



December 2018

The Annual Report of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Summary

This report provides members and NASACRE with details of the work of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from January to December 2018.

1. Background

Under the provision of the 1988 Education Reform Act every local education 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.

In September 2018 SACRE published revised versions of its constitution, roles and responsibilities of SACRE members and a guide to York SACRE. These are all available on www.york.gov.uk/sacre

2. Membership

The people who serve on SACREs are invited to do so by the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills 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 Other Denominations / Faith Communities:-

- Vacant (Catholic)
- Ben Rich (Jewish)
- Vacant (Methodist)
- Vacant (Muslim)
- Tracey Copestake (Religious Society of Friends)
- Vacant (Salvation Army)
- Avtar Matharu (Sikh)
- Daryoush Mazloun (York Baha'i Community)
- Ian Hodgson (Humanist)

Annual SACRE Report 2018

Representing the Church of England:-

Olivia Seymour (Diocese of York)

Janet Dunn (Diocese of York)

Katherine Harper (Archbishop Holgate's CE Academy)

Representing Teachers:-

Vacant

Claire Hennigan (Yearsley Grove)

Jenny Mooney (Westfield)

Vacant (co-opted)

Representing the City of York Council are Councillors:-

Jenny Brooks (Con)

Chris Cullwick (Lib Dem)

Christina Funnell (Lab)

Lars Kramm (Green)

In attendance:-

Mike Jory (Education Adviser)

Naomi Watson (Clerk)

Long standing and valued member Shabana Jabbar (Teachers) stepped down as Chair this year and we would like to thank her for her valuable input.

Olivia Seymour was appointed as Interim Chair in September 2018

3. Religious Education

During the period January 2018 to December 2018 Ofsted inspection reports indicate that all schools appear to be compliant in the statutory provision of RE.

There have been several SIAMS inspections in York since last December:

Dunnington Jan 18 Outstanding (VC equivalent academy no RE separately reported)

York Manor June 18 Outstanding (VA equivalent academy RE Good)

All the reports are public documents and are available on

<http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/your-schools/our-schools/>

There was again a fall in the number of pupils taking accreditation at the end of KS4. This indicates that although the subject continues to have a place in the secondary school curriculum in York there are continuing signs of the effect that the changes to the KS4 accountability measures and the introduction of the EBacc are having on non EBacc subjects.

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

Annual SACRE Report 2018

Ofsted framework and in the absence of further guidance, the City of York SACRE published new guidance in 2017 to support Collective Worship in schools in the City, which it continues to promote within schools. The guidance has been published on the City of York SACRE website (www.york.gov.uk/sacre) and has also been made available to all schools through the Heads' newsletter.

5. Update on the work of SACRE

- The following priorities for the development of SACRE have been discussed and agreed as part of the annual SACRE plan for 2018-20:
 - (1) Continue to raise the profile of SACRE and develop RE
 - (2) Contribute to the development of a professional CPD programme to develop the quality of RE teaching
- York SACRE is a member of the Learn Teach Lead RE regional hub
- In the past twelve months four SACRE meetings have been held and attendance has been maintained. SACRE is working to recruit new members especially current teachers and to fill the faith group vacancies. It is proposed from 2019/20 onwards that there will be three meetings a year.
- SACRE continues to identify best practice models that promote flexible and creative approaches to teaching and learning in RE. This will be a growing focus for SACRE's work following the publication of the RE Review.

6. Support for Schools

Members of SACRE are keen to support staff in schools to raise standards in RE and have been kept up to date with the strategies to achieve this through who is supporting RE and Collective Worship, on behalf of the LA and also by:-

- School visits to monitor the RE provision (to start in Spring 2019)
- The continued promotion of the new Agreed Syllabus (2016-2021)
- Membership of the LTLRE Hub
- Support for RE subject leaders through Network Learning Groups as they work together to implement the Agreed Syllabus.
- It is proposed that there be a York SACRE Agreed Syllabus conference in Autumn 2019.
- Members of SACRE's active involvement in planning the City of York Council's commemorations for Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2019.

Annual SACRE Report 2018

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

A2 Level

All five 11-18 secondary schools in the City plus York College entered students for the A2 level examinations in Religious Studies and the although number of entries has dropped, success rates remain high. All Saints had 22 entries; Fulford had 16, Huntington 10, Joseph Rowntree 8 and Archbishop Holgate's 7. York College entered 20.

Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Total
83	6	15	23	20	17	2	0	83

Full Course GCSE

	Entries	Grade 4+%	Grade 1-9%
2018	744	75.7	98.3

	Entries	A*-C %	A*-G%
2017	880	79.7	98.9
2016	1019	81.9	98.2
2015	1047	79.9	98.9
2014	982	78.8	98.7
2013	794	73.0	98.7
2012	736	71.6	98.5
2011	685	70.1	96.5

Commentary

Entries for the Full Course GCSE have dropped again from 2017. Changes in the grade scheme this year makes it difficult to compare to previous years, the Grade 4+ measure is still above the national average of 71%.

8. Methods of Teaching

The new Agreed Syllabus provides a comprehensive framework for teaching and learning and assessment of pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions.

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

Annual SACRE Report 2018

worship to be 'wholly or mainly Christian'. The SACRE has received no requests for determinations during this reporting year.

11. Complaints regarding Collective Worship

There have been no complaints about Collective Worship.

Report produced by Mike Jory, School Effectiveness and Achievement Adviser and Olivia Seymour, Interim Chair