

Wandsworth Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Annual Report for the Academic Year September 2016 - August 2017

1. This annual report of Wandsworth SACRE outlines the work of SACRE during the academic year 2016 to 2017. It also includes GCSE and A-level statistics for RE for 2017.

Religious Education

Wandsworth's Agreed Syllabus

2. The agreed syllabus in use by schools during 2016-17 had been recommended by the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) and subsequently approved by Wandsworth LA and introduced in 2006. It was reviewed in 2011 and re-adopted. As required by law, a review of the syllabus commenced in the summer term of 2016, with the meeting of a Working Party. This consisted of a number of SACRE members who were joined by primary and secondary religious education co-ordinators. They collaborated to produce the first draft of a new syllabus, which was presented to an ASC for discussion on 10th October 2016. This was very much a working document and was subsequently extensively revised by a small group led by one of the teacher representatives on SACRE. A meeting of the whole ASC on 27th February 2017 contributed further information on the Faith summaries contained within the syllabus before the final ASC meeting on 17th July 2017 approved the new syllabus. This was put forward for adoption in September 2017 in time for the new academic year.

Monitoring standards and provision

It had been agreed that SIAMS reports (of Section 48 denominational inspections of Church of England schools) would in future be provided to SACRE for information/discussion. This began with one report presented at the summer meeting and was judged "good." It was agreed to include S48 reports of Catholic schools in the future and to review the Ofsted reports for community schools inspected during 2016-17.

Complaints

3. No complaints concerning RE were received during the year.

Methods of Teaching and Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

4. A primary RE co-ordinators' network has been set up. It meets termly (first meeting in October 2016) and provides high quality training by a professional RE consultant. The foci for meetings in the last year were
 - Approaches to Islam (October 2016)
 - Spring Festivals - Holi, Pesach, Baisakhi (January 2017)
 - SMSC and RE; non religious world views and British Values (June 2017)

The LA SACRE officer has set up an email network group enabling members to keep in touch with each other to seek advice and share good practice. It includes co-ordinators from independent schools as well as LA community and one VA school.

Collective Worship

5. No new advice on collective worship was given by SACRE to either the LA or the schools during the year. No monitoring of collective worship, either of quality or compliance to statutory requirements, took place during the year. No requests for determinations were received during the year. No schools in Wandsworth have been given determinations in the past.
6. No complaints regarding collective worship in the community schools of Wandsworth were referred to SACRE during the year.

Composition of SACRE, Attendance and the focus of meetings

7. Representation is generally good from the local authority, faith communities and teachers. There is currently however no Sikh member, and there was no attendance by the Hindu community during the year. The Church of England Group B was covered on a temporary basis until a new substantive member could be appointed.

Meetings held in the reporting year

8. Wandsworth SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2016 - 2017. All meetings were held during the evening in the Town Hall.

Autumn Term Meeting 2016

9. Meeting held on Monday 10th October 2016. The new SACRE Constitution was presented for discussion. Some final amendments would be needed prior to a finalised version being agreed at the next meeting.
10. The new proposed NASACRE constitution was agreed.
11. Eleanor Thaine, Disability Information Manager, gave a presentation on the Family Information Service which offered free information and advice on childcare, education, family support, health and information for children and young people, including those with special needs and disabilities. The Family Information Service was happy to visit local faith communities and establishments and had already visited one of the borough's mosques and a gurdwara.
12. The Policy and Review Manager, Ms Clare O'Connor, presented an evaluation of the annual Faith Direct event (March 2016), organized by the Multi Faith group. This was an opportunity for groups of secondary school pupils to question members of different faiths. It was felt to be very valuable by the young people taking part and was shared with other members of their school communities afterwards. 88 students from seven schools had taken part and the quality of questions they had prepared and asked was high.
13. Councillor Govindia introduced an item on community cohesion, following a national increase in hate crime following the EU referendum vote. This had fortunately not been the case in Wandsworth and Faith Group members gave some positive examples of interfaith relations.
14. The plight of Syrian refugees was discussed and the support that could be provided for any who came to Wandsworth.

Spring Term Meeting 2017

15. Meeting held on Monday, 27th February, 2017. The SACRE constitution was presented and agreed subject to a few necessary amendments being made and the final version emailed to members.

16. The SACRE Annual Report for 2015-16 was presented and discussed. The Religious Studies examination results were noted; as there had been drops in outcomes in two schools, it was suggested that the Assistant Director of Children's Services should be invited to future SACRE meetings where results were discussed.
17. SACRE members' views were sought on the Big NASACRE survey 2017. Responses were noted to the 55 questions in the survey, with the Clerk to collate the answers to return to NASACRE.
18. The Chairman referred to the Commission on Religious Education's Call for Evidence. Members were encouraged to respond individually to the questionnaire.
19. The SACRE Advisor, Mr Roger Butler, announced that he was resigning from his role with Wandsworth SACRE. The Chairman expressed her thanks on behalf of the members.

Summer Term Meeting 2017

20. Meeting held on Monday 27th June, 2017. This meeting was not quorate, as there were no representatives from the Church of England present.
21. The new Wandsworth SACRE Religious Education Advisor, Lesley Prior, was welcomed to the meeting. Lesley supports 12 LA SACREs and works in the borough as a RE lecturer.
22. The LA SACRE officer reported back on the annual NASACRE conference held in May, theme "Preparing for Life in Britain today: the contribution of RE". One speaker was one of the Commissioners appointed by the RE Council for the CoRE report referred to at the last meeting. The emphasis of the conference was on tolerance; religion in the context of social and political belief systems; inclusivity; religious literacy and respect. Members from across the country had attended, and it was clear from the table discussions that there was a wide divergence in funding and resources allocated to SACREs duties.

In order to inform the Committee on how RE was taught in the LA's schools, it was agreed that one easily accessible source was Ofsted reports, to be analysed for references to collective worship, religious education, British values and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC).

23. There was a verbal report on the last Faith Direct event, held in March 2017, by one of the Faith Group members who had been interviewed by the students, and the LA SACRE Officer who had attended the event.

Links with other bodies

24. Wandsworth SACRE is affiliated to the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE).

Professional and Administrative Support

25. SACRE meetings are clerked by a Committee Secretary from Wandsworth Council. An officer is provided to support the LA. Specialist RE professional support for SACRE is provided by an external consultant.

Finance

26. The annual budget for support for RE in 2016-17 was £4000. This funded the external consultant, LA SACRE Officer, NASACRE membership and other incidental expenses.

Standards of RE and Religious Studies (RS) in secondary schools

27. See Appendix.

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SACRE 26TH FEBRUARY 2018

STANDARDS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES EXAMINATIONS IN 2017

Introduction

1. This paper summarises the Wandsworth and England results for 2017 Religious Studies GCSE and A Level examinations. It provides more detailed data for Wandsworth down to school level.
2. This is provided for information and discussion.

Summary of national data

3. Outcomes are still provisional to date (software to be updated with final data in April). Headline figures are as follows:

The key outcomes for Religious Education in England at KS4 in 2017 are as follows:

- There were 248,210 entries for the full course in GCSE RS, a fall from 2016 (268,473)
- There were 12,489 entries for the short course in GCSE RS, a steep decline from 2016 (34,180)
- There were 260,699 entries for GCSE RS (combined short and full courses) in state funded schools, compared with 2016 (302,653)
- Overall this means that compared with 2013 over 117,000 fewer pupils in England will complete key stage 4 this year without gaining a qualification in Religious Studies

Summary of Wandsworth data

- 1500 students sat a Religious Studies (RS) examination in Wandsworth in 2017, similar to the numbers in 2016 (1487).
- 886 students sat the GCSE full course, and 162 the GCSE short course. This was a decrease in full course numbers and a major increase in the short course from 2016, when only seven students took it
- There was an overall increase in the numbers of Wandsworth students taking a KS4 qualification in RS from 1034 to 1048. Burntwood entered nearly all its students for a GCSE qualification (159 for the short course and 111 for the full course from 272 on roll). The other school which again entered all its students for GCSE (full course) was St Cecilia's (141 entries from a roll of

142). Graveney entered almost all its students (236 of a roll of 246). It would appear that Ark Putney and Harris Battersea entered no students for GCSE this year, either the full or short course.

- There were 109 entrants for A Level, lower than last year even when figures are adjusted to exclude Francis Xavier entries (126), and 108 at AS level, a significant drop from 191 in 2016.
- There was an increase in A*-C results in GCSE full course this year (to 78.1%) further widening the gap with the national figure of 71.2%. *A – G also increased to 98.9%, above the national figure of 97.9%. For the short course, the *A – C figure was below national (at 34.5% compared with 45.9%) but *A –G at 95.1% was above the national of 94.4%.
- Within the LA however, results varied widely from school to school. Ashcroft (90.2%), Ernest Bevin (100%) and Graveney (87.3%) were the LA's highest performers at A* to C and had increased from last year, while St John Bosco and Southfields were lowest at 51.5% and 50% respectively. For St John Bosco this was an improvement however while for Southfields it was the second year that outcomes had dropped.
- AS level results at A – C and A – E had been below national in 2016 but both had increased substantially in 2017 to be well above national (LA A – C 76.9%, national 70.2%; LA A - E 96.3%, national 93.3%)
- The overall A level results were again slightly below the national average for A* to E at 98.2% (national 98.4%), but at A* - C the gap had widened with the LA down to 73.3% and the national up to 80.6%.
- The highest performing schools at A* – C (for cohorts of at least 9 students) were Ashcroft (100%), St Cecilia's (94.1%) and Chestnut Grove (88.9%). The lowest was Burntwood (50%)

GCSE results in Wandsworth schools

Subject: Religious Studies (4610)

Qual: GCSE Short Course

Centre	Entries					%A* - C					%A* - G				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NCER National	179160	100945	68890	34180	12489	52.3	54.4	56.6	54.0	45.9	95.1	95.4	96.3	94.3	94.4
LA Comparator	847	198	171	7	162	50.3	58.6	50.3	14.3	34.5	96.2	99.0	98.8	71.4	95.1
Ashcroft Technology Academy	5	0	0	0	0	100.0					100.0				
Battersea Park School/Harris Battersea	141	9	0	0	0	28.4	100.0				94.3	100.0			
Burntwood	246	0	0	0	159	80.1				35.2	98.0				95.1
Chestnut Grove	120	0	0	1	0	33.3			0.0		99.2			0.0	
Elliott/ ARK Putney	100	0	0	0	0	26.0					90.0				
Ernest Bevin	175	147	144	1	0	48.6	62.6	53.5	100.0		96.6	99.3	98.6	100.0	
Garratt Park	0	0	0	0	0										
Graveney School	42	42	27	2	0	64.3	35.7	33.3	0.0		97.6	97.6	100.0	100.0	
Nightingale School	0	0	0	0	0										
Saint John Bosco College	18	0	0	1	3	33.3			0.0	0	94.4			100.0	66.7
Southfields (GM)	0	0	0	0	0										
St Cecilia's, Church of England School	0	0	0	0	0										
Wandsworth Francis Barber (Pru)	1	1	0	2	0	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	100.0		50.0	

2017 data is provisional

Subject: Religious Studies (4610)
Qual: GCSE Full Course

Centre	Entries					%A* - C					%A* - G				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NCER National	215391	243430	269248	268473	248210	71.4	69.5	72.2	71.7	71.2	98.3	97.8	98.3	97.8	97.9
LA Comparator	778	985	970	1027	886	73.1	79.2	74.5	74.3	78.1	97.7	98.4	98.4	98.1	98.9
Ark Bolingbroke Academy					13					61.5					100.0
Ashcroft Technology Academy	94	127	91	106	123	70.2	83.5	59.3	86.8	90.2	100.0	98.4	97.8	98.1	100.0
Battersea Park School/ Harris Battersea	0	0	131	8	0			58.0	75.0				98.5	100.0	
Burntwood (GM)	29	274	267	265	111	93.1	84.7	80.9	68.7	67.6	100.0	98.9	99.6	98.5	99.1
Chestnut Grove	24	135	108	116	115	79.2	59.3	75	72.4	67.8	100.0	94.1	98.1	98.3	99.1
Elliott/ Ark Putney	0	0	0	0	0										
Ernest Bevin	0	10	7	73	46		10.0	14.3	87.7	100.0		100.0	100	100.0	100.0
Graveney School	204	197	206	239	236	95.1	95.9	91.7	86.2	87.3	100.0	100.0	99.5	99.6	100.0
Saint John Bosco College	114	82	89	71	68	67.5	46.3	43.8	39.4	51.5	100.0	98.8	96.6	87.3	88.2
Southfields (GM)	165	13	18	9	18	41.2	69.2	83.3	55.6	50.0	90.3	100.0	100	100.0	100.0
St Cecilia's, Church of England School	148	147	144	139	141	79.7	85.0	73.6	69.1	80.1	98.6	98.6	95.1	99.3	100.0

2017 data is provisional

Report to SACRE on Religious Studies examination results 2017

A & AS level results in Wandsworth schools

Subject: Religious Studies (4610)

Qual: GCE AS level

Centre	Entries					%A - C					%A - E				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NCER National				32515	13910				68.6	70.2				92.7	93.3
LA Comparator				191	108				64.1	76.9				91.3	96.3
Ashcroft Technology Academy				24	23				70.8	91.3				95.8	100.0
Burntwood				46	0				52.2					84.8	
Chestnut Grove				16	12				56.3	100.0				87.5	100.0
Ernest Bevin				8	11				87.5	81.8				100.0	90.9
Graveney School				33	23				90.9	69.9				100.0	100.0
Harris Academy Battersea				8	0				25.0					87.5	
St Cecilia's, Church of England School				25	27				88.0	63.0				100.0	88.9
Saint John Bosco College				1	0				0					100.0	
Southfields Academy				21	12				76.2	66.7				100.0	100.0

Subject: Religious Studies (4610)
Qual: GCE A level

Centre	Entries					%A* - C					%A* - E				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NCER National	12913	12294	23372	22079	21289	78.1	78.2	80.1	79.9	80.6	99.8	99.8	98.6	98.5	98.4
LA Comparator	85	91	120	166	109	76.5	60.4	58.8	74.0	73.3	100.0	98.9	96.6	98.2	98.2
Ashcroft Technology Academy	17	9	15	18	11	94.1	88.9	80.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Burntwood	23	26	32	36	28	65.2	30.8	40.6	72.2	50.0	100.0	100.0	96.9	97.2	96.4
Chestnut Grove			14	10	9			78.9	70.0	88.9			100	100.0	88.9
Ernest Bevin	12	11	2	4	4	25.0	27.3	100.0	50.0	75.0	100.0	90.9	100	100.0	100.0
Graveney School	19	28	31	30	25	89.5	82.1	87.1	73.3	72.0	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0
Harris Academy Battersea				0	2					50.0					100.0
Saint John Bosco College	0	1	5	3	0		0.0	60.0	66.6			100.0	100	100.0	
Southfields	1	0	0	12	13	100.0			58.3	69.2	100.0			91.7	100.0
St Cecilia's, Church of England School	13	16	20	13	17	100.0	81.3	100.0	77.0	94.1	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0
St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College	57	56	n/a	40	-	70.2	62.5	n/a		-	100.0	98.2	n/a		

2017 data is provisional