

# West Yorkshire Update

## RE, SMSC & Equality

SpringTerm 1

January 2019

### Engaging with Faith:

### Report on a successful local conference

### Inside this issue:

Update on the revised RE syllabus	2
'Solutions not Sides' Event	2
Holocaust Memorial Events	3
Religion and Culture at Ralph Thoresby School	3
Professional Development	4
Resources	4

## Engaging with Faith in Interfaith Week

'Engaging with Faith', a conference for teachers and faith leaders, took place during Interfaith Week, November 2018 at Northorpe Hall, Mirfield. The event was organised in partnership with the Cohesion Team and was attended by over 40 teachers and faith representatives.

The venue was set up with a 'carousel' of information stalls, giving teachers the opportunity to learn about different faith communities and find out what they are able to offer to schools. Faith leaders valued the chance to meet teachers face-to-face and discuss the needs of different pupil groups. The stalls included representatives from the Buddhist Centre, Dewsbury Minster and Longcauseway Church, Equilibria Experience (Islam), Beeston Gurdwara and Sinai Synagogue, Leeds.

The afternoon included input from local school leaders on the importance and benefit of faith visits. Delegates were inspired by examples of families and pupils who responded positively to a visit to a place of worship, having been reluctant to begin with. Local faith leaders emphasised their willingness to host visits as part of their commitment to community cohesion.

The conference concluded with a lively debate as teachers took the opportunity to question faith community members on the 'Question Time' panel. There are plans for a similar event during Interfaith Week in November 2019.



### Feedback from delegates:

'Excellent event; really interesting to have so many representatives of different faiths in the same room. Some real prompts for thinking.'

'Fantastic course! This has been really useful.'



*Above: Teachers and faith leaders discuss the practicalities of developing good relationships between schools and faith communities.*

*Below: The 'Question Time' Panel*



## Local RE Networks and Courses

### Primary RE Networks:

[Calderdale](#): 5th February, 21st May

[Leeds](#): 7th February

[Kirklees](#): 14th February, 19th June

[Kirklees Secondary](#): 4th February, 10th June

### SMSC Networks

Wed 5th Mar 2019 (Halifax); Wed 12th June 2019 (Huddersfield)

### Co-ordinators PLUS - Excellence in RE

[Calderdale](#) Fri 8th Mar (Half Day)

[Kirklees](#) Fri 22nd Mar (Half Day)

### Collective Worship - Inclusive assemblies

[Leeds](#) Fri 15th March (Half Day)

## Believing and Belonging: New RE Syllabus Training

**Believing and Belonging in West Yorkshire**, the new locally agreed RE syllabus, will be published in April. The title reflects the dual importance of understanding religion and beliefs as well as valuing the contribution of all faiths and cultures.

**Design the front cover!**

See page 3 for competition details

This is a joint syllabus shared by Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds and it will be mandatory for teaching in all maintained and Voluntary Controlled schools from September 2019. It may also be used by academies and free schools within the area.

Schools will find it easy to adapt to the revised requirements and it should not need any significant work for a school that is using the present curriculum. However, the opportunity has been taken to revise, update and improve some of the content. The syllabus will be freely available to all schools.

**Syllabus launch and training:** Briefing and training sessions have been planned (see below); these will also be the occasion for launching the syllabus in each authority. Training will cover the statutory requirements for RE. Delegates will be made aware of the extensive range of planning material and how to access this. Sample resources and the syllabus itself will be available. Any school may attend any of these sessions, not necessarily the event in its own local authority.

### Launch and Training Events

**Huddersfield:** Mon 20 May Textile Centre of Excellence 1300-1600

Book through [www.businesssolutions-kirklees.co.uk](http://www.businesssolutions-kirklees.co.uk)

**Leeds:** Wed 22 May Pudsey Civic Hall 1300-1600

Book through [www.leedsforlearning.co.uk](http://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk)

Code 011-0519-T009

**Halifax:** Tue 11 June The Shay Stadium 1300-1600

Book by emailing [debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk)

**One free place** is available to each school but this must be booked.

Additional places may be available at £80 each.

The **RE Resources Hub** includes a comprehensive collection of detailed units of work and resources. The present Hub will expire in July 2019 but will be replaced with a new and revised folder.

Existing units of work will be revised to reflect changes to assessment and available materials. There will be new units on world faiths including a full suite of units to cover Christianity in depth.

Schools with a subscription to the Hub can renew this for a **one-off payment of £100**, which will cover the whole period of the syllabus until 2024. Other schools can subscribe for a one-off payment of £200. Subscriptions will be available from May 2019.

## Teaching Christianity: Additional Training for Schools

Two half-day courses are planned on teaching Christianity thoroughly with the new syllabus. These will include briefing and training on the new units of work covering each year group in KS1 and KS2. The course is open to all primary schools who want to improve and develop their teaching of Christianity but will be of special value to Voluntary Controlled schools. Guidance will also be given on how to fulfil both the requirements of the agreed syllabus and the expectations of SIAMS.

**Leeds : Fri 7 June 1300-1600** Book through [www.leedsforlearning.co.uk](http://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk) £80 per place

**Halifax: Thurs 20 June 1300-1600** Book by emailing [debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk) £80 per place

Bespoke training on all aspects of RE and the new syllabus is available to schools and clusters, subject to capacity. Contact [enquiries@penninelearning.com](mailto:enquiries@penninelearning.com)

## STOP PRESS: 'Solutions not Sides' Peace Event



**An opportunity to listen to peace activists from Palestine and Israel**

The Kirklees Cohesion Team would like to invite you to **Batley Library** on **Wednesday 23rd January, 6 - 8pm** to experience the workshop offered by 'Solutions not Sides', an initiative based on human encounter and first-hand perspectives of the conflict in Israel/Palestine. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the aims and objectives of the programme and hear narratives from peace activists on both sides.

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/solutions-not-sides-community-dialogue-session-tickets-54280837446>

For further details please contact [jonathan.williams@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.williams@kirklees.gov.uk)

## 'Torn from Home': Holocaust Memorial Day Events, 2019

A programme of events is planned for Holocaust Memorial Day. Community groups and young people respond to the stories of Jewish, Burundian, Bosnian, Kurdish, Roma and Syrian survivors of genocide in words, music, pictures and processional figures.

**Sunday 27th January, 2pm:** Service of Remembrance Outside Dewsbury Town Hall, including 'Weeping Sisters'.

**Tuesday 29th January 6.15pm:** 'Procession of Weeping Sisters' from Commercial Hotel, New St, Huddersfield to the University. A solemn procession of large figures, reflecting the grief of women for the event of the Holocaust.

**Tuesday 29th January 7.15pm:** Commemorative event and act of remembrance with candle lighting. Guest speaker Trude Silman, child refugee and life president of Holocaust Survivors Friendship Association,



**Holocaust memorial procession in Huddersfield** 

## 'Visit my Mosque' on Sunday 3 March 2019

'Visit My Mosque' day is a national one-day initiative facilitated by the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), where over 200 mosques across the UK are holding open days to welcome in their neighbours from all faiths and none and building bridges across communities.

See [www.visitmymosque.org/](http://www.visitmymosque.org/) for details of many local mosques who will be opening their doors to visitors.



**Madina Masjid, Batley, welcomes visitors**

## Religion, Heritage and Culture Evening is a great success



**'Day of the Dead' masks on display**

Chloe Bell writes:

Ralph Thoresby School's second Religion, Heritage and Culture event was a huge success on Thursday 29th November.

We had exhibitors from across all major faiths and communities. Our visitors tried a selection of tasty authentic treats made by our EAL students. They had the opportunity to try Arabic calligraphy, create 'Day of the Dead' masks, have a henna design and discuss ideas around diversity and tolerance.

The event was such a success that there are plans to repeat it - keep a look out for next year's date.



**An opportunity to learn about and from other faiths and cultures.**

## Competition: Design a Cover for the New Syllabus

'Believing and Belonging in West Yorkshire' aims to celebrate and teach the beliefs and values of religions and worldviews in our local area and demonstrate how this supports community cohesion. We are holding a competition for the front cover design for the syllabus. Winners of the competition will receive book tokens and the school will be given free access to the units of work online. The chairs of the three SACREs will be judging the competition and schools will be informed of the winning entries.

The criteria for this competition are:

- Entries must be **photographic**
- The themes of Believing and Belonging must be evident, showing how we celebrate the beliefs and values, religions and worldviews in our area. This might include themes of Community Cohesion.
- If pictures of children are included then permission **must** be sought from parents as the syllabus is sent to all schools in the area and published nationally. A letter of assurance from the school should be included with your entry.
- Entries need to be sent to [enquiries@penninelearning.com](mailto:enquiries@penninelearning.com) by **11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**
- Include the pupil's name, age and school address.

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### SMSC and Equality Network

Wed 5th Mar 2019 (Halifax); Wed 12th June 2019 (Huddersfield)

Cross-phase network including support and guidance for coordinators and senior leaders. Enquiries [ian@penninelearning.com](mailto:ian@penninelearning.com)

### Welcoming Schools: Training for faith leaders and visitors

Find out about the RE syllabus in West Yorkshire. Discuss how to make visits effective and explore some interactive and creative learning activities to use with pupils.

**Tuesday 12th March** at Al Hidayyah Mosque, Caledonian Rd, Dewsbury 9.00 am– 12.30 pm.

For information and booking contact [helen@penninelearning.com](mailto:helen@penninelearning.com)

### RE Co-ordinators' courses

**Co-ordinators PLUS: Leadership and excellence in RE.**

Inspiration and resources for more experienced co-ordinators,

[Calderdale](#) Fri 8th Mar 2019 (Half Day)

[Kirklees](#) Fri 22nd Mar 2019 (Half Day)

Enquiries [ian@penninelearning.com](mailto:ian@penninelearning.com)

### Inclusive assemblies to promote SMSC

Practical guidance and ideas on how to plan engaging and relevant assemblies that include reflection and spiritual development for pupils of all faiths and none. [Course Details:](#) 15th March, 1 - 4pm Hillside Centre, Beeston Road, Leeds. To book contact: [maureen.mooney@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:maureen.mooney@leeds.gov.uk)

### Primary RE Networks 2019

**Calderdale:** Tuesdays 5th Feb, 21st May 3.30 - 5:45pm, Savile Park at Heath, Halifax

**Kirklees :** Thursday 14th February 3.30 - 5.45 pm, Textile Centre, Huddersfield.

**Leeds:** Thursday 7th February, 1 - 4pm, Hillside Centre, Beeston Road, Leeds

### Kirklees Secondary RE Network 2019

**Kirklees :** Monday 4th February 4.00pm - 6.00 pm.

### RE Syllabus Review Training events

See page 2 for full details.

**For details of all courses and training visit [Pennine Learning](#).**

## OTHER TRAINING AND RESOURCES

### Fairandfunky Fairtrade Workshops

Last chance to book a place at the FairandFunky Fairtrade Conference on Friday 1st March at The Creative Media and Studio School in Huddersfield For details of this and other workshops available, visit [www.fairandfunky.com](http://www.fairandfunky.com)

### Holocaust Educational Trust Resources and Courses

HET delivers free CPD workshops to primary and secondary teachers across the UK. They offer a range of free guidance materials, lesson plans and resources. Residential courses for teachers take place in the UK and abroad. For details visit the [HET website](#).

### RE film Resources from the BBC

BBC Bitesize and BBC Teach have a wide range of video resources and short clips available for use in RE lessons. For example the Five Ks of Sikhism are explored on BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/z3sb9j6>. Short films about the major faiths, along with teaching resources can be found at <https://www.bbc.com/teach>. Look in 'Primary Resources - Religious Studies' for a selection of films.

### Archbishop's Youth Trust Young Leaders Award KSI

The KSI Award explores the theme of 'small steps big changes' through the characteristics of kindness, perseverance, teamwork and action. Pupils take part in interactive activities and challenges to learn about leadership skills. Resource pack includes full teacher planning and digital resources. Sign up during January and February 2019 to receive a special early bird 10% discount.

For details of materials for KSI, 2 and 3 see <https://www.archbishopofyorkyouthtrust.co.uk/apply/>