
NASACRE Statement: Oak National Academy Resources.

One of the key activities that a SACRE should do is provide advice and support on the effective teaching of RE in accordance with the locally Agreed Syllabus.

When writing an Agreed Syllabus, conferences should be mindful of the wide range of resources, free and paid-for, available to teach the syllabus, and/or the SACRE's capacity to create resources, if they do not already exist.

There are various resources that RE teachers may use and that SACRE's might recommend, including commercially produced textbooks, websites, materials from organisations and resources produced by teachers and advisers locally.

One recent set of resources that SACREs might find useful to be aware of are those produced by Oak National Academy. Oak National Academy is a body funded by the DfE but independent of it. They provide free access resources that they have created that may help support teachers to teach RE according to your Agreed Syllabus (and all other National Curriculum subjects).

The resources have been produced by subject experts. The creators were mindful of the REC's National Content Standard, and the disciplinary approach to RE. All resources can be adapted to ensure they fit anyone's context and are free.

The Oak RE materials are presented in a way that means there are six units for each school year and six lessons in each unit. Each lesson follows a similar knowledge rich pedagogy and format, and slides, worksheets, starter and exit quizzes and a video of the lesson being delivered by an expert teacher are provided.

While this can look like a fully planned, coherent, sequenced curriculum it is not. Oak makes it clear that RE maintained schools must follow the Agreed Syllabus (or Trust Deed in Academies) and suggests "Therefore where any maintained school is following a locally agreed syllabus through its SACRE or other denominational syllabus, it may wish to consider how to use specific Oak RE units, lessons or resources flexibly to help fulfil the requirement of their particular syllabus."

Your SACRE may, having looked at these resources, decide to recommend, adapt all or part of the Oak resources where they support the teaching of your syllabus.

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