done within RE. Amanda Bedding noted that it may be something to review as part of the new syllabus, as she had been asked to look at assessment at a number of schools.

67 Hub (David Taylor, David Rees)

(The Chairman lost connection and Amanda Bedding took over as Chair from 5:20 pm to 5:26 pm.)

New Syllabus Update

The Chairman noted that the Hub was aiming to meet with members of each faith to consult them on their needs from the new syllabus. The Chairman was organising the Christian response with a wide range of representatives. Dilip Ladwa was part of the Hindu response.

David Rees noted that there were syllabi with very little information, which left RE to the school's discretion. His aim was to provide a syllabus with more information and guidance for teachers. David Rees noted that there was a decision to make between buying an off-the-shelf syllabus, which he did not recommend, writing it locally, or adapting a particularly good one from another local authority. David Rees noted that Dorset Council had bought one from the BCP (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole) Council and adapted it. This syllabus was updated up to the previous five years on content and assessment, and heavily focused on enquiry questions.

The Chairman noted that the publication of the syllabus had been moved to 2024 and would become more urgent as it came closer.

Mobasshir Mushtaq asked if he should play a similar role with the Hub with regards to representing the Muslim community. The Chairman responded that he and Anne Andrews had sent guidelines via email.

Val Bolan asked how BCP Council were so ahead on the process of writing a new syllabus. David Rees responded that Berkshire's process was more complicated as it involved coordinating six SACREs, and BCP Council had contracted the process out to a

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consultant. Val Bolan asked whether it would be worth hiring a consultant to look at BCP Council's syllabus. David Rees noted that local authorities typically provided additional funding for a new syllabus process, and underlined that it was necessary to go to the local authority to ask for it in the next year's budget.

Further Progress on 'Real People, Real Faith' Video Project

The Chairman noted that there was an attempt to contact the Baha'i community and an Orthodox Jewish synagogue for videos. David Rees added that he believed there was a Christian Orthodox video being worked on as well.

The Chairman reported that he had received a good review from a teacher, and David Rees noted the high number of hits on YouTube.

68 Newsletter (David Rees)

David Rees noted that the newsletter went out on the second week of each term and he was always looking for new links and resources to include.

Dilip Ladwa asked who the newsletter was circulated to. David Rees responded that it was sent to the RE Leader in each school, and he was trying to incorporate both Primary and Secondary education in its content.

Dilip Ladwa suggested the BBC's resources. David Rees responded that the issue was that the BBC moved its resources around each year, but he checked every half term for their classroom resources.

69 Equality and Diversity

The Chairman noted that he had put Equality and Diversity on the agenda to keep it discussed, but he did not have anything in particular to raise.

70 Any Other Business

None raised.

71 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 6 June 2023, 4:30 pm. Mobasshir Mushtaq to confirm holding it at Newbury Mosque.

Tuesday 31 October 2023, 4:30 pm.

72 Support for Individual Schools

(Paragraph 3 – information relating to financial/business affairs of particular organisation)

SACRE considered an exempt report (Agenda Item 15) which involved a discussion on support for individual schools.

West Berkshire SACRE action plan 2023-4, updated May 2023

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Cost	Summer 2023	Autumn 2023	Winter/Spring 2024
<p>A. CORE BUSINESS</p> <p>To be a supportive and proactive SACRE enjoying full and well-informed membership</p>	1. Fill membership vacancies	Ongoing	SACRE Chair SACRE Clerk		Ensure West Berkshire SACRE is representative of the West Berkshire area. An ongoing process		
	2. SACRE members attend termly SACRE meetings (3 per year) and, when possible, teacher meetings and training events	Termly SACRE meetings: Summer 2023 Autumn 2023 Spring 2024	SACRE Chair/SACRE Adviser SACRE members SACRE Clerk	SACRE Adviser to prepare and attend x3 SACRE meetings a year SACRE Clerk to administer each meeting LA officers and Adviser prep time	Tuesday 6 th June 4.30pm	Tuesday 31 st October 2023	TBD
	3. Produce annual SACRE Report	Autumn Term 2023	SACRE Adviser and clerk with foreword by SACRE Chair	SACRE chair		Bring draft to Autumn 2023 meeting Complete by feb 2024	Send to NASACRE by feb 2024
	4. Review the action plan at each meeting and discuss updates	At each SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser and SACRE	SACRE Adviser time	At each SACRE meeting	At each SACRE meeting	At each SACRE meeting
	5. Subscribe to NASACRE Representation at annual NASACRE conference & AGM Attend other relevant and useful events	Ongoing	SACRE clerk SACRE Adviser	Subscription £105 <i>SW SACRE conference fee and advisor time</i> NASACRE Conference and AGM - SACRE Adviser time to attend NASACRE conference	NASACRE AGM 22 nd May 2023 – Fishmongers hall London –	Subscription rate £105	SW SACRE conference – March 2024 <i>DR to attend? feedback to network and SACRE – SACRE members welcome – small cost</i> Strictly RE January 2024 – DR will attend
	6. Monitor the locally agreed syllabus – especially in the lead up to review	Ongoing Part of the Pan Berkshire Hub plan	SACRE	Increased budget when review process begins again – next syllabus review began 2021/2 through the Hub	Early stages of review initiated through the hub – questionnaires considered	Falls under the remit of the Pan Berks Hub as of writing – latest developments include reaching out to religion and worldview groups – teachers consulted through networks	
	7. Monitor and offer guidance on Collective Worship in schools	ongoing	SACRE		At each meeting SACRE to discuss ways of monitoring and supporting collective worship – Adviser to share guidance produced from other SACREs for members to consider. Short document produced and circulated 2023		

<i>B. To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE learning in their schools</i>	1. Connect with RE leaders through primary networks	Ongoing –	SACRE Adviser	Adviser time	Tuesday 4 th October & 15 th November	7 th February 2023 22 nd March 2023	TBD TBD
	2. Make connections with RE leaders through secondary networks	Ongoing	SACRE Adviser/ SACRE Chair/ Teacher rep	Adviser time if needed	13 th June 2023 - at Kennet school	TBD	TBD
	3. Collate and Distribute a termly newsletter	Termly	SACRE Adviser – SACRE members to offer suggestions	Adviser time	April 2023	Sept 2023	Jan 2024
<i>C. To support the ongoing work of the Pan Berkshire Hub</i>	Consolidate and develop the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub.	Next hub meeting – TBA	SACRE members to attend where possible	Part of the hub commitment - £900 paid to Oxford diocese – reviewed yearly	To become a SACRE agenda item at each meeting		
	Contribute to the development of the 'Real People, Real faith' video clips	Ongoing (extended due to lockdown)	SACRE members	Part of the hub contribution – follow up work could be commissioned	Updates at each meeting as part of Hub update		
	Inform schools and contribute to /participate in Hub conference	TBD 2023/4?	SACRE members Hub links SACRE Adviser	Unknown?	Updates at each meeting		

Italicised points are up for consideration

DR May 2023

Agenda Item 7

West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education: 2023

1. Our Purpose is to advise West Berkshire Council on:

- a) Collective Worship
- b) Religious Education, in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus

2. How do we achieve this?

- a) We publish and launch the agreed syllabus every 5 years.
We do with in conjunction with the other SACREs in Berkshire via the Hub (see below). The Hub is currently working hard to produce a new syllabus in 2024, and we have a part to play in this.
- b) We encourage the development of material to support the implementation of the syllabus.
This is ongoing, and our Adviser David Rees helps us greatly here.
- c) We support the provision of termly network meetings for RE coordinators in primary schools
David Rees runs these. He also attends the existing secondary network.
- d) We produce a termly newsletter for schools
David Rees produces this and welcomes items from us all.
- e) We provide a copy of the *Non-statutory guidance on RE* published by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and the DfE to each school in West Berkshire.
Schools have copies of this.
- f) We receive presentations from teachers and members of faith communities on issues related to RE and collective worship.
We haven't been able to arrange this since Covid, but it is good to be visiting the mosque this year.
- g) We are part of the Pan Berkshire Hub, a termly meeting of the six Berkshire SACRE Chairs run by Anne Andrews, RE Adviser at the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education
David Taylor and David Rees attend this and report back. The Real People, Real Faith video series produced by the Hub over the last few years is now used in many schools. However this year most of our attention is focused on the production of the new Pan-Berkshire Agreed Syllabus.
- h) Through the Pan Berkshire Hub, we provide an annual conference for all interested parties
This has not happened since before Covid. In principle we would like to restart these.
- i) We publish an annual report of our work
Currently the Chair produces this in order to save money. .
- j) We are members of NASACRE - the National Association of SACREs – which is a great resource.

3. To help us achieve our goals, West Berkshire Council resources us with:

- a) An annual budget
In 2022-23 this was £4,840, the same as the previous year. We are hoping for at least the same figure this year. We have also been promised £5000 to enable us to produce the new Syllabus.
- b) The services of a Clerk
Jack Karimi, Democratic Services Officer at WBC, clerks our meetings.

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Agenda Item 9

SACRE Budget 2023-24

Assuming allocation of £4840

Item	Provider	Service Provided	Cost (£)
1.	Oxford Diocesan Board of Education	Contribution to SACRE Pan-Berkshire Hub	900
2.	David Rees	Consultancy at 3 SACRE meetings @ £500 each	1500
3.	David Rees	3 Primary Network Meetings @ £300 each	900
4.	David Rees	3 Secondary Network Meetings @ £300 each	900
5.	David Rees	Zoom licence/Travel Expenses	200
6.	David Rees	Newsletter	300
7.	NASACRE	NASACRE Membership fee	105
8.		Contingency	15
	TOTAL		4840

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Agenda Item 11

West Berkshire SACRE

Spring Newsletter 2023

Welcome to the West Berkshire SACRE Spring/Summer RE newsletter. As the clocks have finally moved forward, we are 'safely' in Spring and heading for Summer, so it is a time for optimism even though the weather will still undoubtedly keep us entertained for a good while yet.

As always West Berkshire SACRE wishes to send out a sincere thank you to all teachers and schools for the way in which you have shown such dedication to children and education during these relentlessly challenging times.

In this newsletter we will try to keep you updated on local and national updates, opportunities, resources and chances to engage.

RE Leaders database

Many thanks to those schools who have already sent the name of their RE lead through to David – these people will now receive RE related information direct to their inbox. **It would be really helpful if remaining schools could let David know the RE lead's school email address so he can directly keep them updated on what support is available.** This is particularly important if the person in post changes or if someone is new to teaching.

We do still have quite a few gaps in our database and so are aware that some information about networks, newsletters and resources is not directly reaching the RE lead – it would be so helpful if you could let us know this term. Please let us know by emailing david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com

SACRE wishes RE teachers to know that ongoing support is available. One of the ways SACREs can support teachers is by running virtual RE network meetings and producing these newsletters, designed to inform you of some or all of the following...

- Local and national RE developments
- Agreed syllabus cycle updates.
- Free classroom resources
- Upcoming CPD opportunities
- News from religion and worldview communities – national and local

Virtual Primary Networks

SACRE is supporting RE by running virtual RE networks as twilight sessions each term – these are run by the RE Adviser to SACRE David Rees.

This term's meetings will be virtual and held on the following dates.

- **Tuesday 9th May - 4-5.15pm**
- **Wednesday 28th June – 4-5.15pm**

If you would like to attend any of these or receive information about support for RE please email David on david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com - zoom links will be sent to those who confirm

If you have anything you would like covered in any of the meetings please do send suggestions through to David – we want the networks to be as useful as possible. We are always aware of the many demands on your time so thank you in advance for your attendance.

The Pan Berkshire Hub

The Pan Berkshire Hub (a group consisting of members of 6 Berkshire SACREs including West Berkshire) continues to meet and work together to help provide support and resources to help Berkshire teachers. The Hub produced some excellent free teaching resources in the form of video clips and support notes. The '**Real People, Real Faith project**' Key Stage 1-3 classroom clips have been available for teachers to use since April 2021. The project set out to ask believers from different places of worship and religion and worldview communities questions about their faith and how it impacts on daily life – these were professionally filmed and edited with the classroom in mind. Teacher notes were also developed to accompany each video clip. They are hosted on the NATRE website <https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/real-people-real-faith/>

The hub meets termly and is now in discussion about the Pan Berkshire Agreed Syllabus review process – there will be opportunities for Pan Berkshire teachers to be involved. The hub welcomes opinions on the existing syllabus and what changes might be needed to be included to reflect what has happened in the world of RE since the last syllabus was written. Please keep an eye open for opportunities and let David Rees know if you wish to be involved.

News from RE Online

RE Online is a free quality-controlled website designed to support teachers with many different aspects of teaching and leading RE.

The website includes teaching resources, knowledge essays on many of the major faiths and worldviews designed to help improve subject knowledge and ideas on how to connect with faith communities. There is also a large section on research and how it connects with the classroom.

The focus of RE leadership for Spring 2023 on RE Online is subject knowledge

'In recent years the importance of subject knowledge has grown in prominence, not just in teaching Religion and Worldviews, but in all subjects. This has come about due to an increased interest in curriculum design and insights from cognitive science as to how we actually learn and retain information.' A series of resources on subject knowledge are highlighted.

For teachers of Religion and Worldviews the idea of subject knowledge has particular importance. As we shift from the World Religions paradigm we are thinking and talking about what constitutes our subject knowledge, what sort of subject specialists are we, and what sort of information should we be seeking for our curriculum design.

This term we will be exploring contributions to teachers' subject knowledge from various researchers, beginning with a new book on Islamic history for teachers.

The subject knowledge we will present is for teachers. If you teach younger pupils don't panic! The information is for your own development, to enhance your understanding of religion and belief, and for you to translate for your own classroom context. As always, we love to hear from you and hear what you have been working on.'

There are also cpd opportunities like the Introduction to Religion and Worldviews course '**What is a Religion and Worldviews approach?** Maybe you have heard the phrase and are unsure what it means. This free self-study course provides an introduction to what is happening in Religious Education right now, covering the most recent report into the subject and the thinking behind a new approach to teaching and learning in the subject.'

All this information can be found here.

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/>

Regional RE Hubs

New regional RE Hubs are being set up to build relationships with advisers, dioceses, universities, SACREs, LAs, governors, MATs, teaching school hubs and more. The Regional Leads will also act as conduits between the regional providers of research, CPD, resources, places of worship and so on for the benefit of all Religion and Worldview stakeholders.

The Specific Aims:

- To improve communication between teachers, professional development and resource providers, and research communities
- To improve connections and interactions between different parts of the RE/R&W Eco-System
- To be an information exchange to increase accessibility for all teachers to local and regional professional development and research
- To enable teachers to teach with greater confidence through their access to the support, knowledge, training and resources available in their region.
- To create a sustainable long-term model for future provision

This will be achieved through:

- An excellent communication system that works efficiently and effectively between teachers, CPD and resource providers, local/regional adviser networks and research communities which will link those who need training, resources and encouraging with those whose purpose is to provide it.
- Improved cohesion and strategic operations between different RE/R&W organisations and groups
- Improved engagement by teachers with RE/R&W local groups/networks
- Increased access to wide range of professional development locally and regionally
- Secured long term funding for this project.
- Improved accountability lines for the project

SACRE Adviser David Rees will be involved in these and will keep you updated through networks and newsletters – it is a potentially exciting development which could really help RE teachers and leaders connect more locally and hopefully nationally.

General resources/CPD

- We were recently contacted by a representative of '**Learn Islam**' – in their own words... '**Learn Islam** is a group of doctors, trustees, professionals, teachers and volunteers, which has been setup to help teachers. We work to provide high quality material related to Islam for free that has been verified, so that teachers are able to teach these topics in schools from young years to teenagers with more confidence and ease. These include:
 - PowerPoint slides for Primary and Secondary Schools.
 - Worksheets and Quizzes based on the slides to assess knowledge.
 - Covering KS1 through to KS4.
 - These are aligned to the RE syllabus, based on SACRE guidelines for Primary Schools and GCSE for Secondary Schools
 - 88 recorded words on how to pronounce them based on the curriculum.
 - Resources can be found on our website www.learn-islam.co.uk

We also have content on social media to help students and teachers engage to obtain better knowledge:

- Instagram link @LearnIslamUK - <http://instagram.com/learnislamuk>
- Facebook link @LearnIslamUK - <https://m.facebook.com/LearnIslamUK/>

- TikTok @LearnIslamUK - <https://tiktok.com/@learnislamuk>

Later we aim to record the slides with a voice over so that teachers can just play the videos on the relevant topics, these will be placed on our YouTube channel:

- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVZp-cvjxz7KBS-OjJEFieQ>

We can also arrange school visits to a local mosque for schools that are interested.

To help teachers struggling with topics in relation to Islam, we aim to provide virtual workshops

Simply contact us and we will set one up for the school on the topic the school wishes to cover.

We are continuing to create the content. However, if the content/topic the teacher is looking for covering is not found on the site. Just email us with your request learnislamforfree@gmail.com and we will be happy to support where possible or answer any questions.'

- **A New Humanism classroom clip** has been released called '**one life**' – Dr Alice Roberts narrates this short animation about the humanist approach to life and the importance humanists place on freedom, responsibility, and connections. 'Life is like a piece of string. It has a beginning and an end. We don't get much say about that. But we can make choices about the bit in between. We have the freedom to shape our own lives.'
https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/res_films/one-life-live-it-well/

Free downloadable Humanist resources for Teachers, including lesson plans, classroom activities, presentations, videos, and humanist perspectives on a range of topics discussed in school are available at the Understanding Humanism website. '**Understanding Humanism** is Humanists UK's education service. It aims to introduce young people to humanism as an example of a non-religious worldview. It provides teachers with the resources necessary to teach accurate, high-quality lessons about humanism, and assists them with the development of their own subject knowledge. The Understanding Humanism website offers information and services, including free school speakers who can work with teachers to broaden students' understanding. Visit Understanding Humanism at understandinghumanism.org.uk.'

Teachers can also find guidance and information about CPD opportunities.

<https://humanism.org.uk/education/teachers/>

- **British library - Discovering Sacred Texts** provides access to the richness and diversity of the texts from some of the world's greatest faiths. Discover more about the sacred texts from Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism and the Baha'i Faith, Jainism and Zoroastrianism - find out more at this link - <https://www.bl.uk/sacred-texts>
- **Empowering Voices project** – Gillian Georgiou, RE adviser for Diocese of Lincoln, has been leading a project since 2015 to support children and young people to engage with a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. The latest iteration of this work is the Empowering Voices project. This is a series of thirty-minute podcasts, each of which focuses on a particular worldview. Each podcast comprises of an audio play written collaboratively by young people and a professional writer, an 'in-conversation' piece that picks up on the themes of the play, and an immersive soundscape; the team have also produced accompanying education packs for each podcast, aimed at KS2 to KS3.
<https://www.reconnectlincs.co.uk/empowering->

[voices?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=summer_term_2023&utm_content=2023-04-11](https://www.sacre.org.uk/voices?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=summer_term_2023&utm_content=2023-04-11)

The first two podcasts have just been launched: the first focuses on the experience of white reverts to Islam in Scunthorpe and the second explores a black Evangelical Christian worldview in Bristol.

Future podcasts include engagement with Hindu and Sikhi worldviews in the Midlands, Jewish worldviews in Hertfordshire, the experience of a Pakistani Humanist in the south west and a female experience of Anglican Christianity.'

- **Veganism as a worldview in RE** - FREE RESOURCES to support teaching about the moral status of animals and Ethical Veganism as a worldview in RE. RE Today has been working with the new non-profit organisation, 'VinE' (Veganism in Education) to produce a range of free classroom resources for RE which enable teachers and pupils to explore, through critical, objective and pluralistic RE lessons, questions around the moral status of animals and ethical veganism as a worldview. This project is also supported by Animal Interfaith Alliance.
- **NATRE**, the subject teacher association for RE professionals, works to support those who teach and lead in all schools and institutions and at all stages of their career. NATRE has a website which includes a resource library - <https://www.natre.org.uk/resources/>

SACRE hopes that this newsletter contains useful ideas to help you in the coming term. We will send another newsletter out at the start of the Autumn term, but no-one quite rightly wants to think about that at the moment. In the meantime, SACRE sends very best wishes to you for the new term and as always commends you for all your hard work and dedication.

David Rees SACRE RE Adviser

April 2023

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New dates!

FREE Primary RE Network Meeting

SACRE RE Adviser David Rees invites you to a **free** RE virtual network meeting

Tuesday 9th May - 4-5pm

Please book by emailing – david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com
and a zoom link will be sent separately

The meeting will cover

Funded
by SACRE

- Local Agreed Syllabus Updates
- Recent national and local developments in RE
 - Online CPD Opportunities
 - Upcoming events
- Online resources and websites

If you have anything else you would like to discuss please let me know in advance and I will make sure time is available

If anyone would like to share ideas, resources, classroom ideas etc please do bring them along

SACRE would love to see you at the network meetings

Please let us know if there is something else you would like covered in the next meeting on...

Wednesday 28th June – 4-5pm

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