

DEEPER THINKING: DEEPER LEARNING

Secondary RE conference 2019

Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire

Supporting better teaching and learning in RE

Tuesday 25 June 2019

SPEAKERS:

Stephen Pett is a national adviser with RE Today, editor of over 30 books for secondary teachers. He led the development of RE Today's Understanding Christianity resource, is leading work on Understanding Islam, and is currently working on RE materials for Kent Uni's major research project, Understanding Unbelief.

Angela Hill is a national adviser at RE Today. An experienced RE teacher, examiner and trainer for a GCSE exam board, she led a two-year national project promoting Philosophy for Children in schools across Wales.

Venue: Puckrup Hall Hotel, GL20 6EL

9.00 am–3.30 pm (registration and refreshments from 8.30 am)

8.30	Registration and refreshments
9.00 – 10.00	<p>Session 1 Better thinking, better writing for GCSE <i>Angela Hill</i></p> <p>The reformed GCSE specifications make much greater demands on students not only in terms of increased content, but also in terms of the skills needed to analyse, evaluate and write at length. We will explore some practical strategies for encouraging better writing and deeper thinking that will help enhance students' GCSE performance.</p>
10.00 – 11.00	<p>Session 2 Deeper thinking in Islam: contexts and case studies <i>Stephen Pett</i></p> <p>Trying out some practical ways of deepening engagement at KS3, to take students beyond 'essentialised' pictures of Islam into richer and more nuanced understandings.</p>
11.30 – 12.30	<p>Session 3 Getting students thinking: enquiry-based learning in RE <i>Angela Hill</i></p> <p>This session will explore ways of tapping into your learners' natural curiosity to raise engagement and to foster the delivery of high impact lessons and better outcomes in RE. Practical philosophy in RE means encouraging students to think and speak like philosophers, engaging in enquiry with others. Explore activities, techniques and resources that promote deeper thinking, and the development of essential 'soft skills' for engaging effectively in critical discussion and debate. We will consider the benefits and potential challenges of introducing and developing philosophical approaches in RE lessons.</p>
1.30 – 2.30	<p>Session 4 Exploring and handling the diversity of non-religious worldviews <i>Stephen Pett</i></p> <p>In the light of new research from Understanding Unbelief, a major international research project from the University of Kent, this session will explore practical ideas for examining diverse non-religious worldviews and ways of engaging with non-religious students in your classes.</p>
2.30 – 3.15	<p>Session 5 TeachMeet</p> <p>Five-minute slots to share practical and relevant ideas for your classroom. Sign up overleaf to offer an idea that works!</p>
3.15	Evaluations and close

FEE: £95 PER PERSON, OR £170 FOR TWO TEACHERS FROM THE SAME SCHOOL

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Last year's conference was rated **EXCELLENT** by 100% of delegates!

Representative comments include:

- Great quality as ever – content of presentations and discussions based on these. Great use and examples of resources to immediately use and/or adapt.
CH Wycliffe College
- Really good day. The morning sessions were especially useful. I always look forward to these conferences. Lat and Stephen are inspirational. *KP Maidenhill*
- It is so refreshing to come to a conference which is inspiring, gives you ideas that you put into practice, and makes you think. Brilliant! *MC Waddesdon*
- It is always good to meet people who share your passion for the most valuable subject on our curriculum. Being given resources that will excite and engage our young students is so valuable. Great value for money. Challenging and thought-provoking. A must for all secondary school teachers.
LBa Bishops Hereford
- I found all the presentations engaging and will leave with a lot of practical ways to improve our RE – maybe even some whole-school improvement! *LE Ribston*
- Thought-provoking. Lots of ideas to take away. Useful to network with other teachers.
CG St Egwin's Middle School
- An inspirational refresher. A reminder of why I teach this subject with excellent ideas to take home.
AR Bristol Free School
- Excellent, generous sharing from Lat and Stephen. Always good to meet up with the RE community. *RD Uni of Worcs*
- Excellent. Now just need time to put it into practice. *JN Cleeve*
- Always makes me stop and think. Developing ideas and revisiting old ideas are all relevant. Sharing ideas is essential. The conference allows all of this to happen. *LC Bewdley*
- Excellent as ever. *JE Fairfield.*
- Lots of ideas to take back to school. I'd like to hear more about current research and what they may look like in RE. *JR Chelt Ladies College*
- Brilliant and practical ideas. *MD Pittville.*
- A really helpful, thought-provoking and useful (resources) day! Definitely come again!
FF St Benedicts Alcester
- Great day – so many ideas to go on with. Useful to engage with colleagues; to be encouraged that what we're doing is good and that there are ways to constantly improve. *JH Stroud High*

Please return to: RE Today Services, 5–6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham, B30 3FH

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