Standing Advisory Council (for Religious Education)

GWYNEDD
ANNUAL REPORT

September 2025 - August 2026

Head of the Education Department

Mr Gwern ap Rhisiart

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SECTION 1:
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAC(RE)'s function in relation to Religion, Values and Ethics and Religious Education

The requirement for LAs as regards Standing Advisory Councils for Religion, Values and Ethics and Agreed Syllabus conferences are set out in the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2022, Part 3 Section 9 (3.1A) and Part 3 Section 7(7) and Section 390 of the Education Reform Act 1996.

SAC(RE) advises the Education Authority on matters relating to the provision of Religious Education, Religion, Values and Ethics and collective worship, and is responsible for the establishment of an ad hoc body, the Agreed Syllabus Conference, to produce or consider amendments to the Agreed Syllabus for Religious, Values and Ethics.

1.1 Introduction by the Chair

SECTION 2: ADVICE to GWYNEDD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

2.1 SAC(RE)'s function in relation to Religion, Values and Ethics

The requirement for LAs as regards Standing Advisory Councils (for Religion, Values and Ethics) and Agreed Syllabus conferences are set out in the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2022, Part 3 Section 9 (3.1A) and Part 3 Section 7(7) and Section 390 of the Education Reform Act 1996.

SAC(RE) advises the Education Authority on matters relating to the provision of Religious Education, Religion, Values and Ethics and collective worship, and is responsible for the establishment of an ad hoc body, the Agreed Syllabus Conference, to produce or consider amendments to the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

2.2 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

A SAC(RE)'s main function is *'...to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the Religious Education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.'* (Education Reform Act 1988 s.11 (1) (a).

Gwynedd and Anglesey SAC(RE)s have previously adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3 to 19 year old learners' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Gwynedd and Anglesey (2008). Due to the phased role out of the Curriculum for Wales, This Syllabus was relevant for year 11 learners in during 2025-26.

Gwynedd County Council held their Agreed Syllabus Conference 1st February 2022 to review the syllabus and to recommend an appropriate syllabus to the Local Authority to adopt.

The Agreed Syllabus on Religion, Values and Ethics was adopted to reflect guidance written by practitioners and Religious Education experts. The purpose of the syllabus is to provide additional support on how Religion, Values and Ethics can be taught within the field of Humanities. Gwynedd Agreed Syllabus for Religion Values and Ethics is based on Welsh Governments Guidance for Religion, Values and Ethics. The guidance emphasises that Religion, Values and Ethics are an integral part of the Humanities area or learning and experience. It also outlines the subject's unique and specific contribution to the Curriculum for Wales.

The Guidance can be accessed below:

- https://hwb.llyw.cymru/cwricwlwm-i-gymru/meysydd-dysgu-a-phrofiad/y-dyniaethau/cynllunio-eich-cwricwlwm/#section-0-4
- https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/areas-of-learning-and experience/humanities/designing-your-curriculum/#section-0-4

During the academic year 2025-26, in accordance with the changes to the Curriculum for Wales 2022, Religion, Values and Ethics was taught to all primary school children and learners in year 7, 8, 9 and 10. In the academic year 2025-26, secondary schools continued to teach the pre 2022 curriculum (called Curriculum for Wales 2008), including the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, to pupils in year 11.

The Agreed Syllabus, conforming to the requirements of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022, relates the subject titled 'Religion, Values and Ethics'. The previous Agreed Syllabus, still applicable for secondary schools for the reasons described above, relates to the subject titled 'Religious Education'. This is an important distinction.

2.3 How good are standards?

In previous years Gwynedd SAC(RE) has monitored religious education and collective worship by: receiving a summary of a school's self-evaluation report in response to the key questions of ESTYN's Inspection Framework; analysing the Local Authority's teacher assessments and secondary examination results; reviewing ESTYN inspection reports for references to 'religious education' or 'collective worship'; inviting teachers and head teachers to share their good practices with members in the termly meetings, and by, accepting schools' invitations to attend a collective worship session.

2.3.1 Schools' self-evaluation reports

SAC(RE) members resolved at their meeting on 9 February 2011, to continue to receive copies of schools' self- evaluation of religious education and collective worship and asked head teachers to use a revised template.

No school self-evaluations have been received since the COVID-19 pandemic. Gwynedd schools have not been asked to provide self-evaluations for the Gwynedd SAC(RE).

2.3.2 Teacher assessment and external examination results in the secondary sector

Due to continued guidance from Welsh Government on the way data is presented and to avoid arbitrary comparison of schools, members were not presented with and were unable to discuss the comparative examination data for examinations awarded in 2025/26.

The table below gives an overview of trends in pupil numbers pursuing Religious Education in GCSE.

Ysgol	2022 (Short Course)		2022 (Full Course)		2023		2024		2025	
YSGOL BOTWNNOG		0.0%	1	1.4%	15	14.4%	10	10.9%	7	7.8%
YSGOL BRO IDRIS		0.0%	5	6.3%	6	14.0%	15	11.6%	11	28.9%
YSGOL BRYNREFAIL		0.0%	11	8.5%	9	6.7%	6	9.8%	7	5.4%
YSGOL DYFFRYN NANTLLE	1	1.4%	14	20.3%	8	11.4%	9	16.4%		0.0%
YSGOL DYFFRYN OGWEN		0.0%	10	11.9%	11	16.4%	10	14.5%	3	4.0%
YSGOL EIFIONYDD		0.0%	5	7.0%	4	5.6%	101	42.8%	9	11.3%
YSGOL FRIARS	84	35.4%	88	37.1%	127	56.7%	8	7.5%	79	35.9%
YSGOL GODRE'R BERWYN		0.0%	6	5.9%	10	11.0%	21	32.3%	16	25.8%
YSGOL TRYFAN		0.0%	43	27.0%	10	13.9%	14	18.4%	10	10.3%
YSGOL Y MOELWYN	1	1.4%	6	8.2%	34	22.4%	10	14.5%	10	16.7%

2.4 Response of Local Authority

Mair Huws, Assistant Education Resources Officer for Gwynedd Council ensures that any guidance or recommendations made by Gwynedd SAC(RE) is communicated directly to the primary and secondary head teachers.

Up until April 2018, Gwynedd Council commissioned GwE (School Effectiveness and Improvement Service)

to support Gwynedd SAC(RE) meetings and to represent Gwynedd SAC(RE) in regional and national meetings. In March 2018, the Gwynedd SAC(RE) clerk was notified that GwE would no longer be providing professional support to Gwynedd SAC(RE).

Both Primary and some Secondary schools implemented the Curriculum for Wales from September 2022 (and September 2023 in the case of some Secondary schools). Education is therefore in the midst of a period of great change, which made it difficult to monitor standards within Religious, Values and Ethics and Religious Education during subsequent years.

Following a further discussion with the Local Authority it was agreed that Phil Lord, an independent RVE consultant would start supporting Gwynedd SAC(RE) from summer 2025 term.

2.5 Religion, Values and Ethics and the Welsh Government

- The 'Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021' makes it explicit that any agreed syllabus for RVE must reflect both religious beliefs and also non-religious beliefs which are philosophical convictions. The inclusion of 'Non-Religious Philosophical Convictions' had already been included in the Gwynedd Agreed Syllabus. Gwynedd SAC(RE) constitution has been amended to include membership of the British humanists (BHA) as part of Committee A. A member of the BHA sits on Committee A.
- Phil Lord continues to be commissioned by the LA as a professional consultant to support the work of Gwynedd SAC(RE).
- SAC(RE) members welcomed Joanna Thomas, the new director of Education for the Bangor Church in Wales Diocese.
- SAC(RE) created a development plan to support its strategic support for RVE and Collective Worship. Its has three priorities:
    - Priority 1: To develop the effectiveness of SAC(RE)
    - Priority 2: Monitor and support the provision of RE, RVE, in the schools of the Local Authority.
    - Priority 3: Monitor and support the provision of collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority.
- SAC(RE) members were informed of the European Forum of Teachers of RE (EFTRE) summer conference in Budapest.
- Luke Donnellan, director of Understanding Humanism provided a presentation about resources useful for schools.
- A range of materials to help schools managing the removal or the right to withdraw pupils from RVE have been created and made available to schools.
- Anna Silver provided a presentation about resources to help schools teaching about Judaism.

2.6 Religion, Values and Ethics and ESTYN

During the academic year, 13 schools' inspection reports were presented to SAC(RE) members. Schools were inspected between May '25 and January '26.

- Ysgol Santes Helen
- Ysgol Llanystumdwy
- Ysgol Bro Hedd Wyn
- Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes
- Ysgol Gynradd Talysarn
- Ysgol Brynaerau
- Ysgol Llandygai
- Ysgol Eifion Wyn
- Ysgol Llanllyfni
- Ysgol Abercaseg
- Ysgol Pen-y-bryn

- Ysgol Y Gelli
- Ysgol Gynradd Bontnewydd

There are no subject judgments in the current Estyn inspection framework. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a schools' provision of SMSC.

There is no expectation for inspectors to report on whether a school meets the statutory duty to provide a daily act of collective worship, there would be an expectation of a comment in the report if a school were to be found in breach of its statutory duty.

As part of the process of monitoring, Estyn Inspection Reports are analysed for comments on collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). These are compiled and noted by SAC(RE).

2.7 SAC(RE)'s function in relation to collective worship

Welsh Office Circular 10/94 notes that the LEA should work with SAC(RE) to keep an eye on the daily collective worship provision, and should consider with it any steps which may be taken to improve such provision.

The collective worship must be "of a broadly Christian character". The "determination" procedure permits the suspension of these requirements in relation to some or all of the pupils in a school where they are deemed inappropriate.

SAC(RE) members and Gwynedd schools have previously received collective worship guidance documents:
Guidance on Collective Worship (WASACRE, June 2013)
Supplementary guidance: collective worship in non-denominational schools' (ESTYN, October 2017);

2.8 Determinations

There was no request from any school for a determination in relation to collective worship

SAC(RE)'s Recommendations to Gwynedd Council

Ensure that schools conform to the statutory requirement for collective worship and provide quality collective worship sessions;

Encourage schools to invite Gwynedd SAC(RE) Member to attend collective worship within schools

SECTION 3: ANNEXES

3.1 General information about the composition of SAC(RE)

a) SAC(RE) was established by **Gwynedd Education Committee in 1996 to**

include: Christians and Other Faiths, namely,

- The Methodist Church
- The Union of Welsh Baptists
- The Presbyterian Church of Wales
- The Church in Wales
- Union of Welsh Independents
- The Catholic Church

Teachers, namely;

- The Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)
- National Union of Teachers in Wales (UCAC)
- National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
- National Union of Teachers (NUT)
- Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL)
- National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT)

Elected members

b) The Constitution of Gwynedd SAC(RE) was reviewed in April 2019 to include:

- **Christianity and other religions-** keep at 6 representatives, one from each of the following belief traditions, Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism and the Humanist beliefs
- **Representation of Teachers and Headteachers -** keep at 5
- **Elected Members -** keep at 7
- **Co-opted -** SAC(RE) Committee to retain the right to co-opt members
- there are 3 votes, namely 1 for each Group - the Co-opted members do not have a vote

c) The Constitution was further reviewed in September 2022 to amend the Teacher group as follows:

- Representation of Teachers and Headteachers – retain at 5

The seats to be allocated as follows:

3 seats to be shared between the recognised Teachers' Unions (NAS/UWT; UCAC; NEU; ASCL and NAHT) – to be decided by the Gwynedd Teachers' Union Forum.

1 seat to be filled by the Primary and Special Catchment Areas Consultative Group (GYDCA)

1 seat to be filled by the Gwynedd Secondary Headteachers Group (GSCU)

3.2 SAC(RE) membership of Gwynedd 2023-24

Christians and Other Religions

The Methodist Church	Rev Nick Sissons
Union of Welsh Baptists	Eurfryn Davies
Presbyterian Church of Wales	Gwawr Maelor Williams
Church in Wales	Joanna Wood
Union of Welsh Independents	Bethan Davies Jones
The Catholic Church	Eirian Bradley Roberts
Buddism	Patrycja Bielak Smith
Humanists	Edward Parri-Jones
Judaism	Nathan Abrams
Islam	Mr Mohamed Arabi
Hinduism	Dr Sibani Roy
Baha'i Faith	Jean Owen

Teachers' representatives

UCAC	Emma Roberts (Ysgol Botwnnog)
NASUWT	Miriam Amlyn (Ysgol Eifionydd)
NEU	Heledd Owen (Ysgol Friars)
NAHT	Vacancy
Secondary Headteachers group (GSCU)	Eleri Moss (Ysgol y Moelwyn)

Local Members

Councillor Paul Rowlinson	Plaid Cymru
Councillor Meryl Roberts	Plaid Cymru
Councillor Elin Walker Jones	Plaid Cymru
Councillor Menna Baines	Plaid Cymru
Councillor Jina Gwyrfai	Plaid Cymru
Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones	Independent
Councillor John Pughe Roberts	Independent

Co-opted members (non voting)

Officers

Gwern ap Rhisiart	Head of Education Department
Mair Huws	Assistant education resources officer and SAC(RE) clerk
Rhodri Jones	Democratic Services officer

3.3 SAC(RE) meetings 2025-26

Dates of meetings may be obtained by visting Gwynedd CySAG . During 2025-2026 Gwynedd SAC(RE) met three times through Zoom:

18th November 2025
11th February 2026
30th June 2026 – Not Quorate

The following matters were discussed and further details are provided in the minutes and the main body of the report:

a) 18th November 2025

- Phil Lord (Independent Adviser) presented the Welsh Government RVE playlist, explaining that the resources had been commissioned through WASACRE to support schools' transition to the new curriculum and clarify the differences between Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) and Religious Education. The playlist comprises six modules for Early Years, Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, Additional Learning Needs (ALN), Headteachers and Governors, with the new sixth module specifically supporting governors. Each module includes practical elements and strong examples of classroom use. The headteachers' module outlines the implications of curriculum changes, including the removal of parents' right to withdraw children from RVE and teachers' right to withdraw from teaching it, with associated staffing implications.

- Phil Lord (Independent Adviser) presented exemplar RVE and collective worship policies to support schools in discussions with parents. The basic RVE policy explains the subject's aims of fostering understanding and tolerance of Wales' diverse religions, the benefits of the new curriculum and the removal of parents' right to withdraw children, offering support and protection to schools facing concerns. The more comprehensive collective worship policy, tailored to Gwynedd schools, provides a basis for dialogue and defines worship as time for the school community to reflect on important values, drawing on, but not solely on, the Christian tradition; optional evaluation questions could be appended.

- Phil Lord (Independent Adviser) reported on the EFTRE Conference 2025 in Hungary, attended by 60 delegates from across Europe. He noted that Religious Education was generally confessional in most European countries, with a strong church presence in Germany depending on the region, while Scandinavian provision was closer to Wales but placed greater emphasis on knowledge than discussion. The presentations he attended explored encouraging questioning in lessons, concerns that children lacked vocabulary to discuss real-world issues such as war and the pandemic as these questions were raised less often in society, and the relationship between Judaism and Islam. He also reported that a bid had been submitted to host the EFTRE Conference 2026 in Cardiff.

b) 11th February 2026

- Luke Donnellan, Director of Understanding Humanism at Humanists UK, outlined the benefits of including non-religious philosophical convictions in Wales' RVE curriculum: enriching knowledge, promoting mutual understanding and social cohesion, and supporting personal development. He described Humanism as a non-religious worldview emphasising humanity's place in nature, scientific understanding, one life, ethics independent of religion and responsibility for improving the world. He highlighted teachers' resources and training, bilingual materials for Wales and the book 'My Humanist Family' for young children.

- Phil Lord (Independent Consultant) presented guidance on managing parental requests to withdraw children from RVE, outlining the historical shift from predominantly local Christian teaching to multi-faith provision and the removal of the parental right of withdrawal from RVE in 2022. The document categorises parental concerns and suggests appropriate responses to support schools when requests arise despite the absence of a right to withdraw. Members thanked him and welcomed the guidance as a proactive resource, noting that no equivalent document was available for Gwynedd schools. It was suggested that the Education Department make it accessible to teachers through the education SharePoint.

c) 30th June 2026 – Not Quorate

Gwynedd SAC(RE) has affiliated with the Wales Association of SAC(RE)s and its members regularly attend meetings held by WASACRE.

3.3.1 The following provide SAC(RE) with professional support:

Gwern ap Rhisiart	Head of Education Department
Mair Huws	Assistant education improvement officer and SAC(RE) clerk
Rhodri Jones	Democratic Services Officer
Phil Lord	Independent RVE Consultant

Enquiries should be sent to the SAC(RE) Clerk at the Education Department, Gwynedd Council, Caernarfon, Gwynedd. LL55 1SH

3.3.2 The SAC(RE) report was sent to the following organisations:

Electronic copies of the annual report are to be distributed to the following:

- Department for Education and Skills, Welsh Government
- Head of Gwynedd's Education Department
- Gwynedd Council Leader
- Wales Association of SAC(RE)s
- Gwynedd schools

A copy was distributed to:

- Members of Gwynedd SAC(RE)

Appendix 3.3.4 RVE - Useful Links and Resources

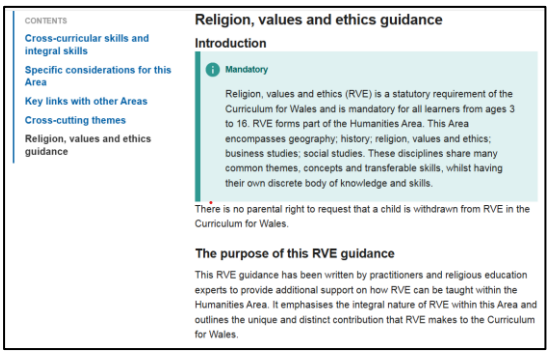
1) Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics (Curriculum for Wales 2022)
2) Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (Curriculum for Wales 2008)
3) Estyn
4) Example RVE Policy
5) Curriculum for Wales 2022 (training video – Denbighshire LA)
6) Religion, Values and Ethics – Supporting Guidance (Conwy LA)
7) Unpacking the Humanities AOLE (Secondary) (GwE training)
8) Comprehensive Guide to RE and RE in the Foundation Phase
9) Religious Education Quality Mark
10) North Wales RE Hwb Network
11) RE:Online
12) AGORED Cymru level 2 award in exploring worldviews
13) WJEC GCSE Religious Studies - Teaching from 2025
14) Diversity and anti-racism professional learning (DARPL)
15) National Association for Teachers of Religious Education
16) RE Today Services
17) Post 16 Challenging Religious Issues (E-Journal)
18) European Forum for Teachers of Religious Education
19) Welsh Government Professional Learning Modules for RVE
20) Conwy Agreed Syllabus Professional Learning
21) RE HUBS
22) National Centre of RE for Wales (Bangor)
23) St Giles Centre (Wrexham)

1) Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics (Curriculum for Wales 2022)

Gwynedd Local Authority Published its Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics during the summer of 2023. The Agreed Syllabus is based on Welsh Governments' Religion, Values and Ethics Guidance.

During the academic year 2024-25, in accordance with the changes to the curriculum for Wales 2022, Religion, Values and Ethics was taught to all primary school children and learners in year 7, 8 and 9.

In the academic year 2024-25, secondary schools continued to teach the pre 2022 curriculum (called Curriculum for Wales 2008), including the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, to pupils from years 10 to 11.


CONTENTS

Cross-curricular skills and integral skills

Specific considerations for this Area

Key links with other Areas

Cross-cutting themes

Religion, values and ethics guidance

Religion, values and ethics guidance

Introduction

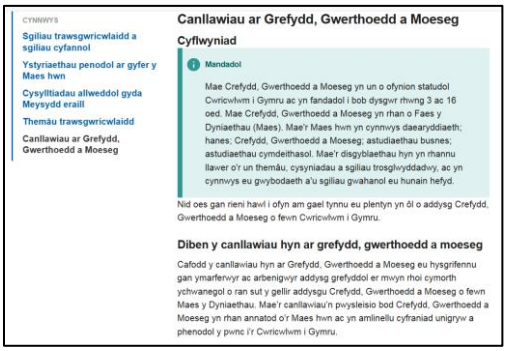
Mandatory

Religion, values and ethics (RVE) is a statutory requirement of the Curriculum for Wales and is mandatory for all learners from ages 3 to 16. RVE forms part of the Humanities Area. This Area encompasses geography; history; religion, values and ethics; business studies; social studies. These disciplines share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills, whilst having their own discrete body of knowledge and skills.

There is no parental right to request that a child is withdrawn from RVE in the Curriculum for Wales.

The purpose of this RVE guidance

This RVE guidance has been written by practitioners and religious education experts to provide additional support on how RVE can be taught within the Humanities Area. It emphasises the integral nature of RVE within this Area and outlines the unique and distinct contribution that RVE makes to the Curriculum for Wales.


CYNNWYS

Sgiliau trawsgwricwlaidd a sgiliau cyfannol

Ystyriaethau penodol ar gyfer y Maes hwn

Cysylltiadau allweddol gyda Meysydd eraill

Themâu trawsgwricwlaidd

Canllawiau ar Grefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg

Canllawiau ar Grefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg

Cyflwyniad

Mandadol

Mae Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn un o ofynion statudol Cwricwlwm i Gymru ac yn fandadol i bob dysgwr rhwng 3 ac 16 oed. Mae Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn rhan o Faes y Dyniaethau (Maes). Mae'r Maes hwn yn cynnwys daearyddiaeth; hanes; Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg; astudiaethau busnes; astudiaethau cymdeithasol. Mae'r disgyblaethau hyn yn rhannu llawer o'r un themâu, cysyniadau a sgiliau trosglwyddadwy, ac yn cynnwys eu gwybodaeth a'u sgiliau gwahanol eu hunain hefyd.

Nid oes gan rieni hawl i ofyn am gael tynnu eu plentyn yn ôl o addysg Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg o fewn Cwricwlwm i Gymru.

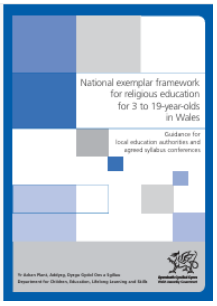
Diben y canllawiau hyn ar grefydd, gwerthoedd a moeseg

Cafodd y canllawiau hyn ar Grefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg eu hysgrifennu gan ymarferwyr ac arbenigwyr addysg grefyddol er mwyn rhoi cymorth ychwanegol o ran sut y gellir addysgu Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg o fewn Maes y Dyniaethau. Mae'r canllawiau'n pwysleisio bod Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn rhan annatod o'r Maes hwn ac yn amlinellu cyfraniad unigryw a phenodol y pwnc i'r Cwricwlwm i Gymru.

2) Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (Curriculum for Wales 2008)

The new Agreed Syllabus, conforming to the requirements of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022, relates the subject titled 'Religion, Values and Ethics. The previous Agreed Syllabus, still applicable for secondary schools for the reasons described above, relates to the subject titled 'Religious Education'. This is an important distinction.

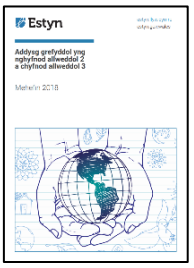


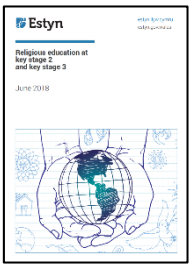


Gwynedd adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for 'Religious Education' in 2008. To download a copy of the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education please click on the images above.

3) Estyn

Estyn conducted a thematic review of Religious Education at key stage 2 and key stage 3. Estyn published its findings June 2018. The report provided recommendations as a result of its findings. Click image to see report:





Estyn provide **Supplementary Guidance** to help inspectors to consider specific aspects of education and training. In 2021, Estyn published guidance on '*Equity, human rights and English as an additional language'.* Many of the aspects Inspectors *should consider* when inspecting this area can be supported by effective RE or RVE teaching.

Estyn also publish **Effective Practice** case studies. The following highlight good practice in RVE or RE.

- Provision to develop pupils' understanding of histories, stories and contributions of black, Asian and minority ethnic people (May 2025)
- Sgwrs Podcast: Towards an Anti-Racist Wales (Feb 2025)
- Promoting pupils' multicultural and moral development. (May 2024)
- How the school uses the wider outdoor environment and community (Cynefin) to enhance pupils' learning experience. (July 2023)

4) Example RVE Policy

- SAC(RE) have developed an example policy for RVE – It is important to note that it is not a requirement for schools to have a RVE policy. However, this policy may help to clarify how RVE should be designed and delivered in your school.
- RVE Policy – English
- Polisi CGMoeseg – Cymraeg

5) Curriculum for Wales 2022

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

6) Religion, Values and Ethics – Supporting Guidance

Supporting Guidance has been created to support the understanding and planning of RVE within context of the curriculum for Wales 2022. The guidance contains information about:

- RVE concepts
- Concepts cross-referenced with the Humanities AOLE Statements of What Matters and Descriptions of Learning
- RVE Lenses
- RVE Journeys
- Points to consider for schools and settings.



Download a copy using the links below:
English
Welsh

7) Unpacking the Humanities AOLE (Secondary)

During the summer term, GwE provided two training sessions for secondary school humanities teachers providing key messages regarding this AOLE.
The first session focus:

- An understanding of the mandatory elements of the Curriculum for Wales framework in relation to the Humanities
- The principles of planning and key considerations for the Humanities
- The pedagogical considerations within the 'Designing your curriculum' section outlined in the AoLE guidance

Presentation English
Presentation Welsh
Video English
Video Welsh

The second session focus:

- Developing a shared understanding of the learning continuum
- Considering approaches to planning and assessment
- Exploring effective pedagogical approaches within and beyond the AoLE

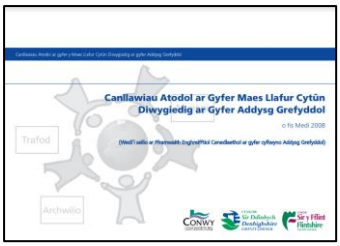
Presentation English
Presentation Welsh
Video English
Video Welsh

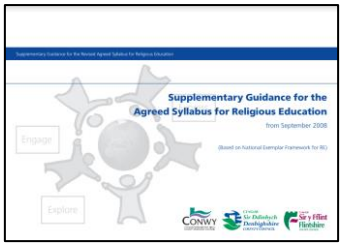
8) Comprehensive Guide to RE and RE in the Foundation Phase

The SAC(RE) and the LA have previously provided comprehensive documents and materials in support of the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, and these contain advice on methods of teaching and delivery of RE.

The planning documents, 'Comprehensive Guide to RE' and 'RE in the Foundation Phase', which complement the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, continue to be accessed and used by schools. These resources may be adapted for the delivery of RVE in the primary sector and will continue to be relevant to year groups being taught Religious Education. The resources are available on a Hwb Network - North Wales Religious Education Network. To download a copy of these resources please go to:

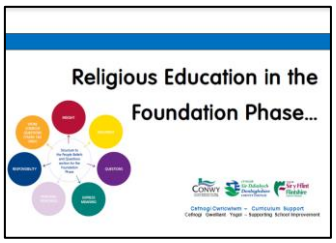
Comprehensive Guide to RE
English
Welsh





RE in the Foundation Phase
English
Welsh





9) Religious Education Quality Mark

Self-evaluation materials continue to be promoted and are available on the REQM website. The RE Quality Mark recognises, celebrates and publicises outstanding religious education in all primary and secondary schools in England, Wales and Northern Ireland through its three levels of award, bronze, silver and gold. More information about the quality mark can be found on https://www.reqm.org/

Self Evaluation Materials:
RE-Quality-Mark-Criteria-2024.docx
Meini-Prawf-MAAG-2024.docx

10) North Wales RE Hwb Network

Teaching and research materials are available for teachers accessible through Hwb's - North Wales RE network - https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3. Only those with a Hwb account will be able to access the materials on this network. The network contains teaching resources and research material relevant to Religious Education. Key research material available is:

- Big Ideas for Religious Education – Edited by Barbara Wintersgill (English only)
- Signposts – Policy and practice for teaching about religions and non-religious world views (English only)
- A pedagogy of embrace: a theology of hospitality as a pedagogical framework for religious education in Church schools (English only)
- How well does a cross curricular Humanities Scheme of Work reflect the four purposes of the new Wales Curriculum 2022?

11) RE:Online

RE:Online is a website developed by Culham St Gabriel's to equip and resource teachers and educational professionals to support high Quality religion and worldviews education.

12) AGORED Cymru level 2 award in exploring worldviews

AGORED's 'Exploring World views' is 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. It will not be offered from September 2027. More details can be found by visiting

English - https://www.agored.cymru/Units-and-Qualifications/Learning-Core/Exploring-Worldviews

Welsh - https://www.agored.cymru/Unedau-a-Chymwysterau/Craidd-Dysgu/Archwilio-Bydolygon

13) WJEC GCSE Religious Studies - Teaching from 2025

Specification for the GCSEs and 'A' level courses can be accessed here.

- GCSE
- A Level

The following Link includes dates for the publication of the specification, assessment materials and guidance for teaching.

14) Diversity and anti-racism professional learning (DARPL)

DARPL's website contains a range of training material to support this important aspect of the Curriculum for Wales 2022.

English - https://darpl.org/

Welsh - https://darpl.cymru/

15) National Association for Teachers of Religious Education

Schools have been informed of anti-racist resources made available by NATRE. Unfortunately, these resources are only available in the English language. They can be accessed here… https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/anti-racist-re/

16) RE Today Services

RE today provides resources to support teachers as they engage with the Curriculum for Wales.

17) Post 16 Challenging Religious Issues (E-Journal)



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 the link below to access the Challenging Religious Issues from the St Giles website.
English - https://stgilescentre.org/16-2/
Welsh - https://stgilescentre.org/cy/16-2/



18) European Forum for Teachers of Religious Education
Teaching of RE differs greatly across Europe. For a greater insight into RE in neighbouring countries visit www.eftre.net

19) Welsh Government Professional Learning Modules for RVE

These resources are intended to support practitioners with the changes to RVE (formerly Religious Education), within the Curriculum for Wales. The modules are specifically tailored and aim to support practitioners. They help with the transition to a new way of thinking, planning and delivering an RVE curriculum that is purposeful for learners in Wales. There are currently five modules:

The modules can be accessed here:
English - Repository - Hwb (gov.wales)
Welsh - Repository - Hwb (gov.wales)

20) Conwy Agreed Syllabus Professional Learning
Conwy teachers were provided with professional learning on the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus. SAC(RE) members received a summary of the training provided for teachers.
A video and the PowerPoint presentation of this summary can be accessed below:
Video
Presentation

21) RE HUBS
A resource bringing together information to support the teaching of Religion Values and Ethics including details of visiting speakers, places of interest and links to a broad range of training materials and resource.

22) National Centre of RE for Wales

Teachers across the LA can access professional support from the Welsh National Centre for RE. The centre provides A level and GCSE revision materials and classes and Professional Learning for secondary teachers a range of religions and worldviews.

For more information check out their Facebook Page

23) St Giles Centre (Wrexham)

a. Exploring Our World **(ages 3-7)**
b. Exploring Why **(ages 5-7)**
c. Randalph the Wise – Stories about a spiritual quest and search for meaning **(ages 8-11)**
d. World Faith Series **(ages 8-11)**