



Annual Report 2016

Where we are and what we do

The RSResource Centre continues to operate from rented accommodation within the Vine Community Centre on Bobbers Mill Road in Nottingham, where it is looked after by the Centre Manager, the Rev'd Ken Johnson.

We assist schools to enhance their delivery of RE through the items we have available for loan or through our Faith Experiences. The Centre is also the office of Nottingham Inter Faith Council. Together we try to answer a range of enquiries made to us from various communities.

Through an annual subscription of £15 per academic year, subscribers can borrow artefacts / books/ DVDs from our range to enhance their work in RE. Orders are placed on line; collected from the Reception at The Vine, to where they are returned after use.

The Centre Manager voluntarily gives his time to run and to communicate the work of the Centre, which is affiliated to the Federation of RE Centres operating across the country. He currently serves as the Secretary of the Nottinghamshire County Council **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**.

Through consulting our web site, teachers can find out about what is happening in RE and can consult the County **SACRE** pages which are hosted on our web site.

Our Management Committee, which meets each term is composed of a representative from our various stakeholders. The Centre is self financing, receiving no financial assistance from any authority.

The year gone by

During the past calendar year we have re-located within the Vine to larger premises, which means we can accommodate more visitors as well as hosting small meetings. We continue to be grateful for the willingness of the Vine Reception staff to assist with the handing out of loan orders and receiving them back for us. This service enables us to assist schools in their development of good RE through the use of artefacts.

We have welcomed visitors from schools and other groups to the Centre to view the resources we have available, though this needs to be arranged in advance. Most of the administration of the Centre is done away from the Centre itself which is why we ask for 7 working days notice for loans.

Conferences and Courses

During the year we have attended conferences and courses across the County about our work in developing RE in schools. We were present at the Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Head Teacher's conference as well as being involved with the County Primary Network meetings.

We are active members of the Federation of RE Centres; our Centre Manager edits the Federation's newsletter. In this forum we can share ideas and hear of what is happening across RE Centres across the country. We are also able to voice our views on National developments through the RE Council.



Faith Experiences during 2016

Over the past year we have been privileged to offer 31 faith experiences to some 2,861 young people. Some schools, having had more than one experience in the year. We have travelled many miles to deliver experiences which contribute to a school's programme of RE as well to the teaching of British Values.



We have visited Derbyshire schools in Tibshelf, Poolsbrook as well as Brackenfield Special School. We travelled to Barrow Upon Humber to the John Harrison School where we delivered two different faiths in one day and led a twilight session on teaching British Values in RE for the staff. We have also visited several schools in the Newark area for the first time, as well as schools across the County and in the City of Nottingham. We visited one school for a revision session for their GCSE students on Islam. The Gedling Family of schools invited us to be involved with a morning workshop in British Values as part of their INSET provision.

We are grateful to those who offer practical support in any way to our experiences. It is through the work of the Faith Experiences that we raise the finances to run the centre and develop our work. Though we try to replicate what it would be like in a place of worship we do modify the content to fit in with requests; so we have offered sessions on Diwali, Hanukah and beliefs. One school, following on from our visit took pupils to visit a mosque in Lincoln.

After a visit to one school, pictures were put on the website and the school received the following message:-

“ My husband and I would like to say how lovely it was to see photographs on the school website of our grandson being educated, and in such a diverse subject as Islam. We are living in an Islamic country at the moment and have many Muslim friends who were delighted to hear how a small rural school, 3000 miles away, are preparing their children for the cosmopolitan world they will inherit.”

Teacher evaluations from 2016

“The Islam experience is a fantastic way to educate children and encourage them to learn about different religions”

“A great range of resources and topics covered- with engaging delivery- a wonderful experience.”

“A fantastic addition to our RE week on Hinduism!”

“I think the children would gain more from making this a regular experience in school. Different things were learned in each session.”

“The children learnt interesting facts and having visual representations engaged everyone.”

“Fantastic staff CPD! Children all engaged and very enthusiastic”

“The hands on nature of this experience was invaluable”

“A multi-sensory experience which made every child able to understand develop their knowledge of Hinduism”

“A fantastic immersive day for all children”

“A valuable hands on experience for all children. “

“The children loved taking part in this exciting opportunity to learn more about the Muslim faith.”

Our Web site

Records show that we still attract around 70% new visitors each month, mainly from across the country but we have some hits from overseas.

www.rsresources.org.uk

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