

National RE Update; Worcester SACRE, June 2016

Understanding Christianity: major new project material launched

A significant resource to support teaching and learning about Christianity was launched on 26 May. For more details, see www.understandingchristianity.org.uk 29 Units of work from EYFS to Y9, providing a coherent approach across the age range and substantial resources. Access is via training – see website for details

Words beyond words: inspiring religious literacy

Joint conference on 8-9 October 2016, organised by National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE), Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC) and Association of University Lecturers in RE (AULRE). It has been designed to bring together the wider RE community, from classroom teachers to inspectors, trainee teachers to renowned academics and everyone in between.

The conference will explore religious literacy, good practice in RE, and address subject knowledge needs for all stages.

- What does good RE look like? How can it be supported?
- How can religious literacy be developed in the classroom?
- What knowledge do teachers need?
- What does a religiously literate pupil know and understand?
- British Values: What does RE contribute to the agenda?

<http://www.natre.org.uk/courses-events/upcoming-courses-events/words-beyond-words-inspiring-religious-literacy-conference/>

Religious Studies examinations update

As at 17 May 2016, the following specifications have been accredited for starting teaching in September 2016:

- AQA GCSE and A level specifications
- Eduqas/WJEC GCSE and A level specifications
- OCR GCSE and A level specifications
- Pearson/Edexcel A level specifications have been accredited. The 4th submission of GCSE full course specifications are due to reach Ofqual on 27 May and the 3rd submission of GCSE short course specifications due to reach Ofqual on 3 June.

RE Council for England and Wales: Commission on Religious Education

The RE Council are proceeding with their commission on RE. The commission's purpose is to review the legal, education and policy frameworks for RE, by a wide-ranging, inclusive and evidence-based process designed to inform policy makers about these areas.

The ultimate aim will be to improve the quality and rigour of religious education and its capacity to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain. Independent commissioners are being appointed. The timeline looks to have a midway report next summer and a final report in summer 2018. The Commissioners will look at a wide range of evidence and explore key questions of concern in RE, including the nature, purpose and scope of RE, legal structures, teaching and learning, ITT, CPD, right of withdrawal etc.

Stephen Pett

RE Today for Worcestershire SACRE

May 2016