

North Yorkshire SACRE Newsletter

School Improvement and Early Years' Service

April 2024

PLEASE PASS ON TO YOUR RE SUBJECT LEAD AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP LEAD

Welcome to the Summer term SACRE newsletter for North Yorkshire schools. This termly newsletter will keep you up to date on what SACRE is doing and the support it offers to North Yorkshire schools alongside national and regional updates and news on RE resources, collective worship resources and training.

What is SACRE?

The acronym SACRE stands for: Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Why is there a SACRE?

Every local authority (LA) has to have a SACRE by law. The Children's Services division of the LA that takes responsibility for making sure SACRE works well and SACRE's work is related to schools and their curriculum.

What does a SACRE do?

The law says that RE must be taught in all schools and a SACRE's role is to advise its local authority on what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area. This is because RE is not part of the National Curriculum; it is a local responsibility. Through the SACRE, local communities and teachers have the opportunity to influence and support what pupils learn in RE.

The SACRE's main function is to advise the local authority on matters related to the religious education, which follows the locally agreed syllabus, and on collective worship in schools.

Where do I go for advice relating to RE or Collective Worship in my school?

Olivia Seymour, is the Professional RE Adviser for maintained schools in North Yorkshire over the coming academic year. (Please note for church schools Olivia can provide advice relating to the Agreed Syllabus but we encourage church schools to seek wider RE advice from their home diocese)



Olivia also provides advice to community schools on matters relating to collective worship (church schools should again seek advice from their home diocese)

Enquires into the Local Authority can be directed to schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk and the service will provide a conduit to the specialist advice.

You can find out more about RE in North Yorkshire schools here:

<https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/religious-education-re> You can find out more about collective worship in North Yorkshire schools here: <https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/collective-worship>

Locally Agreed Syllabus Launch – Booking information

When: Friday 14th June 2024 9.15-3.30pm **Where:** Pavilions Harrogate

- This one-day conference will introduce Primary and Secondary teachers and RE subject leaders to the renewed North Yorkshire SACRE Agreed Syllabus for RE.
- It will focus on practical classroom ideas and strategies, including for the new units, enabling teachers to get to grips with the new digital syllabus and find out how to apply and use it successfully in their schools.
- It will be led by the RE Today Adviser Team, who have written the syllabus. They have nationwide reputation for practicality and excellence in RE CPD.
- A variety of resource stalls will be available at the beginning of the day, during breaks and at lunch.
- All supporting materials will be explained and a course pack with sample documentation and guidance will be provided to all delegates.

TO BOOK SI-0624-T034 (RE) [SLA Online \(sla-online.co.uk\)](http://sla-online.co.uk)

Termly RE Network meetings

This year NYC is again offering termly online professional practice networks for all schools. These networks will include support for subject knowledge, curriculum-planning using the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus, national and local updates, resources to support RE and an opportunity to ask questions and share good practice. Details of all the upcoming networks and courses are below



Termly Primary RE Networks	Date	Online Code	Start	End
Cross Phase Religious Education (RE) Summer Network Subject knowledge focus: Implementing the NYC Agreed Syllabus	01/07/2024	SI-0724- T002	13:30	15:30
Cross Phase Religious Education (RE) Summer Network Subject knowledge focus: Implementing the NYC Agreed Syllabus	04/07/2024	SI-0724- T003	09:30	11:30

Please note the summer term network builds on the training from the Agreed Syllabus launch day and supports reviewing your curriculum to implement the syllabus

Bookings can be made through [NYES Info](#) .

If any assistance with bookings is required you can contact nyes@northyorks.gov.uk or telephone 01609 533 222. If you have any further questions or queries relating to the courses you can contact Schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk or telephone 01609 79 88 64

Ofsted Subject Report – Religious Education

Ofsted has published its long awaited religious Education subject report 'Deep and Meaningful?' The report, demonstrates the importance of Religious Education as an academically rigorous and personally inspiring subject helping young people make sense of the complex, multifaceted nature of belief in modern Britain.

The report outlines the things that contribute to better quality of RE

- strong teacher subject knowledge
- access to professional development
- regular time for RE lessons
- a well-organised curriculum containing knowledge chosen by leaders to enable pupils to deepen their understanding term by term

Read the report here: [New Ofsted report finds schools need to add depth to their RE curriculum - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118111/new_ofsted_report_finds_schools_need_to_add_depth_to_their_re_curriculum.pdf)

Our termly RE Networks will explore the themes emerging from this report over the next academic year. Do keep an eye on [NYES Info](#) for upcoming trainings

News from NATRE – Spirited Arts Competition 2024

Celebrating 20 years of learning through creativity and self expression!



Join schools worldwide participating in this year's Spirited Arts competition a fantastic cross-curricular opportunity to make Religious Education fun! We welcome entries in (almost!) any art form your pupils can think of, including:



- Art (painting, drawing, sketching, etc)
- Poetry
- Photography
- Dance
- Music
- Drama
- Sculpture

The competition started in 2004 and has attracted over 450,000 entrants (averaging 25,000 annually!), with 3,000 entries submitted each year for judging. We get entries from as far afield as Hong Kong, Australia, Thailand and Bahrain. We accept entries from students of all abilities and from various school types, spanning ages 3 to 19. Each school can submit up to 10 entries.

Students have flexibility in creating their entries:

- Individual, in pairs, or group.
- Entire classes, year groups, or whole school can collaborate.
- Entire community groups.

Find out how to get involved here: [Enter Spirited Arts | NATRE Competition](#)

Religion, Belief and Worldviews Hub

Open University has launched a new hub on their free educational platform OpenLearn. There is a wealth of resources, ideas and subject knowledge support including 2 great videos exploring the way we use the words: religion, faith, spirituality and worldviews. Check it out here:

[Religion, belief and worldviews hub | OpenLearn - Open University](#)



RE Matters – Free New Teaching Resources

RE Matters have recently produced a new toolkit for Schools ' **Challenging Religious and Worldview Stereotypes**'

The 'Challenging Religious and Worldview Stereotypes' toolkit is a resource to support schools with practical strategies and ideas of how to deal with the topic of stereotyping and provides reflections and ideas for how to overcome it. The toolkit contains a range of assembly and classroom activities for use in schools, giving teachers the freedom to choose activities that are suitable for their context. Everything that teachers need - resources, PowerPoint slides and films can be accessed via a link.. Best of all due to generous funding all the resources are free!

The toolkit can be accessed here: [Stereotypes Toolkit - Google Drive](#)

BBC Pilgrimage Series

Bring the world's sacred sites to your classroom with these BBC series exploring pilgrimage trails.

A wonderful way to discuss place, history and spirituality, for any age group. [The most recent series explores Wales - watch here.](#)



RE Hubs Website

The RE-Hubs website is a freely available one-stop shop that seeks to help teachers and members of the Religious Education / Religion, Values & Ethics / Religion & Worldviews (RE/RVE/R&W) community find resources, CPD, inspiration, visitors and where to go out on visits and events. The website is being kept up to date by the RE Hubs team, which is made up of RE teachers and experts from across England and Wales, specialising in their local area. The newly developed website has for the first time a calendar for England & Wales for all stakeholders to advertise events taking place. Schools will be able to locate and contact [school speakers and places of interest](#) for school's visits in local your areas, which have gone through training run by the RE hubs team each month receiving a kite-mark from the RE-Hubs project.



For the first time, in one central place, a teacher can find local group meetings that are taking place in their area and make contact with those who run these groups. Finally, the '[Upskill](#)' tab has a wealth of free resources and contacts useful to all those in the RE/RVE/R&W eco-system from the latest news and blogs to podcasts – the website links you directly.

Visit the [RE Hubs website](#) to explore what is on offer locally and nationally. Our regional RE Hubs lead is [Olivia Seymour](#) (Yorkshire and Humber)

Secondary RE

If you watch one thing this week....

What is Religion and Worldviews? Video Resources

What is a religion? What is a worldview? What does good RE look like?

[Explore these questions and many more with these excellent videos from the team at Nottingham University.](#)



Primary and Secondary RE

If you listen to one thing this week....

RE Podcast – the one about the national content standard

In the absence of a National Curriculum, Culham St Gabriel CEO, Kathryn Wright and Deborah Weston have written a National Content Standard. But what is it? Why do we need it? And, Should there be a National Curriculum for RE? We discuss all this and more in this delightful chat with two people who are just so passionate about RE! Listen here:

[S11 E9: The One About The National Content Standard \(therepodcast.co.uk\)](#)



Festival Calendar

Search for religious festivals by religion and/or month here:

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/festival-calendar/>



Ever wondered if you are pronouncing a word correctly?

[Check out this audio resource from the Shap Calendar Goup](#), who collate a calendar of religious festivals.