



# CUMBRIA SACRE NEWSLETTER

## Spring: 2023

(Twitter @CumbriaSACRE #CumbriaSharingRE)

**“Our aim is to enrich the quality of learning in RE and Collective Worship for all pupils in Cumbria”:  
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

*Cumbria Updates, National Updates, Resources & CPD, Forthcoming Events*

### Cumbria Updates:

#### **Buddhist Member of SACRE Talks To Pupils At Richmond Hill**

*Article by Mrs Charlotte Bonnar (Year 4 teacher at Richmond Hill School)*

Living in Cumbria, it can be quite a challenge to enable our pupils to have access to a diverse range of religious view-points. I contacted Wendy last year to see if she could help broaden my year 4 class's understanding of Buddhism, which is one of the major world faiths they explore in this year group. As Wendy does not live in close proximity to our school, she suggested doing a Zoom meet-up with the class. Prior to the Zoom session, the class watched a short video from the Virtual Visits Project, where Wendy introduces herself and explains why she became a Buddhist: *My Personal Worldview Story by Wendy (Virtual Voices in Religious Education Project)*.



After watching the video, the class were then in a better position to be able to think of questions they'd liked to ask Wendy about her faith and values. Knowing they were going to be speaking to a practising Buddhist, really helped the children reflect back on their prior learning, as well as enabling them to ask questions that were of personal interest to them. The class absolutely loved being given the opportunity to put their questions to Wendy and I feel they have taken away from the experience a long lasting understanding of some of the key principles of Buddhism. Wendy has now hosted two virtual meet-ups for our year 4 students and on both occasions, the children have engaged really positively with the experience.

*By Mrs Charlotte Bonnar (Year 4 teacher at Richmond Hill School)*

## Cumbria Updates: (continued)

### Buddhist Member of SACRE Talks To Pupils At Richmond Hill continued

Buddhist member on Cumbria SACRE, Wendy Ridley said: *"It was a joy to engage with the Richmond Hill pupils during this Virtual Visit. I appreciated their high-quality 'you' questions which are rarely answered in books. For instance - Are you a vegetarian? Do you still crave stuff? Do you meditate at particular times? What do you do for fun?"*



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### Cumbria SACRE meets at The Queen Katherine School, Kendal and meets students to talk about RE

Cumbria SACRE had its Spring meeting at The Queen Katherine School in Kendal who kindly agreed to host the meeting. During the meeting SACRE members were privileged to meet a number of students at the school. SACRE members and the students discussed the question: *Given the results of the Census 2021 in Cumbria, is there any point in teaching about Buddhism, Hindu Dharma, Islam, Judaism, or Sikhi?* This question was prompted by the results of the census indicating there are comparatively few members of faiths other than Christianity in Cumbria (see page 6 for more information about the census results). Students argued that such few numbers made the teaching of other faiths in Cumbria more essential, not less. Students needed to know the varied beliefs and practices of those living in the UK and the world. Their future life and work would not necessarily be in Cumbria alone.

Other questions were also considered which were: 'What do you value most about RE?' and 'What would you change about RE?' Students valued the opportunity in RE to discuss and explore fundamental questions and issues. They also expressed the wish that RE could, where possible, involve more direct conversations with people of different beliefs because this gave a different and very valuable perspective other than studying such beliefs from a text book alone.

SACRE would like to thank Katherine France, member of SACRE & Head of Religious Studies at The Queen Katherine School, for organising and facilitating discussion with the students.

## Cumbria Updates: (Continued)

### Are you New or Aspiring to Lead RE?

In March, the Chair and Professional Adviser for Cumbria SACRE, Jane Yates facilitated a new online course for teachers who were new or aspiring to lead RE. It was encouraging to meet ECT teachers who are already on the pathway to lead RE and are keen to become better informed. In one school, the current RE lead came along with the aspiring lead. The focus of the session was to provide an opportunity to engage with latest thinking in RE, especially in light of the new Cumbria Agreed Syllabus for RE. There was a particular focus on religious literacy through a disciplinary approach. As well as practical tools and approaches to support high-quality RE, teachers were also signposted to opportunities to undertake scholarly study to support their leadership of RE (please see the CPD page 13 for some examples).

Also joining the session was Assistant Education Director for the Diocese of Carlisle, Laura Watson, who gave a presentation about Understanding Christianity. National RE trainer, Gill Vaisey also provided a 7 minute recorded presentation about her range of resources, including a focus on a new digital resource for EYFS and Humanism. See CPD page 13 for further free online training about this resource on 30<sup>th</sup> March at 4.15pm.



*How well are you 'taking care' of RE in your school?*

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### SACRE & Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

As you will know, two new unitary authorities of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness will come into existence on 1 April 2023. This raises questions about the future of SACRE provision for these new areas once Cumbria County Council (CCC) ceases to exist.

A recommendation was made to the two Shadow Authorities that a joint SACRE should be established to operate from 1 April. Both Shadow Authorities have now agreed to this proposal. Therefore, from April 1<sup>st</sup> there will **remain one joint SACRE** for both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness.

The one joint SACRE will ensure continuity, but a joint SACRE will also have the opportunity to make changes in its constitution to ensure the needs of both Cumberland as well as Westmorland and Furness are met.

## Cumbria Updates: (Continued)

### 'A Religious Education for the Future'. The Revision of the Agreed Syllabus for RE

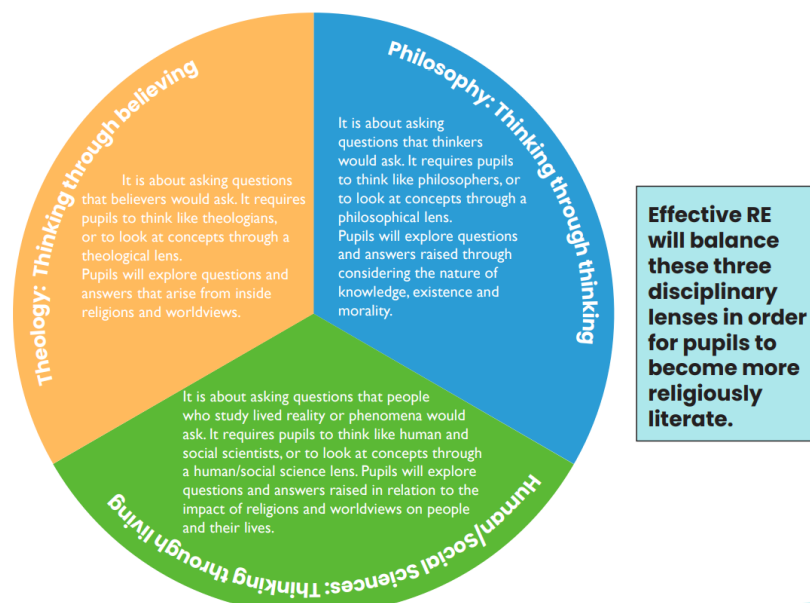
The last revision of the Cumbria Agreed Syllabus for RE was in 2017. The Agreed Syllabus must be revised every 5 years. Therefore, SACRE has been working with teachers and faith representatives on this revision. The new revised syllabus will now be for both Cumberland as well as Westmorland and Furness.

Cumbria SACRE are adopting the Norfolk Agreed Syllabus and are making some revisions to build on the current syllabus and reflect the context of Cumbria. The new revised syllabus is entitled: 'A Religious Education for the Future – Understanding Religion and Worldviews for a Life in a New World'. The aims of the syllabus are to use a multi-disciplinary approach (theological, philosophical and human/social sciences) so that young people are enabled to:

- know about and understand a range of religious and non-religious worldviews,
- express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religious and non-religious worldviews,
- gain and deploy skills rooted in this multi-disciplinary approach and so engage critically with religious and non-religious worldviews.

It is proposed to launch the syllabus for Sept 2023 and there would then follow a year of implementation with it becoming legal in Sept 2024. This is to ensure there will be time and CPD for schools in preparing to implement the revised syllabus. Planning for this CPD is already ongoing, working with other SACREs and with the CofE diocesan education staff.

We are confident that this new revised syllabus will provide a framework and opportunities for exciting RE in the future



## Cumbria SACRE Primary & Secondary RE Conference 2023



We are delighted with the huge number of primary and secondary teachers who are already booked on the Cumbria SACRE RE conference on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at the North Lakes Hotel, Penrith. Places are strictly limited to 100 and there are now only around 20 places left.

A full programme has now been devised (see final page of the newsletter) which supports the launch of the new Cumbria Agreed Syllabus (serving Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness LAs). The title of the conference is: **A Religious Education for the Future – Understanding Religion and Worldviews for a Life in a Changing World**. It will include a mix of presentations and workshops across primary and secondary phases, with specific workshops for KS4/5 and EYFS during the afternoon. There will also be a presentation by pupils/teachers from North Lakes School in conjunction with [ClickView UK](#). This session will focus on the impact of film in the RE classroom from a research-led perspective.

### **Main Presenters:**

**Stephen Pett** is a primary and secondary specialist with many years of experience of leading RE in secondary education. He is currently a National Advisor for RE Today and has contributed to developing the draft handbook for the RE Council for Religion and Worldviews in the Classroom: developing a Worldviews Approach.

**Saima Saleh** teaches full time at a primary school in Surrey and leads the NATRE Local Groups Network. She is also a member of her local SACRE and a NATRE Executive member. Saima took part in the Stage 1 and 2 RE Leadership Programme run by Culham St Gabriel's. She has a particular interest in anti-racism and strives to raise awareness of this through her work.

### **SAPERE Level 2A Advanced course for Philosophy for Children(P4C)**

For the first time, an advanced Level 2A P4C course will be held in West Cumbria in conjunction with [One Cumbria](#) and [SAPERE](#) (the national charity for P4C). This 2-day course is for primary and secondary teaching staff who are already trained at Level 1 and would like to advance their philosophical facilitation skills and support less experienced members of staff across school. This course is perfect for developing practice or as a refresher. **It fits well with a disciplinary approach to religious literacy, advocated in the new Cumbria SACRE Agreed Syllabus for RE.** The course is on 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May and will be held at West Lakes Academy. Booking information [here](#).

## National Updates

### Results of Religious Questions from 2021 Census



The results of the religion questions from the 2021 Census were released at the end of November 2023.

The main findings were:

- For the first time in a census of England and Wales, less than half of the population (46.2%, 27.5 million people) described themselves as “Christian”, a 13.1 percentage point decrease from 59.3% (33.3 million) in 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% (22.2 million) from 25.2% (14.1 million) in 2011.
- There were increases in the number of people who described themselves as “Muslim” (3.9 million, 6.5% in 2021, up from 2.7 million, 4.9% in 2011) and “Hindu” (1.0 million, 1.7% in 2021, up from 818,000, 1.5% in 2011).
- London remains the most religiously diverse region of England in 2021, with over a quarter (25.3%) of all usual residents reporting a religion other than “Christian”; the North East and South West are the least religiously diverse regions, with 4.2% and 3.2%, respectively, selecting a religion other than “Christian”.

(Summary source: NATRE. NATRE have been working to see if there is any correlation between the census results and the uptake of RE in Key Stage Four)

### 2021 Census Results from Cumbria

Local Authority District	No religion	Christian	Not answered
Carlisle	39.1%	53.3%	5.6%
Allerdale	33.3%	59.8%	5.9%
Copeland	28.6%	65.1%	5.2%
Eden	34.4%	58.4%	6.0%
South Lakeland	37.4%	54.9%	6.3%
Barrow	39.7%	53.1%	5.8%

People in Cumbria describing themselves as other main religions in England was less than 0.5% except for Muslim in Carlisle (0.8%) and Barrow (0.5%). 0% described themselves as Sikh in all LA Cumbrian districts and 0% describe themselves as Jewish in all districts except in Eden (0.1%) and South Lakeland (0.1%)

Source: [Religion, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/religiousdemography/articles/religioninenglandandwales/2021)

### Parliamentary Questions About RE

In January, the Secretary of State for education, Nick Gibb MP answered parliamentary written questions asked by Janet Daby MP. The first question asked which local authorities entered the (a) highest and (b) lowest proportion of their year 11 cohort for GCSE Religious Studies in the 2022-23 academic year. The minister provided a table ranking each local authority in relation to the number of entries for GCSE Religious Studies in 2022. The range is significant; from 14.4% to 81.0%. The Cumbria data is below (next page) and you can find the full table [here](#).

## National Updates (Continued)

### **Parliamentary Questions About RE continued**

Cumbria data for number and percentage of pupils taking Religious Studies:

Local Authority	Number of pupils entered for GCSE Religious Studies	Number of pupils at the end of KS4	Percentage of pupils at the end of KS4 entered for GCSE Religious Studies
Cumbria	1157	5188	23%

Nick Gibb MP was also asked by Janet Daby MP for an estimate of the number and proportion of teachers of (a) religious education, (b) geography, (c) history and (d) English who spent the majority of their timetabled hours teaching each subject in the last 12 months. The Minister provided information collected from the annual School Workforce each November. This information showed that 51% of the total of secondary teachers of RE spend most of their teaching timetable delivering a different subject. The full response can be viewed [here](#).

Subject	Teachers	Teachers with majority of hours teaching that subject	
		Number	Percentage
RE	15,529	7,608	49%
Geography	16,548	11,892	72%
History	17,587	12,873	73%
English	39,043	33,940	87%

Source: School Workforce Census and Database of Teacher Records

A full statement about this response from NATRE is found on page of this newsletter.

### **Religion and Philosophy is a Hot Topic between Parents and their Children:**

A survey carried out by Culham St Gabriel's into attitudes among parents towards religious education has found that religious and philosophical themes are a major talking point at home between parents and their children. The survey was carried out by Culham St Gabriel's who wanted to understand how parents see their children's religious education on the eve of the Census 2021 results that showed a decline in the number of people who wish to identify themselves with a single specific organised religion. The survey involved 2000 parent responses and found: Around 8 in 10 discuss beliefs about the origins of life and the universe (78%), around 7 in 10 discuss beliefs concerning what happens when we die (72%), around 8 in 10 discuss beliefs that affect people's behaviour and decision making (77%), around 7 in 10 discuss issues related to religious and non-religious worldviews that appear in the media (67%)

For more information about this survey and the associated campaign material (films and posters) for parents see [here](#).

## National Updates (Continued)

### The Religious Education Council (REC)

( [www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk](http://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk) , Twitter: @RECouncil, Instagram: [religiouseducationcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/religiouseducationcouncil) )

### Campaign for a National Plan for RE:

*"We want all children in all schools to receive a high-quality education in RE/an education in religion and worldviews taught by well-qualified and trained teachers."* NATRE and the REC are calling for support for their campaign for a National Plan for RE. They are campaigning for a National Plan for RE because: 'RE is vital for life in the modern world', 'RE is valued by the voting public' but 'too many children are not receiving RE', 'recruitment of secondary trainees is insufficient' and 'too many primary teachers have no RE training'. Further information [here](#) .

### RE Teacher Recruitment Webinar:

*Working Together to Promote RE Teaching as a Career*, was a webinar held on 6th March. Dr Kathryn Wright and Deborah Weston OBE explored this important topic. The Chair of Cumbria SACRE attended this session. As well as giving valuable insight into the statistics around recruitment, the session introduced a new social media campaign to change the narrative and remove some of the barriers. A free webinar on 27<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm for those considering RE as a career can be found [here](#). Please do share with sixth form or university students especially.

Research by The RE Policy Unit (2022) exposed that the DfE has missed their target for the recruitment of RE teachers in 9 of the last 10 years. From 2020/21 to 2021/22 there was a decline of nearly 200 trainees enrolling on RE ITT courses and a 150% national increase in RE vacancies (School Workforce Census 2022), many unfilled. 51% of secondary teachers of RE, spend most of their timetable teaching a completely different subject, and RE teacher recruitment is now a post code lottery, with areas such as the East-Midlands and the Northeast being particularly badly affected.

### Westminster Debate on RE:

In November 2022, a Westminster Hall debate heard cross-party calls of support for religious education, as MPs urged the Government to do more to protect the subject they considered vital for young people in modern Britain. The debate, entitled *'Religious Education in Modern Britain'*, was called by Conservative MP Martin Vickers who cited concerns about the number of schools not fulfilling their statutory responsibility to teach the subject. At year 11, one school in five reported offering zero hours of RE.

During the hour and a half debate, members across the House spoke on the subject's importance for fostering mutual understanding in society, as well as the world beyond Britain where 70% have a religious affiliation. A full summary from the REC about this debate can be found [here](#) and a filmed recording of the full debate in Westminster is [here](#). You won't find more cross-party agreement than this debate!



## National Updates (Continued)

National Association of Teachers of RE  
(NATRE)



NATRE on Twitter: @NATREupdate

### **Statement on the Results of the Religion Question from the Census 2021:**

*“The 2021 England and Wales census results are a great opportunity to discuss the changing nature of belief in modern Britain. Although it appears that affiliation to a traditional religious worldview is falling, with ‘no religion’ being the second most common response, there is a growing body of evidence to suggest that young people are continuing to engage with questions of a religious and philosophical nature. Ticking ‘No religion’ in the census box does not mean that person does not reflect on the big questions in life.*”

*In light of this, we need religious education in schools to reflect the pluralistic, diverse and often complicated belief in modern Britain - where a worldview may be made up of both religious and non-religious ideas. Every young person has their own worldview as part of this dynamic landscape of belief, and it is crucial that schools help them get to grips with this core aspect of their identity.”*

### **Statement by NATRE on the Parliamentary Question about Secondary Teachers of RE:**

*“NATRE believes pupils deserve better, and that they should be taught by well-trained and qualified teachers. According to the government’s own **teacher standards** (3), teachers must “demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge”. It is difficult to see how these can be met when the proportion of specialist teachers is so low.” Full statement [here](#).*

NATRE has provided detailed arguments and statistics to support their case for action to support the case for government action including the restoration of bursaries. See a useful infographic [here](#).

### **Children’s Commissioner Shares her View on RE:**

A member of the NATRE executive, Shammi Rahman, recently interviewed The Children’s Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza. Dame Rachel is a previous RE teacher and headteacher and Shammi, is an ex secondary teacher and now a Race Equality Adviser. Dame Rachel used to be her RE teacher!

*Dame Rachel says, ‘as a former RE teacher myself, I believe RE teachers have a crucial opportunity to teach children about the wider world and principals of fairness and equality. It was great to talk about how different faiths can teach us different things, for example treating others as we would like to be treated ourselves; having compassion for others; and celebrating the beauty of life in our environment.’*

Listen to their conversation [here](#)

## National Updates (Continued)

### NATRE continued

#### Strictly RE:

NATRE hosted its annual virtual conference Strictly RE at the end of January. There were over 30 practical sessions, numerous exhibitors and circa 400 delegates. The conference was organised and managed by **RE Today Services** and NATRE. Three Cumbria SACRE members attended the conference (Katherine France, Laura Watson and Jane Yates). Katherine also provided an excellent workshop on 'how to Reinvigorate the RE department'. More information [here](#) and details on how schools can purchase all the recordings.

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### The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

(Twitter: @NASACRE, [www.nasacre.org.uk](http://www.nasacre.org.uk) )



#### NASACRE Conference:

Celebrating 30 years: *SACREs for the Future*

After three years of being unable to meet face to face, NASACRE are delighted they will finally be able to hold their Conference in London. They aim to bring together RE professionals, academics and those who champion RE and support SACREs, to celebrate 30 years of NASACRE – their Pearl Anniversary. The conference will be on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at Fishmongers Hall, London. The programme for the conference can be found [here](#).

#### NASACRE Teacher Voice Survey:

NASACRE wants to consider the best timing for future AGMs and Conferences, so they have created a survey for teacher members. The link is [here](#). The survey should take 5-10 mins.

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### The Association of RE Inspectors, Advisors and Consultants (AREIAC)

AREIAC on Twitter: @areiac



#### Annual conference - Leading and Inspiring Religion and Worldviews Education

The AREIAC conference will be on 2-3 July 2023 at Woodland Grange, Leamington Spar. The focus will be on supporting all those who lead RE / RVE whether in school, as advisers, consultants, trainers or SACRE members.

#### AREIAC CPD opportunity:

A series of webinars during the year. All are free for AREIAC members, non-members please mail the chair ([chair@areiac.org.uk](mailto:chair@areiac.org.uk)) – Flyer [here](#).

## Resources & CPD

### New Resources and Opportunities for RE

- **Cumbria SACRE Visits and Visitors for RE.**

#### Visits and Visitors:

#### Points of contact for information about RE visits and visitors in Cumbria:

Mohammed Dhalech (Islam) [cumbriamosquevisits@awaz.info](mailto:cumbriamosquevisits@awaz.info)

Wendy Ridley (Buddhism) [wendyridley1@gmail.com](mailto:wendyridley1@gmail.com)

Dr Shelia Gewolb (Judaism) [she1la46@aol.com](mailto:she1la46@aol.com)

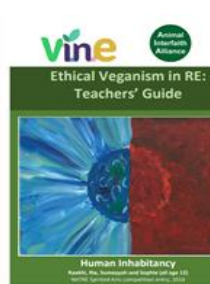
Karen O'Donoghue (Baha'i) [kareninkendal@gmail.com](mailto:kareninkendal@gmail.com)

Jane Yates (Humanist) [jane-cumbriasacre@outlook.com](mailto:jane-cumbriasacre@outlook.com)

- **Big Ideas in RE:** FREE Religious Education Curriculum for schools: A new [website](#) has been launched offering 'Curriculum Design for a 21st Century Education in Religion and Worldviews'. The team (Barbara Wintersgill, Denise Cush and Dave Francis are looking for more contributors, contact details on the site.
- **Veganism as a worldview in RE.** FREE RESOURCES to support teaching about the moral status of animals and Ethical Veganism as a worldview in RE [here](#). RE Today has been working with the new non-profit organisation, '[VinE](#)' (Veganism in Education) to produce a range of **free classroom resources for RE** which enable teachers and pupils to explore, through critical, objective and pluralistic RE lessons, questions around the moral status of animals and ethical veganism as a worldview. This project is also supported by [Animal Interfaith Alliance](#).
- **Bullying and Believe Toolkit** is a FREE resource to support primary and secondary schools to deal with the topic of religious bullying. It contains five 60-minute lessons for Primary and Secondary schools, with resources and films on which to base your teaching within lessons. The toolkit also contains resources for organising assemblies around this theme. Resource [here](#).
- The **Just Finance Foundation** provide a free financial education programme through their LifeSavers resources, including a Collective Worship resource for primary schools. These resources are centred on the values of wisdom, justice, generosity and thankfulness when learning about money. There are assembly plans for each of the values to use as schools see fit. Link to their website is [here](#)
- **Cross-Phase resources (Primary and Secondary) for Islam** during this time of Ramadan are available through RE Today services. See [Here](#) for list of resources.
- **Big Questions Big Ideas - Good and Evil:** Edited by Fiona Moss, this sixth volume in the series for 9-11s offers clear and knowledge-rich substantive content about some aspects of good and evil. There is clear substantive content about aspects of living for some non-religious people, Sikhs, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Christians. Units in the book feature case studies, interviews and photos from generous members of several communities. The multidisciplinary unit for 9–11s reintroduces religious studies and sociology with disciplinary experts Dr Chris Cotter and Dr Rachael Shillitoe. You can purchase this book from RE Today [here](#). N.B. This resource comes as part of your [NATRE membership](#).

## Resources & CPD continued

- **Challenging Knowledge in RE – Good and Evil:** Edited by Stephen Pett, this sixth volume in the Challenging Knowledge in RE series brings a multidisciplinary approach to the RE classroom to study good and evil. Methods from the disciplines of religious studies, sociology, theology and psychology consider how good and evil features in people's lives. You can purchase this book from RE Today [here](#). N.B. This resource comes as part of your [NATRE membership](#)
- **One Life, Live it Well:** New animation from Humanists UK More information and lesson plan [here](#).



### Local CPD and Resources

- **Virtual Voices in Religious Education (VVRE)**

This free digital resource is now available for all schools in Cumbria to use. The resource includes 100+ filmed responses to questions from Cumbrian pupils to our community of 'voices' from different religion and worldviews. These cover both Dharmic and Abrahamic religious worldviews and the non-religious worldview of Humanism. Not only is this a powerful resource for the classroom but teachers have also said how valuable it is for developing subject knowledge. More information about this resource and a link to obtain the full resource on the Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC) website [here](#). Do also check out the CDEC [Virtual Tours](#) for RE and SMSC, [Resource packs](#) and [RE Boxes](#) pages too.



- **Are you new or aspiring to lead RE?** A brand new **online** course was held on 14<sup>th</sup> March Contact [schooldevelopment@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:schooldevelopment@cumbria.gov.uk) for future dates.
- **SAPERE Level 2A Advanced Philosophy for Children (P4C)** 18<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> May West Lakes Academy. Held in conjunction with One Cumbria – Cumbria's Teaching School Hub. More information and booking [here](#).

## Resources & CPD continued

- **Cumbria SACRE RE Conference:** Our annual conference will be for primary and secondary schools on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at North Lakes Hotel, Penrith. Contact [schooldevelopment@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:schooldevelopment@cumbria.gov.uk) to book. See final page for full programme.
- **SAPERE Level 1 Foundation Course Philosophy for Children:** Start practising P4C with your pupils. This 2-day course will be held at Robert Ferguson School (which has a long history of practising P4C) on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September. For further information and booking [here](#)
- **SAPERE Level 2B course** – watch this space for a date in Carlisle. Can't wait – do check out the [SAPERE website](#) for national courses.

### National CPD & Funding

- **Exploring Humanism with Early Years Children** – made easy through an exciting new digital VAT tool. Join Gill Vaisey on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March for this free online session in conjunction with the RE Resources Centre (North East). Book [here](#).
- **Muslim Learner Services:** Pupil workshops, assemblies, resources, artefacts and CPD. More information [here](#). Imran Kotwal has visited many schools across Cumbria.
- **The Culham St Gabriel's Leadership Programme:** This two-stage programme aims to help teachers find their voice as leaders of religion and worldviews. Applications usually open in January each year, and close in March. More information [here](#). Cumbria SACRE Chair, Jane Yates was one of eight people selected to be part of the 2022-2023 cohort for the Stage 2 programme.
- **Free Self-Study RE Courses – Culham St Gabriels Trust:** Introduction to religion and worldviews, Introduction to curriculum and Introduction to research. To enrol please click [here](#).
- **Farmington Scholarships:** The 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. The academic facilities of the colleges and universities are available for Scholars. Applications for the Farmington Scholarship for 2022-2023 will open in October 2022. More information [here](#).
- **NATRE** are providing regular online CPD with prices according to your NATRE membership status. More information [here](#).
- **The Jerusalem Trust: RE Grants for Schools** The Jerusalem Trust's Small Grants to Schools Scheme supports the teaching about Christianity within Religious Education. The scheme operates by providing schools with grants of up to £600 to purchase resources for use in RE lessons. More information [here](#).
- **AREIAC CPD opportunities:** A series of webinars during the year. All are **free for AREIAC members**, non-members please mail the chair (chair@areiac.org.uk) - [download flyer](#)

# **Cumbria SACRE RE Conference**

## **A Religious Education for the Future – Understanding Religion and Worldviews for a Life in a Changing World**

**SD 129**

**Monday 26 June 2023**  
**North Lakes Hotel, Penrith, CA11 8QT**

**Main Providers: Stephen Pett** (National RE Advisor, RE Today) **Saima Saleh** (NATRE Local Groups Officer) and **Cumbria SACRE members**

- 8.45am Arrivals and refreshments
- 9.00am Welcome, introductions and **launch of the new Cumbria Agreed Syllabus for RE** with Cumbria SACRE members
- 9.30am Keynote: **A disciplinary approach to RE** with Stephen Pett
- 10.30am Break and RE marketplace
- 10.50am **Enhancing Religious Literacy** with Saima Saleh and Jane Yates  
*How can we use etymology in RE? Decolonising words in RE.*
- 12.00pm Lunch and RE marketplace
- 1.00pm **The impact of film in the RE classroom** with Michael Wilkinson (Managing Director UK, ClickView), Martyn Soulsby (Adviser, ClickView) and pupils/teachers from North Lakes School
- 1.30pm Parallel Workshops (choose one)  
1. **Active and engaging activities for RE in KS4/5** with Stephen Pett  
2. **More than Pillars and Prayer Mats:** Diversity within Islam with Saima Saleh  
3. **A disciplinary approach in EYFS:** Provider TBC
- 2.30pm Break and RE marketplace
- 2.45pm **Changing the world:** exploring the impact of worldviews with Stephen Pett
- 3.45pm Final words and evaluation
- 4.00pm Close

*For details of marketplace organisations attending please join Facebook group(closed): [RE Teachers in Cumbria](#) or Twitter: [@SACRE Cumbria](#) #CumbriaSharingRE*