

Community Cohesion and Religious Education: Update for Schools

A newsheet produced to circulate information and suggest useful resources schools might use at all levels. I hope that you find these three resources, all of which will support schools in meeting the requirement to promote British Values of use to you.

Denise Chaplin

School Improvement Officer, RE & Community Cohesion



The Rights Respecting Schools Award

is a Unicef UK programme that aims to put children's rights at the heart of schools in the UK. It makes a positive contribution to the Fundamental British Values work in schools.

The programme team work with thousands of schools across the country to embed children's rights in their ethos and culture to improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. Schools work to become fully Rights Respecting.

The Award recognises a school's achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC or UNCRC) into practice within the school and beyond.

Find out [how to get started](#) on the rights-respecting journey.

The RE Quality Mark

<http://reqm.org/>

RE makes a powerful contribution to young people's learning, providing them with chances to explore the big ideas of religion & belief and to think about what matters in their own lives.

Good RE also has a significant contribution to make to whole school improvement. With the renewed focus from Ofsted on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development for all pupils, it is more important than ever that RE is recognised and celebrated.

The REQM award is a nationally recognised Quality

Mark that support school leaders to audit and improve their provision. It recognises high quality RE, particularly those schools which are providing their learners with authentic experiences and contributing to whole school outcomes.

The framework is free to use and is created so that schools highlight what they have and use the gaps to write their development plan.

All documents, including application form, school evidence form and learner questionnaires can be downloaded from the [How to apply](#) page. The questionnaires are a great starting point.



<http://resilience-england.recouncil.org.uk/>

REsilience is a self evaluation, planning and training opportunity for teachers of RE. The programme is school based and can be tailored to individual needs. Its purpose is to help increase teachers' confidence when addressing contentious issues, particularly where religious ideas are sometimes used to try to justify extremism and violence.

The programme offers:

- a portfolio of resources including [Gateways](#) - specially developed for use by teachers to boost their knowledge and confidence. They are not intended for classroom use but, rather, to give quick pointers and information to teachers who have little time to spare. They all include 'signposts' to further information and other resources (including classroom resources in some cases) for teachers who want to pursue the topic further.
- [self evaluation and action planning tools](#)

