# **Inspiring Excellence in RE**

**Curriculum – Creativity – Conversations** 



# **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020** Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse, LE12 8TX

# Pen portraits of speakers

# Lat Blaylock

Lat is editor of REtoday magazine and has written many RE resources published by RE Today, including Picturing Christianity, Big, Big Questions (a package for music in RE) and Spiritual Engagement (a folder of ideas for 16-19 RE days). He taught RE, Humanities and PSHE in Leicester for 11 years.

Since joining RE Today Services his work is wide-ranging and varied, and includes advising teachers, schools, SACREs, Dioceses and Local Authorities. His CPD training courses attract several thousand teachers every year, covering themes from poetry, art and creativity to assessment, GCSE and curriculum planning. He also runs day conferences for gifted and talented pupils and for 16-19s. He has made 7 series of RE broadcasts with the BBC, including the award winning 'My Life My Religion' (2015). Lat was the specialist writer for the RE Council's 2013 national RE curriculum framework.

# Mary Myatt

Mary is an education adviser, writer and speaker. She trained as an RE teacher and is a former local authority adviser and inspector. She developed the RE Quality Mark with Jane Brooke to celebrate high quality practice and provision in the subject. Mary works in schools talking to pupils, teachers and leaders about learning, leadership and the curriculum. She maintains that there are no quick fixes and that great outcomes for pupils are not achieved through tick boxes.

Her latest books include 'Curriculum: Gallimaufry to Coherence', 'Hopeful Schools: building humane communities' and 'High Challenge, Low Threat'

#### Fiona Moss

Fiona is a primary specialist. Before joining RE Today Services as RE Adviser she was a primary teacher for fifteen years and then the RE and SACRE Curriculum Adviser for Leicester City. She also advised in other areas such as SEAL, Literacy and Gifted and Talented. Fiona has written and edited a variety of publications designed to support primary RE teachers, including agreed syllabuses and curriculum resources. She is currently the editor of RE Today's RE Ideas Primary RE series, edited opening up RE and has co-written Body & Soul, a relationship education resource for 9-11 year olds and Share a story for 4-7 year olds. Fiona was one of the writers on the Understanding Christianity resource.

Fiona is also the Chief Executive Officer for NATRE, and is well-known in this context for her support of local groups of teachers, and her involvement in RE at a national level.

#### Dr Anne Margaret Moseley

Anne is a primary school teacher by training and has been working in UK schools for over twenty years. For the last ten years she has been developing her skills as an educational researcher with subject specialism in Religious Education and intercultural learning. Anne completed her PhD research with the Warwick Religious Education Research Unit (WRERU) at Warwick University. She is currently working in partnership with Rose Castle Foundation to develop the Story Tent Project, an interfaith approach to using stories with primary aged pupils based on scriptural reasoning principles. She has also recently joined the faculty at Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (OCMS) as a part-time research tutor with special focus on Action Practitioner Research. For the last 5 years Anne has been based in California with her husband.

#### Naomi Anstice

Naomi is an Assistant Head Teacher at a primary school in Cheshire where she delivers RE across the school. As an RE co-ordinator for over 20 years she has a wide range of lesson activities up her sleeve to help having your pupils say that "RE is my favourite subject". She is passionate about global learning and teaching about equality. Naomi is the National Ambassador for RE networks, the primary RE adviser for Cheshire West and a member of NATRE Exec and Steering Group as well as a number of other RE hats.

# Riaz Ravat, Deputy Director of St Philip's Centre

St Philip's Centre is a charity which works to support interfaith understanding, will be accompanied by some of the Centre's Hindu, Muslim and Jewish faith practitioners. The practitioners are individuals rooted in their local faith communities and have worked with the Centre for a number of years to strengthen public literacy of religion and belief issues in society. This includes training and engagement activities for the Police, armed forces and a wide variety of schools and colleges across the region. They will provide authentic and 'lived' perspectives based on their community-level experiences.

#### Rachel Buckby

Rachel is currently a year3 class teacher at St John the Baptist CE Primary School in Leicester and an experienced EYFS & KS1 teacher.

She is a well-established RE coordinator having been in role for 19 years. Rachel has led RE across the school introducing new locally agreed syllabi and Diocesan schemes of work and most recently rolling out the Understanding Christianity Project. Rachel is a leading teacher in the diocese, is a member of the NATRE executive committee and runs a local network meeting for RE coordinators.

Rachel has led seminars on creative approaches to the teaching of RE.

#### Debbie Yeomans

Debbie is the RE coordinator at St. Margaret's CE Primary School in Stoke Golding and is incredibly passionate about the need to deliver high quality RE and develop children who are deep thinkers, highly effective questioners and responsive listeners.

One of her areas of expertise is 'celebrating diversity'. She says "As a village school we have needed to work hard to ensure our children can look outside the 'village bubble' and have done so through trips, liaison with other schools, altering our curriculum and cultural diversity events". She is also very interested in the concept of 'character education' and how this links with Christian values.

# Tamsyn Williams

Tamsyn has been teaching for twenty years and has taught in three different counties. She has been in her current school for the last thirteen years and has responsibility for the curriculum and in particular the humanities faculty. Tamsyn has taught in many different year groups (except the very youngest members of the school) and she is enjoying teaching Year 4 at the moment.

Tamsyn says "I am very lucky to work with a great team of people who embrace the latest research and are willing to constantly reflect and improve on current practice. As a school, and in partnership with our multi-academy trust, we are in the process of revising and improving our curriculum and we began the journey by introducing knowledge organisers and focussing on formative assessment and retrieval practice".

#### Anne Scott

Anne has been a primary school teacher for the last 24 years in Leicester City. For the past 7 years, she has been leading forest school sessions for junior children

and teaching sustainability as part of the PPA curriculum at Overdale Junior School. Within this, Anne has explored P4C as well as mindfulness and spirituality.

Anne is also a member of Holy Trinity Church in Leicester and leads a missional community called GreenLight. As part of this, she has led Forest Church for adults and children. She is keen to see children love their local environment in order for them to care for the wider environment.