



Supporting Religious Education in Hillingdon

We are committed to supporting all our schools fulfil their statutory obligation for a “*distinct curriculum in place for at all key stages*” (Ofsted Report 2024) “*to...ensure pupils are well prepared to engage in a multi-religious and multi-secular society.*”

The RE curriculum should therefore avoid over-simplifying or stereotyping religion, but instead engage pupils’ **personal knowledge** and encourage the use of various **ways of knowing** to help understand and appreciate the **substantive** knowledge of how others respond to “**challenging questions** that religions seek to answer.”

Sadly, Ofsted found that “Over 60% of teachers... had not received any professional development in RE” in primary schools, and in the majority of secondary schools “teachers had not received any subject-specific professional development.”

The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (**SACRE**) in Hillingdon have joined with the Hillingdon **LEAP**, partnered with Hillingdon Learning Partnership (**HLP**) to provide high quality RE specific CPD and support for all subject leaders. These sessions are **FREE** for all schools to join, whichever type of school you are in.

These CPD sessions are “*most effective in critically analysing the syllabus and identifying areas where it needs improvement*” and in “*provided valuable input for RE development*” (Hillingdon teachers, June 2024).

The next CPD sessions for primary schools will be at **Ruislip Gardens Primary School** on **14th November 2024** from **1-3pm**, and held at the **Civic Centre** for secondary from **4-6pm**. To book your place, or find out more, please contact **Duncan** at HLP.

In addition, to help us direct even more support to you, we would like to hear from you about the RE in your schools. We invite all schools to take part in a short **e-survey**.

[Primary Schools](#)

[Secondary Schools](#)

Hillingdon is a proudly diverse community, recognising a person’s religious beliefs and traditions can be intrinsic to their sense of identity and contribute to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This subject clearly contributes to our ‘Universal Promise’ to prepare children for adulthood.

To celebrate this diversity we are holding our first ever cross **Borough Artwork Competition!**

All pupils are invited to create a piece of artwork of a festival or a “Big Day” that shows their Beliefs which is special to them. Please note that ALL entries (originals only) should be on **A4 Landscape**, preferably on coloured paper and/or using strong/bold colours – i.e. felt pens or paints, rather than paler pencils. The pictures must be **labelled** clearly with pupils’ names, school and year group clearly on the **back- NOT the front**. All words **MUST** be checked/have the correct spelling **BEFORE** submission. Winners will feature in our webpages and will receive a certificate from SACRE!

Original Entries can be **posted by the school before 8th November** addressed to:

“RE Art Competition
C/O Nicki O’Flannigan”
Head of Education & Lifelong Learning
Education Improvement & Partnerships
Children’s Services
London Borough of Hillingdon
Civic Centre
Uxbridge, UB8 1UW

or, even better, bring your entries to the Teachers’ CPD sessions **in person** on **14th November!**