



# The SACRE Briefing

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*The SACRE Briefing is produced by the School Improvement Team, in conjunction with SACRE members and Caz Weir, the Northumberland RE Advisor. The aim is to keep staff who teach/support RE in schools informed and up to date.*

*If there is anything you would like to share for inclusion in the briefing please contact [Dave Cookson](#).*

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## Farmington Scholarships



One of the aims of the Farmington Institute is to support and encourage head teachers working in values and standards, and teachers of Religious Education in schools. The Institute awards Scholarships to UK based head teachers and teachers of Religious Education and associated subjects and publishes papers and reports, and arranges conferences.

### What type of Scholarships are available?

Scholarships are divided into two types: university-based and school/home based. Teachers who live within a reasonable distance of one of the selected universities or colleges may be awarded a university-based Scholarship, if they wish to apply for one. University-based Scholarships awarded may be taken in the form of day release up to 30 days, the Scholarships to be taken within university terms. The academic facilities of the universities/colleges are available to University based Scholars. Teachers awarded school/home-based Scholarships will be assigned a Farmington Tutor. The Scholarship may be taken in the form of day release, for instance for one day a week over a term or over the year, or for continuous periods up to a maximum of 30 days.

For further details click [here](#).

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ABYTT have a new free resource for Advent this year: '**Community Matters at Christmas**'. The resource is available for pre-order now and will be released as a full resource on 1st November.

Throughout Advent ABYTT will explore different communities from the Christmas story, see what they can teach us about community and how they can inspire us to make a difference this Christmas.

Over four weeks, the resource celebrates how **community** can bring us **joy, acceptance, generosity** and **love**.

The resource includes videos of pupils talking about their communities, bible links, reflections and practical challenges and can be used in the classroom or in collective worship.

Schools can pre-order or sign up here: <https://www.abyyt.com/advent>

### Community Matters eBook

ABYTT have also recently released a new eBook, **Community Matters: Helping Young People Lead With Character in a Post-Covid World** is a series of reflections from experts in the education sector, focussing on the increasing need for the prioritisation of character education.

Download the eBook for free: [abytt.com/projects/community-matters-ebook](https://abytt.com/projects/community-matters-ebook)



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### ***RE Today - RE resources***

*RE Today have had many requests where teachers are looking for CPD around the various religions as well as non-religious views. In response they have developed 2 options to cover off all the relevant information to assist RE delivery in the classroom.*

*Option 1 – A set of current and practical books that not only cover the subject area in detail but offer a wealth of ideas and support for you to use in the classroom.*

*Option 2 – In addition to purchasing the books and NATRE membership, the opportunity to attend a live webinar, delivered by an RE Advisers, after school and lasting approximately 1 hour 30 minutes. This live webinar will take you through a selection of the content within these religions and non-religious views, providing key ideas and knowledge that link to the planning and content within the classroom environment. RE Today will also provide a certificate of attendance for each teacher to support the needs of their CPD record.*

*The primary offer is [here](#).*

*The secondary offer is [here](#).*

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### Teaching Israel-Palestine

Solutions Not Sides will be presenting about how to create safe spaces in school to support students to discuss and learn about Israel-Palestine, recognising antisemitism and Islamophobia related to this issue and answering your questions. You will also find out information about the Solutions Not Sides programme, how to book and the benefits of bringing our workshops into your school. For further information and dates click [here](#).



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#### *Key Stage 2 - Heritage Detectives*

*Created as part of a collaborative project between the Jewish Small Communities Network and Swansea University (funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) the book celebrates the heritage of small Jewish communities.*

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- *This book contains ideas and activities to support KS2 local history study.*
- *Topics in this book link with other areas across the curriculum, in particular Religious Education.*
- *It is designed for upper KS2 learners (year 5 and 6), but activities can be adapted for the whole Key Stage.*

- *The activities in the book are accompanied by short videos, extended resources and teacher notes that will appear on this page.*
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Click [here](#) to find out more.

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### **New Antisemitism Teachers' Guide For Non-Denominational Schools**

Campaign Against Antisemitism has published a new [teachers' guide](#) on antisemitism for non-denominational schools, to complement our existing [guides](#) designed for Church of England and Catholic Schools which have been [endorsed](#) by [BBC Teach](#).

The new guide, *Love Your Neighbour*, is, like the other two guides, intended for use with an accompanying student-friendly PowerPoint presentation, which is also available on our website and through BBC Teach.

Our existing guides – *Love Thy Neighbour*, designed specifically for Church of England schools, and *Love Your Neighbour*, for Catholic schools – have also been updated to cover new cultural developments and manifestations of anti-Jewish racism, including with reference to the social media platform TikTok, Black Lives Matter and the antisemitic grime artist Wiley.

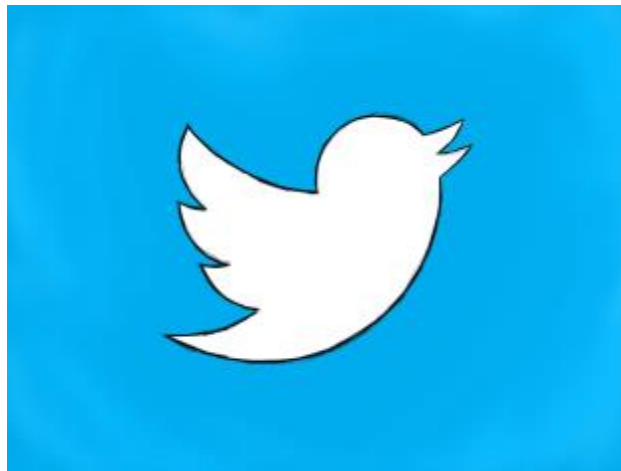


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#### *RE on Twitter*

*If you are a Twitter user you might want to consider joining #REchatUK. A themed conversation usually takes place between 8pm and 9pm on a Monday evening, but the hashtag is always in use and contains plenty of insights from RE teachers across the country.*

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#### **The Holocaust and the RE curriculum**

The Holocaust Educational Trust offers educational programmes for primary and secondary school teachers and trainees. Details of these programmes can be found at [www.het.org.uk](http://www.het.org.uk).

The Holocaust and the RE curriculum

Teaching about aspects of the Holocaust in RE lessons can help students explore:

- The connections between beliefs – both religious and secular – and actions.
- Moral dilemmas and choices, and the factors which can influence them.
- Responses to ‘fundamental’ questions such as the nature and causes of suffering and ‘evil’, and – ultimately – what it means to be human.
- The interaction, and sometimes conflict, between different faiths and/or belief systems.
- Individual and collective identity.

It can also support students in practising essential skills:

- Understanding and scrutiny of the beliefs of others.
- Critical investigation of contrasting viewpoints, with an ability to reach reasoned judgements, and a willingness to challenge preconceptions.
- Interpretation of a range of sources to be able to reach and justify independent opinions.
- Effective communication of emotions and opinions.
- Reflection on the nature and meaning of morality and on the importance of moral choice

RE teachers are invited to register for any of the upcoming [online seminars](#) and [virtual teacher study visits](#), or to register their interest in our 2021-22 residential courses. These include our [Exploring the Holocaust: UK Residential Course](#), our [Teacher Study Visit to Vienna](#), and our [Annual Teacher Training Course at Yad Vashem](#).

To register interest in a session or course, or to book a [bespoke teacher training workshop](#), colleagues should email [TeacherCPD@het.org.uk](mailto:TeacherCPD@het.org.uk).

## Teaching Programmes

The Trust provide free and downloadable teaching resources, which can be found at <https://www.het.org.uk/teaching-resources> and include resources for primary, secondary and post-16 students.

Details of their outreach programme, through which teachers can arrange for a Holocaust survivor to share their testimony with their students, can be found at <https://www.het.org.uk/education/outreach-programme>.

If you have any questions about our work, please email us at [TeacherCPD@het.org.uk](mailto:TeacherCPD@het.org.uk).



Lessons from Auschwitz is returning this autumn



*Lessons from Auschwitz Online* is returning this October, offering post-16 students the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust and its relevance today through a ground-breaking, interactive, digital platform and through students attending three online Live Sessions.

At the Live Sessions led by experts in Holocaust education, students will learn about pre-war Jewish life, the former Nazi death and concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, and the relevance of the Holocaust today. Students will also discover more about the individual experiences of the victims of the Holocaust, hear the live testimony of a Holocaust survivor as well as use virtual reality technology to experience key sites at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

Don't miss out on your school's opportunity to take part in this thought-provoking educational project by applying today.

Places are available free of charge and each school can apply for two, three or four student places.

[Find out more about Lessons from Auschwitz Online and apply here](#)

We hope that your students will be able to join us. As places are limited, we advise applying as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions. You can contact us at [info@lfaproject.org.uk](mailto:info@lfaproject.org.uk) or on 020 7222 4761.

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### *CPD Opportunity for Early Career Teachers*

*NATRE are offering a new course - New2RE - to new entrants to RE teaching from September 2021. The programme is free if you join NATRE (£58 per year for the first two years). For further details please click [here](#).*

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### *A new Agreed Syllabus*

*The Northumberland SACRE continue to work on the new Agreed Syllabus. Discussions have taken place with teachers across the county about their views on the existing syllabus and what they would like to see in a new syllabus. Keep an eye out for the training events that will go alongside the launch.*

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May 2021: Ofsted have published a review of research into factors that influence the quality of religious education in schools in England



The [RE research review](#) outlines the factors that can contribute to the quality of education in RE. The document draws on a range of research, evidence and other literature to identify features of high-quality RE at primary and secondary level. As such, it explains the research basis for how Ofsted look at RE in schools (where RE falls within their inspection remit). As such, it outlines a conception of quality of education in RE viewed through the lens of the Education Inspection Framework.

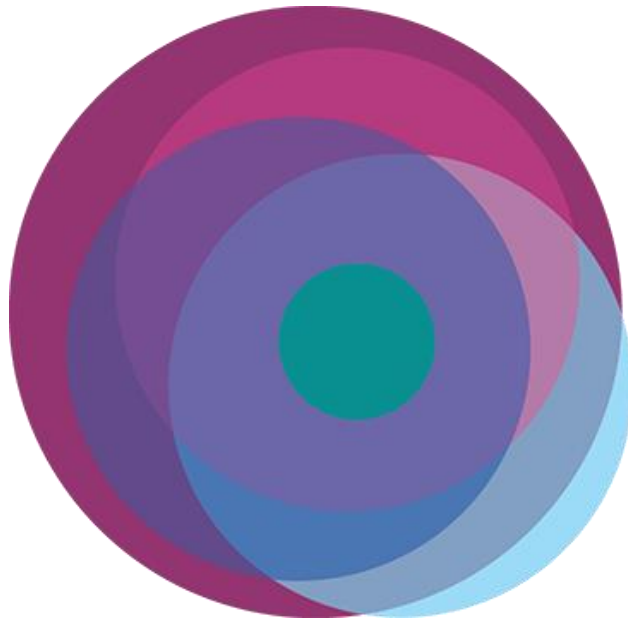


1 - Dr Richard Kueh introduces the key factors that can affect the quality of RE in this video.



2 - In this video Dr Kueh discusses the RE curriculum

## INTER FAITH WEEK 2021



[Inter Faith Week](#) takes place this year from Sunday 14 to Sunday 21 November. It is a tremendous platform to learn more about different faiths and beliefs and the communities that follow those; highlight the contribution of faith communities to society; encourage understanding about and between different faith and belief groups; and encourage inter faith cooperation. It's a Week for everyone – young and old and of different faiths and beliefs, including non-religious beliefs. Activities benefit those who take part; they also send a strong message that good inter faith relations in the UK matter and that there is appreciation of people's faiths and beliefs and how those inspire them to contribute to the community and live well together.

COVID-19 restrictions have been gradually easing. What last year taught us, however, was the amazing potential of online communication – so even if concerns about distancing point to using digital ways to mark the Week, that can have real impact.

The flyer points to a number of the kinds of activity you might hold – but every participating organisation will of course do whatever works best for their context. You can find a range of ideas for organisations of different kinds at: <https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/ideas>.

## SACRE Members



The SACRE Members

**Committee A: Other Faiths**

Mrs. J. Cousin: Roman Catholic Church

Reverend E. H. Marley, OBE: United Reformed Church (URC) Represented by the URC: Baptist Church  
Represented by the URC: Methodist Church (SE Northumberland Ecumenical Area)

Bhakti Rasa Adhikhara: Hinduism

Mariam Khan: Islam

Harpal Singh: Sikhism

Joyce Miller: Buddhism

Mrs. D. Van der Velde: Judaism

Mr. A. Gillespie: Society of Friends

#### **Committee B: Church of England**

Mrs. E. Bainbridge

Mr. C. Hudson

Mr. P. Rusby

Reverend J. Scott

#### **Committee C: Teaching Associations/Unions**

Mr. A. Duffield (middle school teacher)

Miss C. Naylor (secondary/high school teacher)

Mr. T. Nicholls (secondary/high school teacher)

Ms. S. Walton (primary school teacher)

#### **Committee D: Local Authority**

Councillor D. Campbell

Councillor B. Crosby

Councillor G Renner-Thompson

Councillor T. Thorne

#### **Co-opted Representatives**

Mr. S. Dearlove: North-East Humanists

Maddy Wardingham (special school teacher)

**Observer** (representing the academies and free schools)

Vacant

**Local Authority Officers in Attendance**

Caroline Weir, Northumberland RE Consultant

David Cookson, Head of School Improvement

Rebecca Little, Clerk to the SACRE, Democratic Services



Any errors or omissions in this document can be reported to [Dave Cookson](#)