

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**14 March 2024**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**CABINET DECISION**

**Children & Young People - Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Lisa Evans**

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES AGREED SYLLABUS FOR PRIMARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)**

**SUMMARY**

Recommendation from the Agreed Syllabus Conference to purchase a new primary RE syllabus.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)/DECISION(S)**

SACRE is required to review the agreed syllabus every five years. Following consultation and review, the Agreed Syllabus Conference unanimously voted to put forward the following recommendation for approval by Cabinet.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To purchase a new agreed syllabus from RE Today, licensed for 5 years for all the primary schools that need it (42).
2. To purchase the package of support which will ensure that schools have access to the professional development and resources they require to deliver the syllabus effectively. (see Appendix 1 for detail)

**DETAIL**

1. The LA has a statutory duty to provide an agreed syllabus.
2. The consultation and review highlighted that the current agreed syllabus (in place for more than five years) is no longer fit for purpose as it does not adequately support effective assessment, lesson planning etc, particularly for non-specialist teachers.
3. Other options, such as updating or writing an agreed syllabus specifically for Stockton, were considered and explored. These options were not viable or cost effective.
4. The RE Today curriculum is well-respected and used by a number of local authorities; it is also similar in structure to the Diocesan curriculum used by most Church of England schools in Stockton and this will therefore support transition and continuity between KS2 and KS3.
5. The package of support includes a launch event, regular webinars (for the first three years) and membership of NATRE (for one year).

**COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

6. The CIA process has not been undertaken as the proposed changes positively impacts the community and will ensure that schools are able to access a quality agreed syllabus. The provision of quality RE supports community cohesion.

#### **CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

7. There are no corporate parenting implications.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8. The LA is required to pay for the agreed syllabus.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9. The LA has a statutory duty to provide an agreed syllabus.

#### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

N/A

#### **WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS**

N/A

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**Name of Contact Officer: Gill McCleave**  
**Post Title: Service Lead: Education (0-11)/LA Officer**  
**Telephone No. 01642 528824**  
**Email Address: Gill.mccleave@stockton.gov.uk**

## Appendix 1

<b>Product</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Syllabus licence x42	£65 + vat – discounted to <b>£0</b>	Printable PDF full cover syllabus
Live Launch + expenses	£1,000 + expenses – discounted to <b>£650</b>	Provision of 1 primary specialist RE Adviser
3-year CPD programme	£1,350 discounted to £975 x 3 = <b>£2,925</b>	3 x 1 termly webinar per year, for 3 years. This can be mixed between primary and secondary
Support for KS4 and 5	£1,350 discounted to <b>£975</b>	3 x 1 termly webinar for 1 year, or one full day
NATRE membership for 1-year x42 (paid for by SACRE)	£270 discounted by 30% = £189 per school = <b>£7,938</b>	All teachers within the 42 schools will be able to access the benefits provided by membership
<b>TOTAL: £12,488</b> (this can be split 50%/50% over 2 financial years)		