



Spring 2019

**The Annual Report of Wakefield Local Authority
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)**

Summary

This report provides members and NASACRE with details of the work of Wakefield Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from September 2017 to July 2018.

1. Background

Under the provision of the 1988 Education Reform Act every Local Authority has a responsibility to establish a permanent body, called a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), together with an occasional body, called an Agreed Syllabus Conference.

2. Membership

The people who serve on SACREs are invited to do so by the Corporate Director of Children and Young People Services on the recommendation of various bodies in the local community with a concern for the religious education of school children. The law prescribes that there have to be four “committees” each comprising representatives of specified groups. Those four committees can together co-opt further non-voting members, provided a majority are in agreement. The actual members change over time and the current SACRE is constituted as follows:-

Representing the Wakefield WMDC are Councillors:

Cllr Ahmed Nadeem
Cllr Ros Lund
Cllr Olivia Rowley
Cllr Tracey Austin

Representing the Anglican Diocese:

Rev Gill Johnson / Archdeacon Peter Townley / Simon Sloan

Representing Other Denominations / Faith Communities:

John Wadsworth	Free Church Federal Council
Elizabeth Martin	Free Church Federal Council (Baptist)

Representing Teachers:

Mark Taylor	NAHT (Head of St Mary's)
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Hugh Griffith
 Nicola Madarasz
 Jill Davidson
 Lyndsay Ranby

ATL (Airedale Academy)
 NUT (Minsthorpe Community College)
 AST RE Horbury Academy
 Acting Chair (Head of Darrington School)

Observers:

Maria Stead
 Katherine Toney
 Michaela Page
 Leanne Hargrave

Cathedral Academy
 Cathedral Academy
 Castleford Academy
 All Saints, Normanton

In attendance:-

Rachel Redfearn (Adviser)
 Andy Hoole (Clerk)

3. Methods of Teaching

The Wakefield Agreed Syllabus was due for revision and implementation from September 18.

Following collaboration with school leaders and with other local authorities, the decision was taken to use the recommended syllabus produced by RE Today. The SACRE undertook extensive research with other user local authorities, and received very positive feedback about the syllabus. Over the course of 2017-2018, much discussion took place with interested parties in finalising the syllabus and agreeing the format for the launch event. The launch took place during the spring term, with representatives introducing the event from Wakefield Council (Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People) and from the Leeds diocese (Peter Townley, Archdeacon of Pontefract). The content of the launch is outlined below:

<u>Overall aims of the training session</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspire delegates • Discuss high quality teaching and learning in RE • Ensure that delegates understand how to use the new syllabus and the planning structure • Provide delegates with a clear overview of the units 	
<u>Morning session</u>	<u>Afternoon session</u>
The purpose of RE	Primary delegates with Fiona Moss Secondary delegates with Stephen Pett
Teaching and learning in RE	Teaching and learning in RE Assessment and long term planning

Feedback from the event was exceptional, with every delegate scoring the event very highly in terms of meeting the intended aims. Due to requests for further CPD for teachers of RE to support the delivery of the new syllabus, SACRE will be arranging and supporting further training events for teachers during 2018-2019.

Secondary teachers have requested support in promoting RE in school and SACRE will support a secondary RE network. In order to support closer collaborative working, SACRE produced and shared a list of all RE contacts in each academy/school.

A list of all schools, their latest inspection date and the outcome of SIAMs inspections was collated for SACRE members and circulated.

During the period September 2017 to July 2018 there were 4 Ofsted subject inspections of Religious Education. Inspection reports indicate that all schools appear to be compliant in the statutory provision of RE.

St. John's C of E Junior and Infant School - Outstanding
Badsworth C of E Junior and Infant School - Outstanding
Ossett Holy Trinity C of E Primary School – Good
Ossett Southdale C of E Junior School - Good

4. Promoting the teaching of RE

In response to national news regarding schools and academies not meeting statutory obligations with regard to the teaching of RE, and in response to low numbers taking a key stage 4 qualification in RE, Wakefield SACRE contacted all headteachers within the authority. Supported by guidance from NASACRE, a letter promoting the teaching of RE, emphasising schools' statutory duties and the support available locally was sent to all headteachers in November 2017. Within the district, there are 17 secondary academies and 1 LA maintained school. Responses were received from approximately one third of the institutions, who provided information to indicate that they were meeting their statutory duty.

A copy of the letter is embedded into the report:



Letter from Olivia
Rowley.docx

5. Summary of Key Priorities 2018 - 2019

The following priorities for the development of SACRE have been discussed and agreed with SACRE members:

- To continue to promote effective collaborative working for secondary school teachers
- To ensure that teachers have appropriate CPD to deliver the revised syllabus skilfully, so that RE is an integral component of a carefully planned primary curriculum
- To widen the membership of Wakefield SACRE with increased representation from religions beyond Christianity within the district
- To strengthen the knowledge and expertise of SACRE members through appropriate training and development opportunities

7. Analysis of Examination Results for Religious Studies/Education Summer 2018

Full Course GCSE

See embedded document



2018 KS4 -
Religious Studies - 2

9. Complaints regarding the teaching of RE

None were made to SACRE during this reporting year.

10. Determinations

From time to time a school may request from the SACRE a “determination”; i.e. permission to waive the legal requirements for religious education and collective worship to be “wholly or mainly Christian”. The SACRE has received no requests for determinations during this reporting year.

11. Complaints regarding Collective Worship

None were made to the SACRE during this reporting year.

Report produced by Mark Taylor, Chair and Rachel Redfearn, School Improvement Adviser

Ratified by SACRE on 7th February 2019