

SALFORD SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2011-2012.

The Locally Agreed Syllabus

Salford's most recent Locally Agreed Syllabus came into force in September 2011, having been launched in May 2011. The main focus of the new syllabus has been on **how** religious education should be taught and less on **what** should be taught. The syllabus aims to provide high quality teaching and learning in Religious Education through guidance on progression, enquiry-based approaches and linking RE to other subjects and cross-curricular issues.

Salford's involvement as a key partner in the Greater Manchester RE Collaborative has helped to support the embedding of the principles and materials of the syllabus. Along with colleagues from Manchester, Stockport, Tameside and Trafford local authorities, Salford's two 'hub teachers' have continued to provide guidance and materials for RE teachers across the city. The Salford hub teachers are Nick Wentland (Moorside High School) and Kindra Belcher (Monton Green Primary School). Nick and Kindra have worked with secondary and primary RE networks to reinforce the principles of the syllabus, as well as responding to regular requests in between meetings to support with RE syllabus issues.

Further explanation of the content and rationale of the Salford syllabus can be found at www.salford.gov.uk

Support for maintaining standards in RE

For the first month of the school year 2011-12 support for RE in Salford was provided by a Local Authority Consultant (Steve Illingworth). At the end of September 2011, this post was terminated but Salford Council agreed to fund eight days per year of independent consultant support for the school year 2011-12. This support was provided again by Steve Illingworth, who had supported SACRE for several years when still employed by the council. This involved convening and chairing teacher network meetings, leading training sessions on RE for schools, reporting to SACRE, helping to organise events such as Holocaust Memorial Commemorations, monitoring provision and standards in schools and leading on the implementation of a new syllabus. This support from an independent consultant will continue for the school year 2012-13.

Additionally, the primary and secondary RE hub teachers for Salford have provided extra resources for supporting the maintenance of standards (see above). Although the hub teachers have not been expected to report directly to SACRE on a regular basis, they have liaised with the consultant in this respect and have provided ongoing specialist support to colleagues in schools.

Professional Development 2011-12

Last year's SACRE report stated that professional development in RE had been stronger in 2010-11 than it had been for many years. It is pleasing to report that the situation for 2011-12, especially in the primary sector, was even more successful. The regular Primary RE co-ordinators network meeting has continued to be well attended, with over twenty different schools being represented at these meetings. Additionally, seven primary schools have received whole staff training around RE, involving well over a hundred teachers in total. Most of this training has been provided jointly by the primary hub teacher and the consultant and in some cases just by the consultant. Overall, this suggests a strong picture regarding the development of expertise in RE in Salford primary schools.

Network meetings for secondary RE teachers have continued throughout 2011-12, Although these have not always been well attended, individual support to RE subject leaders has been provided regularly by the secondary hub teacher and by the consultant.

GCSE Results for 2011

Numbers entered for the GCSE Full Course in RE were greater than in previous years: 685 across the city compared to a normal figure in the mid-500s. This was due to slightly larger cohort numbers in the Catholic schools that enter nearly all pupils and also due to a significant entry for the first time from one of the non-denominational schools. This latter factor had a detrimental effect on the percentage of pupils across Salford gaining A*-C grades in the Full Course, as only a handful of pupils from this school achieved a Grade C. The overall Salford figure declined to 60% in 2011, having been in the higher 60s range for the previous two years (see Appendix 1). Salford SACRE members have discussed the underachievement in this particular school and have noted that the RE subject leader there has asked for support from the Salford consultant and hub leader.

Numbers entered for the GCSE Short Course in RE were similar to those in previous years. The percentage of pupils gaining at least a Grade C was the highest it had been for three years and was a significant improvement on the 2010 figure (see Appendix 1). Two schools where the performance had been below that of most other schools have been in discussions with the Salford consultant about how to improve standards at KS4 in RE.

Following the presentation of last year's report to Salford SACRE, members asked for examination results trends to be shown over a three year period in future. This is presented in Appendix 1.

Complaints concerning RE

There have been no complaints concerning RE.

Determinations

There have been no applications for determinations during 2011- 2012.

Complaints concerning Collective Worship

A parent did raise a query about collective worship in their child's school and the Salford RE consultant was asked for advice on this. No formal complaint followed and there were no complaints received about collective worship from anyone else.

Links with other agencies

Salford SACRE remains a member of NASACRE sending a delegate to the 2012 annual conference and debating issues raised there at the Summer and Autumn SACRE meetings in 2012.

The consultant hired to serve SACRE has continued to develop links with the Trans-Pennine AREIAC, reporting back to Salford SACRE on matters such as the newly developed Religious Education Quality Mark (REQM).

There are strong links with the Jewish Board of Deputies and Salford SACRE meetings include regular feedback from members who have attended the conferences of this group.

At a local level SACRE has links with the Salford Schools Forum and continues to develop links with other Salford groups, such as the Equalities and Community Cohesion Team. This cohesive approach has been particularly evident in the collaboration around the annual Holocaust Memorial events.

Links with other Greater Manchester authorities on syllabus collaboration and implementation have been described above. Salford SACRE's involvement in Greater Manchester hub teacher meetings has been maintained throughout 2011-12, with Salford hosting the regional meeting in June 2012.

National Holocaust Memorial Day

From 2006 to 2011 Salford SACRE played a big part in organising the city's annual commemoration of The Holocaust. In 2012 the main responsibility for the public memorial event passed from SACRE to the city council's Equalities and Community Cohesion Team. This was mainly because the educational advisers and administrative assistants who had previously done this work were no longer

employed directly by the council. The event was held at Broughton Community Centre on 25 January 2012. Salford SACRE made a substantial financial contribution to the staging of the event and members were consulted about many of the details.

The schools' event for Holocaust Memorial Day, featuring presentations by a Holocaust survivor and the son of a survivor, was hosted by Irlam and Cadishead College (an 11-18 high school), rather than being held at The Lowry theatre at Salford Quays. Again, this change was partly due to a lack of council personnel to organise central events and also because of concerns about the increasing costs of The Lowry. The whole of Year 9 from Irlam and Cadishead College were present, plus a class from Buile Hill High School (other schools were also invited). Salford SACRE paid for the cost of this event. The success of the event can be judged by the fact that Irlam and Cadishead College want to stage it again in January 2013.

Professional and Administrative Support

Throughout 2011-12 Salford SACRE was supported by an administrative officer and by an independent educational consultant employed by the council for 8 days per year (see above for explanation of arrangements).

Finance

The SACRE budget covers basic running costs, allows members to represent Salford at national conferences and contributes towards Salford's Holocaust Memorial Events. This budget was maintained at the same level for the school year 2011-12, despite severe cuts in general Salford City Council expenditure. Additionally, as explained elsewhere, the council has agreed to fund eight days a year for an educational consultant to support the work of SACRE and intends to continue with this arrangement for the future.

Summary

This has been a productive year for Salford SACRE. Meetings are well attended and always involve high quality discussions. The financial and consultant support ensure that strong links are maintained with local schools and the local religious communities.

Appendix 1

GCSE results 2011

The following chart shows the number of pupils entered for GCSE Religious Studies. The percentage of pupils gaining each grade is given as well as the percentage gaining grades A*-C and A*-G.

Subject : Religious Studies ; Exam : GCSE Full Course - 2011

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Centre	NOR	NOE	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Q	U	X	A*-C	A*-G	QCA Av Pts
Hallows RC High school	110	98	1.0	3.1	4.1	17.3	19.4	14.3	21.4	10.2		9.2		25.5	90.8	27.94
St. Giles Hill High school	146	54				9.3	13.0	25.9	31.5	13.0		7.4		9.3	92.6	24.37
Worsley High school	161	18	11.1	44.4	33.3	5.6			5.6					94.4	100.0	48.33
St. Mary's Academy: MediaCityUK	99	34		14.7	14.7	20.6	29.4	11.8	5.9			2.9		50.0	97.1	37.24
Ambrose Row RC High School	143	140	7.1	17.9	27.9	21.4	13.6	5.7	5.0	1.4				74.3	100.0	42.36
George's R High School	121	108	0.9	13.0	20.4	28.7	21.3	9.3	4.6	1.9				63.0	100.0	39.28
Patrick's R High School	177	172	7.6	25.6	23.8	20.3	9.3	6.4	4.1	2.3		0.6		77.3	99.4	43.01
St. Albion High School	162	22	4.5	13.6	27.3	31.8	9.1	4.5	4.5	4.5			[1]	77.3	100.0	41.09
St. Swinton High School	185	14	7.1	14.3	14.3	21.4	7.1	21.4	7.1	7.1				57.1	100.0	37.86
St. Markden High school	228	25	12.0	8.0	20.0	32.0	8.0	8.0	4.0	8.0				72.0	100.0	40.24
Totals		685	4.7	15.5	19.0	21.0	14.5	9.8	9.2	4.2		2.2	[1]	60.1	97.8	38.25

Subject : Religious Studies ; Exam : GCSE Short Course - 2011

Centre	LA Comparator	NOR	NOE	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Q	U	X	A*-C	A*-G	QCA Av Pts
All Hallows RC High school	Salford	110	4								100.0					100.0	8.00
Buile Hill High School	Salford	146	2					50.0			50.0					100.0	12.50
Harrop Fold School	Salford	146	51		3.9	15.7	25.5	25.5	19.6	5.9	3.9			[4]	45.1	100.0	17.76
Irlam & Cadishead Community High School	Salford	153	133		1.5	3.0	11.3	15.0	16.5	24.1	18.8		9.8	[3]	15.8	90.2	12.36
Salford City Academy	Salford	110	100	1.0	7.0	17.0	18.0	18.0	16.0	14.0	5.0		4.0	[1]	43.0	96.0	16.86
St Ambrose Barlow R C High School	Salford	143	1			100.0									100.0	100.0	23.00
St George's R C High School	Salford	121	9					44.4	11.1	11.1	22.2		11.1			88.9	12.11
St Patrick's R C High School	Salford	177	1				100.0								100.0	100.0	20.00
The Swinton High School	Salford	185	73	1.4	1.4	9.6	16.4	24.7	26.0	16.4	4.1			[2]	28.8	100.0	16.22
Wentworth High School	Salford	158	32	9.4	18.8	18.8	34.4	18.8						[1]	81.3	100.0	21.97
Totals			406	1.2	4.4	10.6	17.2	19.7	16.7	15.3	10.3		4.4	[11]	33.5	95.6	15.60

Salford RE GCSE Results – Trends over three years

Entries

	2009	2010	2011
Full course	562	536	685
Short course	460	356	406

Percentage passes at Grades A* to C

	2009	2010	2011
Full course	67.6	69.0	60.1
Short course	32.4	26.4	33.5

Appendix 2

Membership of the SACRE

Committee A

Christian Denominations and Other Religions and Religious Denominations

J. Michelson (Jewish Community)
17 West Meade
Prestwich
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M25 0JD

Alexander Klein
(Jewish Community),
3 Lancaster Drive
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M25 0HZ

Shabnam Shah.
(Sikh)
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Isobel Phillips
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(Roman Catholic)

Mrs Pat Wilson (Methodist)
25 Orient Road,
Salford
M6 8LB

Committee B

Church of England

John Wilson
Manchester Diocesan Board of Education,
Church House,
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Deborah Sandercock
Headteacher
St Paul's Primary School
Crompton Street
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M28 3HP

Rose O'Gara
Headteacher
St Paul Peel CE Primary School
Stocksfield Drive
Little Hulton
M38 9RB

Committee C

Teachers Associations

NASUWT
Anne Broomhead
24 Grange Road
Eccles
M30 8JQ

PAT
David Levien
Walkden High School,
Birch Road,
Walkden.
M28 7FJ

NUT
Gemma Huddart
Barton Moss Primary School,
Trippier Road,
Peel Green,
Eccles.
M30 7PT

Committee D

Local Authority

Councillor Brocklehurst
Councillor Compton
Councillor McIntyre
Councillor Potter
Councillor B Ryan
Councillor R Wilson

Officers

Steve Ilingworth

