

Dear All

As you are probably aware the RE Council of England and Wales (REC) has initiated a Subject Review of Religious Education in England, to parallel the review of other subjects on the curriculum that is currently being undertaken by the government. I attach for your consideration an overview of the process which is taking place during the next academic year as well as a timeline for the Review's first phase. We very much hope that you will want to be involved actively in these deliberations.

Currently a small group is meeting to prepare a preliminary report on the current state of play. So far we have invited three members of the NATRE Executive, including the Chair, to speak to members of that panel in person and further NATRE members and/or serving teachers to offer them written overviews of the current state of play in RE in England. Over the weekend of 29th and 30th September I attended the Culham St Gabriels Conference for teachers at Wokefield Park and had the opportunity to listen to many more classroom teachers of RE sharing their hopes as well as fears for the future.

Once the preliminary report has been drafted we will circulate this for wider public consultation. Our aim is for it to go on-line on the REC website in early November. At this stage we will be inviting all interested stakeholders including RE teachers to download and discuss the report and return feedback to us by early December. Perhaps this is something that local NATRE groups might wish to discuss and feed back to us. We are looking to you to tell us whether we have painted the picture accurately; what we have got right as well as any constructive criticism you wish to offer us.

Further information about the process, including monthly updates, is available on the REC website at www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk

Janet Orchard
Project Manager, RE Review for England