



SUPPORTING RE TEACHERS WITH ENHANCED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE



REASONS BEHIND THE PROJECT

Some teachers were reporting (via our RE Survey and termly evaluations from RE Subject Leader twilight sessions) that they were teaching RE with very little subject knowledge, and in some cases (Primary) were also leading the subject within schools whilst expressing concerns over their subject knowledge.

ANYTHING

ALL OF IT

Our work with local Initial Teacher Training (ITT) establishments (University of Warwick) has also shown that trainee teachers are only receiving 3 hours of subject knowledge when engaging with a Primary teacher training course.

With this in mind, both Coventry and Warwickshire's SACREs were in agreement that support for subject knowledge was a key priority.

THEORY OF CHANGE



What is the problem you are trying to solve?	Who is your key audience?	What is your entry point for reaching your key audience?	What steps are needed to bring about change?	What are the desired outputs from your work?	What are the wider benefits of your work?	What is the long-term change you see as your goal? (outcomes)
Deficit of RE subject knowledge in RE subject leaders at primary	Primary RE subject leaders	Basic overviews of all 6 major religions represented locally & engagement with local places of worship	RE subject knowledge materials that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible • Simply presented • Not time-consuming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Short RE subject knowledge films ○ 'Road Maps' for teaching each tradition covered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longevity of resources • Films available for other groups to use • RE trips increase 	Greater basic RE subject knowledge in RE subject leaders at primary

PROJECT OUTLINE: LIVE SESSIONS

- SACRE members for each tradition plan a tour of the place of worship and a follow-up talk with Q&A
- RE Facilitator provided 'crib sheets' to try to get some uniformity of approach across sessions
- Places of worship provided refreshments for delegates
- Sessions lasted 90-120 minutes
- SACRE members produced presentations and handouts in addition to tour and talk
- Filming of tour and talk took place earlier in the day as well as during live events



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COVENTRY SACRE
Warwickshire SACRE

RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Project
2021-22

Crib sheet for those conducting the tour of places of worship

Religious Tradition:
Place of Worship:
Date of RE Subject Knowledge Session:
Tour Guide:
Outline:
4.00 Arrival and refreshments
4.15-5.00pm Tour of place of worship

Content for Places of Worship Tour:

Generic Content to be Included in Tour:
Label key parts of the rooms to be toured
Share etiquette for dress code and arrival e.g. head covering, removing shoes, washing etc and explain reasons for these

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RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Project
2021-22

Crib sheet for those giving the talk on the religious tradition

Religious Tradition:
Place of Worship:
Date of RE Subject Knowledge Session:
Speaker:
Outline:
5.00-5.30pm Talk by SACRE representative or nominated other
5.30-5.50pm Question and Answer Session

Generic Content to be Included in Talk:	Specific Content:
How long the faith tradition has existed and historical context (comparable periods in British/World history)	
Key founding person and other key figures (historical and contemporary)	
Sacred text: language written in, creation and significant stories and ways in which the sacred text is approached/used, moral code and golden rule.	



PROJECT OUTLINE: FILMING

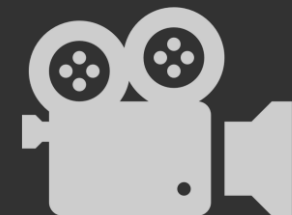
- In order to grow the impact of the project beyond the live events, we included in the bid the cost of a filmographer who could film the tour and talk and create a short professional film for each of the traditions.
- SACRE members were filmed talking and captions added additional information
- Wayne's work has been of an excellent standard.
- During the editing process, the SACRE member(s) and RE Facilitator worked together with Wayne to ensure the films were accurate and information was well-presented.



Wayne Matthews

Bang the Drum Productions

Warwick, England, United Kingdom



THE LIVE EVENTS FOR RE SUBJECT LEADERS

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Warwickshire SACRE
Warwickshire Association of Religious Education
COVENTRY SACRE
Coventry Academy Council on Religious Education

Coventry and Warwickshire SACRE RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Project

Venue	Date	Religious Tradition*
Gurdwara Sahib, Leamington Spa	Thursday 7 th November 2019 4.00-6.00pm	Sikhism
Nuneaton Mosque	Thursday 5 th March 2020 4.00-6.00pm	Islam
Birmingham Progressive Synagogue	Tuesday 16 th June 2020 5.00-7.00pm (to allow for travel)	Judaism

- Each session to be held in a place of worship
- Tour of place of worship with key features and links to practices pointed out
- Talk by relevant SACRE member to give a basic overview of the faith
- Q&A session (we will try to anticipate some of the questions that might be asked)
- Filming by a professional filmographer so that the tour and Q&A can be used back in school for staff meetings and CPD (as 2 x 20 minute film clips)
- 'Road Map' suggesting approaches and resources to be used back in school for teaching that tradition/worldview
- Certificates of Attendance for RE Subject Leadership file as evidence you have been intentional about developing your subject knowledge

FREE CPD SESSIONS. Book on to all 3 now. First come, first served.

To book: use the link below to book through eventbrite

Sikhism: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacre-re-subject-knowledge-sikhism-tickets-71770823465>

Islam: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacre-re-subject-knowledge-islam-tickets-72923013697>

Judaism: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacre-re-subject-knowledge-judaism-tickets-72934716701>

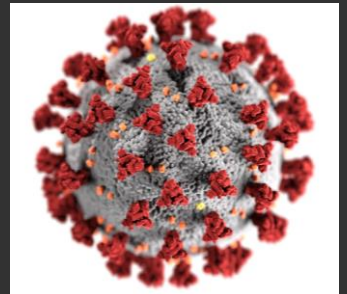
Date	Format	Focus
Thursday 21 st October 2021 4.00-6.00pm	Live session at local Hindu Mandir: Shree Krishna Temple Harnall Lane Coventry CV1 4EZ https://www.eventbrite.com/e/re-subject-knowledge-hindu-traditions-tickets-164968444057	Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Programme: Hindu Traditions*
Wednesday 24 th November 2021 5.00-7.00pm	Live session at Birmingham Progressive Synagogue 1 Roseland Way, Birmingham B15 1HD https://www.eventbrite.com/e/re-subject-knowledge-programme-judaism-tickets-164971186259	Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Programme: Judaism*
Thursday 17 th February 2022 4.00-6.00pm	Live session at local CE church (St Nicholas, Kenilworth) https://www.eventbrite.com/e/re-subject-knowledge-programme-christianity-tickets-165120498857	Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Programme: Christianity*
Thursday 9 th June 2022 4.30-6.30pm	Live session at Forest Hermitage Buddhist Monastery, Lower Fulbrook, Warwickshire https://www.eventbrite.com/e/buddhist-traditions-tickets-165125670325	Westhill RE Subject Knowledge Programme: Buddhist Traditions*

- Live events were planned for 2019-2020 (Warwickshire SACRE's bid) and 2020-2021 (Coventry SACRE's bid)



Eventbrite

- Booking was via Event Brite and listings were shared via the termly RE Bulletin and in flyers
- The programme was interrupted by the pandemic as gathering was not possible



THE LIVE SESSIONS



IMAGE BANK: SIKHI



IMAGE BANK: JUDAISM



IMAGE BANK: ISLAM



IMAGE BANK: HINDU DHARMA

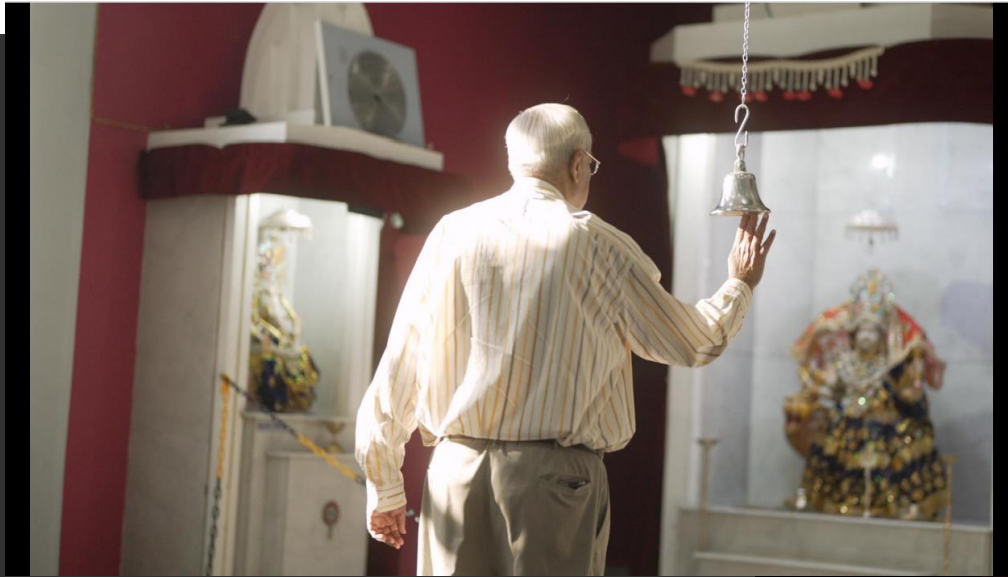
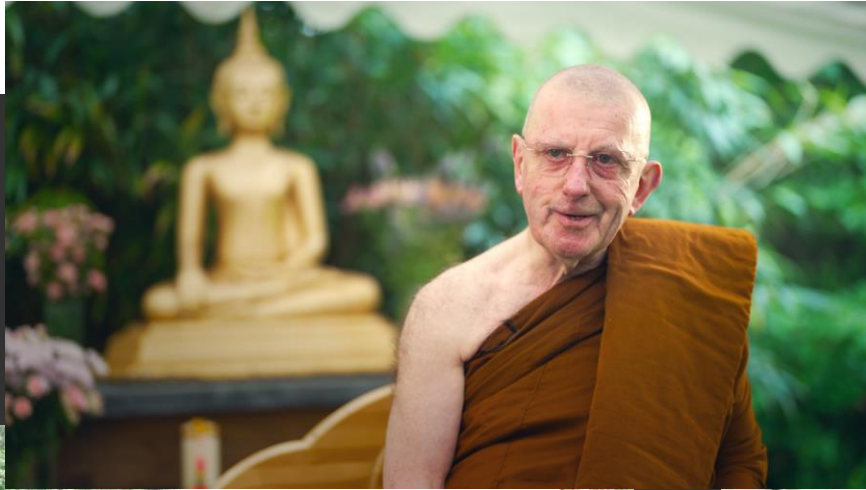


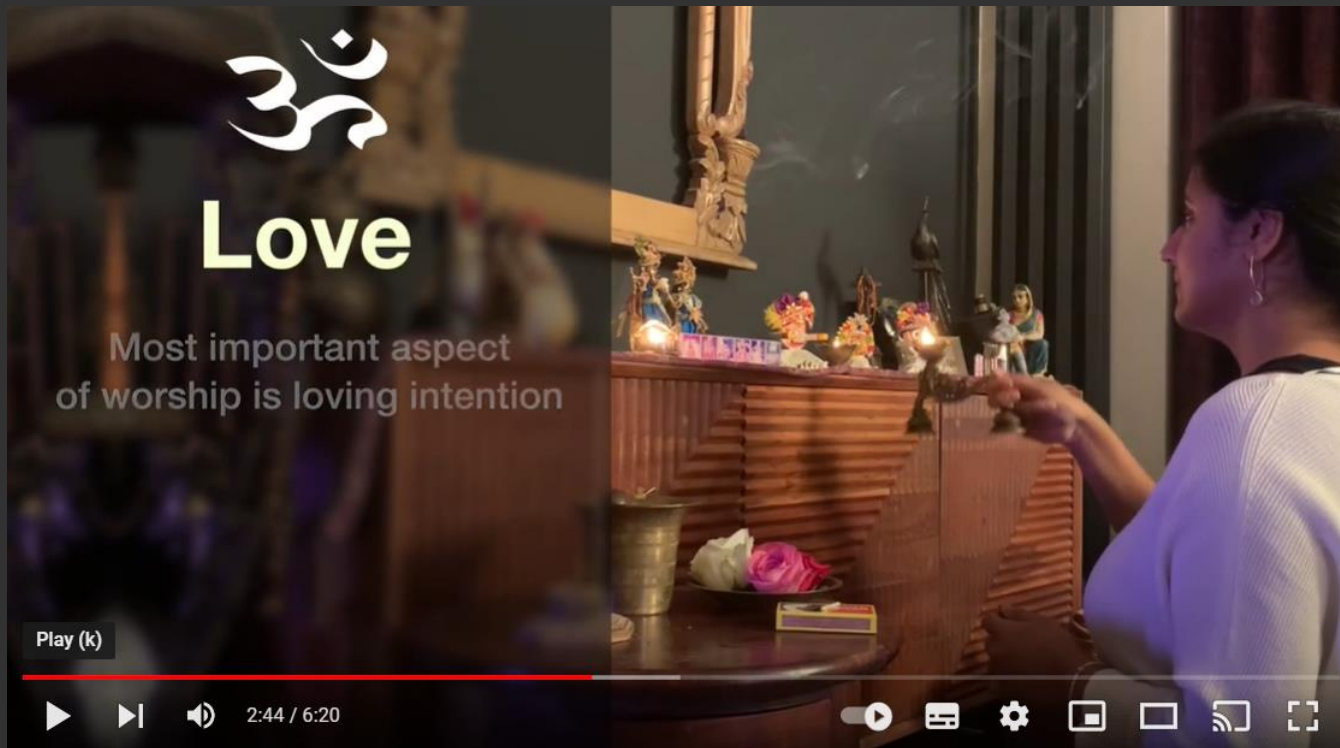
IMAGE BANK: CHRISTIANITY



IMAGE BANK: BUDDHIST TRADITIONS



ADAPTING FOR SPECIFIC TRADITIONS



Three main adaptations:

- Home shrine worship for the Hindu Dharma film
- Additional documents for Christianity outlining the main differences of other denominations with Church of England
- Adaptations to the crib sheets for the Buddhist Traditions session to acknowledge no deity

THE 'ROAD MAPS'

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Warwickshire SACRE

**RE Road Map: Approaches and Resources
for Teachers for Use in School**

Hindu Traditions



This document will lead teachers towards becoming an expert in teaching Hindu Traditions within your classroom. It is not intended for pupils.



- The 'Road Maps' for each tradition suggest resources and approaches from EYFS to KS5
- SACRE members contribute and check

Encountering Hindus

Pupils can also encounter real Hindus, their beliefs and lived experience, in a number of other ways:

My Life, My Religion: Meeting Two Young British Hindus:

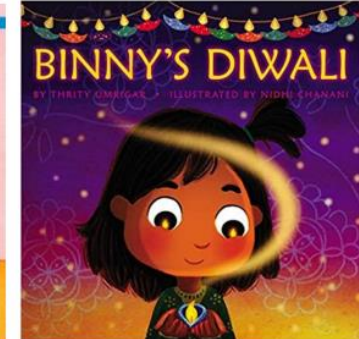
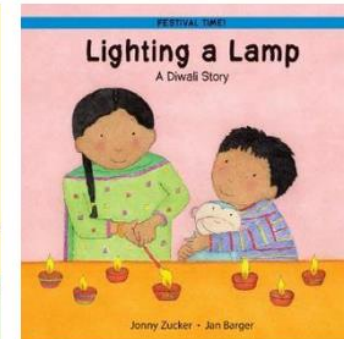
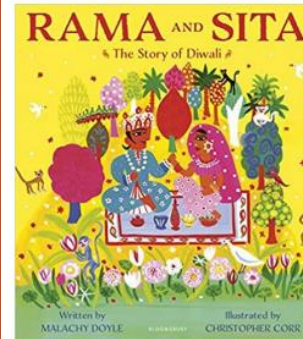
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-my-life-my-religion-hinduism-meeting-two-british-hindus/zkghf4j>

NATRE's Real Life, Real Faith:

What symbols are important to you? <https://youtu.be/7AONaVz2F00> (KS1)

What stories are important to you? <https://youtu.be/c00lCj4ypWw> (KS1)

There are many books available for telling the story of Diwali. Here are just a few of them:



Where you can, invite in Hindu visitors to talk about their own celebration of Diwali and make links between beliefs and practices. You could also visit a Hindu mandir around the time of Diwali, when the temple will be beautifully decorated for the festival (for contact details see the end of this document).

THE 'ROAD MAPS'

- The 'Road Maps' end with details of visitors and places of worship for visits to try to encourage teachers to support encounter with real 'lived religion' in RE lessons

Local Mandirs for School Visits:

Shree Krishna Mandir

TEACHERS' RESOURCE

High Road
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire

Phone: 01926 452247

<https://shreekrishnamandirlspa.co.uk/>

admin@shreekrishnamandirlspa.co.uk



Shree Krishna Mandir, Leamington Spa

Shree Krishna Temple
Harnall lane
Coventry
CV1 4EZ.

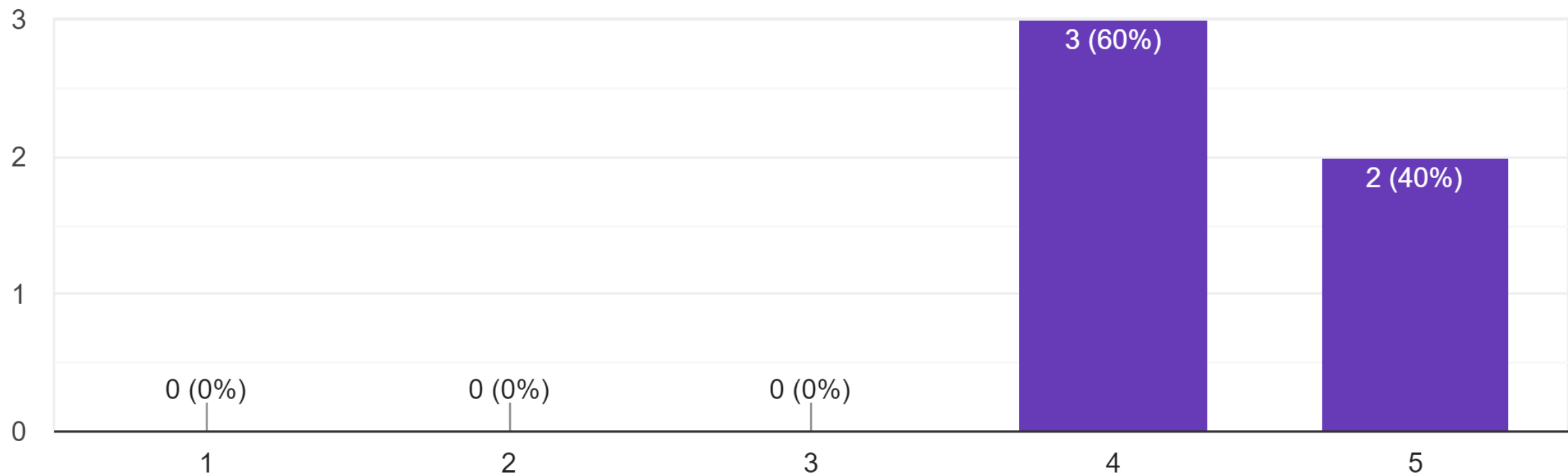
<https://www.sktcoventry.org.uk/>

info@sktcoventry.org.uk



Please rate how useful these are

5 responses



GUIDANCE FOR RE SUBJECT LEADERS

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COVENTRY SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



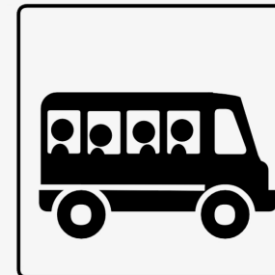
Warwickshire SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Using the SACRE RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Film for CPD

Below are some suggestions for how SACRE's new RE subject knowledge enhancement films can be used as CPD in school:

- Watch a film at the start of a staff meeting and spend the remainder of the time on one, or several, of the following:
 - Answering questions and clearing up any misconceptions, auditing teacher knowledge of the focus religion before and after watching the film. Following up with further subject knowledge input as required.
 - Planning the progression of the focus religion through the school's RE curriculum so that everybody understands the part they teach and how it fits into the wider coverage of the religion.
 - Gathering all resources/artefacts linked with the focus religion and auditing, listing which resources still need purchasing and working out a budget.
 - Allocating year groups to visit the place of worship for the focus religion and making enquiries about visits/visitors (see <https://i.warwickshire.gov.uk/content/sacre-education-resources/sacre-education-resources> section 6 for a list of SACRE-suggested visits and visitors).
 - Exploring the Road Map for the focus religion and discussing what the school can and cannot make use of.
 - Creating Knowledge Organisers for units linked to the focus religion so that knowledge builds as pupils progress through school.



TEACHER FEEDBACK: HOSPITALITY

The hospitality and how welcoming everybody was. So informative, thank you!

Excellent speaker, interesting, adding humour. Friendly, welcoming- a lovely experience.

Most welcoming and generous.

TEACHER FEEDBACK: SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

Seeing prayer in practice.

First-hand and open tour gave a great insight into the beliefs and practices of Muslims in this mosque.

Community aspect- schooling, family life, hospitality, contributing to society.

The tour was fascinating- so different to reading about in textbooks or watching a video.

Being in the places of worship means that you see day to day practice first hand rather than just reading about it. It helps you realise that different places of worship of the same faith may do things slightly differently from each other, that each one is unique. Being inside have us a chance to speak to people directly and also to watch acts of faith.

I found the whole evening very useful for my own understanding as well as providing knowledge I can share with colleagues at school.

Really useful and informative CPD. I got more out of this than hours of searching the Muslim faith on the internet!

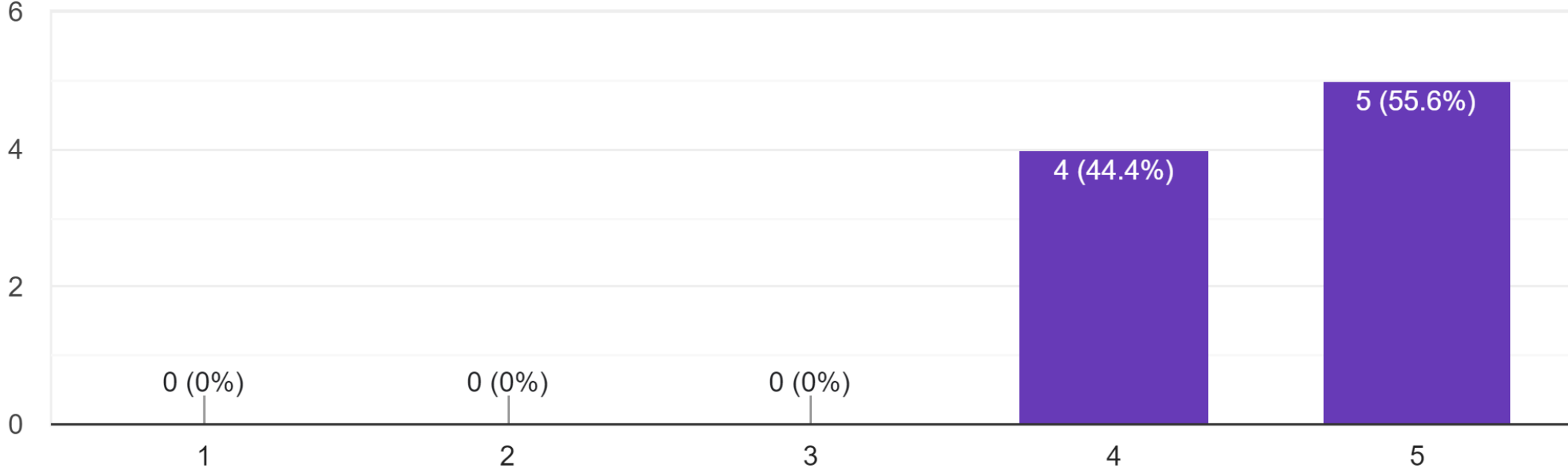
I really enjoyed the course. I have learnt so much. Thank you.

It brought some of the traditions to life and explained the importance of respect. It also helped understand why people decide to follow the tradition.

I found the whole evening very useful for my own understanding as well as providing knowledge I can share with colleagues at school.

Please rate these sessions for improving your RE subject knowledge

9 responses



TEACHER FEEDBACK: INTERACTIVITY

Tour and opportunity to ask questions.

Being able to ask questions openly.

Fabulous open dialogue.

Being in the different places of worship and meeting people of that particular faith is hugely important. You can attempt to improve your subject knowledge about a religion through books but hearing first hand from people and being able to ask questions is much more valuable.

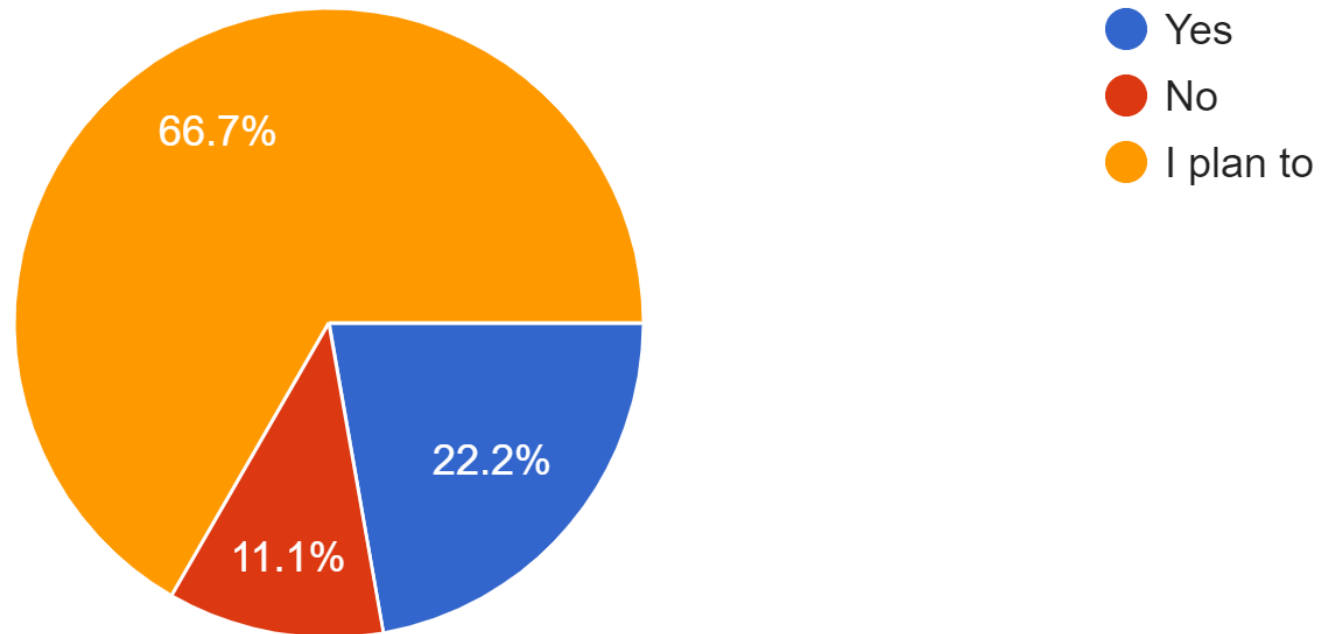
I have valued the opportunity to see first hand the places of worship, it helps to embed the reality of the spiritual nature of these places. I have also appreciated the chance to ask questions and learn about the lived experiences of people from different faith traditions.

TEACHER FEEDBACK ON FILMS

- Fantastically produced, really clear. Staff and some children who have seen really enjoyed and were amazed
- A great tool to be used both for staff training and in the classroom.
- These are really well produced and provide an overview of the events which is very accessible.
- Really well narrated, modern and clear.

Have you shared the films with staff?

9 responses

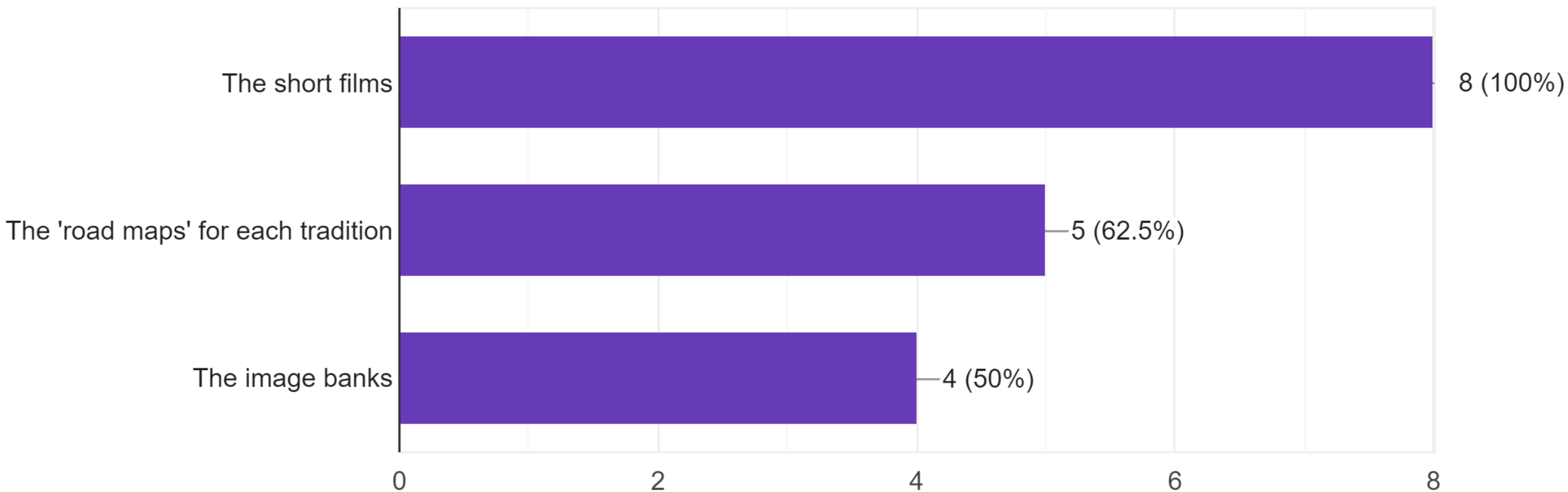


TEACHER PLANS FOR USING FILMS & PROJECT RESOURCES

- I have not seen them but plan to look soon and share with the staff.
- I intend to watch them and share them with staff and students
- RE Staff meetings, use for planning support
- They are all saved on SharePoint which means staff can access them freely as needed.
- Use during a staff meeting to develop subject knowledge of others
- NA - I am keen to share these resources through the networks I am in contact with.
- In a CPD session in Autumn 1. I am also teaching an enhancement lesson to Year 6.

Which of the resources for this project are the most useful? You may tick any that apply

8 responses



POSITIVES OF THE PROJECT

- Good feedback from teachers
- Community links and hospitality
- Lasting resources/impact due to films
- Local resource
- SACRE follow-up resources
- Able to continue despite pandemic interruptions
- Use by other LA groups/organisations
- Actively involved SACRE members
- Teacher: SACRE member interaction
- Confidence to visit places of worship



CHALLENGES OF THE PROJECT

- The pandemic!
- Drop off in numbers at live sessions following pandemic (picked up again at the end- we finished on a positive!)
- Diversity and differing perspectives within traditions- very important to include, challenging to know how best to capture
- Turn-around time for viewing and reviewing resources
- Time-heavy production of 'road maps' & possibly not 'current' for long (will need updating)

PROJECT LINKS



Westhill
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- Warwickshire SACRE RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programme: <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/6>
- Westhill Project Page: <https://www.westhillendowment.org/coventry-and-warwickshire-sacres>

Thank you to Westhill for their funding of such an important and visionary project. I hope that it will be widely used to enhance teachers subject knowledge.

Yes the work carried out looks amazing. Massive credit and thumbs up for all those that made it happen.



ANY QUESTIONS?

