

# Changes required to the Agreed Syllabus for RE

## The Local Authority and SACRE need to attend to this list of statutory changes required to the Agreed syllabus

- All agreed syllabuses must be reviewed every 5 years. This means the current syllabus must be reviewed and shared with schools so they can begin teaching from it in September 2021
- The recent high court judgement about RE means that the agreed syllabus has a duty 'to take care that information or knowledge included in the curriculum is conveyed in a pluralistic manner' and 'must accord equal respect to different religious convictions, and to non-religious belief'. Note that the term 'religion' encompasses both religious and non-religious beliefs. The DFE were taken to judicial review and this review was not published in a time frame that meant it could be taken account of in the last syllabus. See [R\(Fox\) v Secretary of State for Education](#)
- Complaints about a lack of RE in school now mean that syllabuses need to stipulate clearly guidance that students 'must' complete a qualification in RE rather than saying 'should'. Once again DFE lawyers were clear in their guidance in this area.
- RE in the new EYFS framework (to be adopted by September 2021)

## What schools want / deserve from the LA and SACRE

**There has been much change since this syllabus was first written 10 years ago and adapted 5 years ago. Teachers need support in the areas listed below. It is SACREs role to provide this support.**

- The response in RE to the OFSTED EIF.
- Support for deep dives in RE.
- Support for best practice around substantive and disciplinary knowledge
- Religion and worldviews – inclusion, non-religious worldviews and the future of RE - see [Commission on RE 2018](#)
- New guidance from government eg cultural capital, RSE in the curriculum (has a faith-dimension)
- New guidance on withdrawal from RE

**I can also provide further information on choices the SACRE have in reviewing the syllabus**

- Adopting an 'off the shelf syllabus' (approx. cost £5000-£6000)
- Commissioning the adapting the current syllabus (approx cost £4750-??)
- Commissioning the writing of a new bespoke syllabus (two recent examples in SACRE / LA areas comparable to your situation cost £16 000).

Lat Blaylock,  
RE Today National Adviser,  
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