

HSACRE

HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The current HSACRE was inaugurated on 22 February 1989 and this is its twenty-third 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 third Annual Report of Hillingdon's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education [SACRE].

It is good to see that SACRE is taking an active role in ensuring that our teachers have access to the training they need to give the best possible quality of education, and I am grateful for their work in organising these sessions. The feedback from those attending these sessions has been good, and shows the value placed upon these by teachers.

Hillingdon SACRE has a clear commitment to encouraging children to explore issues of faith, and the interfaith conferences arranged in schools, which always lead to a lively and informed debate, are well supported by SACRE members.

I would like to thank SACRE's members, and those who support it, for their hard work over the year, and encourage them to continue this, especially as the Agreed Syllabus is due for its quinquennial review in 2015.

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 - Hillingdon Councillors.

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

Clerk - Steven Maiden (Democratic Services) served as clerk during 2014.

Advisor - Duncan Struthers.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This year, Hillingdon SACRE has continued to promote high quality learning and teaching in RE by providing professional development opportunities for teachers. We have been delighted to support teachers from 12 different primary schools in Hillingdon to access a one day training course delivered locally by Fiona Moss, Senior RE Consultant at RE today. The one-day course enabled participants to develop their subject knowledge of key aspects of Christianity, Judaism and Islam. The course was rated highly by participants who unanimously stated they felt more confident and prepared to teach RE as a result of participating in the training. We were also delighted to provide a further opportunity for teachers to attend the popular Walk Through The Bible training course. This was repeated at the request of schools and those who participated felt more confident in teaching children about the Bible, an area that nationally has been identified as a concern in the teaching of RE.

Since the period covered by the Annual Report, Hillingdon SACRE has begun consultation with schools and other stakeholders to establish whether a review of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus is required.

In order to promote engagement and reflection on 'faith', it is planned to hold a children's art competition to coincide with the Hayes Carnival. It is also planned to hold a conference in 2015-16 to support schools to promote British Values through RE.

I would like to thank all members of the Hillingdon SACRE for the commitment they have shown to supporting RE in our schools and for the contribution they make to promoting mutual respect and understanding among our young people.

4. MEETINGS OF HSACRE IN 2014

Full meetings of HSACRE were held on:

11 March	2014	Civic Centre
17 June	2014	Civic Centre
5 November	2014	Civic Centre

One meeting was not quorate.

In addition to the full meeting of SACRE, there were a number of subgroup meetings and the continuing progress of the Inter-Faith Forum and of Youth Events.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SACRE requested and received a delegated budget of £5900 as well as being well served through democratic services.

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

Provision of inset courses.

Presentation at the Hayes Carnival in a faith tent.

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 during 2014

GROUP A

Baptist	Vacant
Hindu	Vacant
Methodist	Angela Lount
Muslim	Amir Ahmed
Hillingdon Assembly of Muslim Youth	Naseem Bint Amir
Quaker	Carolyn Appleby (resigned) / Vacancy
Jewish	Mike Gettleson
Roman Catholic	Vacant
Hillingdon Area Salvation Army	Heather Steady (resigned?) / Vacancy
Sikh	Jasvir Singh Rayat
Buddhist	Connie Dusek
United Reform Church	Vacant
Bahai	Lil Osborn
British Humanist Association	Richard Thomas

GROUP B

Church of England	Hilary Stone
	Mary Coulthurst
	Elenor Paul
	Daniel Norris

GROUP C

National Union of Teachers	Ian Harper
Association of Teachers and Lecturers	Jean Nunnery
National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers	Vacant
VOICE (formerly PAT)	Vacant
National Association of Headteachers	
Headteacher – Yeading Junior School	Carol Jones
Association of Secondary School and College Leaders	Vacant

GROUP D

Local Authority	Councillor Mike Bull Councillor Keith Burrows Councillor Carol Melvin Councillor Avtar Sandhu
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OFFICER SUPPORT DURING 2014

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