

RE is for all pupils and every pupil is legally entitled to Religious Education as part of a 'broad and balanced' curriculum. RE must be provided for all registered pupils in state funded schools in England.

Withdrawal from RE Parental right of withdrawal from RE was first granted in 1944 when curricular RE was called 'Religious Instruction' and, as such, had connotations of induction into the Christian faith. RE is very different now. It takes account of world faiths and non-religious world views so that children can learn about and from religious traditions without being inducted into those traditions. In the UK, 70+ years later, parents still have the right to withdraw their children from RE on the grounds that they wish to provide their own RE. This RE provision will then become the parents' responsibility. Parents can also exercise the right to withdraw their child from part of RE and can do so without giving any explanation.