

Learn Teach Lead RE newsletter



November 2025

RE to be included in the National Curriculum!

What a historic moment! The news, this week, that the [Curriculum and Assessment Review](#) is recommending that **RE should work towards becoming a National Curriculum subject** has been widely welcomed.

The report states that there is a 'strong consensus about the subject's importance and its essential place in a school's curriculum', and that 'RE's importance is not currently reflected in its standing in the curriculum'.

It therefore recommends a 'staged approach to reform', to bring RE into the NC. This will entail the setting up of a diverse group of interested parties to establish a blueprint for the subject. Watch this space.

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



Learn Teach Lead RE



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

Torbay/ S Devon hub: Oak resources Thurs 18th Nov

Devon Primary hub: Assessment Tues 18th Nov

Devon Secondary hub: AQA exam Thurs 20th Nov

North Devon: Excellent RE Mon 24th Nov

SWIFT professional community: Wed 25th Nov

Cornwall hub: Worldviews in classroom Thur 27th Nov

Interfaith Week 2025

Are you making plans for [Interfaith Week 2025](#)? Taking place from 9th-16th November, it aims to raise awareness of the diverse contributions of faith and belief communities and promote understanding among people of different religious and non-religious beliefs.

Ideas: [invite school speakers](#), visit Places of Worship, set up discussions, cultural events and activities etc

Truetube videos [here](#) for Interfaith Week.

For Exeter Interfaith Week events see P6

HMD 2026

The theme for [Holocaust Memorial Day](#) (HMD) 2026, 'Bridging Generations', is a call-to-action. A reminder that the responsibility of remembrance doesn't end with the survivors - it lives on through their children, their grandchildren and through all of us.

For details of events for schools in Exeter on Tuesday 27th Jan 2026 see P5. Booking form [here](#)

Three Wise Women?

Could the Magi, described in Matthew's Gospel and featuring in the traditional Christmas story, have been [wise women](#)? (see image on P3)

Judaism- Any Questions

Join the informal [drop-in session](#) 3.45pm on Tues 11th November. See P2

Lifeboat Chaplains

Read about how lifeboat volunteers and chaplains [stand by to serve](#) over the Christmas holiday around the British coastline

Farmington Scholarships

[Farmington scholarships](#) are now open for primary and secondary teachers of RE. Choose an RE topic to research and apply to take up to 30 days out of school, with someone else paid to take your classes! Closing date: 26th Jan 2026.

RE Hubs

Visit the [RE Hubs](#) website for all your RE needs: accredited [School Speakers](#), [Places of Worship](#), [Advertise RE Jobs](#), [Resources](#), [Calendar of CPD Events](#), [Local Groups](#).

Access [local Religion and Worldviews visitors](#) for RE

Are you an RE teacher with questions about Judaism?

A chance to ask anything you like...

Open to primary and secondary teachers who teach Judaism

Why don't all...
What's the difference between...
I don't understand which...



Tuesday 11th Nov, 3.45-4.45pm

Any question answered



**BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF
BRITISH JEWS**
ADVOCACY | DEMOCRACY | COMMUNITY

by Anna Silver,
Education Officer

Monthly informal drop in session

(for monthly dates and zoom links email
anna.silver@bod.org.uk)

For Zoom link see attached text

Tuesday November 11th 3.45-4.45pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81202859361?pwd=a2bjYp4Y3O3iQD3bAaaCIHrKxaaVyg.1>

Meeting ID: 812 0285 9361

Passcode: 914530



Three Wise Women bearing gifts

Art | Jan Richardson

Read about **An Epiphany with Wise Women?** [here](#)

The Reason for the Season?



This 'tongue in cheek' image is supposed to help us ask a question about how much our modern Christmas celebrations are linked to the Christian gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus. (Some scholars contest the accuracy of some of the statements made here, but it is a useful thinking point.)

In what sense does it matter if Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus or not?

You can find an in-depth discussion of 'Christmas: Pagan or Christian' on the [Rest is History podcast](#)

Events for Holocaust Memorial Day Exeter 2026



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

Theme: Bridging Generations

Events for Schools and the General Public

Tuesday 27th January 2026

Place	Times	Details
Cathedral	10.00 - 10.35am	Opening ceremony: Lord Mayor of Exeter, Chair of DCC, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Dean of Exeter Cathedral, Exeter Mosque, President of Exeter Synagogue, Devon Faith and Belief Forum, Romani Community, Chair of Devon SACRE, Deaf and Disability Community, Student Ambassadors, Primary school choirs
	10.35-10.45	TBA
	10.45-10.55	TBA
	10.55- 11.05	TBA
The Mint Methodist Church	11.30-12.15pm	Talk: <u>a</u> 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, Romani community) (Y8 upwards)
	1.20-2.10pm	Talk: On the religious artworks of Holocaust survivor Samuel Bak (Leah Lawford), 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 1.15-1.45pm 2.00-2.30pm	Guided visits for schools

The [27th](#) January marks Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) every year. At HMD we remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, the millions of others (including Gypsies, homosexuals etc) killed under Nazi Persecution and those murdered in subsequent genocides including Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.



Booking for schools

Download the Booking Form [here](#) and email completed form back to efpawson@gmail.com



Devon Faith and Belief Forum invites you to events to mark Interfaith Week 2025



All events at

St Stephen's Church, High Street, Exeter EX4 3LW

- Free admission, no booking necessary
- Refreshments

Prayers and Meditations for Universal Peace

- 1.30-2.30pm
- Saturday 8th November 2025

Join us as we share prayers and meditations from diverse religions and communities, including prayers for current conflicts around the world



Building an Interfaith Community

Arezoo Farahzad

- 3.00 - 4.30 pm
- Saturday 8th November 2025

Community ... what does it mean to you?

Why is it important for Faith and Belief Communities to work together?



Meet a Muslim, Pagan, Buddhist, Jew, Humanist, Christian, Hindu, Baha'i, Sikh, Quaker etc ...

- 2.00-4.00pm
- Saturday 15th November 2025

Come and share a cup of tea and meet diverse members of faith and belief groups from across the region, in a relaxed environment.



Contact us at: <https://devonfaiths.org.uk/>