

West Yorkshire Update

RE, SMSC & Equality

Autumn Term 1

September 2020

Back to School: NATRE Guidance

Schools in West Yorkshire are now open for all pupils, but with many procedural changes and a measure of uncertainty about the ongoing effects of the past six months.

This term will be characterised by re-establishing learning habits, with a recovery curriculum and extra efforts to help pupils to catch up. The Department for Education has issued [guidance](#) on a wide range of practical and educational issues.

NATRE (National Association of Teachers of RE) has summarised the implications for RE, focusing on the DfE curriculum guidance. You can read their full report [here](#).

In Summary:

- RE is listed by the DfE as part of the broad and balanced curriculum– it is still statutory.
- Schools need prioritise ‘catch up’. This may influence the breadth of RE coverage, but it should still be included.
- Areas that go into local lockdown should make use of online and home learning to maintain curriculum breadth if schools are not open.
- Visits (e.g. to places of worship) and visitors to school can resume, but will need very careful risk assessment and robust procedures.



Pupils and teachers will be getting used to new ways of working.

Join a Local RE Network

RE networks have been moved online this term. Meetings are planned for Calderdale (29th September), Kirklees (1st October) and Leeds (17th November.) Networks provide RE subject leaders with the opportunity to share practical ideas and offer support in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

See page 4 for full details of network packages.

Enjoyable and informative!

Returning to school:

Curriculum guidance, courses and support for RE

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Help! I'm the RE Subject Leader!



If you have recently taken on the responsibility for RE in your school, help is at hand in the form of our popular and well-established introductory course for new subject leaders. The course covers every aspect of subject leadership from curriculum intent to planning and assessment. This course is offered in Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds. **See page 4 for full details.**

Experienced RE leaders may be interested in 'Co-ordinators Plus'. This two-part course takes leadership beyond the basics and focuses on developing excellent primary RE. The morning focuses on planning for inspiring and creative lessons and the afternoon covers procedural aspects such as policy writing and assessment. Teachers are invited to come to one or both sessions - lunch is offered to those who choose the full-day option. **Further details on page 4.**

Brilliant resources that further developed my understanding. (Calderdale Teacher)

Don't Miss out! Receive this newsletter direct to your inbox

E-mail enquiries@penninelearning.com to request your own copy of the West Yorkshire Update as soon as it is published.

Meet the author of 'My Islam A-Z'

Bushra Taslim Hussain spotted a gap in the market for child-friendly books about Islam. Her response was to write her own book.

Bushra writes:

"I was born in Azad Kashmir and moved to England with my family when I was 6 months old. I was brought up in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

I started writing **My Islam A-Z** in 2013 to introduce Islam to my newborn child from a loving and positive perspective, in an age appropriate manner. It was published in December 2018. I am now an author, illustrator, director of my own publishing firm, Islamic Beginnings, and most importantly a mother to a terrific trio of girls!"

My Islam A-Z is a picture book that is ideal as a school resource to learn about Islam. Each letter of the English alphabet is represented by a word that explains or portrays a core component of the Islamic faith with an illustration. There is a comprehensive glossary at the back. The book can be used as a tool for discussion and open dialogue about Islam in a fun way. The illustrations are very endearing and represent the diversity of Islam. As well as being used in RE lessons, it makes a great addition to the class and library bookshelf.

To buy copies and to contact Bushra, visit www.islamicbeginnings.com

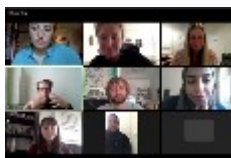


Bushra would love to visit schools in the West Yorkshire area to talk about her faith and her journey as an author.

www.islamicbeginnings.com

Solutions not Sides 20/21 Tour

The world is going through political, economic and social challenges unprecedented in most of our lifetimes. It can seem daunting, especially for young people. 'Solutions not Sides' workshops are led by politically aware young activists, from Israel & Palestine, who have experienced violence and conflict first hand.



The workshops offer the chance to meet face-to-face with young Palestinian & Israeli activists; ask and get answers to difficult political, historical, religious and other questions, and all in a safe space. The workshops can take place in-person when the team visits West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester in late Autumn, or at your convenience via newly-developed digital workshops.



Tour dates for 2020/21 are on www.solutionsnotsides.co.uk

REQM Offer



The RE Quality Mark celebrates great RE in schools across England and Wales,

The new criteria came into effect on 1st September 2020, but schools have a choice about using the previous criteria (still available on the REQM website) or the new ones, until January 2021. www.reqm.org

Special REQM Discount Offer: Kirklees schools have the chance to complete the award at half-price (funded by Kirklees SACRE on a first-come, first-served basis). Contact ian@penninelearning.com for details.

Holocaust Educational Trust offers new online courses




HET offers free online teacher training opportunities to support primary and secondary teachers at all stages in their careers. This term teachers are invited to register for online sessions led by Education Officers from the Trust and other experts from the field. Examples of sessions include:

- Introduction to the Holocaust Educational Trust
- An approach to teaching about the Holocaust
- Jewish resistance during the Holocaust
- Virtual Teacher Study Visit to Ukraine

For further details and booking, visit <https://www.het.org.uk/education/teacher-training>

Online support: Twitter, Teachers' Talk and Blogs

#REchatUK 2020 timetable: 

05 Oct Research aware, research informed and research active - what does it mean for me?

02 Nov How can I creatively teach about festivals in RE?

07 Dec How can I develop my leadership of RE?

RE: Online [Blog Posts](#) on assessment, leadership, subject knowledge.

'[Teachers Talk](#)' posts give teachers' perspectives on current issues e.g. The importance of the child in RE, Thinking skills.



Interfaith Week 2020: Events and resources



Interfaith Week

**8th - 15th November,
2020**

www.interfaithweek.org

Interfaith week 2020 takes place from 8th - 15th November 2020. Look out for information about local events - including virtual diversity conferences for primary and secondary pupils in West Yorkshire. A [book of stories](#) and inspiration from previous Interfaith Weeks is free to download from the website.

The Inter Faith Network has produced free [resources for upper Key Stage 2 pupils](#). The material is designed to help increase pupils' understanding of, and skills for, inter faith encounter, dialogue, and action. It focuses on learning about real examples of inter faith engagement, including in their geographical area.

Units include: 'Let's talk – inter faith dialogue', Community: inter faith social action' and 'Team spirit – inter faith sport'. These could be used as part of an Interfaith themed week .

www.interfaith.org.uk/

Assemblies for All : Inclusive ideas for schools



The free assembly resources available at Assemblies for All cover a wide range of themes and can be used to support SMSC and tutor/class time, while large assemblies are not possible.

The website features hundreds of inclusive assemblies made by education professionals, from charities like Amnesty, Oxfam, and Unicef, to organisations such as UK Parliament and the BBC. www.assembliesforall.org.uk



From September 2020, **Humanists UK** will be offering remote visits only by humanist school speakers. If you would like to arrange a remote visit from a humanist school speaker, please visit: <https://humanism.org.uk/education/teachers/request-volunteer-school/>

Socially-distanced learning ideas

NATRE have put together some flexible suggestions for teachers to provide outdoor or socially distanced learning ideas for groups of pupils in the 5-14 age range.

As schools follow guidance about distancing, these ideas can be used creatively with pupils to provide good RE out of doors or in larger indoor spaces, making a varied learning diet possible. The activities can lead on to individual work at desks, but bring some energy, movement and interaction from RE to the class.

Free and member-only resources can be accessed via the NATRE website [here](#)

[E-mail a believer](#): This facility is still available from RE:Online.org.uk and is being improved and developed to allow remote contact between schools and those who hold particular worldviews.



Strictly RE at Home in January 2021

Strictly RE will be hosting their national annual conference online on **30th and 31st January 2021**, giving many more teachers the chance to join in. The online version is likely to be very popular.

The conference always includes a full programme of high-quality CPD and it is a popular and highly-recommended event.

Save the date in your diaries and watch out for further details. www.natre.org.uk



Audio-visual RE resources from ERA and BBC



Educational Recording Agency (ERA) have created a section on their website which compiles a list of Religious Studies resources for teachers to use. ERA enable schools, colleges, and universities to make educational use of recordings of TV and Radio broadcasts. <https://era.org.uk/ideas-guides/subject-collections/religious-studies/>

The BBC has released a new tool called the Programme Explorer, which allows users to search in greater detail than ever before the 200,000+ radio and TV programmes currently available on BBC online. <https://genome.ch.bbc.co.uk/explorer/>

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

How to book or enquire

Colleagues are welcome to book courses in any area. All courses will be on-line events this term

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

Details and fliers can also be found at www.penninelearning.com

From Intent to Implementation: RE, Ofsted and SIAMS

Wednesday 20th January 2021 1530-1730 Hillside Centre, Beeston, Leeds, LS11 8ND

The course aims to clarify Ofsted and SIAMS inspection requirements whilst unpacking effective preparation for a 'deep dive' into RE. Book via www.leedsforlearning.co.uk

Religious Education Networks 2020/2021

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, Leeds and Calderdale Schools will be on-line events this term

Kirklees (1545-1745): 1st October, 25th February, 27th May - book via www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk

Calderdale(1545-1745): 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. Book via enquiries@penninelearning.com.

Leeds(1530-1730): 17th November, 16th March, 8th June - book via www.leedsforlearning.co.uk

Secondary RE Networks

Kirklees: 1st October, 2nd February—book via www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk or via enquiries@penninelearning.com

SMSC/Equalities Networks

Kirklees and Calderdale: 3 November, 1 March, 20 May Bookings: enquiries@penninelearning.com or www.kirkleesbusinessolutions.uk

Religious Education Courses

Leading RE: Courses for new RE Subject Leaders

Calderdale: 22 October and 5 November (2-Part Zoom twilight 1500-1730)

Leeds: Tuesday 10th November and 1st December (2-Part Skype twilight 3.30-5.30pm)

Kirklees: Friday 29th January 0900-1530 (Huddersfield)

Coordinators Plus: for more experienced Subject leaders (Two half-day workshops—book either or both)

Calderdale: 15th June 2021 Morning (0900-1200) Curriculum and Creativity

Afternoon (1230-1530) Action planning and Assessment

Learning about Faiths

A Subject Knowledge Course offering resources and information to improve teaching of Islam, Sikhism and Judaism at Primary level.

Calderdale: Friday 12th March 0900-1530 Venue tbc

Leeds : Tuesday 27th April 0900-1530 Hillside Centre, Leeds LS11 8ND

Teaching Christianity Well

Using the Local Agreed Syllabus to teach Christianity effectively in church and community primary schools

Kirklees: 18th May 2021 1300-1600

Collective Worship

Inclusive assemblies: Building a programme that nurtures understanding, tolerance and SMSC

Calderdale: 19th January 2021 1500-1730

Leeds: 21st January 2021 1500-1730

For details of all the above courses visit www.penninelearning.com