

RE newsletter

Is the UK a Christian country?

In 2011 David Cameron, the then Prime Minister, famously referred to the [UK as a Christian country](#). This was a controversial statement at the time, but 12 years on how does this claim stand up?

The 2021 census showed that, for the first time, less than half of the population (46.2%) described themselves as 'Christian', a 13.1 percentage point decrease from 2011; despite this decrease, 'Christian' remained the most common response to the religion question.

'No religion' was the second most common response, increasing by 12.0 percentage points to 37.2% from 25.2% in 2011. There were increases in the number of people who described themselves as 'Muslim' and 'Hindu'.

What is also clear is that those ticking the 'no religion' box (a group who have been branded the 'nones') hold hugely varying beliefs, with some being anti-religious atheists while others are happy to refer to themselves as spiritual, but not religious.

Find the full details from the Office of National Statistics [here](#).

Find lesson materials [here](#).

June 2023

For RE support, please contact Ed Pawson at efpawson@gmail.com or ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org
Church school contact: Tatiana Wilson at tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org



Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE)



LTLRE hub (twilight) meetings are free and open to all teachers of RE, primary and secondary. See LTLRE [website](#) for full details.

East Devon hub: Thurs 22nd June

Plymouth Hub: Tues 27th June

Special school hub: Wed 28th June 2023

Torbay/S Devon hub: Thurs 29th June

Book now for the LTLRE annual conference
Fri 13th Oct 2023

St Mellion Conference Centre

Keynote speaker: Lat Blaylock

LTLRE hub groups

Learn, Teach, Lead RE was set up in 2012 to create RE networks for primary and secondary teachers across the region. There are hub groups meeting termly between Penzance and Swindon (see the [website](#) for meetings this term, some in person, some online).

If you have had any contact with LTLRE groups, please take 5 mins max to complete this [survey](#), to help us evaluate our impact.

Days of the Year

World Humanists Day is on 21st June [here](#)

School Diversity Week 2023 will take place 26th - 30th June in primary and secondary schools across the UK [here](#)

Interfaith Week 2023 is 12th -19th November [here](#)

Visitors for RE lessons

You can find a list of visitors for RE lessons [here](#)

RE Quality Mark



[REQM](#) provides a **free toolkit** to audit the RE in your school. Use the REQM [criteria](#) lists to explore where your curriculum provision is working well, and where it could be improved. Additionally you can choose to pay for an REQM assessment, to badge your RE as Bronze, Silver or Gold.

REQM Assessor Recruitment

REQM is recruiting new REQM assessors for the academic year 2023-2024. If you would like more information and details on how to apply for the role, please [contact](#).

Places of Worship videos

Access excellent [Holy Cribs](#) videos on [TrueTube](#), filmed in places of worship, showing young people's experiences of religious practice.

World religions

Introducing 'the Great Tree of Religion' [here](#). This [video](#) features a brief history of the diversity and evolution of religions and beliefs around the world. The graphic can be viewed [here](#)

Mayflower resources

Transforming Plymouth Together has launched a new [Mayflower Education Resource](#), which includes a programme of videos and activities to share the faith story of the Pilgrims who travelled from the shores of Plymouth to America over 400 years ago.

Class clips for KS1 RE

This BBC series of [animations](#) explores the different religions of the world and their well-known stories.

Voices from Religion and Worldviews

This is a great [collection](#) of responses to questions about Religion and Worldviews from different perspectives. This resource provides personal answers to questions from lived experience written directly by believers: Bahá'í, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Humanist, Muslim, Jewish, Pagan, Sikhi

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller history month

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRTS) history month happens every June. Through celebration, education and raising awareness, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller history month helps to raise awareness of these communities and their contributions to society, and to offset negative stereotyping and prejudices. [here](#)

RE: an important subject

Great [article](#) explaining the importance of teaching about religion and worldviews in schools.

Tina Turner's Buddhist faith

Rock legend Tina Turner died recently. Check out her CNN interview with Larry King in 1977 where she demonstrates her Buddhist chanting. This [Religion Media Centre](#) article explains that her faith rescued her from her abusive marriage.

Israeli-Palestinian conflict

[Solutions not Sides](#) takes an informative but critical approach to education on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Its resources provide excellent support for schools.

Great RE CPD

Looking for free, easily accessible CPD for religion & worldviews? Ideal for completing at your own pace, at any time. For beginners through to experienced colleagues. Culham St Gabriel's have 10 modules, suitable for primary & secondary colleagues. Access [here](#).

Primary Subject Leader support



This is a really useful [site](#) featuring resources and links to support teachers working in the role of Religious Education/ Religion and Worldviews subject leader. All the content in these pages has been written and collated by Primary members of the NATRE Executive and RE Today Advisers.

Subject knowledge courses



Sign up [here](#) for RE Today subject knowledge courses for primary and secondary teachers of RE Understanding Christianity [course](#)

Youth Interfaith Weekend

Inviting young people from Y9 to Y11 of different faiths and beliefs to our Interfaith Youth Weekend. Friday 8 - Sunday 10 September. £50 per person. Find out more [here](#)