

# North Yorkshire SACRE Newsletter

## School Improvement and Early Years' Service January 2022

### PLEASE PASS ON TO YOUR RE SUBJECT LEADER

Welcome to the autumn term SACRE newsletter for North Yorkshire schools. This termly newsletter will keep you up to date on what SACRE is doing and the support it offers to North Yorkshire schools alongside national and regional updates and news on RE resources and training.

#### What is SACRE?

The acronym SACRE stands for: Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

#### Why is there a SACRE?

Every local authority (LA) has to have a SACRE by law. The Children's Services division of the LA that takes responsibility for making sure SACRE works well and SACRE's work is related to schools and their curriculum.

#### What does a SACRE do?

The law says that RE must be taught in all schools and a SACRE's role is to advise its local authority on what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area. This is because RE is not part of the National Curriculum; it is a local responsibility. Through the SACRE, local communities and teachers have the opportunity to influence and support what pupils learn in RE.

The SACRE's main function is to advise the local authority on matters related to the religious education, which follows the locally agreed syllabus, and on collective worship in schools.

### Where do I go for advice relating to RE or Collective Worship in my school?

Olivia Seymour, is the Professional RE Adviser for maintained schools in North Yorkshire over the coming academic year. (Please note for church schools Olivia can provide advice relating to the Agreed Syllabus but we encourage church schools to seek wider RE advice from their home diocese)

Olivia also provides advice to community schools on matters relating to collective worship (church schools should again seek advice from their home diocese)

Enquires into the Local Authority can be directed to [schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk) and the service will provide a conduit to the specialist advice.



You can find out more about RE in North Yorkshire schools here:

<https://cyyps.northyorks.gov.uk/religious-education-re>

You can find out more about collective worship in North Yorkshire schools here:

<https://cyyps.northyorks.gov.uk/collective-worship>

## Spring Term training and Professional Practice Groups for Primary and Secondary RE Leads



This year NYCC is offering termly online professional practice networks for all schools. These networks will include support for subject knowledge, curriculum-planning using the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus, national and local updates, resources to support RE and an opportunity to ask questions and share good practice.

**Primary** This term the Primary RE professional practice networks will focus on 'Assessment in RE' including a focus on the Ofsted Research Review for Religious Education. There are two options for the network:

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 09.30-11.30 course code SI-0322-T039

**To book go to** <https://www.nyestraining.co.uk/Event/156873>

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 13.30-15.30 course code SI-0322-T040

**To book go to** <https://www.nyestraining.co.uk/Event/156876>

**Secondary** This term the secondary RE professional practice network will focus on intent and implementation of an effective RE curriculum (with a particular focus on curriculum progression, deep dives and Ofsted expectations)

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 16.00-18.00 course code SI-0322-T041

**To book go to** <https://www.nyestraining.co.uk/Event/156877>

## Primary Religious Education Subject Leadership Course

This practical course is suitable for new or developing Primary RE subject leads to support developing an effective RE curriculum. This course will be split over 2 sessions with a gap task in between.

The course focuses on:

- developing an effective RE curriculum using the locally Agreed Syllabus
- developing an understanding of the role of Primary RE lead
- developing meaningful and manageable monitoring and evaluation

### **Day 1: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 09:30 - 11:30**

The role of a curriculum leader

Curriculum intent and implementation

Supporting effective teaching and learning

Subject knowledge and supporting professional development

### **Day 2: Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 13:30 - 15:30**

The role of a curriculum leader

Curriculum implementation and impact

Assessment in RE

Effective monitoring and evaluation

Deep dives in RE

**To book go to** <https://www.nyestraining.co.uk/Event/156894>

## Spotlight on SACRE members



Each term we want to introduce a different member of North Yorkshire SACRE and this term the spotlight is on one of our North Yorkshire SACRE teacher representatives Tara Askew

I have been teaching RE, known as RPE- Religion, Philosophy and Ethics in my current school, for the last 10 years. I currently work at Tadcaster Grammar School, I have also worked in York and Harrogate.

I am now a curriculum team leader in my current school and I oversee the teaching and learning within my department. I teach KS3-5 and I am the Ethics and Christianity specialist at KS5. At Tadcaster I tasked myself with 'turning the tide' for the subject. The subject was undervalued by staff and students, so over the past 4 years I have worked to improve SOWs, build in extra-curricular activities including an overseas trip to Rome. I have a keen interest in ensuring that quality teaching of the subject takes place

and that there is a clear value given. Our ethos for the subject is- 'Everyone is different and that is OK'.

I am an exam marker for AQA and took part in the Chester and Bangor university sessions during the covid pandemic with my students. I strive to be the best classroom practitioner I can be, to ensure I give the best for my students. To do this I am part of the research practitioner group at Tadcaster. A group of teachers who are tasked with researching and developing classroom practice that is shared at whole school training. Other areas of interest to me are running. This year I have set myself a target of running each month for my physical and mental health. My yearly target is to reach 1000 Kilometres over the year and gain a medal each month.

### Why I am a member of SACRE

I am a member of SACRE as I think it is important to ensure a teacher representative is able to give an insight from inside of the classroom. It is important to share what is happening within schools and discuss areas for development and success.

Schools and curriculums need to adapt as society does, therefore working with others and building an RE space, curriculum and voice for our area is very important.

## RE Online competition back for 2022: Lessons that make a difference!

*Closing Date: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at noon.*

- Which lesson changed or challenged your pupils' thinking?
- Which lesson made a difference to your pupils?
- Which lesson had the greatest impact on your pupils' learning?
- Which lesson inspired your pupils most?

RE:Online are inviting **children and young people** to write a **500-word blog or record a 2-minute audio or visual file** about a Religion and Worldviews (or RE) lesson that has made a difference to them. The aim of this competition is to celebrate an education in religion and worldviews, but also to demonstrate its importance in changing, challenging, and inspiring children and young people. The lesson could be one which takes place in the classroom or could be an out of classroom experience. Winning entries will be notified and their blogs/vlogs posted on RE:ONLINE in Summer 2022.



### Who can enter?

The competition is open to all pupils aged 5-18. Pupils can enter individually or in pairs. Entries are limited to five per school per age group. Schools may want to hold their own internal competition and submit to RE:ONLINE their best selection.

To find out more go to: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/news/pupil-blog-competition-2022/>

## New FREE teaching resources on Humanism and non-religious worldviews

How do humanists decide what to believe?  
Can you be good without a god?  
How do non-religious people find meaning and happiness?



Designed by teachers for teachers, Understanding Humanism provides over 100 new resources for ages 5-18. Featuring: presentations, information sheets, activities, films, and assessment.

To find out more visit the website: <https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/resources/>



### Teacher Training

Humanists UK deliver teacher training about humanism to help with subject knowledge and practical ideas for the classroom. They can offer training as part of initial teacher training (ITT) and for continued professional development (CPD). They regularly host their own training sessions, which teachers and subject leaders can sign up to individually. You can also arrange bespoke training sessions for your school, trust, university, or organisation. To find out more go to: <https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/training/>

### Online Teachers' CPD with the Jewish Museum

What does it actually mean to be Jewish? Is Judaism a religion, culture or ethnicity? How do I teach Judaism holistically, whilst giving space to the different intersectional communities?



Join the Jewish Museum for Virtual Teachers CPD that explores what it really means to be Jewish and how best to teach an authentic and inclusive Judaism in your classrooms. This CPD is open to both Primary and Secondary School Teachers.

- **Date:** 30 March 2022
- **Location:** via Zoom (the link will be sent to you once booked)
- **Time:** 4:00pm-5:30pm
- **Cost:** £10
- **To book a place:** <https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/event/inclusive-judaism-teachers-cpd/>

### Religion Media Centre Factsheets



The Religion and Media Centre offers factsheets for various religious and non-religious worldviews. These are useful to top up subject knowledge. This website is also a great place to find up to date news items around the theme of religion and worldviews.

Find out more here: <https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/factsheets/>

## Belonging and Believing resources for 3-7year olds

Belonging and Believing is a new series of books which will help you enable young children to **engage with the lives of a five/six year old child from eight different religions and worldviews.**

With the author and photographer having worked directly with the families, the books focus on the **'lived experience'** of the children, their families and communities, bringing **real lives** into the classroom.

The Belonging and Believing resources aim to inform, inspire, engage and excite children, teachers, and everyone interested in **understanding and respecting diversity of religion and worldviews.**

Books are £14.99 each or a complete set of 8 books is £110 and can be ordered here:

<https://www.booksatpress.co.uk/ordering.html>

### The titles are:

[My Bahá'í Family](#)

[My Buddhist Family](#)

[My Christian Family](#)

[My Hindu Family](#)

[My Humanist Family](#)

[My Jewish Family](#)

[My Muslim Family](#)

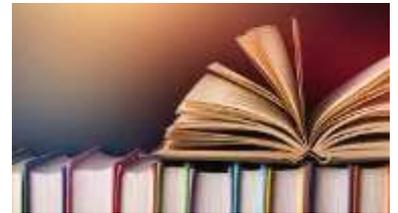
[My Sikh Family](#)



## If you read one thing this week....

**Primary teachers:** take a look at Justine Ball's fascinating research into 'decolonising' Jesus in Primary schools. You will find a helpful summary and a video of Justine talking about her research here:

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/research/research-of-the-month/>



**Secondary teachers:** take a look at Joe Kinnaird's blog and this new article on Whole Class Feedback in the RE classroom: Defining Excellence

<https://mrkinnairdre.wordpress.com/2022/01/15/whole-class-feedback-in-the-re-classroom-defining-excellence/>

## Festival Calendar

Search for religious festivals by religion and/or month here: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/festival-calendar/>

