

West Yorkshire Update

RE, SMSC & Equality

Summer Term 2

June 2020

Networks and courses go online

Our virtual networks and training sessions are now up and running and we have been using the Zoom platform. This allows us to create break out rooms for chatting about key issues and how resources and ideas might be used in school.

Although it is sometimes tricky to get used to online meetings, we have had positive feedback about how sessions went. The latest network we ran on zoom was our Equality and SMSC network. This was even better attended than the last face to face meeting in February.

We look forward to seeing you at our network and training sessions, but if you would like a practice session of how to log onto our Zoom meetings then contact us through email and we will set up a practice session with you.



Ian and Alastair welcome you to Zoom courses - please e-mail if you would like to practise first

‘Thank you very much for the meeting. It was very informative and I shall certainly take a look at a lot of the links. That is the first

Zoom meeting I have attended.’
Y3 teacher, Kirklees.

‘Thank you for the running the network just attended. I thought it worked well. A good mix.’

Headteacher, Kirklees.

RE and SMSC: Resources and guidance

You can still access resources from the Dropbox folder <https://bit.ly/33GUbhr> or directly from our website <https://penninelearning.com>

The Dropbox folder continues to be updated with teaching and learning materials and other documents to support subject leaders including:

- Resources for use in school and at home, links to videos, websites and other online sources
- Local RE Award criteria

The **‘Resources’ page on the website gives links to information such as:**

- Policy templates
- SMSC and Fundamental values toolkit

Primary RE 1000

A reminder that NATRE is still offering funding for up to 1000 **primary schools to join the ‘Better RE’ project. The project comes with an amazing range of resources, worth over £600 – but only costs your school a single payment of £55.**

For full details visit www.natre.org.uk/membership/primary-re-1000/



A listening ear.....

If you need support or advice or resources for RE and related matters, we are happy and available to help by phone and email during the present situation.

You can contact us at enquiries@penninelearning.com or as below:

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Resources and information are also freely available at www.penninelearning.com.

Zooming
Around:

Details of online
RE Networks and
Courses

Inside this issue:

More resources 2
for home learning

Improving subject 2
knowledge

Batley Iftar 3

Philosothon UK 3

Holocaust 3
Educational Trust

Training, 4
Professional
Development and
Resources

More home learning resources for Religious Education

Many organisations continue to put resources for home learning online - some of these will provide useful resources for class teaching in future:

The Council for Subject Association (CfSA) signposts free home learning resources created by a wide range of subject associations. A free directory is available from their website. <https://www.subjectassociations.org.uk/the-cfsa-directory/>

NATRE/RE Today offers free resources for RE home learning at all Key Stages as well as resources and articles to support teacher CPD. <https://www.natre.org.uk/>

SOLARITY aims to help children and young people explore life's questions in ways that go beyond the usual school curriculum. There are different sessions for 5-7, 7-11 and 11-16 year olds. These materials have been written by RE advisers and teachers with home education and out-of-school-hours learning in mind. www.solarity.org.uk

#REChatUK produced a very long list of RE video resources for all Key Stages (Twitter chat 27 April). You can access it here <http://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/rechatuk-produces-huge-list-of-video-resources/> . Next chat: 8th June and 6th July

BBC Bitesize and BBC Teach offer film clips and supporting resources including quizzes and interactive activities for RE at all Key Stages. Daily online lessons include occasional RE as one of the foundation subjects. www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize www.bbc.co.uk/teach

London Learning at Home offers cross curricular resources aimed at London schools, but with useful ideas for everyone. <https://www.london.gov.uk/coronavirus/london-learning-at-home>

Spirited Arts



The 2020 competition is still running, and the deadline for entries is 31 July 2020. To enable schools and pupils to still take part, entries may be sent in by teachers OR individual entries may be sent by pupils/parents from home.

Lots of teachers of RE are setting Spirited Arts this year as a home-learn project for creative RE.

www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2020/

RE Today adviser Lat Blaylock has put together a 50 minute webinar to inspire both teachers and pupils with ideas.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HHyx3XgGfhw>

Well-being

In response to the call for resources to support families and young people during this time, a brand new wellbeing story called 'I Want To Change The World' has been created. It is aimed at primary aged children and designed for families to watch together.

<https://openvieweducation.co.uk/homeschooling-wellbeing-story/>

The government online learning site offers specific resources for well-being here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/online-science-pe-wellbeing-and-send-resources-for-home-education#mental-wellbeing

Opportunities to improve subject knowledge

Chester University Department of Theology and Religious Studies is offering online A Level lunchtime talks on Tuesdays in **May, June and July**. Titles include 'Can God suffer?' and 'Self and Not-self in Hinduism and Buddhism' <https://www1.chester.ac.uk/theology-and-religious-studies/schools-engagement/trs-chester-level-webinars>

Subject Knowledge: Religion and Worldviews

Culham St Gabriel's Trust has put together a series of online seminars for teachers and researchers. The next one is on June 17th

www.reonline.org.uk/news/a-religion-and-worldviews-virtual-research-seminar-series/

They also offer a free subject knowledge study module for teachers on Religion and Worldviews

www.teachre.co.uk/teach-re-course/teachre-free-self-study-module/

Subject knowledge: Sikhism

Visit www.Sikh-Vision.com to download free activities for use with pupils. In addition, there is a lot of useful material that will help to develop teachers' subject knowledge of this major world faith.

Subject knowledge: Judaism

Limmud offers short talks on Jewish wisdom, appearing weekly every Friday at 1pm (30 mins)

<https://limmud.org/event/jw3-limmud-present-it-says-what/all/>

Subject Knowledge :Islam

Culham St Gabriel's Trust has published new study sets to provide high quality RE for pupils to complete at home. For example, 'Islamic practices and morals' is a particularly good resource for Year 10 GCSE students, or for anyone wanting to improve their knowledge of Islam. Download it here <https://t.co/MGqdAAvEOp>

The Power of Community at Batley 'Virtual Iftar'



Since 2017 the 'Batley Iftar' has been one of the key events in the calendar for the More in Common Group in Batley and Spennings, the former constituency of the murdered MP Jo Cox. Following the cancellation of the 2020 Batley Iftar, the group organised a 'Virtual Iftar' on May 2nd to celebrate the work of keeping communities strong during the Covid-19 crisis.

Jo's sister, Kim Leadbeater, said: 'We were very disappointed that the Batley Iftar couldn't go ahead as planned this year. But at The Jo Cox Foundation we always believe in focusing on what we can do, rather than what we can't. So, the Virtual Iftar will be our way of celebrating the power of community in times of crisis.'

Batley Poets 'Big Iftar'

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zExl3AjvCx0

The event included specially written poetry by the Batley Poets and a showcase of artwork submitted by children across the country on the theme of 'celebrating everything we have in common' and 'my favourite meal for breaking the fast'. The government's Loneliness Minister, Baroness Barran, was among the guests appearing during the event.

This year's Great Get Together will also be different from previous years - but communities can still take part and celebrate the power of community. Visit www.greatgettogether.org for ideas.

Advice on right to withdrawal from RE lessons



The right of parents to withdraw their children from Religious Education lessons has been under discussion following the introduction of new legislation about compulsory relationships and sex education which comes into effect in September 2020. The situation in England is different from that in Wales where both subjects will be compulsory from 2022.

English legislation continues to allow parents to withdraw their children from RE - you can read the guidance on withdrawal here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/membership/guidance-on-withdrawal/>

There is further advice on managing withdrawal from RE on the resources page www.penninelearning.com

Philosothon UK: Regional debating competition

A Philosothon is a friendly Community of Inquiry where students from year 9-13 participate in dialogue around a challenging set of ideas and are scored by a specialist judge. They participate in a series of 'Communities of inquiry' and they are scored, not on how much they know, but on how competently they interact with one another in the interests of shared discovery and progressing the dialogue.

There is a project to train teachers around the country and set up regional HUBS leading to the first National UK Philosothon. There are many schools exploring the concept around the country. For information visit <https://philosothon.co.uk/>



REQM Updated criteria published

The RE Council has published the new criteria for the RE Quality Mark – they can be found at www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/new-reqm-criteria

The REQM is a well-established scheme that celebrates great RE in schools across England and Wales, and it is still being offered online while schools are closed. The new criteria come into effect on 1st September 2020, but schools will have a choice about using the current criteria still available on the REQM website or the new ones, until January 2021. www.reqm.org



Holocaust Educational Trust resources



Holocaust Educational Trust are continuing to release new educational materials and adapting existing resources to ensure that teachers, students and parents can continue learning about the Holocaust, even in these different and challenging times.

You can download and explore the new Educational Home Learning pack here <https://www.het.org.uk/exploring-the-holocaust-home-learning-pack>

Watch the Q&A with Holocaust survivor Mala Tribich MBE <https://vimeo.com/416828628> and see their Twitter thread <https://twitter.com/HolocaustUK>

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For Calderdale courses book via debby.simpson@calderdale.gov.uk or enquiries@penninelearning.com
For Kirklees courses book via www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk
For Leeds courses book via www.leedsforlearning.co.uk

NEW COURSE From Intent to Implementation: RE, Ofsted and SIAMS

Wednesday 24th June 2020 (Twilight 1600-1800)

On-line course via Zoom for Senior leaders and experienced RE subject coordinators £30 (further reduction for Calderdale RE Network members). Led by Ian and Alastair Ross

The course aims to clarify Ofsted and SIAMS inspection requirements whilst unpacking effective preparation for a 'deep dive' into RE. **REPEAT COURSE (17 June now full)**

Religious Education Networks

Termly network meetings provide support and resources for the RE syllabus, planning for a broad and balanced curriculum, and subject knowledge development.

Primary RE Networks for Kirklees and Calderdale Schools will be on-line events this term

Kirklees: 11 June – please book via www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk

Calderdale: 9 June – enquiries@penninelearning.com

Secondary RE Network

Monday 8th June 2020 (Twilight 1600-1730)

On-line network via Zoom for Secondary RE teachers/ leads. Facilitator Alastair Ross
Free or included in network package—but places must be booked in advance at enquiries@penninelearning.com This virtual network is offered to support colleagues teaching RE in secondary schools. It will be an opportunity to share resources, problems, solutions and strategies for teaching of RE at the present time.

Networks and Courses 2020/2021—Save the Dates

Primary RE Networks

Calderdale: 29th September, 23rd February, 25th May. *Calderdale Network package includes all RE networks and discounts on other subject networks and courses £150 inc VAT full year. Reserve via enquiries@penninelearning.com.*

Kirklees : 1st October, 25th February, 27th May

Leeds: 17th November, 16th March, 8th June

Secondary RE Network: 1st October, 2nd February—book via www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk

SMSC/Equalities: 3 Nov, 1 Mar, 20 May

Religious Education Courses

Leading RE: Courses for RE Subject Leaders

Friday 23rd October (Halifax), Tuesday 10th November (Leeds), Friday 29th January (Huddersfield)

Learning about Faiths (Subject Knowledge Course): Friday 12th March

More details will follow

For details of all the above courses, and for information about revised times and dates, visit www.penninelearning.com

RExChange



RExChange is being held in Birmingham on Saturday 3rd October. The conference aims to bring together teachers and researchers in an exchange of knowledge and expertise.

Academics and teachers will jointly share their research, showing how it impacts on the classroom, and what we can learn from working together.

For more details and to book a place see: <https://www.cstg.org.uk/programmes/rexchange>

Northern Regional RE Conference - Save the Date

'Conversations on Curriculum', takes place on Saturday 14th November at York St John University.

This FREE conference is supported by Learn Teach Lead RE, NATRE and York St John University.

Details available soon.