

Learn Teach Lead RE newsletter



January 2024

Welcome to 2024

Let's make RE great!

Those of us who have the pleasure of teaching RE know what a great subject it is, and how much children respond to inspiring RE input. Pupils continue to tell me that it's the only subject where their views are valued.

There is important substantive subject knowledge to cover, and we need to give thought to the 'ways of knowing' about this content. But it's also a curriculum area where pupils can voice their own views about the ideas we cover.

New RE Syllabus

We'll be launching a new RE syllabus in June 2024 for schools in Devon, Torbay and Plymouth, ready to teach in September 2024. Save the date for launch events with Fiona Moss and Stephen Pett from RE Today:

- Mon 17th June (in Devon)
- Tues 18th June (in Devon)
- Wed 19th June (in Plymouth)

RE is under-valued

The 2022/3 Annual Ofsted [report](#) makes a particular mention of RE, highlighting the way it has too often been overlooked in our schools. *'RE in schools is generally of poor quality. Although it is a statutory subject, schools often consider RE as an afterthought. As a subject on the curriculum, it is under-valued. RE is a complex subject, and the lack of clarity and support from government makes schools' job harder.'* One way to demonstrate the importance of RE is to build a strong curriculum. Join us for the syllabus launch to find out what is changing and why.

Strictly RE conference



Last chance to sign up for NATRE's Strictly RE online [conference](#) (27/28 Jan 24). 2 days of interactive sessions, inspiring talks and workshops

RE school support

Contact [Ed Pawson](#) for information about RE consultancy for your school

For RE support, please contact Ed Pawson at efpawson@gmail.com or Church school contact: Jo Hunter jo.hunter@exeter.anglican.org



Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE, Area 1)



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

Torbay/S Devon hub: Thurs 8th Feb

SWIFT SW RE hub: Wed 28th Feb Book [Here](#)

North and East Devon: Thurs 7th Mar

West and Mid Cornwall: Wed 13th Mar

Buddhism in action

Secondary RE teachers: come and spend the day at the [Hartridge Buddhist Monastery](#) nr Honiton. Fri 7th June 2024. Contact [Ed Pawson](#) for details

Primary RE subject leaders

The NATRE Primary Subject Leader [toolkit](#), is a great resource for primary school RE subject leaders. Access a whole number of resources and links to support your role.

Visitors for RE lessons

You can find a list of Religion and Worldviews visitors for RE lessons [here](#) or on the RE Hubs site [here](#)

Holocaust Memorial Day 2024

Theme: [The Fragility of Freedom](#)

See P3 for details of Exeter events.

HMD materials [here](#).

G2G resources [here](#). Resources for Devon schools [here](#).

Classroom-ready resources for primary RE



RE Today is offering a comprehensive solution to the needs of primary schools, providing a host of RE resources to teach religious and non-religious worldviews for 4-11s. What's included:

- Learning Pathways – step by step lesson plans and activities
- Knowledge Organisers
- Classroom Ready PowerPoint - designed to support each lesson.
- Full Assessment
- Sticky Knowledge Quizzes
- Key Vocabulary

This resource is fully compatible with the RE Today syllabus for Devon, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall schools.

Schools can [access this resource](#) for just £270 per year if they book before 31st January 2024, saving £100 (usually £370).

The Bible in 10 minutes

This [animation](#) takes you from Genesis to Revelation in just ten minutes. It is a great introduction for teaching Christianity in RE.

Walk through the Bible

The Walk through the Bible [Website](#) offers some useful [resources](#) about Easter for Primary RE: a colourful and comprehensive downloadable activity booklet, including stories from the Bible and opportunities to reflect and respond.

The Bible Big Story

The Bible: the Big Story addresses the challenge of teaching the Bible in a dynamic, coherent and relevant way for 11 – 14s. [Special offer](#) £10

Human Superiority and AI

There's a great set of KS3 lessons [here](#) linking ideas of stewardship and dominion. Where do ideas about human superiority come from and what is the effect on our world today? How does AI fit into this picture?

Humanist animation



This short [animation](#), from [radical ideas to common sense](#), asks the question: how should we live, giving answers from a Humanist perspective

Early Years and KS1

Books at Press [offer](#) for EYFS and KS1 RE books and resources, including traditional Muslim stories

Male model becomes a priest!

Italy's most handsome man to become a priest [here](#)

Empathy Week 2024

The theme for the 2024 [Empathy Week](#) (26th Feb – 1st Mar 2024) is Home and Relationships. A free festival of webinars, films, resources and events for students aged 5-18 years old.

World Thinking Day

[World Thinking Day](#) is on 22nd February. This year the theme is 'Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion' – it's about respecting other people for who they are, regardless of their background.

Darwin Day

International Darwin [Day](#) takes place on 12th February 2024. It aims to inspire people throughout the globe to reflect and act on the principles of intellectual bravery, perpetual curiosity, scientific thinking, and hunger for truth as embodied in Charles Darwin.

Farmington Scholarships

Farmington [scholarships](#) pay for you to study any topic related to RE you choose. You get 6 weeks fully paid supply cover! Applications are now open for the academic year 2024-25.

Events for Holocaust Memorial Day Exeter 2024

Theme: [The Fragility of Freedom](#)

Events for Schools and the General Public

Friday 26th January 2024



Place	Times	Details
Cathedral	10.00 - 10.35am	Opening ceremony: Lord Mayor of Exeter, Chairman of DCC, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Dean of Exeter Cathedral, Imam of Exeter Mosque, President of Exeter Synagogue, Chair of Devon SACRE, Student Ambassadors, Primary school choirs
	10.35-10.45	The Fragility of Freedom in today's world
	10.45-11.10	Rosemary Schonfeld: Finding Relly
Southernhay URC	11.30-12.15pm	Talk: a Kindertransport Child, the story of Otto Deutsch (Stewart Raine, Jewish community) (Y5 upwards)
	12.15 - 12.40pm	Lunch break
	12.40-1.20pm	Film and talk: showing of 'Porrajmos', the Nazi genocide of the Gypsy, Roma and Sinti peoples (Lizzie Small, Romany community) (Y8 upwards)
	1.20-2.10pm	Talk: the roots of the Holocaust (David Tollerton, University of Exeter) (Y8 upwards)
Guildhall	3.00 - 3.30pm	Closing ceremony: Reflections & Candle Lighting led by the Jewish Community
		Human rights trail: Self-Guided Tour through Exeter's Multi-Coloured History
Exeter Synagogue	12.00-12.30pm	Guided visits for schools
	1.15-1.45pm	
	2.00-2.30pm	
	2.00-2.30pm	

Contact [here](#) for a booking form

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Resources for Devon schools [here](#).