

RE Spring Bulletin 2021



COVENTRY SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Warwickshire SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Key Dates for RE Festivals Spring 2021

Religious Tradition/Worldview	Key Dates
Baha'i	19 th January World Religion Day 20 th March Naw-Ruz
Buddhism	16 th January Shinran Mem. Day 25 th January Honen Mem. Day 8 th /15 th February Parinirvana /Nirvana Day 12 th -13 th February Losar 26 th /27 th February Magha Puja 8 th April Hanamatsuri 13 th -15 th April Songkran
Christianity	3 rd -10 th January Methodist Covenant 6 th January Epiphany [Anglican/RC] 6 th January Theophany [Orthodox] 6 th /7 th Christmas Eve/Day [Orthodox] 6 th January Baptism of Christ [Anglican] 10 th January Baptism of the Lord [RC] 18 th – 25 th January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2 nd February Presentation of Christ in the Temple /Candlemas 16 th February Shrove Tuesday 17 th February Ash Wednesday 17 th February – 1 st April Lent 14 th March Mothering Sunday 15 th March Great Lenten Fast begins [Orthodox] 19 th March St Joseph 21 st March Passion Sunday 25 th March The Annunciation [Anglican/Orthodox/RC] 28 th March Palm Sunday 28 th March – 4 th April Holy Week 1 st April Maundy Thursday 2 nd April Good Friday 4 th April Holy Saturday
Hinduism	12 th January Birthday of Swami Vivekananda 13 th /14 th January Lohri / Makar Sankranti / Pongal 16 th /17 th February Sarasvati Puja /Vasant Panchami 11 th March Mahashivratri 28 th /29 th March Holi
Islam	11 th March The Prophet's Night Journey and Ascent into Heaven [Isra and Mi'raj] 29 th March The Night of Forgiveness [Lailat-ul Bara'ah] 13 th April – 12 th May Ramadan
Judaism*	28 th January Tu B'Shevat 26 th February Purim 28 th March- 4 th April Passover /Pesach
Sikhism	5 th January Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh 14 th March New Years Day 29 th March Hola Mohalla 14 th April Vaisakhi/ Baisakhi
Other	1 st January New Year's Day /Hogmanay 17 th January World Religion Day 27 th January Holocaust Mem. Day 1 st March St David's Day 17 th March St Patrick's Day 23 rd April St George's Day

*All Jewish festivals begin the night before at sundown

Home Learning for RE

Below are links to several places where you can find RE resources for home learning:

NATRE Free Resources http://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/free-resources-for-you-and-your-pupils/?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=professional_natre_members_newsletter_no_download_may_2020&utm_content=2020-05-07

Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/subjects/#subjects>

RE Online: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/supporting-re/>

BBC Teach <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks2-religious-studies/z6pbqp3>

BBC My Life, my Religion <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05pc1c9>

BBC Religions of the World

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1pYRg2f202rqWHrp3ywhTyX/religions-of-the-world>



SACRE Website

Don't forget that the Warwickshire SACRE website is your go-to place for some key documents to support your RE:

- The Coventry & Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus
- SACRE Suggested List of Visits and Visitors
- Do and Don't Documents for all 6 major religions and Humanism
- Past CPD materials
- Westhill RE Subject Knowledge films and corresponding documents
- Past RE Bulletins

You will need the password in order to access these documents. If you don't have it, please email sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk to request it. You must be from a Coventry and Warwickshire school.

Local RE CPD

SACRE CPD:

Date	Booking Link	CPD Focus
Thursday 21 st February 2021	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/teaching-re-vocabulary-tickets-119882719441	Teaching RE Vocabulary Ideas for teaching religious vocabulary, drawing upon retrieval practice and dual-coding theories
Thursday 20 th May 2021	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/promoting-good-re-tickets-133960843489	Promoting Good RE A comprehensive look at all the elements that lead to good practice in RE and how you might promote the subject in your school

Coventry DBE CPD:



Coventry DBE RE Subject Leader CPD Sessions

Coventry Diocesan Board of Education are opening their CPD sessions for RE Subject Leaders to teachers from non-Church schools in 2021 at a cost of £40 per session. These sessions will be run by Jennifer Jenkins.

Tuesday 9th February 2021 4.00-5.30pm Teaching the Breadth of Christianity-

This CPD session will focus on some of the expressions of Christianity that are not as well-known and will also look at different cultural expressions of the Christian faith.

Tuesday 2nd March 2021 4.00-5.30pm The Case for the Beautiful in RE-

This CPD session will explore ways in which beautiful and inspiring images and artefacts can support learning in RE and develop pupils' cultural capital

Tuesday 9th March 2021 4.00-5.30pm Teaching Judaism at Primary School-

This CPD session will feature Ros Johnson, Judaism Representative for Coventry SACRE and will feature both subject knowledge and approaches for teaching Judaism in the primary classroom.

Tuesday 4th May and Tuesday 18th May 2021 4.00-5.30pm Developing Children's Spirituality 1 & 2-

These two CPD sessions will support you in understanding how pupils' spirituality develops and ways in which you can support and nurture it in school.

To book onto these sessions, please email: Alison.watson@coventrydbe.org

SACRE RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programme 2020-2021 (Westhill Grant Funded)

Sadly, this programme is still suspended due to its dependency on large gatherings of teachers from multiple schools. As soon as we are able to re-launch we will begin with our Judaism Subject Knowledge session at Birmingham Progressive Synagogue. Following that we will be running sessions on Hinduism, Christianity and Buddhism.

The films, road maps and photo packs for our first two sessions on Sikhism and Islam are available at right at the bottom of the page:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacresources> and there are guidance notes on how to use these for developing teachers' subject knowledge. **They are not intended for use with pupils.**



Understanding Christianity Programme - £150 subsidy for Community schools (non-CE)



This is an exceptional RE resource which is helping to raise the standards of religious literacy and knowledge in the teaching of Christianity across the country. Pupils from 4-14 years have the opportunity to explore the significant theological concepts within Christianity as part of developing their wider religious, theological and cultural literacy. A significant aspect of this resource aims to provide support for teachers in developing their own knowledge and understanding of Christian theology, enabling them to teach these topics with confidence.

Understanding Christianity is a Church of England Education Office project, which has been created in partnership with Culham St Gabriel's, The Jerusalem Trust, The Sir Halley Stewart Trust and RE Today.



The training will be led by Hester Meacock. Hester is an experienced primary school teacher with an RE specialism and has worked with school and church leaders in various roles.

Since 2018 her main work is as a lecturer for an Early Childhood Development degree programme and prior to that she spent three years in a school partnership role working with a large primary school and church organisation.

Hester has run the Understanding Christianity course for the DBE for a few years and enjoys seeing people develop and deepen their confidence in their profession.

Full Training Programme – to book click [here](#)

Tuesday 2nd Feb 2021 your Head and Chair are also welcome to attend this introductory session

Wednesday 3 March 2021

Sessions 3 & 4: Summer term tbc

Sessions are 4-6pm on Zoom and delegates are expected to attend all four sessions

Cost: £250 + VAT including all sessions and resource pack (community schools are eligible for a £150 subsidy)

Supporting RE in Your School

During Spring Term 2021 you can still request a 'monitoring visit' for your school but at the moment these can only be conducted via Microsoft Teams. These are especially useful if you are due an Ofsted or SIAMS visit in the next year or have had RE listed as a development point from a previous inspection. They are also useful for new RE Subject Leaders and are free of charge. The following can be looked at:

- RE Curriculum and Long Term Planning
- Progression within your RE Curriculum
- RE Subject Leader Action Planning
- Means for monitoring and evaluating RE
- RE and Assessment

Any documentation to be looked at would need to be sent to Jennifer Jenkins in advance of the meeting. If you are interested, please email jennifer.jenkins@coventry.gov.uk (Coventry schools) and jenniferjenkins@warwickshire.gov.uk (Warwickshire schools)



National CPD Opportunities

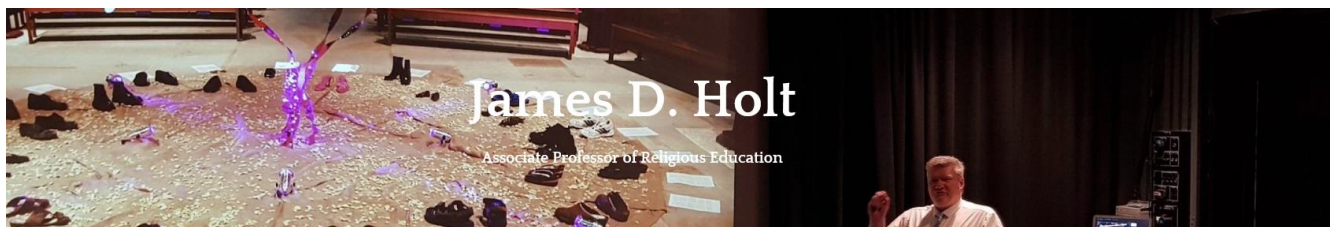


TEACH:RE

TO ENTHUSE. TO EDUCATE. TO INSPIRE.

Teach RE have some brilliant opportunities for CPD for RE subject leaders, including some free self-study modules. Check them out here:

<https://www.teachre.co.uk/>



Professor James Holt has some excellent CPD training videos on his website:

<https://jamesdholt.com/cpd/>



The Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Chester University also have some excellent A-Level Webinars you can watch, which are not only great for

students but also brilliant for teacher CPD: <https://www1.chester.ac.uk/theology-and-religious-studies/schools-engagement/trs-chester-level-webinars>

Strictly RE 2021 - save the date!



Date: Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 January 2021

We are very excited to share with you the date for Strictly RE 2021. This time we will be hosting our national annual conference online, giving many more of you the chance to join us from across the UK and beyond.

NATRE's Strictly RE conference will be online in 2021! Ticket release to follow. I will be presenting a seminar this year on 'Teaching the Breadth of Christianity'.

RE and Research/Further Study Update

There are several routes that have become apparent recently which RE teachers and RE subject leaders might take if they are keen to engage in research and further study within RE:



**RESEARCH
FOR RE**

Research for RE website

There are a collection of research papers and articles for study here:

<https://researchforre.reonline.org.uk/>

Teach: RE Module 8

The Teach:RE Tutored Modules include a research-based module:

<https://www.teachre.co.uk/tutored-modules/> Cost per module is £85.00, although there is a 10% discount for NQT/NQT+1

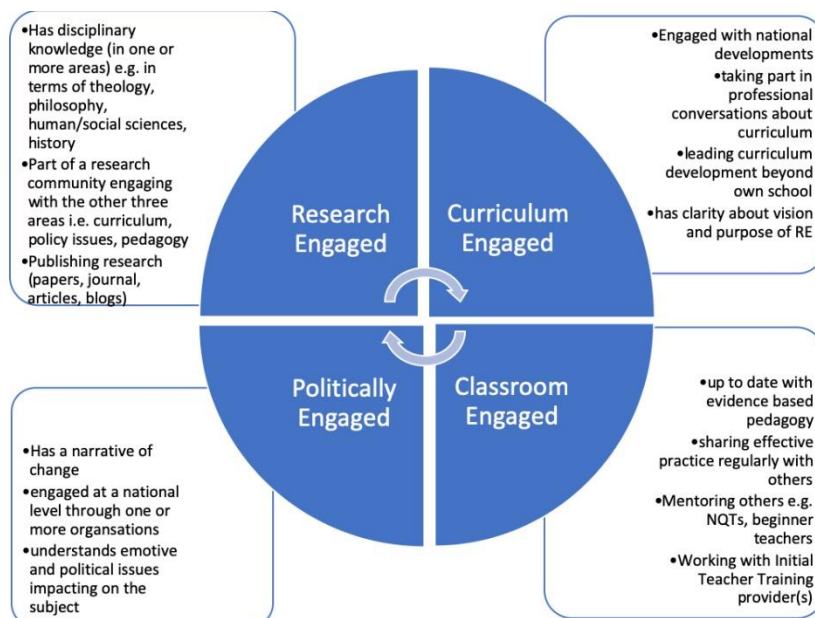
Masters Scholarship Programme

Previously named '3 for RE'. This offers funding for teachers wanting to do a Masters. Includes a virtual community of practice. Applications re-open in January 2021. <https://www.cstg.org.uk/grant-giving/masters-scholarship/>

Personal Professional Development Grants

This includes grants for Masters and PhD <https://www.cstg.org.uk/grant-giving/grants/>

Culham St Gabriels RE Leadership Programme



The pilot is now complete and a new cohort will begin in September 2021.

Applications are open now!. The programme looks at four key areas: curriculum, pedagogy, research and policy. <https://www.reonline.org.uk/leading-re/equipping-and-building-a-community-of-leaders-for-change/>

I have tutored on the pilot so for more information contact me:

Jennifer.Jenkins@coventry.gov.uk

Farmington Institute

Farmington Scholarships

Funded release time from school for up to 30 days to study something related to RE or SMSC. Funding covers tuition, travel and supply costs. Applications open now until mid/end January 2021.

<http://www.farmington.ac.uk/index.php/farmington-scholarships/>

CHARTERED COLLEGE OF TEACHING

Chartered Teacher Programme

A 15-month programme of study, with certificate as Chartered Teacher Status awarded at the end. Focus is on professional behaviour, knowledge and practice. A research-based improvement project forms the last part of assessment. 3yrs+ teaching experience is need to apply, as well as being a member of the Chartered College. <https://chartered.college/chartered-teacher/>

Promoting RE in Your School



Primary RE 1000 Project with RE Today

Giving primary schools access to high-quality RE resources

There is still the opportunity to take up this excellent offer.

The National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) has received generous funding to support more primary schools with high quality RE resources. Helping to deliver RE in engaging and exciting ways, Primary RE 1000 offers a special two year Bronze membership package.

Only available to eligible schools, NATRE aims to increase access to fantastic resources, and this funding has made it possible at a subsidized price of just £55. If you would like to find out if your school is eligible please email me:

jennifer.jenkins@coventry.gov.uk (Coventry schools) or

jenniferjenkins@warwickshire.gov.uk (Warwickshire schools). If you ARE eligible,

I can send you a discount code and you will need to quote me as your referrer in order to get the discounted offer. More details on this project can be found here:

<http://www.natre.org.uk/membership/primary-re-1000/>



REQM Award



RE Quality Mark

- ▶ Do learners in your school have high quality religious education?
- ▶ Does RE contribute to whole school improvement?
- ▶ Would you like high quality RE in your school to be recognised?

The REQM acknowledges and celebrates outstanding RE.
If you know that you are making a difference to learners, consider applying for the REQM.







www.reqm.org

We are looking for local schools who are keen to pursue accreditation with the RE Quality Mark (or REQM). We are aware of a primary and secondary school in Nuneaton who are working together on their mutual applications and are keen to find more schools who would like to find out more about this award and begin their work towards achieving this accolade.

Sandra Teacher, who has recently joined Warwickshire SACRE as a representative for Judaism, is also very much involved with the REQM award and is happy to run an introductory session for all schools who are interested in beginning their REQM accreditation journey in 2021.

You can find out more about the REQM award here: <https://www.reqm.org/>

If you are interested in signing up for the introductory online meeting with Sandra, please send an email to Jennifer Jenkins expressing your interest and we will contact you in due course with dates/times and joining details.

jennifer.jenkins@coventry.gov.uk (Coventry schools)

jenniferjenkins@warwickshire.gov.uk (Warwickshire schools)

Proposed Local RE Teach Meet

I am interested in setting up an 'RE Teach Meet' online using Microsoft Teams. This would involve several of our local RE leads doing a 10 minute presentation on an area of their practice or leadership in RE that they think others might benefit from hearing about. If you are interested in contributing, please email me and we will see if we have enough contributors to set up our first meeting.

jennifer.jenkins@coventry.gov.uk (Coventry schools) or

jenniferjenkins@warwickshire.gov.uk (Warwickshire schools)

Local Resources

Coventry World Tree of Peace. You can watch the video here:

<https://coventrycityofpeace.uk/coventry-world-tree-of-peace-video/>





The Herbert Art Gallery will host the work of Farwa Moledina, *Thirteen Ways Of Looking*. Thirteen Artists and Curators show why one perspective is never enough. Farwa Moledina's work is concerned with the lived experiences of Muslim women. Her work for this exhibition explores the erasure that Muslim women have faced throughout history. Its title 'Thawra', meaning 'Revolution', is a term and concept which gained momentum and notoriety in the protests of the Arab Spring.

The work is comprised of a pattern woven through columns of gold thread. It features an unweaved outline of Alaa Salah, one of many Sudanese women leading protests against the government in April 2019. This image of Salah taken by Lana Haroun went viral on social media, but largely within Muslim communities. Salah has risen to be a prominent contemporary symbol of female leadership in Islam. Farwa's choice to leave the outline unweaved is a political one and symbolises the erasure that Muslim women face, both historically and in contemporary society.

The pattern woven within includes images or symbols of other revolutionary Muslim women including Asma Jahangir, Dr. Hawa Abdi, Fatima Ahmed Ibrahim, a tile from the Fatima Al Fihri Al Qarawiyyin University, and the shrine of Sayyidah Zainab Bint Ali. Farwa's work often centers around the theme of Muslim Female empowerment. This piece is an homage to six different Muslim women of all ages, races, backgrounds and across generations (626 AD - 2019) with two common threads that weave them together, they are Muslim women and they have spoken up.

Through the use of pattern and textile, Moledina's work addresses issues surrounding Feminism, Muslim Women and Faith. In this work, Moledina has created a pattern made from images of different Muslim women leaders, both historical and current. When combined these elements form a pattern that resembles Islamic geometric art.

Islamic art is fundamentally based on the concept of Al-Tawhid (Divine Unity) (Burckhardt) and this is expressed through geometric symmetrical patterns that appear to be infinite. Designs intricately attempt to trace the origins in creation, encouraging viewers to reflect upon them not backwards but inwards (Critchlow, 1976). As such, Islamic art fosters an exploration of what lies beneath the visual surface. Moledina employs these principles within her work, where the pattern needs to be studied and contemplated to perceive its hidden depth, inviting the viewer to identify the different layers within the design. The process of creating a pattern is a form of meditation and reflection, always returning to the concept of Tawhid through the reclamation of Islamic design principles.

There is a video of an interview with the artist talking about her work here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCApSxSHA9A>



Wednesday 27th January 2020 is Holocaust Memorial Day

27 January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. It is an opportunity to remember the atrocities associated with the genocide of six million Jewish people murdered during the Holocaust, as well as other people killed in genocides around the world.

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is a day for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future. Through doing this they learn more, empathise more and do more. As such, it is an important day to mark with pupils and we encourage all our local schools to do something to commemorate this day.

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

Please refer to our previous bulletin on Holocaust Memorial Day for a comprehensive list of resources (available on Warwickshire SACRE's website in Section 7: <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/managing-schools/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/4?documentId=33&categoryId=6>

Useful RE Websites



Some brilliant links to websites supporting learning about Judaism can be found here: <https://www.jewishinteractive.org/we-wanted-teachers-and-pupils-in-non-jewish-settings-to-find-out-more-about-judaism/>

Reforming RE

The Reforming RE website is building up some great blogs related to RE



<https://reformingre.wordpress.com/>

New RE Reports

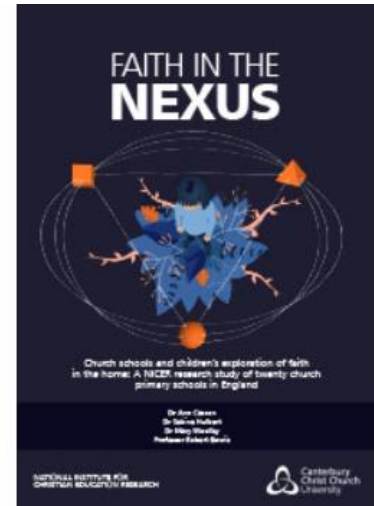
Some reports related to RE have been released recently and are worth a read:



Worldviews in RE by Trevor Cooling:

<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/research/2020/10/21/worldviews-in-religious-education>

The Faith in the Nexus Report looks at *How do church primary schools facilitate opportunities for children's exploration of faith and spiritual life in the home?* And includes an animation:



<https://nicer.org.uk/faith-in-the-nexus>

RE Resources

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SACRE Member Films

The Coronavirus Pandemic offers the chance for teachers to show pupils how dynamic, versatile and transforming religious traditions can actually be. It is a chance to encounter the living faith rather than a seemingly static tradition.

Below are a few resources to help you do that. These are resources you may wish to add into your existing units of work to show diversity and the evolving nature of religion, or you may want to create a special unit of working looking at the impact of Coronavirus on religion. Please also make use of the videos SACRE members have made showing how they celebrated festivals during lockdown. These videos can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Vej9jWhG0uqT7Fah4oPVqAoNSZ-CPRUC/view?usp=sharing> (Hindu kirtans for well-being during lockdown)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MZQHGDVRkCptl09tKsx1dv8_UDDfeMZZP/view?usp=sharing (Sikhism- Vaisakhi in lockdown)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_Eh1srEynjTnIaP3IgkaAkaNI6KGjI1a/view?usp=sharing (Judaism- Passover in lockdown)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14TUerEWf38PzvUHuH61DMo8809Xf36GS/view?usp=sharing> (Hinduism- Diwali in lockdown)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OVg_bCGLsYpr4c1s9YNXPM929EVef_4/view?usp=sharing (Judaism- Hanukkah in lockdown)



The following links also offer a snapshot into how religious traditions have adapted to the Pandemic:

Cardboard Mosque built at home during Ramadan:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-leicestershire-52565339>

Videos made by members of Liverpool Community Spirit showing how festivals were celebrated in lockdown:

<http://www.liverpoolcommunityspirit.org/important-festivals>

German Ikea Carpark used for prayers at Eid:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-52759511>

Idris' Guide to Ramadan in lockdown:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52381238>

Celebrating Passover online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-52198508>

Celebrating Easter social distancing:

<https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2020-04-10/celebrating-easter-and-other-religious-festivals-in-the-west-country-during-the-coronavirus-lockdown>

Religious festivals in India: <https://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/travel-leisure/article/3102093/religious-festivals-india-adapt-pandemic-new-normal>

Virtual tours of churches around the world available here:

<https://www.churchpop.com/2014/08/10/12-amazing-virtual-tours-of-the-worlds-most-spectacular-churches/>



BBC Sacred Wonders



A series of programmes with links to RE can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0007fhl>



Anti-Racist RE Resources

NATRE have produced some great 'Anti-Racist RE' resources, including primary and secondary teaching and learning resources and a very useful professional glossary. These can all be used to supplement the Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus. You can find them here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/anti-racist-re/>



GOOD NEWS
for Everyone!
formerly known as GideonsUK



www.goodnewsuk.com

FREE
RE Resources
for Assemblies
and Lessons!

Developed with NATRE

<https://goodnewsuk.com/bibles-for/education>

The Gideons

The Gideons UK have been working with NATRE and are now able to offer schools support and resources to support Christianity teaching within the Agreed Syllabus.

How do members of The Gideons work in schools?

The Gideons have consulted with NATRE, the National Association of Teachers of RE, to develop their approach to visiting schools. Gideons do not come to preach or to coerce pupils in any way. Our volunteers seek instead to make a simple and generous offer of a free copy of Christian Scriptures to all pupils who would like to receive it. In the light of NATRE's advice, Gideon volunteers seek to:

- ✓ be willing to share their own experiences, beliefs and insights, but avoid criticising the experience and insights of others or imposing their views upon pupils in any way;
- ✓ be familiar with the school's aims, ethos and policies, and plan their involvement in the light of the aims of the curriculum at the school;
- ✓ make clear to pupils who they are, who they represent, and what their aims are. Nothing is done in an underhand way;
- ✓ respect the right of the pupils and adults in the school to hold views that may be different from their own;
- ✓ develop ways of speaking to pupils that communicate their open approach, avoiding any hidden agenda to 'convert' or to proselytise.

These are the educational aims they feel they can support schools with:

RE aims to ensure that all pupils know about and understand a range of religions and beliefs;	Hearing about the Christian Scriptures and exploring the book for themselves increases pupils' knowledge and understanding;
RE aims to enable all pupils to express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions;	Investigating what the Scriptures mean to Christian people, and how they can provide guidance, wisdom, comfort or points of reflection, enables pupils to respond with thoughts and ideas of their own;
RE aims to give pupils opportunities to gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions.	Through discussion, questioning, exploration, encounter and debate, pupils are encouraged to think about key questions of life in the light of the teachings of Scripture.

They are able to offer school assemblies, RE lesson visit and curriculum materials and help running extra-curricular groups with a Christian focus.

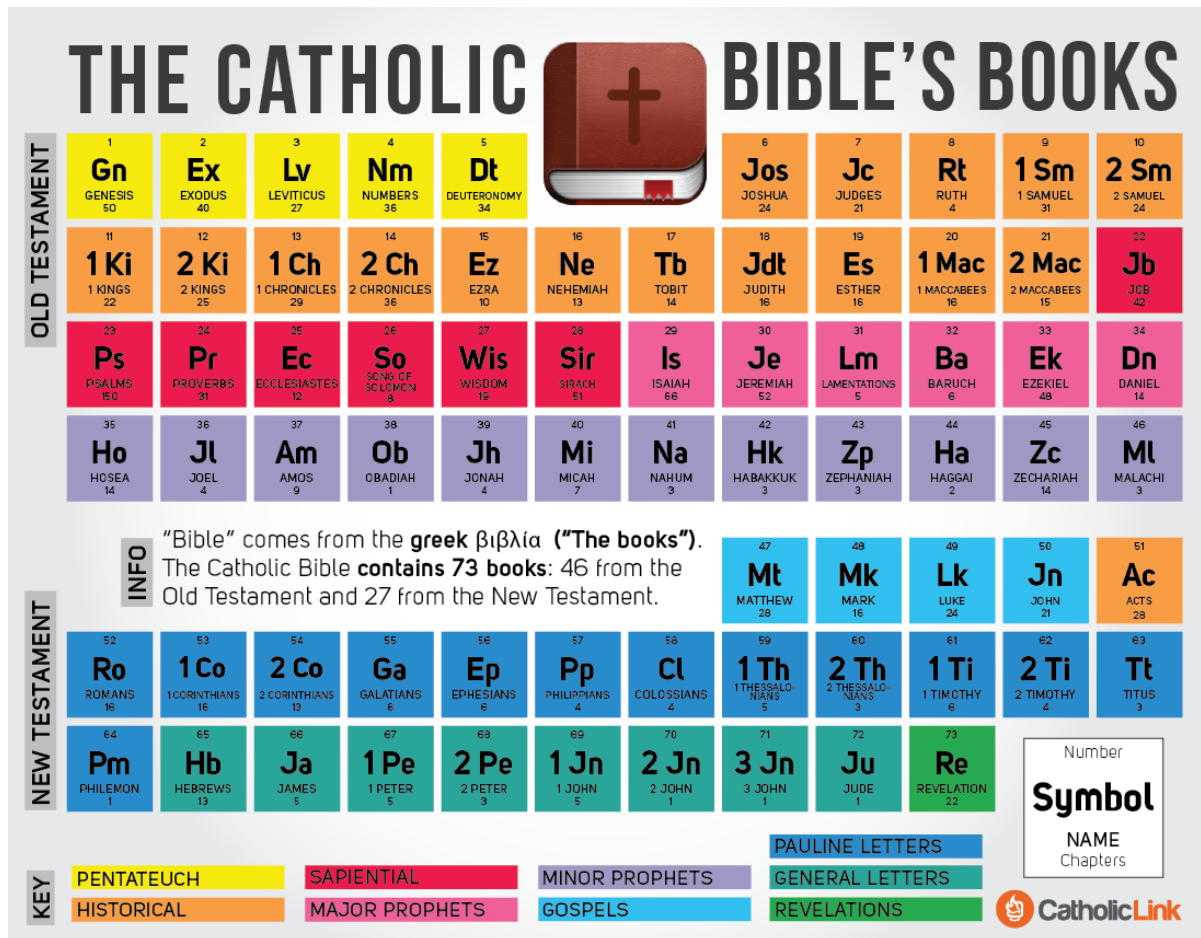
<https://goodnewsuk.com/bibles-for/education>



RE Online have a great Festivals Calendar available here:

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

Infographic: The Bible's Periodic Table



<https://catholic-link.org/images/infographic-bibles-periodic-table/>



The Guru's Song Adventure Book and Lesson Plan

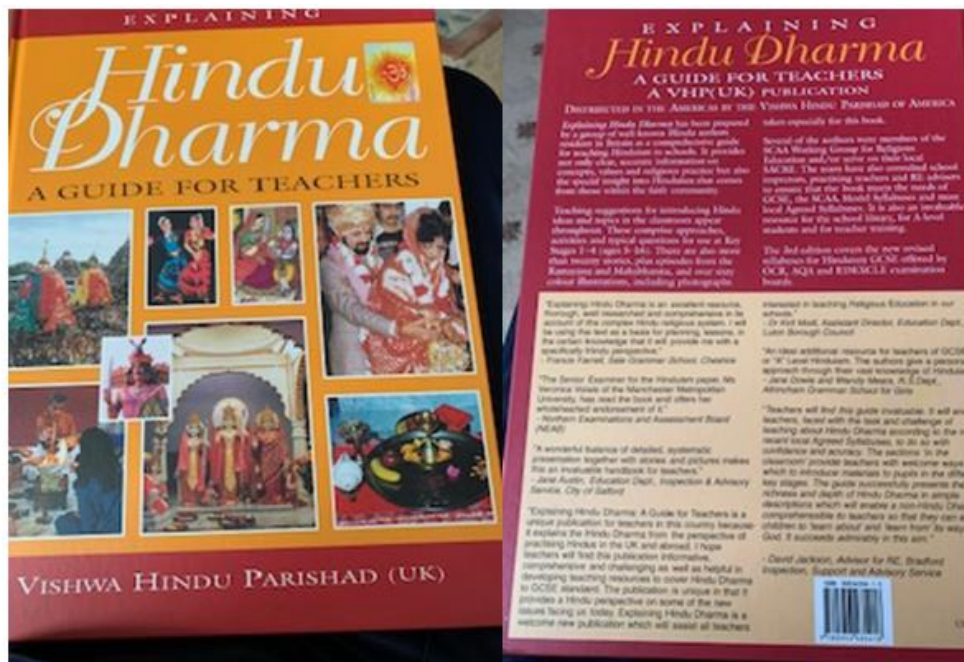
Seva School are offering a new book with corresponding lesson plans, linked with the Sikh tradition. You can purchase it here: <http://sevakeducationtrust.org/seva-shop/>



The Story Tent

Stories for RE and more resources on their way from local-based The Story Tent:

<http://www.storytent.concordant.online/>



One of SACRE Hindu contacts has shared this book with us as a good resource for schools and it is available to purchase via this link at a cost of £25.

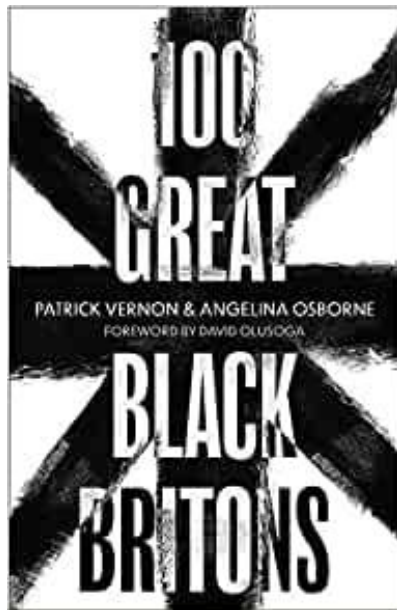
<http://vhp.org.uk/publications-explaining-hindu-dharma/order-form/> There is a possibility of a reduced price if you wish to purchase multiple copies. Please get in touch so we can connect you with the right person to help with that.



The Religion Media Centre have some useful fact sheets which are helpful for RE subject knowledge: <https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/fact-sheets/>

Recommended Books for RE

100 Great Black Britons



A very useful book if you are considering how to decolonise the curriculum. There is also a corresponding website: <https://100greatblackbritons.com/>

If I Could Ask God Anything

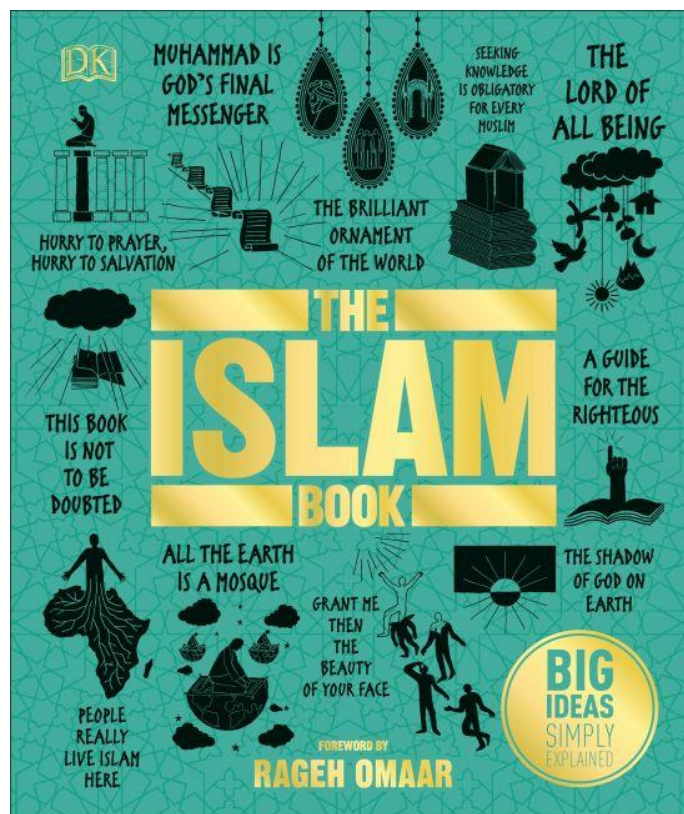


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A useful book for answering those tricky big questions asked by younger pupils.

The Islam Book



The latest in the ongoing DK series, focusing on the Islam Faith.