



## Developing subject knowledge for teaching Religious Education

### General sites

RE: Online	<p><a href="https://www.reonline.org.uk/teaching-resources/">https://www.reonline.org.uk/teaching-resources/</a></p> <p>A website that provides subject knowledge for a range of different religions and a variety of resources that can be used in class. You can even e mail a believer, a great hook for a lesson if children have received an e mail from a believer beforehand.</p>
Religious Education Council of England and Wales	<p><a href="https://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/">https://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/</a></p> <p>This website provides ideas for helping children with SEND and more able access the curriculum as well as updates in the curriculum.</p>
National Association for the Teaching of Religious Education	<p><a href="https://www.natre.org.uk/primary/re-at-primary-level/">https://www.natre.org.uk/primary/re-at-primary-level/</a></p> <p>This website has some fantastic free resources, some designed specifically for home learning. Some other resources do require membership.</p>
BBC Teach	<p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks1-religious-studies/zmtvwtw">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks1-religious-studies/zmtvwtw</a></p> <p>This website has some fantastic resources/videos on teaching RE.</p>
Early Learning HQ	<p><a href="https://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/lesson-plans-activity-ideas/religious-education/">https://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/lesson-plans-activity-ideas/religious-education/</a></p> <p>A website specifically aimed at EYFS and KS1 with planning ideas on various different topics.</p>
RE definitions	<p><a href="http://re-definitions.org.uk/">http://re-definitions.org.uk/</a></p> <p>A website to support with correct use of subject specific terminology.</p>
TrueTube	<p><a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/">https://www.truetube.co.uk/</a></p> <p>This website has a variety of video clips, lesson plans and assembly scripts. You do need to register, but it is free.</p>
Inform	<p><a href="https://inform.ac/">https://inform.ac/</a></p> <p>An independent charity website providing objective information on minority religions and religious movements. It also contains some excellent subject knowledge leaflets on Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism and Islam.</p>
Godly Play UK	<p><a href="https://www.godlyplay.uk/">https://www.godlyplay.uk/</a></p> <p>This website discusses the pedagogical approach of learning RE through play. It is particularly useful for EYFS and KS1.</p>





### Buddhism

**Buddhist studies**

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/index.htm>

A website that contains lesson plans and resources to support the teaching of Buddhism.



### Christianity

**RE: quest**

<https://request.org.uk/>

This website explores the Christian faith, has resources for lesson and some interactive online games.

**Bible society**

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-Bible/>

The website allows access to passages from The Bible.

**EduChurch**

<http://christianresources.org/>

A website for teachers and children to support their understanding of Christianity.

**Christian Aid**

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

A charity website who provide educational resources and also visiting speakers free of charge.



### Hinduism

**Hindu studies**

<http://www.hinduacademy.org/schools/>

This website provides an overview of Hindu beliefs to support the teaching of Hinduism.



### Islam

**Islamic Relief**

<https://www.Islamic-relief.org.uk/>





**Qur'an Browser**

A website that provides examples and case studies of Muslim charities.  
<https://www.quranbrowser.org/>  
 A website that contains access to and translations of the Qur'an.

**Jewish Museum**

**Jewish Interactive**



**Judaism**

<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/schools/in-the-classroom/>  
 This website explores the Jewish faith and has some great lesson resources as well as a facility to pose a question about Judaism for them to answer.

<https://www.jewishinteractive.org/resources-for-educators-parents/>  
 This website has lots of lesson resources relating to Jewish celebrations and some interactive online games too.

**All about Sikhs**

**Sikh resources**



**Sikhism**

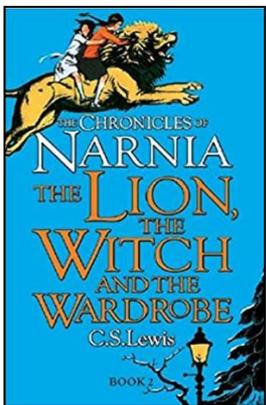
<https://www.allaboutsikhs.com/introduction/introduction-to-sikhismthe-sikh-gurus>  
 A website providing information on the Sikh faith and way of life.

<http://sikhresources.com/>  
 A website that provides lesson resources for the teaching of Sikhism.





## Books related to Religious Education

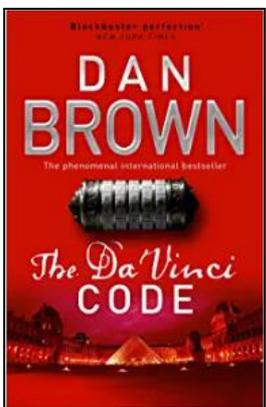
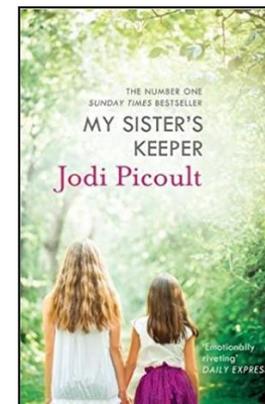


### 'The Chronicles of Narnia' by C.S. Lewis

During the World War II bombings of London, four English siblings are sent to a country house where they will be safe. One day Lucy finds a wardrobe that transports her to a magical world called Narnia. After coming back, she soon returns to Narnia with her brothers, Peter and Edmund and her sister, Susan. There they join the magical lion, Aslan, in the fight against the evil White Witch.

### 'My Sister's Keeper' by Jodi Picoult

Conceived as a marrow donor for her gravely ill sister, Anna Fitzgerald has undergone countless surgeries and medical procedures in her short life. Though their older daughter's life has no doubt been prolonged, the unorthodox decision of Anna's parents has cracked the entire family's foundation. When Anna sues her parents for emancipation, it threatens to destroy the family for good.

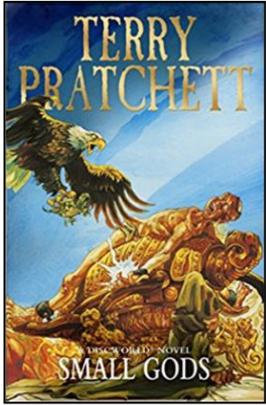


### 'The Da Vinci Code' by Dan Brown

Harvard professor Robert Langdon receives an urgent late-night phone call while on business in Paris: the elderly curator of the Louvre has been murdered inside the museum. Alongside the body, police have found a series of baffling codes.

As Langdon and a gifted French cryptologist, Sophie Neveu, begin to sort through the bizarre riddles, they are stunned to find a trail that leads to the works of Leonardo Da Vinci – and suggests the answer to a mystery that stretches deep into the vault of history.



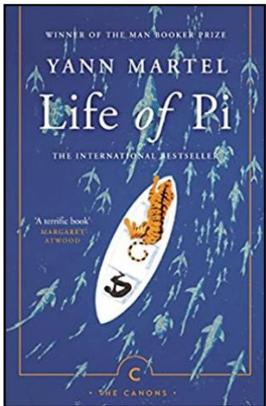
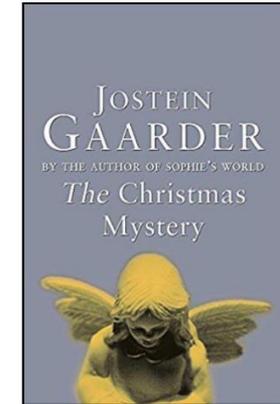


**'Small Gods' by Terry Pratchett**

In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was: 'Hey, you!' This is the Discworld, after all, and religion is a controversial business. Everyone has their own opinion, and indeed their own gods, of every shape and size, And all elbowing for space at the top. In such a competitive environment, shape and size can be pretty crucial to make one's presence felt.

**'The Christmas Mystery' by Jostein Gaarder**

Fifty years ago a girl disappeared from her home in Norway. She ran after a lamb and found herself travelling right across, and back through Europe to Palestine, and back through 2000 years to meet the Holy Family in Bethlehem. There she met angels, shepherds, wise men and other biblical characters who joined her on her pilgrimage; and she heard of many of the things that happened in the world in the last 2000 years.



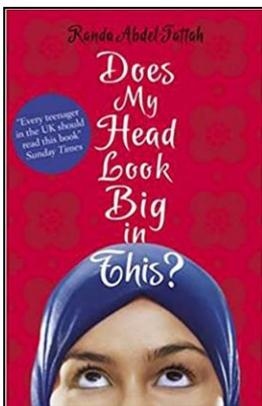
**'Life of Pi' by Yann Martel**

After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female Orang-utan – and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. The scene is set for one of the most extraordinary and best-loved works of fiction in recent years.



**Rotherham School Improvement Partnership Mission:**

*all students making at least good progress; no underperforming cohorts; all teachers delivering at least good learning; and all schools moving to at least the next successful level of performance*

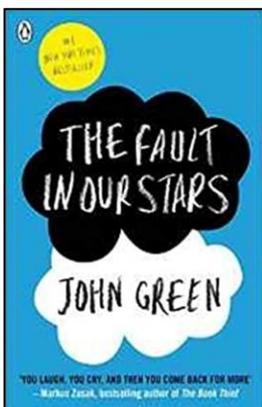
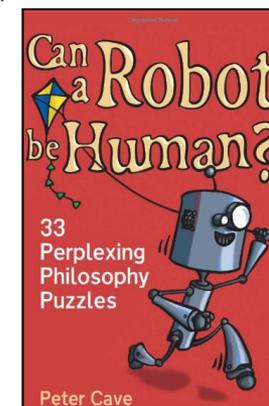


### 'Does My Head Look Big in This?' by Randa Abdel-Fattah

School is tough enough without throwing a hijab into the mix...Amal is a 16-year-old Melbourne teen with all the usual obsessions about boys, chocolate and Cosmo magazine. She's also a Muslim, struggling to honour the Islamic faith in a society that doesn't understand it. The story of her decision to 'shawl up' and its attendant Anxieties (like how much eyeliner to wear) is funny, surprising and touching by turns.

### 'Can a Robot be Human?' by Peter Cave

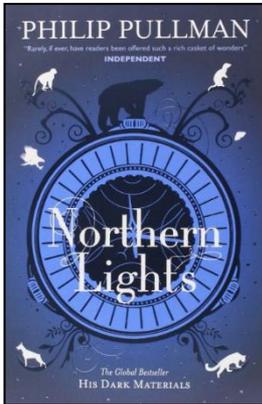
In this book of puzzle and paradoxes, Peter Cave introduces some of life's most important questions with tales and tall stories, reasons and arguments, common sense and bizarre conclusions. From how to get to heaven, to speedy tortoises, paradoxes and puzzles give rise to some of the most exciting problems in philosophy – from logic to ethics and from art to politics.



### 'The Fault in Our Stars' by John Green

Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has brought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten.



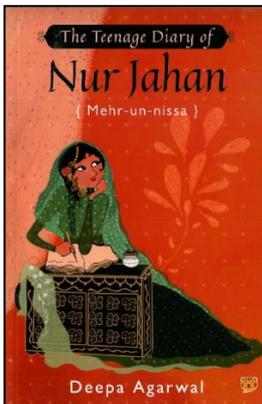
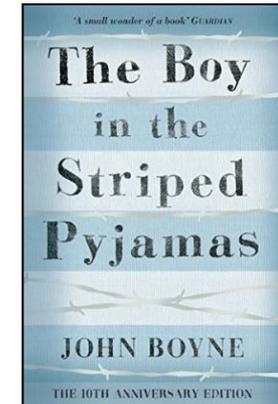


### 'Northern Lights' by Philip Pullman

Lyra is a young girl, raised at Jordan College in Oxford. However, when she thwarts a plot to save her father's life, she is flung into a world of intrigue, manipulation and war on a scale even she can't imagine. When her friend Roger is stolen away, Lyra decides to find him and bring him back to his rightful home.

### 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas?' by John Boyne

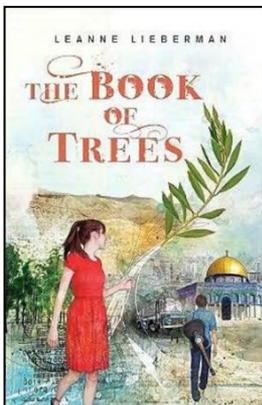
During World War II, 8-year-old Bruno and his family leave Berlin to take up residence near the concentration camp where his father has just become commandant. Unhappy and lonely, he wanders out behind his house one day and finds Shmuel a Jewish boy of his age. Though the barbed-wire fence of the camp separates them, the boys begin a forbidden friendship, oblivious to the real nature of their surroundings.



### 'The Teenage Diary of Nur Jahan' by Deepa Agarwal

This fictional diary gives us a glimpse into the queen's teenage years: how she grows into a strong and passionate young woman; her lover for poetry and writing; and her interest in the larger world around her. Her diary also describes the Mughal world through the eyes of a young girl: the vibrant Meena Bazaars; the elaborate festival celebrations; and the intricacies of life in the zenana. Her diary records her ambition to meet the love of her life and also to carve a place for herself in history.



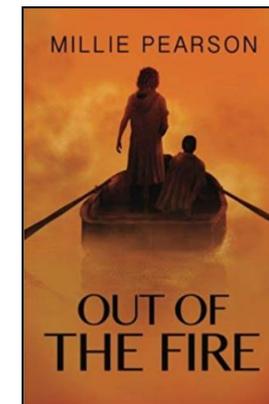


**'The Book of Trees' by Leanne Lieberman**

When Mia, a Jewish teenager from Ontario, goes to Israel to spend the summer studying at a yeshiva, or seminary, she wants to connect with the land and deepen her understanding of Judaism. However, Mia's summer plans go astray when she falls in love with a non-Jewish tourist, Andrew.

**'Out of the Fire' by Millie Pearson**

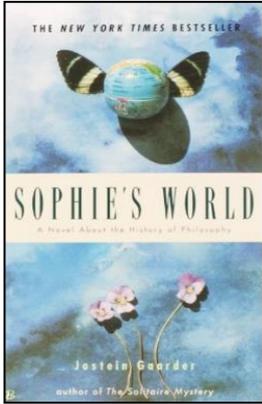
Hanna wants two things: a spell for invisibility, and the safe return of her brother and father. Then Richard I sets the country ablaze with talk of the infidel and waging a holy war in Palestine. This is a story about a Jewish girl, a Christian boy, a book of ancient Babylonian magic – and the disaster that unfolds when forces beyond their control are unleashed. Hanna is caught up in real events from a medieval past.



**'When Wings Expand' by Mehded Maryam Sinclair**

Writing on the pages of her journal, Nur, a teenage girl in Canada, charts the onset and advance of her mother's cancer. Nur watches her mother's body begin to shrink and her mood begin to darken. When family and friends begin to encroach, Nur must face the prospect of her mother's looming death.



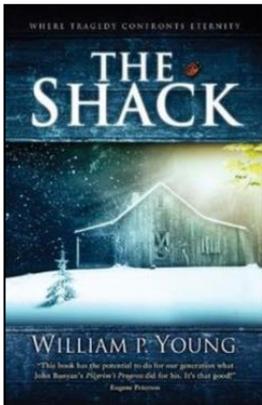
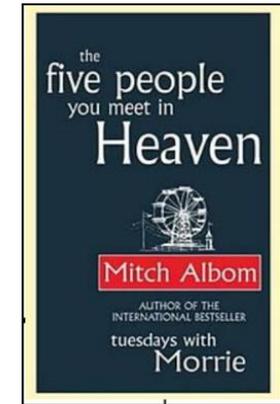


**'Sophie's World' by Jostein Gaarder**

When 14-year-old Sophie encounters a mysterious mentor who introduces her to philosophy, mysteries deepen in her own life. Why does she keep getting postcards addressed to another girl? Who is the other girl? And who, for that matter, is Sophie herself?

**'The Five People You Meet in Heaven' by Mitch Albom**

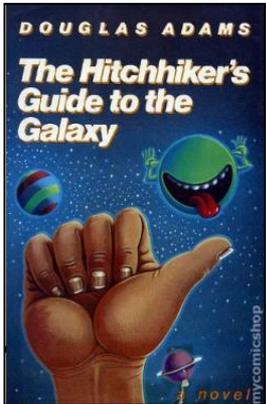
This follows the life and death of a man named Eddie who is killed and sent to heaven, where he encounters five People who had a significant impact upon him while he was alive.



**'The Shack' by William P. Young**

After suffering a family tragedy, Mack Phillips spirals into a deep depression that causes him to question his Innermost beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack in the Oregon wilderness. Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa. Through this meeting, Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever.



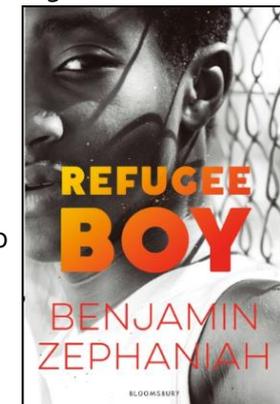


### 'The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy' by Douglas Adams

Arthur Dent is trying to prevent his house from being bulldozed when his friend Ford Prefect whisks him into outer space. It turns out Ford is an alien who has just saved Arthur from Earth's total annihilation. Ford introduces Arthur to his friends, including many-headed President Zaphod Beeblebrox and a refugee Trillian. Arthur makes his way across the stars while seeking the meaning of life, or something close to it.

### 'Refugee Boy' by Benjamin Zephaniah

The whole story centres around the 14-year-old Alem Kelo. He is a boy born of an Ethiopian father and an Eritrean mother at a time when the two countries were at war with each other. His father takes him to London to be safe.



For extra support please contact: Vanessa Gregory, Curriculum Consultant for RE on: [rotherhamsacre@gmail.com](mailto:rotherhamsacre@gmail.com)



*Rotherham School Improvement Partnership Mission:  
all students making at least good progress; no underperforming cohorts; all teachers delivering at least good learning; and  
all schools moving to at least the next successful level of performance*

