

HSACRE

HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

The current HSACRE was inaugurated on 22 February 1989 and this is its twenty-fourth Annual Report in accordance with its constitution and statutory obligations.

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1. FOREWORD BY THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, CLLR. DAVID SIMMONDS CBE



It gives me great pleasure to introduce this twenty fourth Annual Report of Hillingdon's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education [SACRE].

SACRE continues to play an active role in helping to ensure that teachers in the Borough have access to the training that they need to enable them to provide the best possible quality education to their pupils. I wholeheartedly endorse this initiative, with feedback from teachers who attended the 'Teaching the Three Religions' session being overwhelmingly positive.

Other highlights during the year included SACRE's representation at the Hayes Carnival, the junior art competition, particularly the wide range of entries submitted and the lively discussions initiated among local pupils by two Interfaith Network meetings.

I would like to thank SACRE's members, and those who support it, for their hard work over the year. I encourage them to continue this as the Agreed Syllabus Conference, established by Hillingdon SACRE, considers whether to recommend the undertaking of a full or partial review of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus.

2. MEMBERSHIP

HSACRE members are from four distinct groups and the Committee is only quorate when representatives from every group are present:

GROUP A – Representatives of all faith groups in Hillingdon, including representatives from the Christian community, but not members of the Church of England. HSACRE works to ensure that along with representatives from all the major world faiths, it works with all communities within the Borough and welcomes their representation so long as they recognise the emphasis placed on inclusion by HSACRE.

GROUP B - Representatives from the Christian Church of England.

GROUP C - Representatives from each of the teachers' professional associations.

GROUP D - London Borough of Hillingdon Councillors.

A list of members of each committee is included as an appendix.

Chairman - Daniel Norris, Headteacher, Holy Trinity Primary, Northwood (to 23/10/15)
Carole Jones, Headteacher, Yeading Junior School (from 23/10/15)

Advisor - Duncan Struthers.

Clerk - Ainsley Gilbert (Democratic Services) served as clerk during 2015, with Jon Pitt (Democratic Services) taking over from October 2015 onwards.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In 2015, the members of Hillingdon SACRE established an Agreed Syllabus Conference. This meets the legal requirement for the SACRE to consider, every five years, whether to undertake a review of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus. The Agreed Syllabus Conference has the option to request that a full or partial review of the syllabus is undertaken, or alternatively, to recommend that the existing syllabus is retained.

A survey was sent to all schools in the Borough during autumn 2015. The purpose of the survey was to ascertain whether schools felt that a review of the Agreed Syllabus should be undertaken. Responses suggested that schools in the Borough generally feel that the current Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus reflects the needs of their pupils. Bearing the results of the survey in mind, the Agreed Syllabus Conference will decide during 2016 whether to undertake a review.

A course was held for local teachers on 'Teaching the Three Religions' in April. 23 teachers from 16 schools attended the event. The course was well received by those attending, with HSACRE having discussed the possibility of holding further courses in the future. The aim would be for these to be held at different locations in the Borough.

Once again, HSACRE supported the Hillingdon Interfaith Network (HIfN) hosted Hayes Carnival, with a tent displaying artwork produced as part of SACRE's 'Celebrating Faith' Competition. Two interfaith events were hosted by Swakeley School for Girls, in July and November. Schools sent students from a wide range of backgrounds and faiths to participate in the discussions at these meetings.

I would like to thank all members of the Hillingdon SACRE for their contribution during the year and I look forward to working with them in future as HSACRE looks to hold meetings at faith venues across the Borough.

4. MEETINGS OF HSACRE IN 2015

Full meetings of HSACRE were held on:

10 March	2015	Civic Centre
17 June	2015	Yeading Junior School
4 November	2015	Civic Centre

In addition to the full meetings of SACRE, there was the continued progress of the Inter-Faith Forum.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

HSACRE had a budget available of £4,900 for the 2015/16 financial year. NASACRE fees were paid and Democratic Services continued to provide secretarial support.

6. ADVICE GIVEN TO THE AUTHORITY BY SACRE

- i) Advice is given annually to the authority on Religious Education and Worship paragraphs in its information booklets for families entering a particular phase of education.
- ii) Responses to Freedom of Information requests regarding the nature and responsibilities of SACRE.

7. PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

- Agreed Syllabus Conference convened to determine whether to undertake a full or partial review of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus.
- Training session held for R.E teachers covering Christianity, Judaism and Islam.
- Presentation at the Hayes Carnival in a faith tent.
- Interfaith event held at Swakeleys Girls School.
- Facilitation of junior art competition.

8. MONITORING AND REVIEW

Comments on this report are welcomed. These should be sent to:

Jon Pitt – Democratic Services, 3E/05, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1UW, or by emailing jpitt@hillingdon.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1 - Members as of November 2015

GROUP A

Baptist	Vacant
Hindu	Jay Lakhani
Methodist	Angela Lount
Muslim	Amir Ahmed
	Naseem Bint Amir
Quaker	Nicole Schnackenberg
Jewish	Vacant
Roman Catholic	Stephen Horsman
Hillingdon Area Salvation Army	Heather Steady
Sikh	Jasvir Singh Rayat
Buddhist	Connie Dusek
United Reform Church	Vacant
Bahai	Lil Osborn
British Humanist Association	Robert Harwood

GROUP B

Church of England	Melanie Dring
	Mary Coulthurst
	Elenor Paul

GROUP C

National Union of Teachers	Leonora Smith
Association of Teachers and Lecturers	Vacant
National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers	Debby Mitchell
Professional Association of Teachers	Vacant
National Association of Headteachers	Carole Jones
Association of Secondary School and College Leaders	Vacant

GROUP D

Local Authority	Councillor Keith Burrows Councillor Carol Melvin Councillor Peter Money Councillor John Morse Councillor Susan O'Brien
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OFFICER SUPPORT

London Borough of Hillingdon Committee Services	Jon Pitt Democratic Services 3E/05 Civic Centre High Street Uxbridge Middlesex UB8 1UW
Consultant for Hillingdon SACRE	Duncan Struthers