



Title: **National updates**

This report relates to the national updates for the Devon SACRE meeting (November 2023)

To: **Devon SACRE** On: 06/02/24

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Key points and Summary

1 **Introducing the RE Hubs project**

The RE Hubs project is now well established. SACRE members are encouraged to visit the [website](#) and explore what it has to offer: a calendar of CPD events, details of school speakers and places of worship/interest, an extensive library of resources to support schools provide better RE etc

2 **Ofsted reports**

2.1 **HMCI's report**

In November 2023 Ofsted published its HMCI's [annual report](#) for 2022/3. This report stated the following:

'in too many primary and secondary schools, the religious education (RE) that pupils receive is of a poor quality and not fit for purpose, leaving pupils ill-equipped for some of the complexities of contemporary society.'

'RE is a complex subject, and the lack of clarity and support from government makes schools' job harder.'

These comments are very hard hitting, and back up many of the observations that have been made by members of Devon SACRE over a number of years.

Suggestion: to write to the Secretary of State for Education demanding that the DfE produces a plan to show how RE will be given more status and priority in schools. This includes dealing with the recruitment crisis and supporting the subject through mechanisms like the RE Hubs project.

2.2 **RE subject report**

We are awaiting the publication of a long subject report on RE. This will give school a analysis of the state of RER in our schools.

3 National Content Standard for RE (NCS)

How do we measure the quantity and quality of RE provision?

[The National Content Standard for RE](#) is needed to provide clarification, bring consistency and to raise standards. Educational organisations continue to sign up to show their acceptance of this mechanism which creates a standard for a school's RE provision.

The RE Council's National Content Standard provides a non-statutory benchmark for syllabus providers and other bodies to evaluate their work. It is not a curriculum, and it does not determine precisely what content schools should teach. Rather it is a standard by which different RE curricula, content, pedagogy, and provision can be benchmarked

4 Religion and Worldviews frameworks

The Religious Education Council (REC) will be publishing its long-awaited Religion and Worldviews frameworks in May. These resources will show how the Religion and worldviews approach can be put into practice in classrooms. More details at the next meeting.

Jeremy Roberts
Chair of SACRE