

Seminar R

Session leader: Adam Robertson

Co-presenter / accompanying teacher: Sean Whittle

Session title:

Making links between research and RE teachers

This session is open and applicable to all, but may be especially helpful those who have leadership aspirations...

Key questions addressed:

- Why is there a need for opening up research to RE teachers?
- What might be the barriers to drawing on research into RE?
- Ways of opening up research? Example 1 = the leadership programme
- Ways of opening up research? Example 2 = creating a reading group
- How to get access to research in RE
- How do I look beyond what will I do in my class tomorrow?

Main content and activities of session:

This session opens up the issue of RE teacher engagement with research, going beyond CPD and serving immediate needs (like what am I going to teach my class tomorrow?). It will begin with the presenters discussing their involvement in the RE Leadership Programme. Part of this has been to find ways of engaging with research and researchers in RE. The benefits of taking part in a reading group will be discussed. The session will have a heavy emphasis on delegate participation and interaction. We will explain the benefits bringing RE teachers together with mentors who are established researchers in RE and that this has positive consequences both for the mentee and the mentor.

- Part 1: What has research got to do with RE? Personal reflections from Adam and Sean
- Part 2: The barriers to RE teachers accessing research: discussion of the issues
- Part 3: pathways into engaging with research the example of Leadership Programme: What is it? What it has done for the mentee and the mentor.
- Part 4: The humble 'reading group' practical tips
- Part 5: Plenary discussion on how serving RE teachers might be better able to get access to research

Links to resources, publications, etc : These will provided throughout the session



