



Learn Teach Lead Religious Education Area 2

We have successfully appointed a Project Director for this initiative.

Ed Pawson is a Local Authority/SACRE Adviser, a recently appointed Diocesan Primary RE/Collective Worship education officer and the Assistant to the Chair of NATRE (the National Association of teachers of RE). This equips him with skills and experience at both a local and national level.

He has been a secondary RE teacher since 1992 and for the last 16 years he has headed up a highly successful RE Department, with a record of attracting large numbers of students who achieve outstanding GCSE and A Level grades. The department also contributes significantly to students' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional development. In recognition of this, his school was awarded the RE Quality Mark Gold certificate in 2014.

As Adviser to Devon SACRE he takes a lead role in Agreed Syllabus reviews, schools monitoring visits and faith and belief visitor training. At a national level, as former Chair of NATRE; a role he held for 6 years (until earlier this year), he is a prominent voice for RE teachers, representing the views of the classroom with Government ministers, MPs, APPG, DfE, Ofqual, Exam Groups etc, pushing RE to the fore and propelling RE issues into the media through articles, interviews and press releases. He has a good profile on social media and at national RE conferences, raising the professional and public understanding of the subject, offering vision and leadership.

The area covered in this part of the project is from Taunton to Swindon: the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Bath and Wells and Bristol.

Main Duties

The project Director will have overall responsibility for the identification and support of training needs for teachers of RE across the Primary and Secondary phase in this area.

The Vision of the Project

To identify the unmet needs with regards to the teaching of Religious Education; in the Taunton to Swindon area (The geographical area covered by Bath and Wells and Bristol Diocese). And from this develop a project to improve the quality of teaching and learning outcomes, and leadership.

The Aims of the Project:

- To identify and prioritise training and resource needs for Primary and Secondary teachers of RE (including TAs and HLTAs in the Primary Sector) in the Southwest that are currently not being met effectively elsewhere
- To create plan and deliver a range of strategies to meet these needs such as:
 - Relevant training which includes: core knowledge; academic input; sharing good practice
 - Dissemination of good practice through the LTLRE website and other appropriate websites
- To set up and strengthen established support networks for RE across the region in Regional Network Group Hubs led by lead RE teachers (with a view to them applying to become SLEs towards the end of the project and/or working towards the Masters Teaching Standards). To develop a coherent and sustainable approach to the teaching and learning in RE.
- To support the established LTLRE Web based on line community to facilitate the dissemination of good practice and availability of resources and provide regular RSS feeds

Intended beneficiaries:

- Pupils in all schools across the region
- Teachers of RE (particularly non-specialists) and subject leaders in the Taunton to Swindon area
- Trainee teachers and Teaching Assistants (particularly non-specialists) and those new to teaching/leading RE

Accountability:

The Project Director will report to the Steering group which is chaired by the Project Lead, Katy Staples. The Steering group will:

- Provide guidance and support in terms of shaping the key priorities in the project and monitor the development of the project
- Actively contribute to the conferences, training sessions for hub leaders and development of support materials
- Attend steering group meetings (twice yearly)
- Where practicable support the hub sessions
- Support the project director in the effective leadership of the project

Key Elements of post:

- Overall management of the project
- Oversee selection and support for lead RE practitioners
- Prepare and deliver high quality RE input to project participants to enrich learning and improve standards in the subject
- Liaise with hub leaders so that hub sessions are purposeful, focussed and lead to improved learning in RE, addressing the identified areas of weakness in the subject
- Liaise regularly with the Project Lead and report to the Steering Group on the project's progress
- Provide the trust with annual reports of the project's progress and a final summative evaluation of the project and its impact on participants
- Plan training in conjunction with local SACREs provision and in partnership with the steering group and hub leaders
- Liaise with the LTLRE website so it is effectively utilised to enhance the quality of the project and resources developed during the project are shared effectively and promoted nationally
- Liaise with the administrator in ensuring all aspects of the project (training, hub sessions, training for hub leaders, steering group meetings) are clearly and effectively administered

While certain tasks will be clearly defined in advance, the role is a fluid one requiring a flexibility of approach

This is a free lance post on a self- employed basis for 20 days in the first year at £350 per day to be worked by mutual agreement with the Project Lead and Steering Group.