



Spring 2018

**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 2016 to July 2017.

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 Wakefield Diocese:

Rev Gill Johnson

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
Judith Inman
Leanne Hargrave

Cathedral Academy
Cathedral Academy
Castleford Academy
St Paul's Academy
All Saints, Normanton

In attendance:-

Rachel Redfearn (Adviser)
(Clerk)

3. Methods of Teaching

The Wakefield Agreed Syllabus (2013 – 2018) remains in place and provides a comprehensive framework for teaching and learning and assessment of pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions.

A working party of SACRE members were led by RE Advisor, Lat Blaylock from RE Today Services, to develop the Wakefield Agreed Syllabus. Colleagues from the working party planned and delivered workshops at the launch of the Wakefield RE Agreed Syllabus to support the teaching and learning of the subject. SACRE members are now mindful that the existing syllabus is due for revision from September 2018 and discussions took place with school leaders and teachers to identify how to approach this work.

Following collaboration with school leaders and with other local authorities, the decision has been taken to use the recommended syllabus produced by RE Today. The SACRE has undertaken extensive research with other user local authorities, and has received very positive feedback about the syllabus. Sample material has been circulated to all members of the SACRE who have given their approval. Over the course of 2017-2018, the syllabus launch will be planned with appropriate training to support teachers in delivering the syllabus identified and commissioned.

During the period September 2016 to July 2017 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.

All Saints C of E Featherstone – Good
Horbury St. Peter's C of E Primary – Outstanding
Normanton All Saints C of E Infant – Outstanding
St. Giles C of E Academy - Outstanding

4. Collective Worship

Besides Religious Education each local authority must work with its SACRE to monitor the provision of daily collective worship. As a result of changes to the Ofsted framework and in the absence of further guidance, updated guidance on Collective Worship is provided on the SACRE VLE and through iPoint.

5. Summary of Key Priorities 2017 - 2018

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

- To make preparations for a successful launch of the revised syllabus
- To gain a clearer overview of provision in RE in the 17 academies and 1 LA maintained secondary school in the district; challenge school leaders if it appears that statutory guidelines regarding RE provision are not met, informing NASACRE of any concerns
- To strengthen the knowledge and expertise of SACRE members through appropriate training and development opportunities
- To promote flexible and creative approaches to teaching and learning in RE across all key stages
- To initiate and support appropriate CPD for all teachers of RE in schools across the Wakefield, with a view to supporting secondary teachers with the delivery of the new GCSE

Action Plan:

- Contact RE Today and organise launch event
- Respond to RE Today FOI request, highlighting the importance of RE in the curriculum to school leaders and challenging leaders if pupils do not have access to RE provision
- Secure high quality training to support schools in delivering the revised syllabus
- Secure high quality training to support teachers at key stage 4 in meeting the demands of the revised GCSE
- Strengthen membership of the SACRE and encourage representation of all groups at termly meetings

7. Analysis of Examination Results for Religious Studies/Education Summer 2017

Full Course GCSE

See embedded document



2017 GCSE data.pdf

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 Lyndsay Ranby, Chair and Rachel Redfearn, School Improvement Adviser

Ratified by SACRE on 8 February 2018