



Liverpool

**Standing Advisory Council
For Religious Education**

Annual Report

September 2014 - August 2015

For more information about the role and business of the SACRE please contact:

The Clerk: christina.edmonds@si.liverpool.gov.uk

The Local Authority Officer: gill.lawson@si.liverpool.gov.uk

Meetings

The full Liverpool SACRE has met three times from September 2014 – August 2015. Copies of the minutes of these meetings are enclosed with this report.

- 23rd October 2014
- 5th February 2015
- 4th June 2015

A programme of termly meetings has been planned for the year 2015-16

- 8th October 2016
- 4th February 2016
- 23rd June 2016

SACRE supported activities

- The need to support schools to deliver effective Collective Worship has remained a priority for SACRE. Liverpool SACRE arranged a one-day CPD conference on RE and collective worship which took place during the spring term 2015. BDBE was commissioned to deliver the CPD at the conference. As part of the commissioned project each school received an extensive bank of resources advice and guidance to support collective worship.
- Liverpool SACRE was pleased that 2 members were able to attend the NASACRE AGM in May 2015 and reported back to SACRE with a summary of the questions raised by Charles Clarke which have since been elaborated in the publication available on the NASACRE website: <http://www.nasacre.org.uk/file/a-new-settlement-for-religion-and-belief-in-schools.pdf>. This document was discussed at length.
- Liverpool SACRE has developed positive links with other local SACREs.
- Liverpool School Improvement Service has facilitated RE teacher networks and has provided bespoke support for RE to individual schools as required. SACRE continues to have the support of the Liverpool School Improvement Service in scheduling, advertising and taking bookings for RE subject leader meetings.
- NASACRE logon on details have been issued to all SACRE members and they have been asked to look at the information contained on the website.
- The SACRE action plan has been updated
- Standards in RE are monitored via analysis of results in secondary schools at GCSE and GCE A Level
- Liverpool SACRE provided funding to support several teacher's and SACRE member's attendance at CPD events

- SACRE supported a month long ‘RESPECT 2015’ programme of events which saw the Anne Frank Trust exhibition hosted in a Liverpool secondary school and a series linked of activities for schools and the local community, included a visit from holocaust survivor Zigi Shipper. A bid was submitted for a Westhill Award to support follow up events to be held during January 2016. Although an award was not given on that occasion a detailed month long programme of events has been planned and will go ahead.
- The Head of Liverpool Hope University’s RE Department is a member of Liverpool and Wirral SACRE, and provides a positive link with PGCE, ITT and in-service training.
- January 2015 saw the launch of the ‘Liverpool Footsteps of Faith’ digital app. This is a new digital app developed by the Youth Council, Liverpool Community Spirit and Liverpool based company ‘Draw and Code’. The app maps places of worship in the Liverpool area providing a brief history, information and images, and a virtual tour of each place of worship.
- SACRE supported a joint Liverpool / Birmingham project funded through the Jubilee Centre Birmingham by recruiting schools to participate in the project.

Liverpool SACRE encourages all members to attend meetings. If members are unable to attend they are encouraged to send a deputy to attend meetings if possible. Minutes are circulated to members soon after each meeting with actions arising clearly stated.

Agreed Syllabus

The locally agreed syllabus was reviewed in 2013 and is next due for review in 2018.

Advisory Support for Religious Education

The current LA School Improvement Officer with responsibility for RE joined SACRE in January 2011.

Support has been provided to individual schools regarding RE on request, for example, where there has been a change of head teacher or RE co-ordinator new to the role.

Liverpool LA provides administrative support for SACRE via School Improvement Liverpool Ltd. This includes taking minutes at SACRE meetings, maintaining the contacts list for members, circulation of invitations to meeting and associated documents and handling general correspondence relating to SACRE.

Both the School Improvement Officer with responsibility for RE and Clerk to SACRE are based at Toxteth Annexe Conference Centre, Aigburth Road, Liverpool L17 7BN.

No complaints have been received about RE.

Collective Worship

Collective Worship Guidance for schools

Advice and guidance on collective worship was provided to schools via a Liverpool SACRE Collective Worship Conference, January 2015. Bespoke advice and guidance has been provided to individual schools on request via the link SACRE School Improvement Officer.

A number of schools have shared collective worship resources and materials covering a range of topics such as Mothers' Day, the Hillsborough tragedy, the sinking of SS City of Benares, International Day of Tolerance and Nelson Mandela.

Determinations

SACRE has not received any requests for determinations with regard to Collective Worship, either this year or in previous years. Any school wishing to explore the relevance of a determination (daily collective worship which is other than 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character) in their context should contact the school improvement officer. Church schools are not eligible for a determination. For an academy wishing to apply for a determination the correct process is for the Trust to apply through the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to the Secretary of State.

There have been no complaints concerning collective worship.

Finance

Liverpool SACRE has a small budget which is managed by the School Improvement Officer. This enables attendance at conferences, opportunities to run CPD for teachers, for example a conference on Collective Worship, and other activities to support RE in Liverpool.

Liverpool STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEMBERSHIP

1 September 2014 – 31 August 2015

Appointed Representative

Roman Catholic	Meg Buckley
Jewish	Harold Cohen
Muslim	Hafiz Amjad Patel
Muslim	Tareq Ahmado
Hindu	Bisakha Sarker
Sikh	Amrik Garcha
Buddhist	No representation at present
Church of England	Penny Thompson
Church of England	Carol Close
Free Church	Jacqui Allward

Teachers

Secondary Schools/Academies	Heather Marshall Jackie Allward Rev Andrew Colmar Peter Bull
Primary Schools	Debra Garvey Alan Harbottle
Diocese	Matthew Hargreaves

Local Authority

Councillor Barbara Murray (SACRE Chair from January 2011)

Councillor Claire Glare Local Authority
 Councillor Jeremy Wolfson Local Authority
 Councillor Abdul Qadir Local Authority
 Councillor John Coyne Local Authority
 Councillor Anna Keys Local Authority

Gill Lawson LA Representative – School Improvement Liverpool
 Sue Shinkfield LA Representative – School Improvement Liverpool

Co-opted Members:

Dr Matthew Thompson Liverpool Community Spirit Partnership
 Joy Schmack Liverpool Hope University
 Dr Debbie Stanistreet University of Liverpool, Humanist Representative
 Chrissy Edmonds Administrator/Clerk to SACRE – School Improvement Liverpool

Committees

Committee A Christian denominations other than the Church of England plus representatives of other faiths	Committee B The Church of England	Committee C Teachers	Committee D The Local authority	Co-opted members
Amrik Garcha - Sikh	Rev Andrew Colmer	Alan Harbottle	Clr Barbara Murray	Dr Matthew Thompson –Liverpool Community Spirit
Jacqui Allward – Free Church	Matthew Hargreaves	Debra Garvey	Clr Claire Glare	Joy Schmack – Hope University
Kathy Yates – Roman Catholic	Penny Thompson	Heather Marshall	Clr Abdul Qadir	Sue Shinkfield – SIL Ltd
Tareq Ahmado - Muslim	Rev Carol Close	Peter Bull	Clr John Coyne	Gill Lawson – SIL Ltd
Harold Cohen - Judaism			Clr Jeremy Wolfson	Christine Edmonds – SIL Ltd
Imam Amjad Patel - Muslim				Dr Debbie Stanistreet – University of Liverpool Humanist
Meg Buckley – Roman Catholic				
Bisakha Sarker - Hindu				

Attendance at Meetings

	Committee	23rd October 2014	5th February 2015	4th June 2015
Amrik Garcha - Sikh	A	0 Apols	✓	0 Apols
Jacqui Allward – Free Church	A	0 Apols	✓	✓
Kathy Yates – Roman Catholic	A		0	0 Apols

Tareq Ahmado - Muslim	A	✓	✓	✓
Harold Cohen - Judaism	A	0	✓	✓
Imam Amjad Patel - Muslim	A	0	✓	0 Apols
Meg Buckley – Roman Catholic	A	0 Apols	0	0 Apols
Andrew Colmer	B	0	0 Apols	0 Apols
Matthew Hargreaves	B	0	✓	0 Apols
Penny Thompson	B	✓	✓	0 Apols
Rev Carol Close	B	✓	0 Apols	✓
Alan Harbottle	C	✓	✓	0 Apols
Debra Garvey	C	✓	✓	✓
Carolyn Driessen	C	✓	✓	
Heather Marshall	C	0	✓	0 Apols
Peter Bull	C	✓	0 Apols	✓
ClIr Barbara Murray	D	0 Apols	✓	0 Apols
ClIr Claire Glare	D	0 Apols	0 Apols	✓
ClIr Abdul Qadir	D	0	0	0 Apols
ClIr John Coyne	D	0	✓	
ClIr Anna Key	D			✓
ClIr Jeremy Wolfson	D	✓	✓	0 Apols
Dr Matthew Thompson – Liverpool Community Spirit	Co-opted	✓	✓	0 Apols
Joy Schmack – Hope University	Co-opted	✓	0 Apols	✓
Sue Shinkfield – SIL Ltd	Co-opted	0 Apols	0 Apols	0 Apols
Gill Lawson – SIL Ltd	Co-opted	✓	✓	✓
Christine Edmonds – SIL Ltd	Co-opted	✓	✓	✓
Dr Debbie Stanistreet – University of Liverpool Humanist	Co-opted	0	0	0

GCSE Religious Studies 2015

The following data shows a breakdown of GCSE performance in Religious Education over recent years.



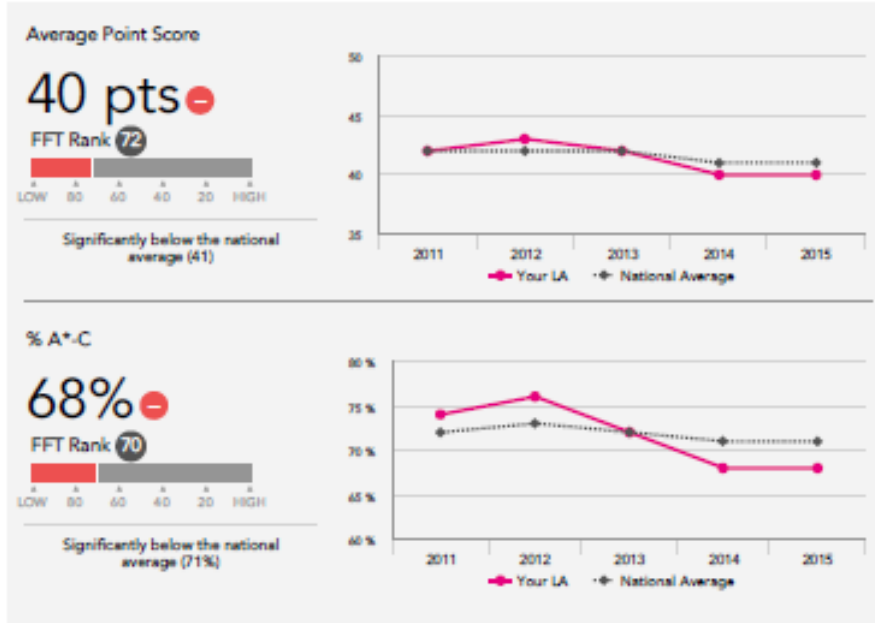
Liverpool · GCSE Religious Studies

2015 KS4 CVA

Attainment & progress

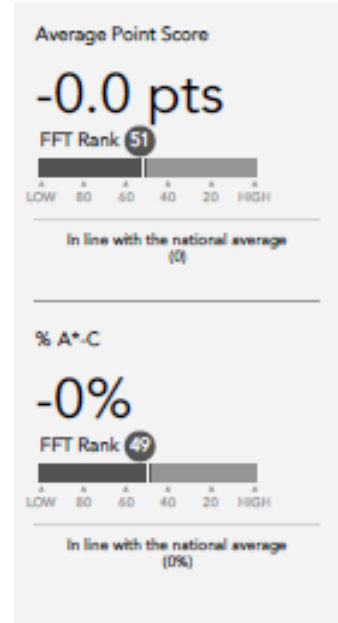
LA KS4 Attainment 2015

GCSE Religious Studies · 2397 pupils



LA KS4 Progress 2015

GCSE Religious Studies · 2329 matched...




LA KS4 performance summary GCSE Religious Studies



	Actual results			Pupil progress		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Number of Pupils / % Matched	2,419	2,478	2,397	99%	98%	97%
Average Point Score	42 ↓	40 ↓	40	+1.4 ↓	+0.4 ↓	-0.0
Average Grade	C+ ↓	C ↓	C	+0.2 ↓	+0.1 ↓	-0.0
% A*-A	27% ↓	24% ↓	21% ↓	+3% ↑	+1%	-3% ↓
% A*-C	72% ↓	68% ↓	68%	+4% ↓	+1%	-0%
% A*-G	99% ↑	98% ↓	99%	+1% ↑	+0%	+1% ↑
% 3 Levels Progress	67% ↓	64% ↓	62%	+5% ↓	+2%	-1%
% 4 Levels Progress	40% ↓	38% ↓	35%	+4% ↓	+1%	-1%


Minutes of full SACRE meetings from September 2014 to August 2015

Liverpool SACRE Meeting Minutes
23rd October 2014 – The Alsop High School

Present:	Gill Lawson - LA Representative Penny Thompson - Church of England Representative Rev Carol Ann Close - Church of England Representative Carolyn Driessen - Primary School Representative Alan Harbottle - Primary School Representative Debra Garvey - Primary School Representative Peter Bull - Primary School Representative Joy Schmack - Co-opted member Dr Matthew Thompson - Co-opted member Liverpool Community Spirit Tareq Ahmado - Islam Representative Cllr Jeremy Wolfson - LA Representative Chrissy Edmonds - Clerk to SACRE
	23 rd October 2014
Apologies:	Cllr Barbara Murray, Cllr Clare Glare, Amrik Garcha, Meg Buckley, Sue Shinkfield


Actions Arising	
Items	
Introductions & Declarations of Interest.	In the absence of Cllr Barbara Murray, Rev Carol Close kindly agreed to act as Chair for the meeting. The Chair, welcomed the group. No declarations of interest.
Accuracy of the last meetings minutes & Actions Arising	Previous minutes discussed and agreed. Actions from previous minutes completed: CE will distribute the 'Agreed Syllabus Review' agenda to SACRE members. Action completed GL will pass on funding agreed to the organisers of the Ann Frank exhibition. Action completed GL will explore whether there would be opportunities to provide RE twilight training sessions for secondary staff. Action completed
Ofsted and RE GL	GL distributed and briefly discussed the inserted hand-out  Extracts from School Inspection Handbook RE is now a high profile in the Ofsted guidance process. Head teachers have been alerted and briefed to the strong links throughout the Ofsted School Inspection Handbook, published July 2014 and in use from September 2014.




<p>Agreed Syllabus review GL</p>	<p>There is a very sharp focus on RE. The current situation having had numerous discussions and consideration of a wide range of advice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major reform of examination regimes for both GCSE and GCE A level in the next 12 to 18 months eg major change to grading system and course specifications, which will impact on the requirements for RE in all key stages. • Much greater attention to RE and SMSC from Ofsted from September 2014 • Aftermath of the Trojan Horse inquiry • HMI for RE has recently retired and is yet to be replaced • The publication of the RE Council Framework for RE <p>It would be sensible to remain with the current Agreed Syllabus in place until such time that external examination reforms are confirmed and the situation for RE is less turbulent.</p> <p>The agreed syllabus could remain in review pending a more stable outlook for RE. We should not rush into a new syllabus that may not be fit for purpose.</p> <p>GL proposed that we remain with our agreed syllabus, at present, with no set time lines but keep reviewing the situation regularly.</p> <p>PT suggested that nothing is rushed into but to move forwards slowly whilst staying involved.</p> <p>AH suggested that we should keep schools and head teachers informed.</p> <p>Schools are now required to publish details of their curriculum offer, including RE, on their school website. A trawl of a sample of school website indicates that Liverpool schools are in general complying although some information is in need of updating.</p>
<p>Results 2014 GL</p>	<p>GL distributed and discussed the inserted hand-out</p>  <p>Religious Studies Results summary - Su</p> <p>GL was pleased with the overall results. PT requested that the summary is broken down further to identify which are faith school and how many schools are doing short courses. GL to action</p>
<p>Anne Frank Trust Programme PB</p>	<p>PB distributed a copy of the Anne Frank calendar of events and gave an overview of what the event is all about. The PCC of St Luke's church is working alongside Alsop school to host the exhibition 6th-30th January 2015.</p>  <p>Ann Frank Eevnts Calandar</p> <p>Meetings will continue to be held in order to organise, cost and finalise details of this event. The venue for the 27th January '15 'The Holocaust memorial Day' is being reviewed in order not to exclude any religious denominations. 7th January has been earmarked for Liverpool teachers and SACRE members to visit the exhibition at the school.</p> <p>King David High is also participating closely with Alsop. PB is looking for any items/memorabilia to use for display purposes throughout the event.</p>





	<p>Enrichment events will be added to the programme. The programme will hopefully be extended across all Merseyside schools, funding is being raised and there is a positive buzz around the whole event.</p> <p>PB has purchased some beautiful, Anne Frank, reading books to distribute to all local primary schools.</p> <p>SACRE members have volunteered their time, both before and during the exhibition, to assist PB in any way possible. Liverpool SACRE has contributed £300 towards the costs of the event.</p>
<p>Regional RE Hubs JS</p>	<p>There are significant changes happening in and around religious education. Secondary teachers attended the second regional RE hub event back in June 2014 with a forthcoming event, 'After the Trojan Horse,' being held on 15th November '14 at Liverpool Hope University.</p> <p>JS emailed GL & CE details of this event which CE, in turn, distributed to all the Primary and Secondary schools in Liverpool.</p> <p>The hubs are looking to set up a strong steering group and seeking teacher representatives. Meetings are to be set up with the Diocese & Archdiocese. The hub will be working with Liverpool Community Spirit and SACRE can become involved in several hubs.</p> <p>Funding bids are being invited with the view to develop a number of regional hubs across the country. Early day's yet but exciting times are ahead.</p> <p>JS reported that there are 6 pilot hubs at the moment: Canterbury, Hampshire, East Anglia, London, South Bromley and York.</p>
<p>RE & Collective Workshop Conference GL</p>	<p>GL distributed and briefly discussed the inserted invite</p>  <p>Collective Workshop & RE Conference</p> <p>Gill will be inviting other regional SACRE groups to attend this event. The conference information will be put on the EDNet portal in order to allow all schools to book. CE to action</p>
<p>Other:</p>	<p>NASACRE Website access for SACRE members</p> <p>Username: member2015 Password: gr8RE4all</p> <p>PT presented SACRE with a signed copy of her published book, 'Teaching Virtue: The Contribution of Religious Education' Penny Thompson and Marius Felderhof.</p> <p>Matthew Thompson kindly extended an invitation to SACRE members to the Liverpool Community Spirit annual celebration and launch of LCS Liverpool Footsteps of Faith smart phone app.</p> <p>Details: 4th December 2014 from 6.15 to 8pm at The Studio, 41 Greenland St, Liverpool L1 0BS.</p>

	<p>RSVP to Liverpool Community Spirit, 17 Cathedral Close, Liverpool L1 7BR. 0151 709 3171 aimee.mckinney@community-spirit.org.uk. GL to action forwarding the invitation to SACRE members.</p>
Actions:	<p>PT requested that the summary is broken down further to identify which are faith school and how many schools are doing short courses. GL to action</p> <p>Forwarding of the invitation from Matthew Thompson to attend the Liverpool Community Spirit annual celebration to SACRE members. GL to action</p> <p>RE & Collective Worship Conference details to be put on the EDNet portal. CE to action</p>
Next Meetings	<p>5th February 2015 - Mosspsits Primary School 3:45pm 4th June 2015 - Childwall Sports & Science Academy 3:45pm</p>

SACRE Meeting Minutes
5th February 2015 – Mosspsits Primary School

Present:	<p>Cllr Barbara Murray Gill Lawson Alan Harbottle Amrik Garcha Carolyn Driessen Debra Garvey Heather Marshall Imam Amjad Patel Jacqui Allward Matthew Hargreaves Dr Matthew Thompson Penny Thompson Tareq Ahmado Cllr Jeremy Wolfson Cllr John Coyne Harold Cohen</p> <p>Chrissy Edmonds - Clerk - christina.edmondons@si.liverpool.gov.uk</p>
Apologies:	Sue Shinkfield, Joy Schmack, Peter Bull, Andrew Colmer, Claire Glare
Date:	5 th February 2015
Items	
Introductions & Declarations of Interest.	The Chair, Cllr Barbara Murray, welcomed the group. No declarations of interest.
Accuracy of the last meetings minutes & Actions Arising	<p>Previous minutes discussed and agreed.</p> <p>Actions from previous minutes completed:</p> <p>PT requested that the summary is broken down further to identify which are faith school and how many schools are doing short courses. GL actioned</p> <p> Summary breakdown</p>


	<p>RE & Collective Worship Conference details to be put on the EDNet portal. CE actioned</p>
<p>Lord Nash letter to SACREs</p>  <p>Letter from Lord Nash regarding the w</p>	<p>BM - Lord Nash's Letter</p> <p>The role of SACRE is being looked at across the entire country. Although it is not the norm for such a letter to be sent out directly to SACRE. BM is of the opinion that the letter was not sent out to criticism, but more to ensure that the duties of the local authorities are being upheld, to ensure that statutory duties are being fulfilled whilst at the same time ensuring that the LA's are and can be held accountable.</p> <p>There is a need to examine and understand the contents fully. The letter was sent out as a response to the 'Trojan Horse' incident that took place in Birmingham and the whole letter need to be looked at as part of a bigger picture.</p>
<p>Regional Hub activity – MT</p>  <p>Greater MERSEYSIDE RE Hub News Hub Ac</p>	<p>JS put together an email with information about two hub activities which was then distributed to all SACRE members by CE on 27/01/15.</p> <p>MT informed members that the next hub meeting is planned for 26th March '15. CE distributed an email confirming this information on the 6th February '15 to all SACRE members. Actioned</p> <p>10 regional Hubs have been created overall. MT & JS are the contacts for the Greater Merseyside hub</p> <p>GL & BR attended the Regional Hub conference on the 15th November '15. Overall it was very well attended. The hubs promote Religious Education, support teachers of RE and support school in delivering RE.</p> <p>Liverpool SACRE is a strong committee and has a level playing field to ensure that Liverpool will continue to deliver the full programme. None judgemental, teaching respect, tolerance, highlighting similarities, not teaching negativities.</p>
<p>Ofsted updates for RE & SMSC</p>  <p>Promptoting values</p>	<p>GL distributed hand-outs and discussed the report with the group highlighting page 6 'Examples of actions that a school can take'</p>
<p>RE & Collective Workshop Conference GL</p>	<p>The 'RE Collective Workshop' conference held at Toxteth Annexe had a good turn out with 46 delegates attending.</p> <p>The evaluation reports show that 72% of the delegates found the conference to be 'excellent' whilst 22% found it to be 'good'. Delegates found the sessions to be very informative with great ideas being presented with positive learning points. Overall a well-placed itinerary. Delegates were very interested in the 'Footsteps of Faith' smart app which has been developed by Liverpool Community Spirit, youth groups and Draw & Code.</p>


	Well done to GL for all her hard work in putting this event together.
NASACRE AGM 21st May 2015	Alan Harbottle and Gill Lawson are to attend this event.
AOB:	 <p>Liverpool's Footsteps of Faith</p> <p>MT - 'Liverpool Footsteps of Faith'</p> <p>Liverpool Community Spirit celebrated the launch of the 'Liverpool Footsteps of Faith' in December '14.</p> <p>This is a new Smartphone App developed by the Youth Council, Liverpool Community Spirit and Liverpool based 'Draw and Code'</p> <p>Schools will be receiving further information over time. This is an on-going piece of work.</p> <p>PT – 'Jubilee Centre Birmingham'</p> <p>A brief induction was given by PT regarding a funding bid that has been made available through the Jubilee Centre. This bid has a very short lead in time so CE was tasked with distributing a copy of her email to all members to see if any interest can be generated.</p>  <p>Penny Thompson.doc</p> <p>The emails was sent out to all members on the 6th February '16 – Actioned</p> <p>GL - The Holocaust Respect Project was a great success attracting and involving approx. 3000 people. A big thank you to Peter Bull of Alsop High School for all his hard work in making this such a great event.</p> <p>A question was raised enquiring as to whether Academy schools were required to teach RE subject 'Collective Worship'. GL gave a brief overview of the statutory requirements that need to be met by all Academies but she will send out a full reply to all SACRE members. Actioned – see below. See documents for information regarding academies and RE:</p>   <p>Academies_FAQ.doc re and collective worship in acads and</p>
Next Meetings	4 th June 2015 - Childwall Sports & Science Academy 3:45pm

Liverpool SACRE Meeting Minutes
4th June 2015 – Childwall Sports & Science Academy

Present:	<p>Cllr Claire Glare - Chair (for today's meeting in Cllr Murray's absence) Gill Lawson - School Improvement Liverpool Cllr Anna Key - LA representative Jaqui Allward - Childwall SSA Debra Garvey - Sudley Juniors Dr Tareq Ahmado - Islam representative Peter Bull - Alsop High School Rev Carol Close - Diocesan CE representative Joy Schmack - Co-opted member Martin Collard - Knowsley LA</p> <p>Chrissy Edmonds - Clerk to SACRE</p>
Date:	4 th June 2015
Apologies:	Cllr Barbara Murray, Amrik Garcha, Kathy Yates, Matthew Thompson, Penny Thompson, Cllr Jeremy Wolfson, Alan Harbottle, Sue Shinkfield

Agenda Items	
Introductions & Declarations of Interest.	The Chair, CG welcomed the group. No declarations of interest. Thank you to Jacqui Allward for making arrangements for the meeting to be held at Childwall Sports and Science Academy.
Accuracy of the last meetings minutes & Actions Arising	<p>Previous minutes discussed and agreed.</p> <p>Actions from previous minutes have been completed.</p>
NASACRE AGM	<p>GL shared her experiences of the AGM conference that she attended with AH on 21st May 2015.</p> <p>The key note speaker was Charles Clarke former Education Minister, now a lecturer in Politics and Religion at Lancaster University; the main key areas of discussion were- RE Statutory Curriculum - Collective worship - Faith schools</p> <p>Members can view all AGM Materials via http://www.nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm/2015/materials. You can listen to Charles Clarke's full speech and see presentations by Mary Myatt and Prof Denise Cush, Professor of Religion and Education and Subject Leader for Study of Religions and Philosophy and Ethics, Bath Spa University on the site.</p> <p>In Charles Clarke's view, RE should remain as a statutory requirement in the curriculum. He raised and discussed a number of questions: Should it be determined nationally? Role of SACREs? RE at KS4, 14-19 provision? Should it be called RE, RS or RI, or as in Scotland Religious and Moral Education?</p> <p>Religious diversity in Britain has changed significantly since 1944. The role of LAs is diminishing particularly with the acceleration of the academies programme, free schools, studio schools and UTCs.</p>

	<p>Group discussions at the AGM around the tables showed that each SACRE works differently across regions. GL reported that Liverpool SACRE is engaged with relevant issues and supported by the membership. Discussions were had about the 'right to withdraw pupils from RE classes or collective worship'. Such issues can be complex and each case must be looked at individually and can usually be managed by the school, in most cases. Academy relationships were discussed. Each academy must follow the statutory requirements it was felt that there is a risk of a decline in RE with academies and free schools.</p> <p>Guidance document for academies are attached to the previous SACRE meeting minutes.</p>
<p>What is RE for? – A questionnaire to be launched at the NASACRE AGM</p>	<p>GL deferred this section of the agenda as the NASACRE questionnaire was not yet available and therefore was not launched at the NASACRE AGM. CE will send out information to all members once it has been received by GL.</p> <p>Action</p>
<p>Research project on RE through Virtues</p>	<p>This research project is being led by Penny Thompson, Ieuan Lloyd and Marius Felderhof. In Penny's absence GL briefly updated SACRE on the progress of the programme. The project has recruited 10 schools to take part, 5 from Liverpool and 5 from Birmingham.</p> <p>The following Liverpool schools have agreed to take part:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alsop High School • Childwall Sports Science Academy • Pleasant Street Primary, • St Mary's CE Primary West Derby • Wavertree CE primary. <p>Lead teachers from each school will attend a 2 day meeting 18th & 19th June '15. Costs have been covered by funding secured for the research project. The project will focus on RE and virtues. The chosen virtue is compassion and it will be taught by reference to Christianity and Islam with resources available from Sikh traditions also. Attitudinal surveys will take place before and after, and it is planned to produce a film for use in schools after the project has taken place.</p>
<p>CPD opportunities including 3D approach, a proposed programme for Greater Merseyside RE</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>The 3D approach</p> </div>	<p>JS provided a brief on the 3D CPD proposal from the regional RE hub. There are several aims of the programme, one of which is to devise events which will reflect the integrity of living religious traditions, please see inserted hand-out for full information. Proposed activities have been put into place and will commence September '15 and run right through to June '16</p> <p>This programme will support curriculum awareness, empower teachers to challenge resources, support the mastery of subject knowledge and forge links between communities and teachers.</p> <p>2 schools have been identified to lead on this programme.</p> <p>Start-up funding has been granted and each participating school will pay £50 per person to cover costs. Points still need to be finalised – flyers will be published and the program will be publicised. The Liverpool Community Spirit will take on the responsibility of bookings and payments.</p> <p>GL reported that Secondary RE teacher network meetings have been scheduled for – 10th November 2015 at Alsop and 14th June 2016 at Childwall SSA</p>

	<p>A teacher at Broadgreen International School is hosting a CPD session for Liverpool RE teachers to look at WJEC GCSE RE and strategies to improve pupil outcomes in GCSE RE.</p>
<p>GCSE and A level reforms - update</p>	<p>The GCSE criteria have been out since January '15. The timelines for GCSE, AS and A levels can be viewed on the Ofqual website www.gov.uk/government/publications/timeline-of-changes-to-gcses-as-and-a-levels</p> <p>New GCSE specifications are due for publication during autumn term 2015. Key times for implementation:</p> <p>GCSE Autumn 2015 for RE specifications available to schools for first teaching of new GCSEs in September 2016. Summer 2017 last exams for the current RS GCSE – Y10 from September 2015 last cohort on current GCSE Sept 2016 – First teaching of new RS GCSE Summer 2018 First new RS GCSE exams Sept 2016 – First teaching of new RS AS and A levels</p> <p>A level Autumn 2015 for RE specifications available to schools for first teaching of new AS and A levels in September 2016. Summer 2017 last exams for current AS and A2 levels Summer 2017 first exams for new RS AS taught from Sept 2016 Summer 2018 First new RS A level exams</p>
<p>Re resources – NASACRE advice</p>  <p>RE_Resources NASACRE advice.pdf</p>	<p>CE and GL have been receiving several emails from commercial organisations with requests to distribute information to schools. It has been agreed at previous SACRE meetings that we would not provide free publicity and marketing for commercial providers. NASACRE has issued guidance for SACREs on this matter.</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>GL reported that she is considering organising a conference event in the autumn or spring term next year. Members agreed that this should go ahead. This will be updated at the next meeting.</p> <p>Westhill Awards – the deadline for applications has been extended from 31st May to 24th July. PB and GL will arrange to meet to discuss the option of applying for funding to support 'Hope 2016' as a project to follow – up the very successful 'Respect 2015' initiative.</p>