



REach

Denbighshire and Conwy SACRE Newsletter

Issue 2: Summer 2022

HELLO

and welcome to REach, the newsletter supporting the work of Denbighshire and Conwy's SACREs. This is our second edition.

The first edition explained the role of purpose of SACRE and need for a newsletter, you can access the first edition [here](#). The Welsh Association of SACRE recently published a '[Handbook for SACRE members in Wales](#)'. This helpful guide also provides details about the purpose and role of a local SACRE.

For information about the Curriculum for Wales 2022 please watch this 35 minute [training session](#) organised by Denbighshire Local Authority.



Religious Education and the New Curriculum

The Curriculum for Wales was published on the 28th January 2020. The change from Religious Education to Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) was explained in the previous edition. Religion, Values and Ethics is one of five distinct disciplines contained in the Humanities AOLE which include Geography, History, Social Studies and Business Studies. Religion, Values and Ethics will be taught to all primary school children and possibly year 7 learners from Sept 2022.

Secondary schools may defer the teaching of the new curriculum until Sept 2023. If a secondary school chooses to do this they will teach the new curriculum, including RVE, to both year 7 and 8 in Sept 2023. Secondary schools will continue to teach the current curriculum, including the current Agreed Syllabus, to pupils in year 8 in Sept 2022 and the pre 2022 curriculum will follow them during their time in compulsory secondary education. The current curriculum is called [Curriculum for Wales 2008](#) and can be accessed on the Hwb website (correct at the time of writing).

Right to Withdraw

There will be no right to withdraw a pupil from Religion, Values and Ethics, but parents with children receiving the current Religious Education (e.g. Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 in Sept 2022) will continue to have the right to withdraw their child from RE. This may result in parents withdrawing a year 10 learner but not withdrawing a child in year 7.

Compulsory Post 16 RVE

Compulsory post 16 RVE will be removed from September 2027, although pupils may request RVE provision to which a school must oblige. For more details about the right to withdraw and Post 16 RVE see the [Curriculum for Wales Legislative Summary](#).

Religion, Values and Ethics Guidance and the Agreed Syllabus.

The new [Curriculum for Wales](#) is available on Hwb. It contains all of the information a school will need to be able to design their curriculum. It includes the legislative changes and information about all the mandatory elements including the Four Purposes, the Areas of Learning and Experience and the Descriptions of Learning. There is a specific area for the [Humanities](#). Within this area, section 5, titled [Designing your Curriculum](#), outlines the specific disciplinary concepts and contexts for all 5 humanities subjects.

Religion, Values and Ethics, like Religious Education, is still a locally determined subject and as such each Local Authority has the responsibility of agreeing a syllabus for its local schools. Welsh Government has published [Religion Values and Ethics guidance](#) that all Local Authorities must have regard to when creating their Agreed Syllabuses. Both Denbighshire and Conwy SACREs have adopted the content of this guidance as their Agreed Syllabus. The Agreed Syllabus will be available from Conwy and Denbighshire's LA websites, but schools are advised to use the RVE guidance on Hwb as they design the RVE areas of their curriculum.

You may have missed:



Agored Exploring Worldviews

Agored Cymru has developed 'Exploring Worldviews', a suite of level 1 and 2

qualifications supporting an understanding of religious and non-religious worldviews. The qualification meets the three core skills set out in the exemplar framework (current curriculum), and it provides opportunities for exploring the concepts for RVE through the statements of what matters in the Humanities area of learning and experience in the Curriculum for Wales (new curriculum). It is not designed to replace the current Religious Studies GCSE, however, it will provide an accessible recognised qualification whilst allowing a school to meet its statutory obligation at Key Stage 4. Please [click here](#) for more details.



St Giles' Centre is situated in the heart of Wrexham in North East Wales within the grounds of the impressive St Giles' Parish Church. It is a centre that provides specialist RVE and collective worship support for teachers in Wrexham working in partnership with the Local Authority. The Centre's website is kept up to date with current events relevant to RVE in Wales. The

['Professional Learning'](#) section contains news articles, training videos and written blogs that cover essential updates about what is happening in the world of RVE in Wales, in England and across Europe. Please [click here](#) to access their website.

Local SACREs meet three times each year, information about SACRE meetings can be found on your Local Authority Websites.

Denbighshire is looking for teachers to join its SACRE.

Current Teacher member vacancies:

- Primary Headteacher
- Primary Classroom Teacher

To access the current Agreed Syllabus and resources supporting RE and collective worship please join our North Wales Religious Education Hwb Network... <https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3> and/or our the Conwy or Denbighshire Microsoft TEAMS. Please email lordp2@hwbcymru.net for more information.

Resources:



Hwb - RVE Professional Development

The Welsh Association of SACREs have been working in partnership to develop a suite of Professional Learning modules on RVE in the new curriculum. 10 playlists will be made available during the 2022 Autumn Term. The first five will cover 'What's New' for senior leaders and teachers in a range of school settings and are due to be published early in September. Playlists on the cross curricular skills, progression, assessment and pedagogy will follow later in the term.



16+ Challenging Religious Issues

Challenging Religious Issues is a journal for students and teachers of AS and A-level Religious Studies. It is also a useful resource for anyone who wants to develop or refresh their subject knowledge. Over 65 open access journal articles have been published in the journal so far including articles written by leading scholars and practitioners. The articles are linked to Religious Studies A-level specifications. The articles are interactive through the use of 'discussion points' and live links to relevant external websites. All issues are available in English and Welsh. The St Giles' Centre has funded and managed the Welsh language version from issue 14 onwards. Please [click here](#) to access the Challenging Religious Issues from the St Giles website.

Conwy is looking for teachers to join its SACRE.

Current Teacher member vacancies:

- Primary Head Teacher
- Primary Classroom Teacher
- Special School Teacher

Please contact LordP2@hwbcymru.net if you are interested or want more information

Future Newsletters We would like to include articles showcasing good practice for RE and Collective Worship across North Wales. If you like to contribute to REach please contact LordP2@hwbcymru.net

