



Annual Report 2019

Where we are and what we do

The RSResource Centre continues to operate from rented accommodation within The Vine Community Centre at St. Stephen's Church on Bobbers Mill Road in Nottingham, where it is managed by Rev'd Ken Johnson.



We continue to help schools to enhance their delivery of RE through the items which we have available for loan by our subscription service. We also offer our Faith Experiences.

Our website offers various links which schools and communities might also find useful, as well as listing courses currently available for teachers.

Through an annual subscription, of £15 per academic year, subscribers can borrow artefacts / books / DVDs from our range to enhance their work in Religious Education. Loans are available for half a term. Orders are placed on line; then collected from the Reception at The Vine, to where they are returned after use. We are grateful to the staff at The Vine who issue loans of artefacts and then receive them back for us, often in the early evening.

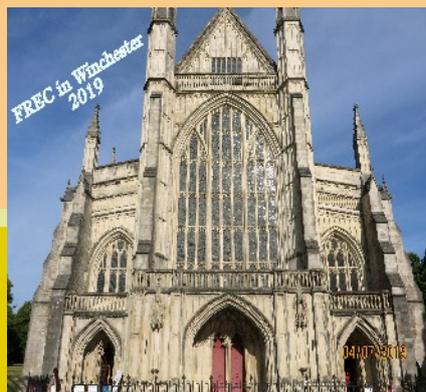
The Centre Manager voluntarily gives his time to run and to communicate the work of the Centre, which is affiliated to the Federation of RE Centres operating across the country. He currently serves as the Secretary of the Nottinghamshire County Council Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education.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

Management Team

Our Centre is directed by our Management Team which consists of Tara Flanagan as chair, Keith Charter as treasurer along with the Centre Manager. We also welcomed Simon Foulds to the team towards the end of the year. Our Management Committee, which meets at least once a term, is composed of representatives from interested parties.

Conferences and Courses

The RSResource Centre has been represented at various courses and conferences held within Nottinghamshire. We were also invited to the Derby Diocesan Education Conference for the first time. During the year we were present at the conference of the National Federation of RE Centres which was held in Winchester. Our manager edits the newsletter of the Federation.



Faith Experiences during 2019

What a bumper request year we had; 19 different schools, some of which had more than one day, were booked in. This meant that we had to turn down some requests for the first time ever.

These schools promptly booked for 2020! ...Book early is the motto!

Judaism was requested by 10 establishments for 952 young people: 8 schools requested Islam for 521 pupils. Hinduism was asked for by 7 schools for 412 young people. Buddhism and Sikhism went to 3 schools with 433 children learning about Buddhism and 330 learning about the Sikh faith. Christianity was studied by 2 establishments for 240 pupils. So around 2,900 young people benefited.

As ever we remain 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 and Hanukah during the year, as well as Christmas and Easter.

Teacher evaluations from 2019 consistently rated the experiences as 'Excellent'

"An interactive informative workshop tailored well to Year 2 keeping them engaged and intrigued. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about Judaism and Jewish traditions and festivals."

"A fabulous educational hour which the children were fully engaged in.."

"An excellent experience introducing the children to the Islamic faith"

"Great opportunity to expose to diversity & understanding of the world. Very well resourced, clearly communicated with an obvious wealth of knowledge & experience."

"It was a fantastic day, the children really enjoyed learning about & experiencing Jewish festivals."

"The session exceeded my expectations- it was fab! The faith experience was immersive & engaging – the children loved it & were excited to talk about what they had experienced."

"What a fantastic experience. A class of challenging pupils were 'hooked' and enthralled, taking in new experiences & enjoying recalling the old!"

"To enable the children to learn & experience more about Christianity Being able to see & touch artefacts relating to church & Easter - Thank you, the children loved it!"

"Always a great day on our faith experience day. Kids love the resources."

"The children enjoyed it. Superb information and resources to spark enquiry"

A very good interactive introduction to Sikhism

Pupils said "I didn't know very much about Buddhism before: it was a good opportunity to learn about what it means to be a Buddhist."

"Today has been really interesting – all the sights, smells and sounds helped me to learn a lot."

"At times it felt like I was in a Buddhist temple; Reverend Johnson helped to explain what everything meant."

One School invited parents to come and see what had been going on at the end of the day.

Pupils were excited to tell their parents all about it and show them the artefacts .

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