

School-produced material

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What did the Warwick Report say?

The remit of the research project did not include investigation of print material that schools produced themselves. However, the Warwick Report (p.205) noted that:

- visits to case study schools showed that much material used in RE classes is generated by the teachers
- teachers put a considerable amount of thought and work into tailoring them to the learning styles, interest or assessment requirements of their pupils
- the materials generated by teachers draw on the wide range and variety of resources available (including online resources and DVDs from the UK and elsewhere), whether or not they had been designed for RE purposes
- this trend means that the quality of the materials, and of the students' learning through them, is dependent on teacher knowledge, skill and commitment
- where teacher expertise is high, teachers are able to compensate for any inadequacies in the published resources available and make valuable contributions to learning
- where there is less expertise, there is more potential for inaccuracies in the presentation of the religions
- a major way for teachers and students to find resources is through using a search engine such as Google, Yahoo or MSN
- those internet sites that appear towards the top of a search engine's list are more likely to be used than those that appear subsequently
- some RE teachers use the specific RE search engine RE Online (www.reonline.org.uk) which offers a far smaller selection of sites which have been certificated as being useful for teachers and/or students
- some teachers are using resource-sharing sites to aid their planning and teaching of RE.