# Gweminar Fyw – Dyneiddiaeth Live Webinar – Humanism

Consortiwm Canolbarth y De Central South Consortium

> Gwasanaeth Addysg ar y Cyd Ioint Education Service





#### Sign In/ Mewngofnodi



Consortiwm Canolbarth y De Central South Consortium





Education Achievement Service Gwasanaeth Cyflawni Addysg

## Amcanion:

#### Aims:

- Datblygu hyder ymarferwyr a'u gwybodaeth bynciol am Datblygu ymwybyddiaeth o'r amrywiaeth a phlwraliaeth o fewn Cristnogaeth e.e. enghreifftiau o brofiadau bywyd
- Datblygu ymwybyddiaeth ymarferwyr o gyfleoedd posibl i ddatblygu profiadau dysgu dilys ym MDPh Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn ymwneud â Christnogaeth
- Cynnig mynediad at adnoddau a deunyddiau i ddatblygu gwybodaeth ymarferwyr am Gristnogaeth yn fanylach

- Develop practitioner confidence and subject knowledge about Humanism
- Develop awareness of the diversity and pluralism within Humanism e.g. examples of lived experiences
- Develop practitioner awareness of possible opportunities to develop authentic learning experiences in RVE relating to Humanism
- Provide access to resources and materials to further develop practitioner knowledge of Humanism

Consortiwm Canolbarth y De Central South Consortium

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### **Welcome to Understanding Humanism**

Please mute your microphone.

**Introduce yourself** by sharing your name and where you are joining us from in the chat area.

Let us know if you have already taught about humanism? How did it go?

#### Introduction activity

Can you also write **3 to 5 words** in the chat that you associate with humanism?



#### **UNDERSTANDING HUMANISM**

#### Teacher Training (primary)

Luke Donnellan, Director of Understanding Humanism @HumanismEdu

Curions

# What will we cover?

- 1) RVE in Wales
- 2) Quick introduction to humanism
- 3) Non-religious terminology
- 4) Presenting the non-religious in the classroom
- 5) What is humanism?: five core features
- 6) Resources to support you (quotes, stimuli, activities)
- 7) Humanism in Wales

Q&A



#### **RVE IN WALES**

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## Legal requirement

Under the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 all teachers and agreed syllabus must **have regard** to the Curriculum for Wales and the RVE supporting guidance when creating RVE content for children age 3 - 16. This states that RVE must:

- reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Wales are in the main Christian while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Wales; and
- also reflect the fact that a range of **non-religious philosophical convictions** are held in Wales

All maintained schools and settings are required to have regard to the agreed syllabus, including in schools of a religious character, in their design of the agreed syllabus element of their RVE provision.

## Non-religious philosophical convictions

A philosophical conviction is a view that attains a certain level of cogency, seriousness, cohesion and importance. Views are likely to be regarded as 'philosophical convictions', if they are 'worthy of respect in a democratic society'.

But specifically, <u>non-religious philosophical convictions</u> are philosophical convictions which are based on a non-religious worldview as opposed to a religious worldview, e.g. humanism.

#### What is (and isn't) a non-religious philosophical conviction?

A religious philosophical conviction: Christianity

A non-religious philosophical conviction: humanism

A philosophical conviction that is neither religious nor non-religious: veganism



RVE is statutory from 3 to 16 in Wales and must be delivered to be critical, objective and pluralistic. There must be a non-religious element to RVE to comply with the legislation.

RVE Guidance on Hwb <u>hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/humanities/designing-your-</u> <u>curriculum#religion,-values-and-ethics-guidance</u>

RVE legislation on Hwb explained <u>hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/summary-of-legislation</u>

Hwb RVE playlists - what is new in RVE <u>hwb.gov.wales/repository/resource/eef7e399-</u> 93bb-4d7c-ab68-145c93f4c6d3





### **INTRODUCTION**



#### WHAT IS HUMANISM?

A non-religious worldview

#### 5 areas

- The human being (natural)
- Understanding the world (science)
- The one life (freedom and happiness)
- Humanist ethics (empathy)
- Society (rights and responsibility)





#### **NON-RELIGIOUS TERMINOLOGY**



#### **NON-RELIGIOUS LABELS**

- Humanist
- Atheist
- Agnostic
- Secularist
- Non-religious







#### **HOW SHOULD HUMANISM BE PRESENTED?**

February 17 at 10:28pm · Reading · 🕰

Mock The Week

They're going to introduce Atheism lessons into schools. That'll be a short lesson wont it.

Hello everyone God doesnt exist.

Same time next week then.

18 Likes



'Humanism for me has always been positive. We don't define ourselves by what we don't believe, which is what I had always done prior to discovering humanism as an atheist. The fact that logic and rational thinking are so prized, alongside empathy and human feeling, really attracts me to the humanist philosophy.'



#### Ste Richardsson

### **PRESENT HUMANISM POSITIVELY**

Don't just describe what humanists **don't** believe in...

Describe what they do believe in!

No gods, no afterlife

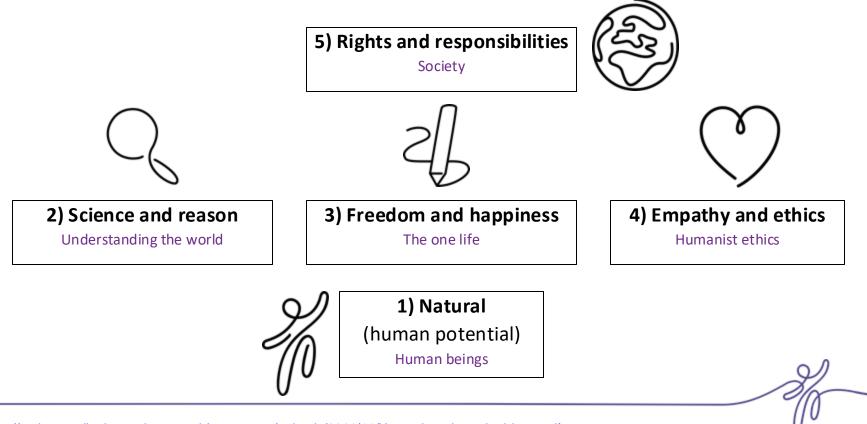
Freedom, reason, empathy, human rights, making the most of life...



#### WHAT IS HUMANISM?



#### **Humanism: 5 features**



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Humanism-through-objects.pdf

### **The Amsterdam Declaration**

- 1) Humanists strive to be ethical
- 2) Humanists strive to be rational
- 3) Humanists strive for **fulfilment** in their lives

An alternative source of meaning and purpose to religion

Amsterdam Declaration (2022), Humanists International







### FIVE FEATURES OF A HUMANIST APPROACH TO LIFE



#### **UNDERSTANDING HUMANISM**

- Teaching Resources
- School Speakers
- How to use guide
- <u>Core knowledge guide</u>
- Teacher Training / CPD
- Online courses

understandinghumanism.org.uk understandinghumanism.org.uk/speakers education@humanism.org.uk Twitter: @HumanismEdu





#### **HUMAN BEINGS**

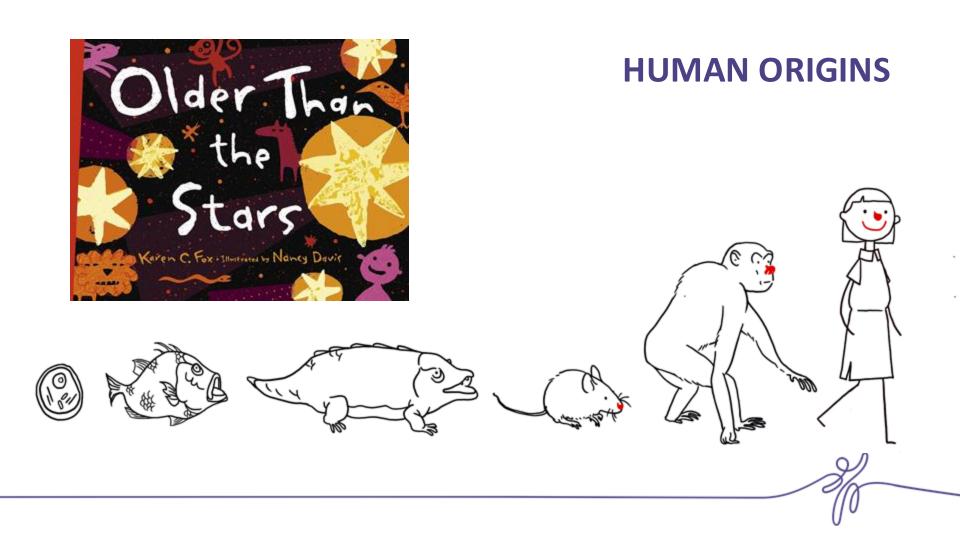


# Alice Roberts, biologist

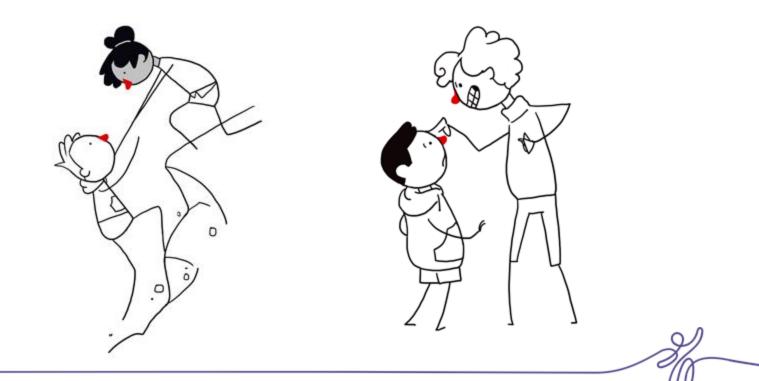
'We are part of this **natural universe** and this natural world. We are part of the **story of life** on this planet. We can feel a real sense of belonging and connectedness in this story, and also a **humility** in the face of all the contingencies and chances that led to the survival of our species.'

'We, as humans, have the power to make good choices, to lead a good life, to **create a better society** – and look after our planet, too. Humanists think that hope for a better future lies with the **choices** we make, and that our own **human capacities** for reason, love and empathy and moral sense can make us better people.'





#### What is good and bad about human beings?



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Human-beings-good-and-bad-7-11.pdf

#### **Human nature**

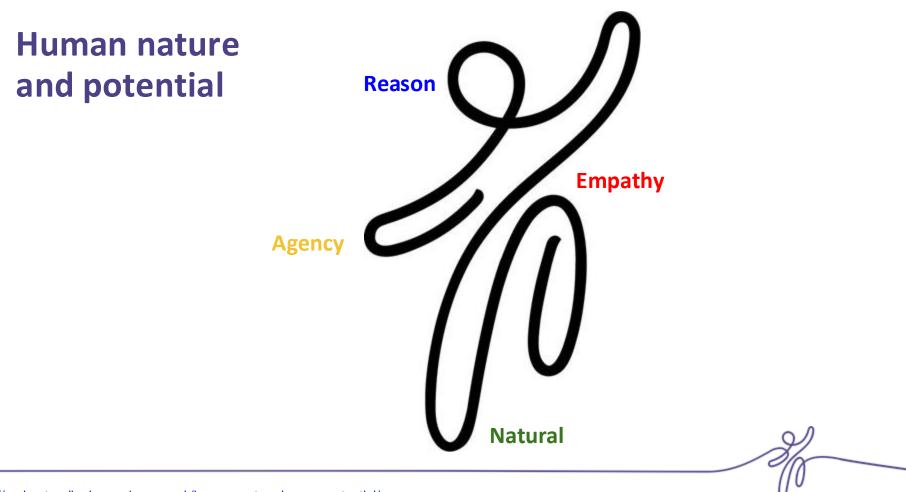
#### The two wolves

#### Humans: good and bad





https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/The-Two-Wolves.pdf



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/human-nature-human-potential/



#### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD**



### The world is a natural place



#### Look for natural explanations

#### **ATHEISM AND AGNOSTICISM**

**Atheism** = don't believe in a god or gods

**Agnosticism** = believe we cannot know if a god or gods exist



#### Science

'The scientific method... can be summarized in one sentence: Do whatever it takes to avoid fooling yourself into thinking something is true that is not.'

Neil deGrasse Tyson, astrophysicist

- Asking **questions**
- Accepting we make **mistakes**
- Looking for evidence
- Being prepared to change our minds





#### **THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES**



- Don't believe everything you are told
- Ask questions
- Look at the evidence
- Be brave enough to disagree



#### **Curiosity and wonder**

'Learning about the nature of space and time or the structure of atoms fills me with awe and wonder; it makes me want to learn more. I see a beauty in the laws of nature that can be explained by science.'

> JIM AL-KHALILI, physicist





#### **THE ONE LIFE**





## **One Life: Live it Well**



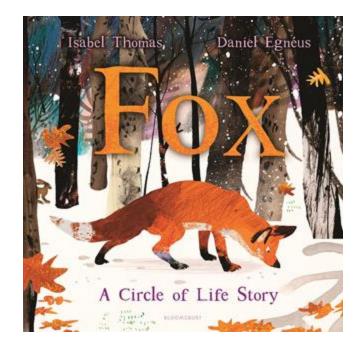
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibLh6MDVKTo

#### THE ONE LIFE

https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Freedom-responsibility-connections.pdf https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Freedom-responsibility-connections.pptx

## DEATH

- Death is the end
- Making the most of life
- Something of us survives
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Atoms and genes  $\,$
  - Ideas and memories
  - $\circ$  Works and contributions



### THE RIVER OF LIFE

'An individual human existence should be like a river – small at first, narrowly contained within its banks, and rushing passionately past boulders and over waterfalls. Gradually the river grows wider, the banks recede, the waters flow more quietly, and – in the end – without any visible break, they become merged in the sea, and painlessly lose their individual being. The man or woman who in old age, can see his or her life in this way, will not suffer from the fear of death, since the things they care for will continue.'

#### **Bertrand Russell**



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/River-of-life.pdf

# **Happiness and freedom**

'Happiness is the only good.
The place to be happy is here.
The time to be happy is now.
The way to be happy is to make others so.'
Robert Ingersoll (1833 – 1899)

#### Freedom

- We should be the **authors** of our own stories
- Limits to freedom? avoid causing harm
- The need for **tolerance**



'I believe in celebrating life. I believe in happiness. I want to explore the beauty that exists in this world, and I believe every person has this right... This is our life and we should enjoy it!'

GULALAI ISMAIL, Humanists International

#### Humanism in 6 words



### THE HAPPY HUMAN



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/The-Happy-Human.pdf

# Humanist ceremonies (namings, weddings, funerals)

Freedom



**Support** 

#### **Connections**

## **HUMANIST FUNERAL EXTRACTS**

- 1) A humanist ceremony is an opportunity to join in taking leave of someone we have loved... but it is more than that. It is a celebration of the life and personality that have been.
- 2) We know that the value and the meaning in life consist in living it and living it well. People who have been a strength and comfort to others and have worked for future generations, deriving fulfillment and satisfaction from so doing, these are the people who create the value and meaning in life.
- 3) All that has life has its beginning and its end. Life exists in the time span between birth and death and, for those of us who believe that death brings the end of individual existence, life's significance lies in the experiences and satisfactions we achieve in that span of time.
- 4) The comfort of having a friend may indeed be lost, but the comfort of having had that friend is never lost. To match the grief in losing him you have the joy of having known him.
- 5) For those of us who believe that death brings the end of individual existence, recognition of our responsibility for, and dependence on, each other gives life a purpose and significance.
- 6) No life is ever completely lost: we live on through the influence we have had on the lives of those who remain.
- 7) What matters is not that someone has died, but that they have lived. Let us concentrate today on the delight and wonder of their lives.
- 8) His body we commit to its natural end, its transformation into the ultimate elements of the universe.
- 9) We have been remembering with love and with gratitude a life that has ended. Let us now return to our homes and our work, resolved that we who live on will use our lives more fully and to better purpose for having known her and for having shared in her life.
- 10) We have been remembering and reminding ourselves that the dead reside not in the grave, but in the hearts and minds of the living.



### **HUMANIST ETHICS**





## WHAT WOULD YOU DO... AND WHY?

You are in a sweet shop with some friends. The owner of the shop is not looking. One of your friends wants to steal some sweets.

How might you persuade them not to?



# **Empathy and The Golden Rule**

### 'Treat other people as you'd want to be treated in their situation.'



'Imagining yourself on the receiving end of your own behaviour is a good way to decide whether you're doing what you think is right or wrong.'

Natalie Haynes, author

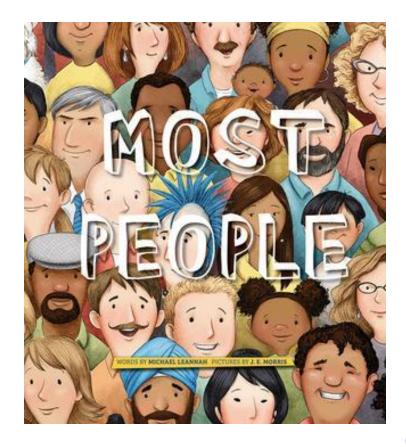
'Do not treat others in a way you would not like to be treated yourself.'





## **BEING GOOD**





# **Animal welfare**

'The question is not can they reason, nor can they talk, but rather **can they suffer**?'

Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), philosopher





## **SOCIETY AND ACTION**





## **HUMANIST MOTIVATION**

'It will never rain roses: when we want to have more roses we must plant more trees.'

George Eliot (Mary Anne Evans), humanist and author





## Human responsibility and action

'The world is before you and you need not take it or leave it as it was before you came in.'

James Baldwin, humanist and author





## **Humanist action**

'No society can legitimately call itself civilized if a sick person is denied medical aid because of lack of means.'

> **Nye Bevan** Founder of the NHS





Human rights for everyone

# The planet

'As a humanist myself, I often feel like my **humanist** values and my **green** values spring from the same place because, to me, humanism is about recognising we came from the living world and we live within it. Our concern for other living beings, for our planet, and for future generations is core to both these philosophies.'

> Sian Berry, former Co-leader of the Green party



#### FOR THE ONE PLANET WE HAVE

## **Global humanism**







# Human responsibility

'One of my humanist values, which has inspired me to work for **human rights**, is that when I leave the world, I want to leave it in a better shape. I don't want the generations that would come after me to face the same kind of challenges that my generation has been facing.'

Gulalai Ismail, Pakistan, Ambassador for Humanists International

'Humanism is a way of thinking and living that emphasizes the **agency** of human beings. Humanism stresses the fact that we, human beings, are capable of changing the world. That we have **the power to make a difference** in our lives, both individually and collectively, without recourse to some outside force.'

Leo Igwe, Nigeria, Founder of Humanist Association of Nigeria





## **The Starfish Thrower, Loren Eiseley**



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/The-starfish-thrower.pdf

## **The Starfish Story**



https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Z-aVMdJ3Aok&app=desktop



## WALES RESOURCES

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#### There are more non-religious people in Wales than Christians

No-religion = **47%** (32% in 2011)

Christian = 44%

#### How many humanists?

Somewhere between ½ and a ½ of the non-religious have a humanist worldview (see YouGov 2018)

https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/area/data/

# A secular country

#### Disestablishment (1920)

#### The Senedd

• Created on secular ideals



#### **Rhodri Morgan**

- First Minister of Wales (2000)
- First public humanist funeral in the UK (2017)

## **Humanists from Wales**

- David Williams
- Robert Owen
- Millicent McKenzie
- Nye Bevan
- Elaine Morgan
- Leo Abse



## **Resources for Wales**

- Guidance on including humanism and non-religious philosophical convictions
- Translations of What is humanism? resources
- History of humanism in Wales
- Humanists from Wales
- <u>understandinghumanism.org.uk/wales</u>
- <u>heritage.humanists.uk/wales</u>



#### **BETH YW DYNEIDDIAETH?**

#### MAE DYNEIDDIAETH YN OLWG DIGREFYDD AR Y BYD NEU'N AGWEDD DDIGREFYDD AR FYWYD SY'N CAEL EI RHANNU GAN FILIYNAU O BOBL YN Y DU A LEDLED Y BYD.

Mae dyneiddwyr yn credu ei bod yn bosibl byw bywyd da, hapus ac ystyrlon heb fod angen crefydd.

Mae'r **Bod Dynol Hapus** yn symbol sy'n cael ei ddefnyddio gan sefydliadau dyneiddiol ledled y byd. Mae'n cynrychioli dathlu bod yn ddynol – dathlu'r hyn y gall bodau dynol ei wneud a dathlu y gallwn ni fod yn hapus.

Mae pobl ddi-grefydd â rhagolwg dyneiddiol ar fywyd wedi bodoli ers dechrau dyniolaeth: wedi'i llywio gan dystiolaeth, wedi'i hysbrydoli gan empathi, a'i thrwytho â gobaith a rhyfeddod am y byd

o'n cwmpas.

ANDREW COPSON, Prif Weithredwr, Dyneiddwyr y DU Mae **bywyd** yn werthfawr. Dylem ni ddod o hyd i'r hyn sy'n ein gwneud ni'n **hapus** a gwneud y gorau o'n bywydau. Dylem ni hefyd geisio helpu pobl eraill i wneud yr un peth.

#### LAUREN



Rwy'n gwerthfawrogi **byd natur** o fy nghwmpas. Hebddo, ni fyddem yn goroesi a'r byd hwn yw'r unig un sydd gennym. Mae'n destun harddwch a **rhyfeddod**, a dylem ni ofalu amdano.

JENNY

Dylem ni ddathlu ein **cyflawniadau** niferus, fel gwyddoniaeth, meddygaeth, technoleg, celf,

> cerddoriaeth a llenyddiaeth. Dylem ni geisio manteisio i'r eithaf ar ein doniau a'n galluoedd.

#### ALEX

Rwy'n gwerthfawrogi ein chwilfrydedd a'n gallu i ofyn cwestiynau. Trwy feddwl yn ofalus am yr atebion a chwilio am dystiolaeth, rydym ni wedi gallu darganfod cymaint am ein byd.



IAN



## **ANY QUESTIONS?**





#### **RESOURCES**

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## **UNDERSTANDING HUMANISM**

- Teaching Resources
- School Speakers
- How to use guide
- <u>Core knowledge guide</u>
- Teacher Training / CPD
- Online courses

<u>understandinghumanism.org.uk</u> <u>understandinghumanism.org.uk/speakers</u> <u>education@humanism.org.uk</u> Twitter: <u>@HumanismEdu</u>



# **School speakers**

#### Free school visits

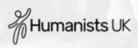
- Talks
- Q&A
- Workshops
- Assemblies
- Interfaith panels
- In-person or virtual

'Go beyond the textbook'



# Humanist Heritage

Exploring the rich **history** and influence of **humanism** in the UK



#### **Stories of four humanist women**



J do you Michael Rosen & Annemarie Young

What is \*

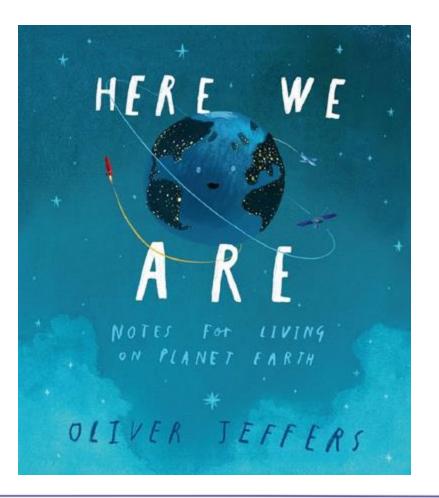
Belonging 👘 Believing: OLIVER JEFFERS

My Humanist Family Gill Voisey

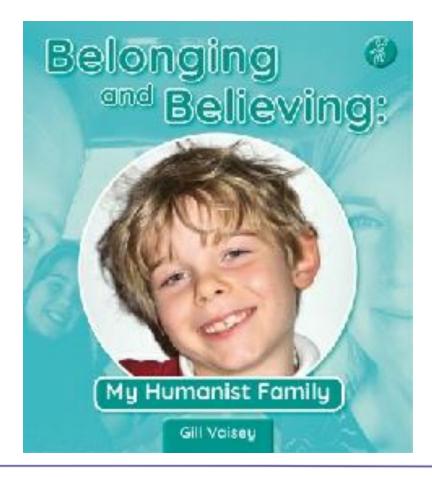
HEREWE

THE YOUNG ATHEIST'S HANDBOC

ALOM SHAHA



https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Here-we-are.pdf





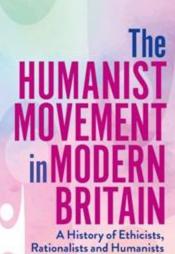
andrew Copson and Alice Roller

#### Understanding Humanism

Andrew Copson, Luke Donnellan and Richard Norman

R





Callum G. Brown, David Nash & Charlie Lynch





SECULARISM

ANDREW COPSON

politics, religion, and freedom



THEWILEY BLACKWELL HANDBOOK OF Humanism



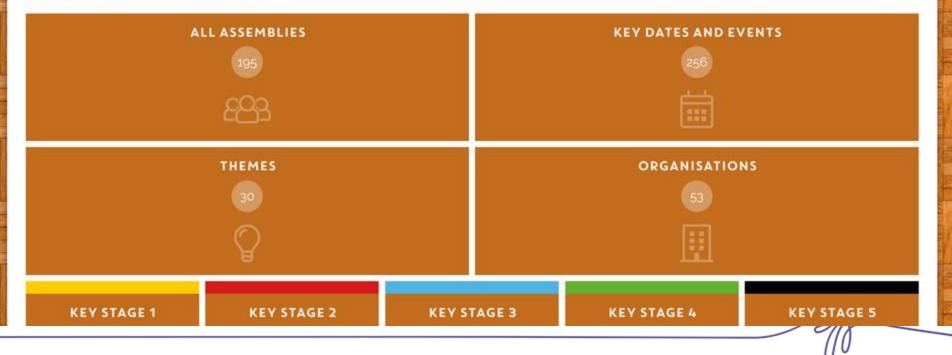
WILEY Blackwell



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#### **BROWSE THE ASSEMBLIES**





#### **SUMMARY**

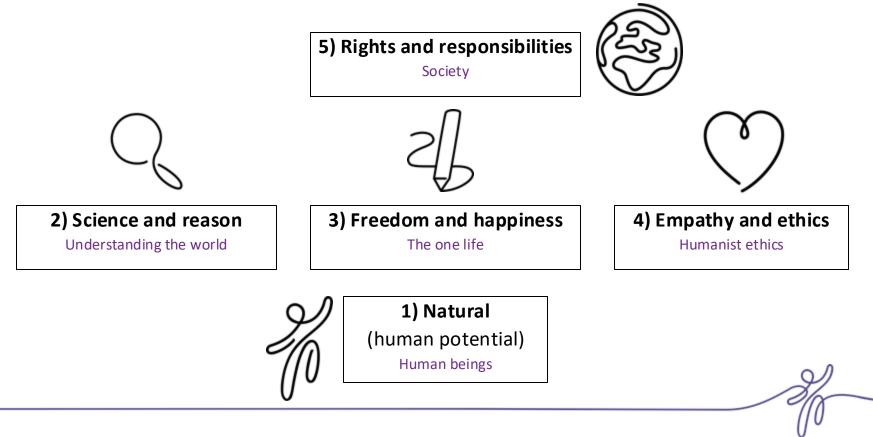




- Labels for the non-religious
- Presenting humanism positively
- 5 core features of the humanist approach to life
- Resources



#### **Humanism: 5 features**



# WOULD A HUMANIST

- **AGREE?** 1) We should worship human beings
- The world is a natural place with no supernatural side 2)
- 3) Science will answer all our questions
- It is possible to be atheist and agnostic 4)
- 5) After we die, we will be reincarnated
- We should make the most of the one life we have 6)
- Life has no meaning 7)
- We should all be free to do whatever we want 8)
- 9) All humanists must have humanist ceremonies
- 10) We can work out how to be good by acting on our instincts
- 11) What is right and wrong is a matter of personal preference
- 12) We should only care about human beings, not other animals
- 13) We should focus on what we share rather than how we differ
- 14) Religion should be banned
- 15) It is possible to be a humanist and not know it



# **WOULD A HUMANIST AGREE?**

- 1) We should worship human beings no
- 2) The world is a natural place with no supernatural side yes
- 3) Science will answer all our questions no
- 4) It is possible to be atheist and agnostic yes
- 5) After we die, we will be reincarnated no
- 6) We should make the most of the one life we have yes
- 7) Life has no meaning no
- 8) We should all be free to do whatever we want no
- 9) All humanists must have humanist ceremonies no
- 10) We can work out how to be good by acting on our instincts no
- 11) What is right and wrong is a matter of personal preference no
- 12) We should only care about human beings, not other animals no
- 13) We should focus on what we share rather than how we differ yes
- 14) Religion should be banned no
- 15) It is possible to be a humanist and not know it yes



# **Myfyrdod**

## Reflection

- Bylchau o ran eich gwybodaeth a'ch dirnadaeth **bresennol**?
- A ydych chi'n cynllunio i gyflwyno Dyneiddiaeth amr ywiol a phliwralaidd ac yn cyflawni hynny?
- Bethyw'r atebion **cyflym** a • rhwydd'?
- Consortiwm Canolbarth y De Education Achievement Service

Central South Consortium

wasanaeth Addysg ar y Cyd

Gwasanaeth Cyflawni Addysg

- Gaps in your current knowledge and understanding?
- Are you planning and delivering for diverse and pluralistic Humanism?
- What are the 'quick wins'?

# – Yn y 'Sgwrs' TEAMs

Humanism – In the TEAMs 'Chat'

• Hoffais...

• I liked...

• Byddwn i wedi newid...

- I'd have changed...
- My take-aways are...

• Rwy'n cymryd hyn o'r sesiwn...

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#### Y Camau Nesaf?

#### **Next Steps?**



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# Neilltuwch le yn y gweminarau byw nesaf

- Sesiwn 1 Cristnogaeth; 21 Chwefror 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Sesiwn 2 Iddewiaeth; 28 Chwefror 2024 3:30pm-4:30pm
- Sesiwn 3 Islam; 4 Mawrth 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Sesiwn 4 Dyneiddiaeth; 7 Mawrth 2024 4:00pm-5:30pm
- Sesiwn 5 Dharma'r Hindwiaid; 10 Ebrill 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Sesiwn 6 Bwdhaeth; 16 Ebrill 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Sesiwn 7 Siciaeth; 1 Mai 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm

**Cyfnod:** Pob Un Cost: YN RHAD AC AM DDIM Iaith Cyflwyno'r Sesiynau: Saesneg

NEILLTUWCH LE YMA: https://www.cscjes-cronfa.co.uk/events/9da83aad-d5f0-43e4-b548-e33cba14e65b/sesiwns

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#### **Book for the next live webinars**

Session 1 - Christianity; 21st February 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm Session 2 - Judaism; 28th February 2024 3:30pm-4:30pm Session 3 - Islam; 4th March 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm Session 4 - Humanism; 7th March 2024 4:00pm-5:30pm (Humanism UK)

#### Session 5 - Hindu dharma; 10th April 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm

- Session 6 Buddhism; 16th April 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Session 7 Sikhi; 1st May 2024 3:00pm-4:00pm

Phase: All Cost: FREE OF CHARGE Language of Delivery: English BOOK HERE: <u>https://www.cscjes-cronfa.co.uk/events/9da83aad-d5f0-43e4-b548-e33cba14e65b/sessions</u>

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#### **Evaluation**

Scan this QR Code for **CSC** practitioners:

CODE: **E24102** 



Scan this QR Code for **EAS** practitioners: **CODE: Humanism** 



Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen

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#### **Contact Us**

#### CSC Donna Graves <u>Donna.Graves@CSCJES.org.uk</u>

#### EAS Hayley Jones <u>Hayley.Jones@sewaleseas.org.uk</u>

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