

## **Introduction to the Annual Report 2011-12. Bromley Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

The legal responsibilities of the LEA are to:

- Ensure that there is a SACRE
- Ensure all four committees are represented on SACRE
- Ensure there is an Agreed Syllabus which is reviewed at least once every five years
- Ensure that support is in place for SACRE to enable it to discharge its responsibilities
- Take note and respond to any advice it receives from SACRE
- Reference to SACREs from the LEA may include advice methods of teaching, the choice of teaching material and the provision of teacher training.

The SACRE must:

- Publish an annual report of its work and send this to the DFE and NASACRE
- Consider requests for determinations on collective worship when required
- Advise the LEA upon such matters as collective worship and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus.

The SACRE is also likely to

- Monitor the provision for both RE and Collective Worship
- Provide support and advice on RE and Collective Worship to schools

Every Local Authority is required to have a SACRE which is made up of four groups, Faith representatives, The Church of England, Teachers and Councillors. The committee should reflect the make up of the community.

A SACRE can also require the local authority to review its current agreed syllabus for RE (s.391(3)) and must consider applications made by a head teacher to alter the requirement for collective worship in his/her school to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character for some or all of the pupils in that school (a 'determination') (s.394(1)).

The content of a SACRE's annual report should, as a minimum, indicate how each of the functions has been discharged during the reporting year. Such a report can inform developments in RE and collective worship, both locally and nationally, and can be a highly effective engine for school improvement

The Bromley SACRE annual report includes the development plan for the period January 2012 to March 2013 and a table of the self evaluation results of the SACRE, using the NASACRE self-evaluation tool..

### **Contacts;**

Clerk to SACRE  
Mrs Christine Reeks

Bromley Council  
0208 461 7638  
christine.reeks@bromley.gov.uk

Religious Education Consultant  
Mrs Penny Smith-Orr  
penny.smith-orr@bromley.gov.uk  
0208 653 8606

## **SACRE Membership**

### **Committee A**

Christian and other religious denominations

Mr M Sweet Free Church (Chair)

Mr S Gupta Hindu

Mr S Mahmood Muslim

Mr S Riat Sikh

Mr Ray Hagley Free Church

Mrs S Polydorou Humanist Co-opted

Mrs Patricia Colling Roman Catholic

### **Committee B**

Church of England Representatives

Mr C Town

Revd. S Varney

Cannon M Camp (until Spring 2012)

Ms J Thompson (until Spring 2012)

Mrs Virginia Corbyn (from Summer 2012)

### **Committee C**

Teacher Representatives

Mr Jed Stone

Mrs Fiona Hawkes

Mrs Helen James (until Spring 2012)

Mrs Jackie Tranchina

Ms E Honey

Mrs Arlene Fayne

Mrs C Duncan

### **Committee D**

LEA Representatives

Cllr. R Charsley

Cllr R Adams

Cllr D MacMul Until may 2012

Cllr G Norrie

Cllr Mrs A Manning (Vice Chair)

Cllr Stephen Carr From may 2012

Cllr Kate Lymer From May2012

Cllr David Jefferys From May 2012

### **Officers**

Mrs Beverley Johnston Assistant Director, Children and Young People Services

Mrs P Smith-Orr - RE Consultant

Mrs Christine Reeks – Clerk

## **Overview**

This report covers the academic year 2011-2012, three meetings of SACRE were held on the following occasions;

19th October 2011 at Bromley Civic Centre

1st February 2012 at Bromley Civic Centre

30<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at Bromley Civic Centre

All the work of Bromley SACRE is done with the aim of raising achievement in RE and improving the quality of teaching and learning, to improve the provision and quality of Collective Worship and to help promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

In addition to the normal work of SACRE this year, the priorities of Bromley SACRE have been;

- To further develop members understanding of religious education in schools
- Make a Faith Directory for schools use
- To consider the need to review the Agreed syllabus

The headings below refer to the reporting and evaluating toolkit provided by NASACRE in October 2011.

## **Section 1 Standards and Quality of Provision of Religious Education:**

### **1a. RE provision across the LA.**

#### **1c Quality of learning and teaching**

It is increasingly difficult for the SACRE committee to obtain a picture of RE across the borough. During the year members of the committee visit a number of schools to observe an RE lesson a collective worship and to discuss with the coordinator, and sometimes the head teacher, how they can support the school. This academic year there were less visits to allow the RE consultant to work on the review of the syllabus. There were two visits to Primary schools by the committee and a visit as a speaker by the Sikh representative to another school.

The RE consultant held three network meetings with the Primary RE Coordinators and one extra meeting to discuss the syllabus review. These meetings and telephone and email discussions with schools allow some insight into the provision of RE in the borough.

From the answers to the questionnaire sent to schools regarding the review of the syllabus it is clear that many of the coordinators are working hard to provide the highest quality RE.

### **1b. Public Examinations**

The public examination results give information on standards and are provided for SACRE by the LA. All results at this stage are still provisional.

This year the results include those from Academies which were not part of the reported results last year. Nationally fewer pupils are being entered for the short course as it is being deleted by the Government however more students took the full course in Bromley than in the past 5 years. The results are good

and still well above the national average for A\*-C passes. In A level Religious Studies the results were good for both AS and A2 level. More schools entered pupils with 100% gaining a pass at A2. All the results in Bromley are well above the National Average results which is a credit to the teachers in KS4 and KS5.

### GCSE Full Course in Religious Studies 2008-2011

Year of examination	Number of Bromley schools	Number of Bromley Candidates	Bromley schools: % of students with A* - C	Schools nationally: % of students with A* - C
2008	16	1407	76.0	72.5
2009	15	1288	77.3	73.4
2010	15	1198	77.5	73.1
2011	12	1082	85.8	73.3
2012	15	1466	80.8	74

**SCHOOLS** (no. of pupils): Bishop Justus (180), Beaverwood (31) Bullers Wood (69) Cator Park (155), Charles Darwin (18), Darrick Wood (234), Harris Academy Beckenham (30) Harris Academy Bromley (128 ) Hayes (27), Kemnal technology College (177) Langley Park Boys (35), Langley Park Girls (70), Newstead Wood (133), Ravens Wood (195), The Priory (78), The Ravensbourne (61)

### GCSE Short Course in Religious Education/Religious Studies 2008-2011

Year of examination	Number of Bromley schools	Number of Bromley Candidates	Bromley schools: % students A* - C grades	Schools nationally: % students A* - C grades
2009	11	1078	54.5	54.3
2010	11	1079	55.6	54.6
2011	8	660	70.2	
2012	8	700	70	56.3

**SCHOOLS** (no. of pupils): Bullers Wood (117), Coopers Technology College (174), Darrick Wood (1), Hayes (205), Harris Academy Bromley (1), Kemnal technology (3), The Ravensbourne (81), St Saviours and St Olave's (187).

### AS Level in Religious Studies 2008-2011

Year of examination	Number of Bromley schools	Number of Bromley Candidates	% Bromley students with grades A-E	% students nationally with grades A-E
2008	8	26	100	93.3
2009	13	44	93.1	92.6
2010	10	50	80	

2011	10	31	90.3	
2012	13	52	96.2	64.5

**SCHOOLS** (no. of pupils): Beaverwood (7) Bishop Justus (4) Bromley College (1) Bullers Wood (5) Darrick Wood (2), Harris Academy Bromley (1) Hayes (8), Langley Park Boys (2) Langley Park Girls (6), Newstead wood (3) Ravens Wood (4) St Olaves & St Saviours (6) The Ravensbourne (2)

### **A level in Religious Studies 2008-2012**

Year of examination	Number of Bromley schools	Number of Bromley Candidates	% Bromley students grades A-E	% students nationally grades A-E
2008	10	76	77	98.6
2009	11	122	100	98.6
2010	11	138	98.6	
2011	10	142	100	80.4 A*-C
2012	13	120	100	80.6

**SCHOOLS** (no. of pupils): Beaverwood (2) Bishop Justus (14), Bromley College (1) Bullers Wood (13), Cator Park (7) Darrick Wood (7), Harris Academy Bromley (3) Hayes (12), Langley Park Boys (8), Langley Park Girls (5), Newstead Wood (36), Ravens Wood (4), St Saviours and St Olave's (8), The Ravensbourne (7)

#### **1d Quality of leadership and management, including the provision and management of resources.**

Again it is difficult to obtain this information. Discussions with head teachers at Schools that are visited by SACRE have shown that there is strong support for RE and most coordinators report that they are well supported in schools. The resource centre has closed and the resources spread through the borough and into Kent. Many schools have their own selection of resources and many Coordinators have researched the internet and also made their own resources.

#### **1e. Recruitment and retention of skilled specialist RE staff.**

SACRE has little knowledge of this aspect.

#### **1f. Relations with academies and other non-LA maintained schools**

Secondary schools in Bromley which are academies have retained the same RE staff. Members of the teacher group on SACRE include teachers from academies. In the Spring term the RE Consultant met went to a meeting of a group of Secondary RE teachers and discussed RE provision with them.

## **Section 2: The Effectiveness of the Locally Agreed Syllabus**

**2a – The review process. 2b – The quality of the local Agreed Syllabus**

**2c – Launching and implementing the Agreed Syllabus**

**2e - Developing the revised agreed syllabus; 2f - Making best use of National Guidance**

The review process has taken place during this academic year and it has been decided to revise the primary scheme of work. The RE coordinators were sent a comprehensive questionnaire and invited to a meeting at the EDC to discuss their answers, the analysis of the results was also discussed at the SACRE meetings. On the advice of the teachers the scheme will now include more material on the teaching of other faiths and allow coordinators to fit the scheme into the various ways the curriculum is organised in different schools, rather than being written as individual lessons. Discussions with the local authority resulted in an agreement for the Consultant to work on new syllabus units during her current contracted time of 29 days. It was decided that the secondary scheme was suitable to remain as it was written by Bromley teachers and the Diocesan adviser much more recently than the Primary scheme. The current Agreed Syllabus uses the Non statutory National Framework in its entirety as a basis.

It is to be hoped that a launch event will take place in the summer term 2013.

**2d – Membership and training of the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC)**

This will be addressed during the next academic year.

## **Section 3: Collective worship**

**3a – Supporting pupil entitlement; 3b – Enhancing the quality of provision of collective worship; 3c – Responding to requests for determinations**

The chair of Bromley SACRE runs the Spinnaker organisation and many schools in Bromley have visits from representatives who carry out collective worship on a regular basis. There is a comprehensive guidance document 'Reflective Pools' Refreshing Collective Worship in Bromley Schools' which has been sent to all schools and can be found on the Fronter page. The chair of Bromley SACRE runs the Spinnaker organisation and many schools in Bromley have visits from representatives who carry out collective worship on a regular basis.

There have been no determinations regarding collective worship this year.

## **Section 4: Management of SACRE and Partnership with the LA and other stakeholders**

**4a – SACRE meetings; 4b – Membership and training;**

**4c – Improvement/development planning; 4d – Professional and financial support; 4e - Information and advice**

Three meetings per year are held this year all meetings have been quorate. The clerk to SACRE, both for administration and minute taker at meetings, was Mrs Christine Reeks. The RE consultant was Mrs Penny Smith-Orr employed for 35 days per year, 6 of which are to administer the Youth SACRE.

This year the committee has included a new Jewish representative and a new Diocesan adviser as well as new teacher reps on the teacher group; there is a vacancy on the Church of England group.

Training of the whole SACRE committee has taken place during this year and the last year using the NASACRE training cd. This has included work on being an effective SACRE. A presentation from 'Discover Islam' was received with interest by the committee. During this academic year the committee has also listened to presentations from Primary and Secondary teacher members on what RE looks like in their schools and how it is planned and developed. The development plan, drawn up with the deputy director of education and the Chair of SACRE is to be seen as appendix A below.

There is a budget for SACRE which was worked out with the LA at two meetings during the Spring term and covers the period until March 2013.

The RE consultant is a member, and on the executive, of the Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants, and is the secretary of the London and South East Region. Information from this body informs the SACRE's work. Bromley SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACRES.

Members of the committee and the RE Consultant attended the AGM of NASACRE and the London SACREs annual meeting and reported to the committee on these. The RE Consultant attended a summer conference of RE advisers courtesy of Bromley LA. During meetings issues of the future of RE, taking RE forward in Bromley, the All Party Parliamentary Group for RE and the new RE Quality Mark were also debated. Members of the committee are involved in interfaith activities in Bromley. The chair and consultant are members of other SACREs which supports the information available to the committee.

#### **4f – Relations with the Academies sector**

See 1F

### **Section 5: Contribution of SACRE to promoting cohesion across the Community**

#### **5a – SACRE's membership; 5b SACRE's understanding of the local area**

#### **5c – SACRE's engagement with the community cohesion agenda;**

The Borough of Bromley continues to be less religiously diverse than other London boroughs; however the SACRE committee is representative of the groups found in Bromley.

The Muslim representative once again organised the annual competition for schools on the 'True Meaning of Islam' four schools entered and members of the committee attended the prize giving event in Darul Uloom School in Chislehurst, a report on this is to be found in appendix 2 below.

In the summer members of the committee worked on making a route in Bromley for the South London Interfaith groups Olympic year walks. The Roman Catholic representative undertook to organise the walking day which was a success.

The current syllabus is not explicit in the regard of the promotion community cohesion. This responsibility will form part of the review. Members of the committee are involved in interfaith activities in Bromley. The chair and consultant are members of other SACREs which supports the information available to the committee.

**5d – SACRE’s role within wider LA initiatives on community cohesion**

SACRE is given little information about, or contact with, wider LA initiatives linked to the promotion of community cohesion