

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

IDEAS for SACREs



March 2011 is the month when in England and Wales we have an opportunity to celebrate RE in the two nations and to raise the subject's profile in schools, faith communities and the wider local and national communities. We can build even stronger local and national links that will benefit your work and the subject in the years to come.

Obviously although this exciting opportunity sounds a good way off, SACREs do not meet very frequently, so you may like to establish a working group that can report back to the SACRE and progress your work between meetings. Here are a few ideas for ways that SACREs might make a contribution to the celebration.



Make sure the schools and all your partner organisations know about the festival

The REC will be happy to make sure copies of the leaflet get to you for distribution:

celebratingre@religiouseducationcouncil.org.

The leaflet is also available electronically from this website so can be set to schools directly.



Make the Celebrating RE website one of your 'Favourites'

and suggest to your RE subject leaders that they do the same so that you can all log on to find out the latest information about events, ideas and competitions on a regular basis.



Consider setting up your own local SACRE competition

– make this as local as you can and don't forget to include all the schools in the area. This is a chance to forge closer links for example with Academies or local independent schools.



Plan a series of 'Open House' visits to your local places of worship during the celebration month.

Working in partnership with faith members of SACRE, their local communities and your local Inter Faith Group use *Celebrating RE* month as an occasion to invite each other into your faith space.



Devise a celebration trail

over the month with each host community sharing their space and hospitality with school groups and with teachers and other adults. Helping each other to plan these and produce a leaflet to organise the trail is a good way to get to know each other better.





Work with local schools to help them plan Inter faith days during the celebration month. This could be a chance for students to experience visits to and

from their local communities and to find out at first hand why good inter faith relations are important. You may need to CRB check a number of faith members and perhaps to have a training session beforehand to make sure there are a number of willing helpers for these events and that everyone is comfortable speaking with children from different age and ability groups.



Plan a 'Meet the SACRE' event to take place during the celebration month

Host an event where teachers can come along, meet each other and meet SACRE to find out more about SACREs work and to share how the partnership between schools and SACREs can be developed further. You could share food, set up faith exhibits, arrange some entertainment or a talk and perhaps even do a 'speed dating' session where people move around meeting each other very quickly as an ice breaker.



Join with other SACREs for a shared event You could link together in a big celebration event perhaps at a local place of worship, RE Centre or school. This could be a chance to showcase some of the good RE that has been going on in your LA.



Have a Civic Celebration to spread the word to local politicians and faith leaders. Make it celebratory, fun and memorable in a way that will promote the creative arts, values

and spirituality, and also generate excitement around RE. Let everyone write their own 'wish for the future' on a leaf/hand for a celebratory tree like the Celebrating RE logo.



Work towards establishing something to encourage the wider community to be reflective somewhere in your area.

In partnership with a local school you could take the opportunity to show why you believe knowing about each other's faiths and beliefs is an essential part of education through, for example, a piece of artwork specially commissioned for the event.

