

Warrington SACRE Report 2013



The SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) has several aspects to its role. It:

- Advises the Local Authority on matters relating to collective worship and religious education
- Advises on methods of teaching and resources for religious education
- Decides whether or not to grant determinations to those schools which apply to have daily worship which is other than of a broadly Christian character
- Identifies the need for a revised religious education syllabus

Warrington SACRE is a member of NASACRE (the National Association of SACREs). All meetings of the SACRE are open to the public.

This report sets out a brief summary of the work of the Warrington SACRE over the academic year 2012-2013. The minutes of the meetings which give more detail can be requested from the Clerk.

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

Chair - Cllr S Woodyatt

Clerk - Miss J Donnelly (01925 442957)

Local Authority Officer Professional Adviser - Mrs L Corlett (01925 443121)

Meetings of the SACRE during this year were held on the following dates:

6 November 2012

6 March 2013

10 July 2013

Membership of Warrington Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education 2012-2013

Representing	Member	Meetings attended
Committee A	Mr J Booth	6/11/12
Committee A	Rev S Kingsnorth	6/11/12, 6/3/13, 10/7/13
Committee A	Mr H Kazi	6/3/13
Committee A	Capt S Fisher	6/11/12, 6/3/13 resigned
Committee A	Mrs C Wong	6/11/12, 6/3/13, 10/07/13
Committee B	Rev M Burgess	6/11/12, 6/3/13, 10/7/13
Committee B	Rev Jane Proudfoot	6/3/13, 10/7/13
Committee B	Rev M Ridley	10/7/13
Committee B	Rev D Williams	
Committee C	Ms A Barlow	6/11/12, 10/7/13
Committee C	Mr I V Bonner	10/7/13
Committee C	Ms E Topping	6/11/12
Committee C	Ms Anita Bottomley	6/11/12, 10/7/13
Committee C	Ms Angela Williams	
Committee C	Mrs T Shaikh	resigned

Committee D	Cllr S Woodyatt	6/11/12, 6/3/13, 10/7/13
Committee D	Cllr S Wright	10/7/13
Committee D	Cllr C Jordan	6/11/12, 10/7/13
Committee D	Cllr M McLaughlin	6/11/12, 10/7/13

Religious Education (RE)

RE Courses

58 teachers and SACRE members from Warrington attended a highly successful course organised by Warrington LA:

**Supporting Teaching & Learning in RE
Better RE
Enquiry + Creativity + Thoughtfulness**

Date: Wednesday, 9th October 2013
Venue: Orford Jubilee Neighbourhood Hub

Number of schools represented:

35 (4 secondary, 25 primary, 4 Junior and 2 infant & nursery)

Other groups attending:

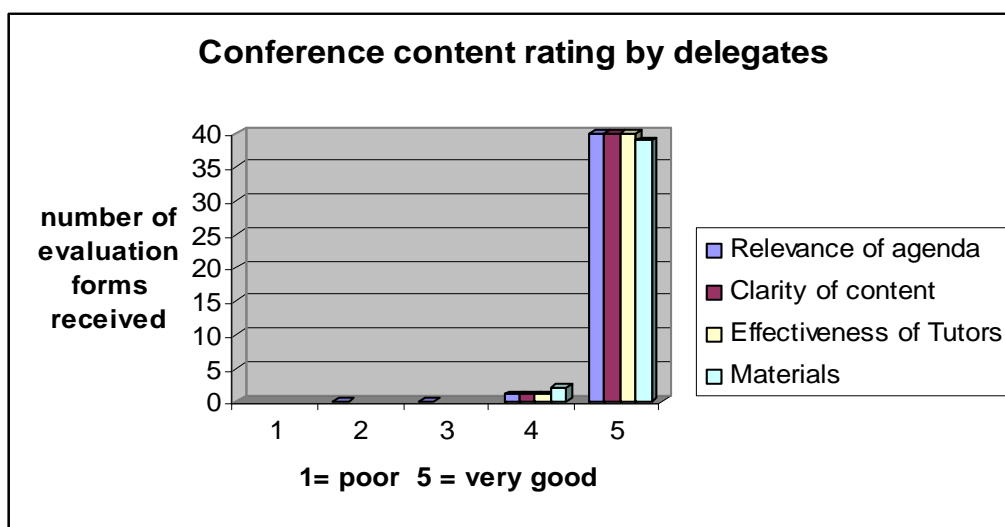
SACRE, Warrington Borough Council, Council of Faiths, Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education, Aspire, Active Hope, RE Today (Liverpool Cathedral – apologies)

Overall conference rating: 100% very good (grade 5)

Delegate comments;

- Packed full of practical ideas and resources as well as thought provoking
- Excellent chance for RE teachers to learn and meet like-minded individuals
- Excellence in sharing and making inspirational material available
- Wonderful resource material for the classroom
- Lots of good materials and ways to network with other RE staff
- Always great to have personal time to reflect and think
- Gave me lots of ideas that I can feedback to colleagues
- Engaging, thought provoking, full of enquiry! Very practical – I have a vision for our school and RE's place in it!
- Lots of fantastic ideas that I am looking forward to sharing with my colleagues
- Lots of practical, inspirational ideas to develop RE in school
- Ideas that can be used effectively in the classroom and will not prove too frightening to class teachers
- Fantastic ideas from Lat Blaylock that can be adapted and used across the school
- Superb content and delivery

Conference content rating:



What impact will your attendance on this course have on the development of your work within your educational establishment?

Delegate comments:

- Many ideas and suggestions to share with schools on RE but also on wider quality of teaching and learning
- Lifted my approach to practical activities – will see immediate impact on learning I'm sure
- Will be able to share resources and ideas with rest of teachers in my department
- Some cross-curricular ideas which can be used to develop RE and raise profile in school and challenge for students
- I will let you know how our curriculum develops. Definitely have a big RE week (Oakwood Avenue CPS)
- Information is useful to share with other teachers in school to improve RE teaching
- This day enabled me with new, exciting ideas to suggest / implement to bring RE up to date
- The ideas and resources shared will enable even the most reluctant member of staff to deliver valuable RE lessons
- We are already creative but it will now be more enquiry based
- I hope to raise the profile of RE across the school and present ideas to staff to enable them to incorporate RE more fully into the curriculum – at present it tends to 'fall off the end'
- Great Impact as will be teaching RE at my school instead of 'supply cover' for PPA sessions
- We currently need to review the way we teacher RE in school and this will be very helpful in our development of a whole school approach
- Change curriculum to aspect led, not religion; hook through human experiences not facts; links and flows with all our other teaching
- Completely and utterly inspired to re-work my RE planning to incorporate as much enquiry and thoughtfulness as possible!
- Work on making the syllabus more creative
- Will be requesting time to feedback to staff to share this wealth of ideas and resources – lovely to see levels of progression and how we can make links between other religions and our own lives
- Enhance my subject leadership of RE
- Strengthen RE teaching and assemblies
- It has made me want to freshen up my approaches to RE using different stimuli / activities and share these with staff
- Handouts will be given to staff and resubscribe to RE Today. Staff training from new ideas
- I intend to review the current scheme of work for RE and audit the practical resources that we currently have in order to assess the necessity for new resources

What actions or ideas will you implement now that you have completed this course?

Delegate comments:

- More thought provoking lessons and more student focused tasks
- More pupil engagement; develop my enquiry based teaching; share with colleagues
- To put in more 'enquiry' based learning into teaching; to download more ppt's and RE ideas from RE Today website; to link up with other secondary RE teachers in Warrington
- More enquiry in particular 'Rites of Passage'; picture questioning; responsibility "pies"
- BIG RE week – look at school planner
- Share ideas and resources with rest of staff; explain and introduce enquiry based teaching
- Resources audit; review of current scheme of work; clearer assessment procedures using level descriptors
- Make RE lessons more visual using the religious element and thinking how to make it 'real'
- Feedback to Head and staff; review teaching in school; implement use of new resources
- Join RE Today – update resources; 'sing' about RE to others – show elements from today
- Add to RE action plan for 2013 – 2014; staff meeting to feedback to staff and share resources; own RE planning and teaching will hopefully improve!
- Having 'Week of Wonder' – ideas will contribute to this; look at teaching of world religions in our scheme of work – enhance with new ideas
- Use photos / pictures as a regular stimulus; use different approaches on a more practical level; use more enquiry based approach more often
- Work with SLT about curriculum review
- Keep eye out for updated version of Warrington agreed syllabus
- Possible involvement of Active Hope in school; whisper / shout etc.
- Cascade ideas to relevant year groups with reference to Warrington syllabus; make curriculum more fun
- Some simple collection of evidence to lighten the assessment process. I love the 'gossamer touch' idea.
- It has made me want to freshen up my approaches to RE using different stimuli / activities – and share these with staff

Additional delegate comments

Delegate comments:

- More courses about the assessment of RE would be very useful, particularly in dealing with the split of AT1 / AT2
- A well-delivered, well-resourced presentation – lots of ideas given on a practical level
- Fab – need more days like these! RE been sadly neglected as a whole and has had a lot of bad press – ie 'boring not a prime / key subject'. Please run another course
- Now need collective worship and assessment training
- Please another course on progress and achievement
- Most enjoyable day. Great to chat to others about RE in their schools
- More courses on assessment and achievement
- Thank you for a fantastic day. I feel inspired to return to school and share the ideas with staff. I am looking forward to using the RE Today resources and magazines too. Thank you.
- Please organise other similar courses. Loved the Theatre Company. Great to gain other contacts. Only negative – lots of sitting and listening – could have been more 'hands on' and moving around
- Very inspirational course, I just hope I can be as effective when I pass the information on to others. Please could we have a course on achievement, assessment and progression in RE
- Approve of the teaching, not just of doctrine but of life. This conference fully supported in its approach through SACRE
- Please could we have more training and support of this quality
- Tremendous Inset. Superb!

Collective Worship

No applications for a determination have been received by the SACRE 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 local authority officer, Louise Corlett. 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.

Keeping up to date

Members of the SACRE are able to keep up to date with national initiatives in relation to RE and collective worship through access to NASACRE. The LA lead informs the SACRE of other published papers and articles.

Keeping in touch with schools

The SACRE is aware that it has found its responsibility to monitor the provision and quality of RE and collective worship in Warrington schools virtually impossible to fulfil. One of the main benefits of such monitoring is to inform the SACRE of the needs of schools and help members to identify ways in which they might best support schools in the provision of RE and collective worship. The SACRE, therefore, invites and would welcome news from schools about what is going well in both areas so this news can be shared with others. It would also very much like to hear teachers' suggestions about the support they would most like the SACRE to provide. During 2013-2014 the LA SACRE lead will consult with all schools regarding this and the provision of a new Curriculum, in-keeping with Ofsted Guidelines..

All non Faith schools have been contacted to take part in plans to renew the RE Curriculum in Warrington, to establish a Youth SACRE and to initiate collaborations with RE leads both within Warrington and with Halton LA.

Some questions for governing bodies to consider are also planned for 2013/14

- Is your school aware of the support available from SACRE? Do you have an RE link governor?
- Do you know if there is an RE coordinator on your staff?
- How is RE being used as part of your school's SMSC offer?
- What could SACRE do better to support the development of RE in your schools?