

RE Spring Bulletin 2023



On behalf of Coventry and Warwickshire SACREs, we wish you a very happy 2023! We continue to offer you support with your RE teaching and learning. Please contact sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk with any requests or queries.

Key Dates for RE Festivals Spring 2023

Religious Tradition/Worldview	Key Dates
Baha'i	21 st March Naw-Ruz
Buddhist Traditions	1 st January Shuso (New Year) 15 th February Parinirvana 6 th March Magha Puja
Christianity	6 th January Epiphany (CE/RC) 6 th January Theophany (Orthodox) 6 th /7 th January Christmas Eve/Day (Orthodox) 8 th January Baptism of Christ (CE/RC) 19 th January Timkat (Ethiopian) 25 th January Conversion of St Paul 2 nd February Presentation of Jesus in the Temple/Candlemas 14 th February St Valentine 21 st February Shrove Tuesday 22 nd February Ash Wednesday 22 nd February- 6 th April Lent (CE/RC) 27 th February Great Lent begins (Orthodox) 1 st March St David 3 rd March World Day of Prayer 17 th March St Patrick 19 th March St Joseph (RC) 19 th March Mothering Sunday 25 th March The Annunciation 26 th March Passion Sunday
Islam	18 th February The Prophet's Night Journey [Isra and Mi'raj] 8 th March The Night of Forgiveness [Lailat-ul-Bara'ah] 22 nd March- 21 st April Ramadan
Judaism*	6 th February Tu B'Shevat 7 th March Purim
Paganism	1 st February Imbolc 20 th March Spring Equinox (Ostara /Alban Eilir)
Sanatan Dharma	7 th March Holi
Sikhi	5 th January Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh 14 th March Sikh New Year 18 th -20 th March Hola Mohalla
Other	15 th January 2023 World Religions Day 27 th January Holocaust Memorial Day

*All Jewish festivals begin the night before at sundown

New Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus 2024

Our update on the proposed new Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed syllabus is here:
<https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/3>

To have your say on reviewing the current Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus please use our survey: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Zfr8cUYHyE6bFq2S-y3hAhfhQhizgQFKqQnnZhMUH9hUNUY3WUJLR1pNVVZPM0g3SzdQSTINRjFCMS4u>

We are planning to convene a Youth SACRE later in the spring term 2023 to talk to them about our plans for the new AS. More details to follow.



RE Subject Leader Twilights for 2023

This year's RE CPD for RE Subject Leaders and RE Teachers will be organised around the theme of '**Getting Ready for Change**' as we take a two-year run-up to our new Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus (CWAS)

As indicated by feedback from teachers, we will keep these sessions online, using Microsoft Teams for delivery.

Below are the planned sessions, when they are taking place and booking links:

Date	Session	Suitable for	Description
2 nd March 2023 4.0- 5.30pm	Microsoft Teams: <i>Getting Ready for Change</i> - Diving Deeper into the Disciplines https://www.eventbrite.com/e/getting-ready-for-change-diving-deeper-into-the-disciplines-tickets-377310334367	Primary and Secondary RE Leaders/Teachers	This session will focus on the three main disciplines of RE: theology, philosophy and human & social sciences, and the associated methodology and tools for bringing the disciplines into the classroom.

16 th February 2023 4.30- 6.00pm	Live: Orthodox Christianity Session 3: Orthodox Celebration of Holy Week and Pascha (Easter) Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton Road Cemetery, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3QT https://www.eventbrite.com/e/orthodox-celebration-of-holy-week-and-pascha-easter-tickets-377325770537	Secondary RE Teachers of GCSE & A-Level but may also be of interest to primary teachers for teaching diversity in Christianity	This session will introduce you to some of the important theology and essential practices and their symbolism in the Eastern Orthodox celebration of Great Lent, Holy Week and Holy Pascha (Easter).
24 th May 2023 4.00- 5.30pm	Microsoft Teams: <i>Getting Ready for Change-</i> Fulfilling the Requirements of the Ofsted Research Report on RE https://www.eventbrite.com/e/getting-ready-for-change-fulfilling-the-requirements-of-the-ofsted-research-tickets-377313283187	Primary and Secondary RE Leaders/Teachers	This session will look in detail at the May 2021 Ofsted RE Research Report on RE which will impact upon the new local Agreed Syllabus and the RE curriculums of schools in Coventry and Warwickshire.

We may add additional CPD sessions as RE continues to develop in response to the national picture and our writing group's affiliation with the REC's Worldviews Project as one of the successful bid teams.

For any queries regarding these sessions, please email: sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk



Essential CPD for RE Subject Leaders

Our current CPD offer aims to help you feel up to date with the kind of changes the new syllabus will bring (most importantly, a switch to a worldviews and multi-disciplinary approach for the teaching of RE). Missed any of last year's training? Catch up via YouTube recordings here:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/7067/essential-cpd-for-re-subject-leaders-and-teachers-of-re>

The two CPD sessions so far from this academic year (November 2022) are here:

2022-2022 Getting Ready for Change CPD

[Getting ready for change – rerun of Worldviews Approach to RE](#)

[Getting ready for change – rerun of Balanced RE](#)

You can find the presentation slides and other resources here:

<https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/5> (scroll to the bottom of the page for the latest CPD sessions)



Three key places for SACRE resources:

<https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre>

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/7067/essential-cpd-for-re-subject-leaders-and-teachers-of-re>

<https://www.youtube.com/@coventrysacre7442/featured>



Bookmark all these now so you know where to find all your RE resources!



Signposting Resources for Supporting RE Subject Knowledge

RE is one of the most difficult subjects in terms of sheer volume of subject knowledge. There are several places/resources that can support you and school staff with developing their own subject knowledge:



SACRE have produced a very helpful set of 'Do and Don't' documents for the six major world religions and Humanism: <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/4>



Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Programme CPD Resources

The Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement **resources (films, image bank and 'road map' of resources and approaches)** are all available on the Warwickshire SACRE website: <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/6>

For each religious tradition you will find:

Sanatan (Hindu) Dharma

- [Hindu video \(YouTube\)](#)
- [Hindu Traditions Session Image Bank \(PDF, 3.57 MB\)](#)
- [RE Hindu Traditions Road Map \(PDF, 2.39 MB\)](#)



- A short (5-7 minutes) video
- A 'road map' of suggested resources & approaches for teaching from EYFS-KS4
- An image pack for classroom use

You will also find guidance for you as RE subject leader on how to use these resources to support staff in developing RE subject knowledge. These resources are intended for teachers rather than pupils, though we know you may wish to show the films to pupils!

SACRE would like to officially thank all the SACRE members and places of worship who took part in the project and made it happen. We would also like to thank Wayne Matthews of *Bang a Drum* for his excellent filmographer skills.



RE Online's 'Knowledge' section offers very in-depth and helpful essays on subject knowledge for a range of religion and worldviews: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/knowledge/>

This document also offers a comprehensive list of desirable RE subject knowledge with additional links to resources; <https://www.reonline.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/IMPORTANT-Subject-knowledge-v2.pdf>



Culham St Gabriel's offer a range of free online courses and there one specifically-dedicated to RE subject knowledge suitable for ECTs here:

<https://courses.cstg.org.uk/enrol/index.php?id=24>



RE Today are offering a range of costed RE subject knowledge webinars:

<https://www.retoday.org.uk/school-support/subject-knowledge-webinars-22-23/>

This PGCE audit from Leeds University might help you to narrow down where you need to focus your RE subject knowledge development: <https://www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/media/site-assets/documents/secondary-education/pgce-re-subject-knowledge-audit.doc>

If you are someone who enjoys reading, Professor James Holt offers a reading list for each organised worldview here: <https://jamesdholt.com/subject-knowledge-audits/>

Suffolk Diocese have an interactive weblinks page for each of the main organised worldviews here: <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/resources-and-information/religious-education/subject-knowledge-for-re-leaders/>



Getting Ready for Change: A Shift in Terminology

You may have started to notice some new terminology creeping into our discourse on teaching RE. This is largely due to a) decolonising the RE curriculum and b) adopting the language of the worldviews approach.

Decolonising Terms:

	Understood often as 'dharmic traditions' or Indo-centric worldviews		
Currently	Hinduism	Sikhism	Buddhism
From September 2024 (although you can start before that!)	Sanatan Dharma	Sikhi	Buddhist Traditions
Rationale for change	Preferred term of adherents. Hinduism used within British colonialism for a philosophical tradition attempted to understood by on-adherents through a Protestant framework	Preferred term of adherents. Another example of an 'ism' where a religious tradition was not well understood due to its dissimilar nature from Christianity	Acknowledging of the huge diversity of Buddhist traditions due to its imbibing with culture as it spread.

Worldviews Language:

Organised Worldview	A belief system that has developed over time and has traditions, values, rituals or dogmas and believers that follow or adhere to this view of life, for example religious worldviews (like Christianity or Sikhi) or non-religious worldviews (like Humanism).
Institutional Worldview	Often used as another term for 'organised worldview' but typically connected with a recognisable institution, like the Church of England.
Communal Worldview	Worldviews emerging from a specific cultural-geographical milieu, such as a local religious community attached to a place of worship or a family worldview
Individual Worldview	The worldviews expressed by individuals (which may or may not connect with organised worldviews and to different degrees) and encountered and studied as part of the RE curriculum
Personal Worldview	The personal worldviews of pupils/students (and their teachers, who bring their own personal worldview into the classroom) which can be reflected upon, studied and analysed as part of the RE curriculum



SACRE Surveys- we need your input!

As well as the CWAS review survey open for you as RE teachers/subject leaders, we have two other surveys where we would welcome your responses:



School visits – Please complete the form here whenever you make a visit for RE:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Zfr8cUYHyE6bFq2S-y3hAhfhQhizgQFKqQnnZhMUH9hUQVhQQ1YxSzQxWIVGU0xFS0JDQTBjUlpUWi4u>



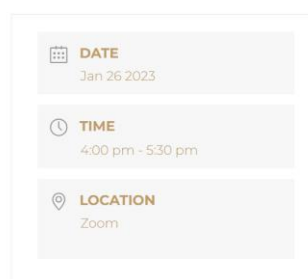
Collective Worship- Please complete this form to tell us about collective worship in your school. We are aiming to create guidance and resources for collective worship and your input is valuable:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Zfr8cUYHyE6bFq2S-y3hAhfhQhizgQFKqQnnZhMUH9hUQU0wTkhMRENHNTYwR1dYQjhNODVJRjVaQi4u>

Further free CPD available from SACRE members:

Jennifer Jenkins (RE Facilitator for Coventry & Warwickshire), 26th January 2023 4.00-5.30pm:

ZOOM EVENT: 'THEOLOGY IN COLOUR' WITH JENNIFER JENKINS



This session will look at the history of Orthodox Christian icons, how they are created and the symbolism which can be accessed by learning to 'read' them. Many examples will be shared and attendees will catch a glimpse of what spiritual significance these important artistic works hold for Orthodox Christians. Jen Jenkins is on her own journey towards Orthodox Christianity and shares her own experience and insights regarding icons.

Jennifer Jenkins is RE & Spirituality Officer for Coventry Diocesan Board of Education and RE Facilitator for Coventry and Warwickshire, jointly employed by both SACREs for one day a week. Previously an assistant head teacher at a CE primary school and long-term RE lead, Jennifer has a passion for promoting inclusive and diverse RE.

<https://www.resourcescentreonline.co.uk/events/zoom-event-theology-in-colour/>

Anne Moseley, Warwickshire SACRE member & founder of The Story Tent, 9th February 2023 4.30-5.30pm:

ZOOM EVENT: HOW TO RUN A STORY TENT DAY WITH ANNE MOSLEY



How can I run a Story Tent event? – Find out how to run your own [Story Tent](#) day at school.

Session Learning Objectives:

- 1) To become familiar with the principles behind a story tent day.
- 2) To become aware of the resources available to use in the classroom with examples from the day held at Coventry Cathedral.
- 3) To become aware of future opportunities to engage with the project moving forwards.

<https://www.resourcescentreonline.co.uk/events/how-to-run-a-story-tent-day/>

RE CPD Opportunities




Free course
An education in Religion and Worldviews

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/an-education-religion-and-worldviews?active-tab=description-tab>


Those with Chartered College membership might like to access this Decolonising and Diversifying the Curriculum online course: <https://my.chartered.college/my-courses/>

Decolonising and diversifying the curriculum series


This is a series of free online courses about decolonising and diversifying the curriculum. We recommend starting with Module 1.




Module 1: Defining decolonisation
Learn about the challenges of defining what it means to decolonise and diversify the curriculum.
Delivered by: The Chartered College of Teaching
2 Hours



Module 2: Knowing our histories
Learn about our multiplicity of British histories and their influence on the curriculum.
Delivered by: The Chartered College of Teaching
2 Hours



Module 3: Why decolonise and diversify the curriculum?
Learn about why schools do and might choose to undertake this work.
Delivered by: The Chartered College of Teaching
2 Hours



Module 4: Approaches to decolonising and diversifying the curriculum
Learn about what decolonising and diversifying the curriculum might look like in practice.
Delivered by: The Chartered College of Teaching



FARMINGTON SCHOLARSHIPS

for headteachers and teachers of Religious Education and
associated subjects

We already have two local secondary RE teachers doing Farmington Scholarships but it would be brilliant to have some more in Coventry and Warwickshire. See <http://www.farmington.ac.uk/index.php/farmington-scholarships/>

Applications

Application forms can be obtained by emailing:

farmington@hmc.ox.ac.uk

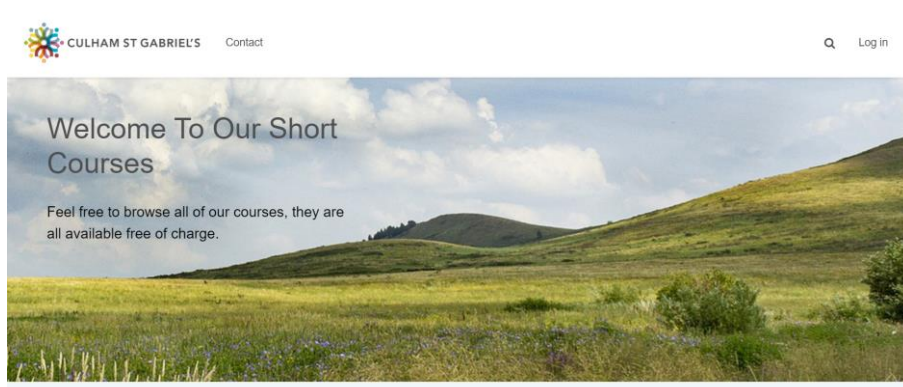
or by visiting our website at www.farmington.ac.uk

The closing date for applications for the academic year 2023 – 2024 is Sunday 29th January 2023.

If you would like any advice, or just want to let us know you are applying, please email sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk



Culham St Gabriel's have three new FREE online courses for RE subject leaders. These take approximately 90 minutes to complete online so are great for ongoing CPD:



Available courses

Introduction to Religion and Worldviews What is a Religion and Worldviews approach? Maybe you have heard the... 0% Complete	Introduction to Curriculum This course offers an understanding of what curriculum is and the central role it... 0% Complete	Introduction to Research This course is aimed at teachers as a general introduction to educational... 0% Complete
		

Register for the courses and get studying here: <https://courses.cstg.org.uk/>

These take approximately 90 minutes and are well worth your time

New RE Resources



Friday 27th January 2023 is Holocaust Memorial Day. Please see our recent bulletin with resources suggested and visit the HMD website: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust \(hmd.org.uk\)](http://hmd.org.uk)



RE & Race Film Club: <https://www.bera.ac.uk/blog/a-race-and-education-film-club-new-reflexive-possibilities>



Advanced notice of a new pupil RE competition for 2023 from Culham St Gabriel's and the REC: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/news/announcing-our-pupil-competition-2023/>



Faith in the Town Resources:

This fantastic new collection of resources is available here:

<https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/research/projects/current/faith-in-the-town/>
and commented on here: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/2022/11/01/faith-in-the-town-history-and-re-resources-for-primary-teachers/> Use the resource as is or use as a springboard for looking at faith in your own locality.



A useful new pack for teachers from the Faith & belief Forum:

<https://faithbeliefforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/BBF-Resources-for-Teachers.pdf>



God & the Big bang workshops for schools: <https://gatbb.co.uk/>



New Buddhist teaching Twitter account to follow: @BuddhistEdu

Speaking of Twitter, do not forget #REChatUK every first Monday of the month 8-9pm. Juts use the hashtag to find tweets and join in.





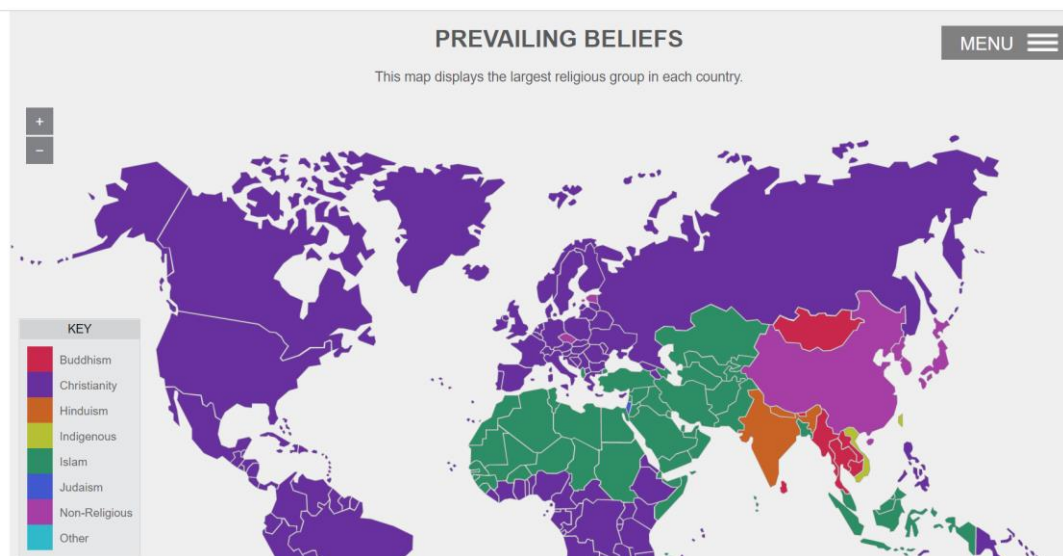
Teach them how to write like a ... theologian

by Joe Kinnaird This is the first in Joe's series of lesson design blogs on 'Teach them how to write like ...', taking the three disciplines of Theology, Philosophy, and Social...

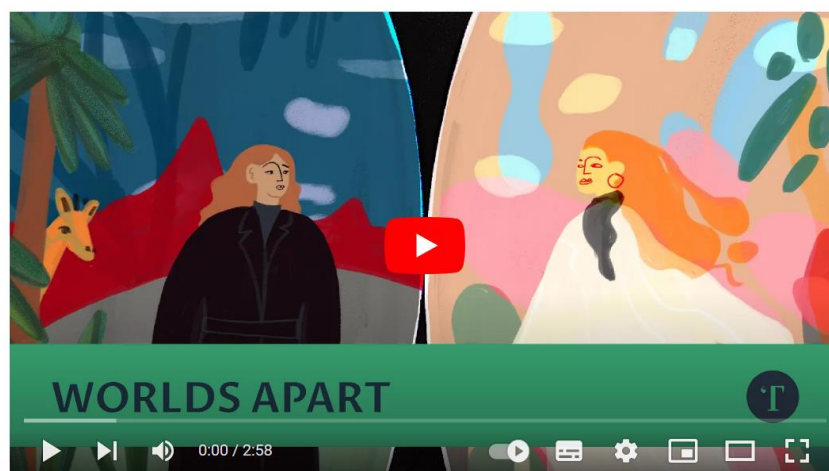
<https://reformingre.wordpress.com/2021/03/23/teach-them-how-to-write-like-a-theol...>

A useful thread of tweets by secondary RE teacher, Joe Kinnaird, on how he gets great writing across the different disciplines in RE from his students:

<https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1589200986681544705.html>



Prevailing Beliefs world map: <https://contrib.pbslearningmedia.org/WGBH/sj14/sj14-int-religmap/index.html?fbclid=IwAR0SIDF6bEAJNzL2kRRReMQwXfHbfN8E5oz2egUZEei9OrNJmLfnuRHlbgLM>



Worlds Apart new animation from Theos Think Tank by Emily Downe on the Science and Religion debate: https://youtu.be/SXXj_YB--g



Signposting Resources for Human and Social Sciences

The following are recommended as good starting points for getting you thinking about human and social sciences in your RE curriculum:

From Joe Kinnaird: <https://reformingre.wordpress.com/2021/05/25/teach-them-how-to-write-like-a-social-scientist/>

From Dawn Cox; <https://www.teachwire.net/news/enrich-your-re-lessons-with-social-science-data/> and <https://ukedchat.com/2021/06/26/social-sciences-re/>

From Matthew Lane: <https://www.teachwire.net/news/re-primary-resources-our-new-religion-and-worldviews-religious-education-curriculum-celebrates-similarities/>

From the Balanced RE website: <https://balancedre.org.uk/index.php/human-social-sciences/>

Challenging Knowledge in RE RE Today series:
<https://shop.retoday.org.uk/category/challenging.se>

Abby Day's *Sociology of Religion*: <https://www.routledge.com/Sociology-of-Religion-Overview-and-Analysis-of-Contemporary-Religion/Day/p/book/9780367151911>

Hannah Waite's recent work on the non-religious:
<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2022/11/24/the-nones-unpacking-theos-research-on-britains-nonbelieving-50>



Census 2021

Following the release of the Religion Data from the 2021 Census, the following might be useful:

Census 2021 Religion Data:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/religion/bulletins/religionenglandandwales/census2021>

Our SACRE resources on the Census 2021 results here:

<https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/4>

Briefings and resources from the Religion and Media Centre:

<https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/factsheets/the-nonreligious/>



<https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/rmc-briefings/briefing-impact-of-census-results-on-religion-and-belief-2/>

<https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/news/the-future-of-religion-in-britain/>

Thanks to Katie Gooch for this great game based on the 2021 Census results:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/16VG4tTMHoXFU-Unx1NTwXGVZWGYN8KKaqoLjEmBuWzM/mobilepresent?slide=id.g1a80e3e48fd_0_17

Thanks to Dawn Cox for these slides based on 2021 Census data reporting:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1kNEsi8iVDkGcPMj3FvbymbGiXQAKuyZaTyK01CwbMvo/mobilepresent?slide=id.g1a8bec1b6dd_0_0

This article from The Guardian contains several useful charts:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/nov/29/census-2021-in-charts-christianity-now-minority-religion-in-england-and-wales#:~:text=On%20census%20day%2C%2021%20March,no%20particular%20faith%20at%20all.>

Recent Local News



Cardinal Newman's Peace Orchard gets a mention from the RHS here:

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Coventry-Peace-Orchard> Congratulations on the continued development of this beautiful space! If any other schools are currently cultivating areas with links to Religion and Worldviews, please do get in touch: sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk



Congratulations to George Eliot Academy on their REQM Bronze Award! SACRE are very proud of you. They join Blue Coat (Coventry) and Southam College (Warwickshire) in holding REQM awards. Are any other schools in the process of applying for the REQM?

We have a local ambition to get even more schools to achieve the REQM this academic year. Find out about the REQM here: <https://www.reqm.org/>

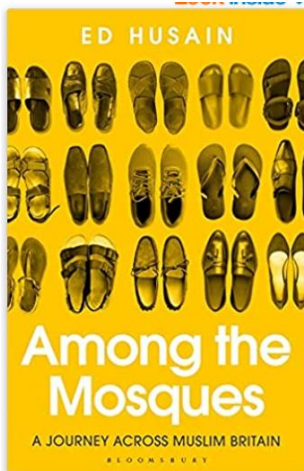
RE Online have a useful pages about it here: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/leadership/resource-of-the-month/> and <https://www.reonline.org.uk/2022/05/10/welcome-to-the-re-quality-mark/>

You can view the Criteria Grids here:

<https://reqm.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/2020/06/English-REQM-Criteria-April-2020.pdf>

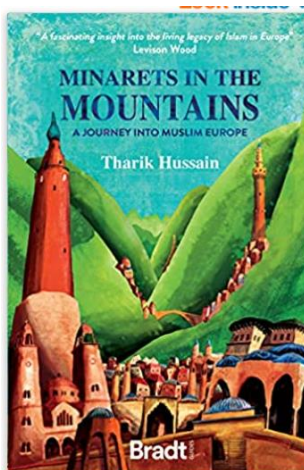
These are really useful even if you aren't ready to apply just yet as they give you an indication of what good quality RE looks like.

RE Book Recommendations

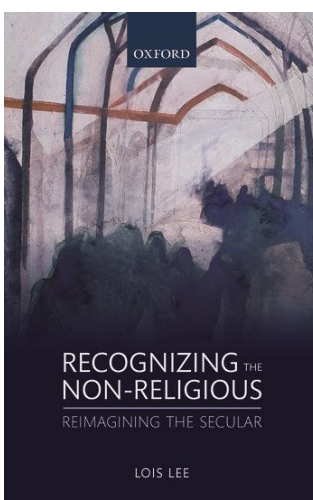


How are Muslims, young and old, reconciling progressive values - of gender equality, individualism, the rule of law and free speech - with literalist interpretations of their faith? And how is this tension, away from the public gaze, unfolding inside mosques today?

Ed Husain takes his search for answers into the heart of Britain's Muslim communities. Travelling the length and breadth of the country, Husain joins men and women in their prayers, conversations, meals, plans, pains, joys, triumphs and adversities.



Minarets in The Mountains the first English travel narrative by a Muslim writer on this subject, also explores the historical roots of European Islamophobia. Tharik and his family learn lessons about themselves and their own identity as Britons, Europeans, and Muslims. Following in the footsteps of renowned Ottoman traveller Evliya Celebi, they remind us that Europe is as Muslim as it is Christian, Jewish or pagan.



This book is part of a fast-growing area of research that builds upon and contributes to theoretical debates concerning secularization, "desecularization," religious change, postsecularity, and postcolonial approaches to religion and secularism. As well as presenting new research, this book gathers insights from the wider studies of non-religion, atheism, and secularism in order to consolidate a theoretical framework, conceptual foundation and agenda for future research.