

# Barking & Dagenham

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL on RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
(SACRE)

	<b>Contents</b>	<i>Page</i>
	<b>Introduction</b>	4
1	<b>Advice to statutory bodies</b>	5
	<i>The local authority</i>	
	<i>Schools</i>	
	<i>Government or other statutory bodies</i>	
	<i>Responses to the advice given, where appropriate</i>	
2	<b>Standards and quality of provision of RE</b>	6
	<i>Public examinations</i>	
	<i>Attainment in RE not covered by public examination</i>	
	<i>The quality of RE in schools</i>	
	<i>Withdrawal from RE</i>	
	<i>Complaints about RE</i>	
3	<b>Agreed Syllabus</b>	7
	<i>If there was a review of the syllabus under report</i>	
	<i>When the next review will take place</i>	
4	<b>Collective worship</b>	8
	Compliance with statutory requirement	
	Quality of Collective worship	
	Determinations	
	Complaints about collective worship	
5	<b>Management of SACRE</b>	8
	Attendance at SACRE, by committee	
	Membership and training	
	Complaints about RE and collective worship	
6	<b>Contribution of SACRE to the wider Local Authority Agenda</b>	9
	Identify what SACRE has contributed to other agendas	
	SACRE's contribution to the LA's public sector quality duty	
	What SACRE has done to support schools through events and training	

*Barking and Dagenham SACRE Annual Report 2019-20*

Links to broader community initiatives		
Achievements by SACRE members		
<b>7</b>	<b>Membership of SACRE, local authority officers and professional advice</b>	<b>10</b>
Meetings and venues 2019-2020		
<b>Appendix 1:</b>	<b>SACRE action plan 2019-2020</b>	<b>11</b>

## Introduction

Since 1988, it has been a requirement that every local education authority (LA) has a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

Though legislation sets out both the structure and the remit of a local SACRE - principally, overseeing religious education (RE) and collective worship - in practice every SACRE has developed its own particular style and character.

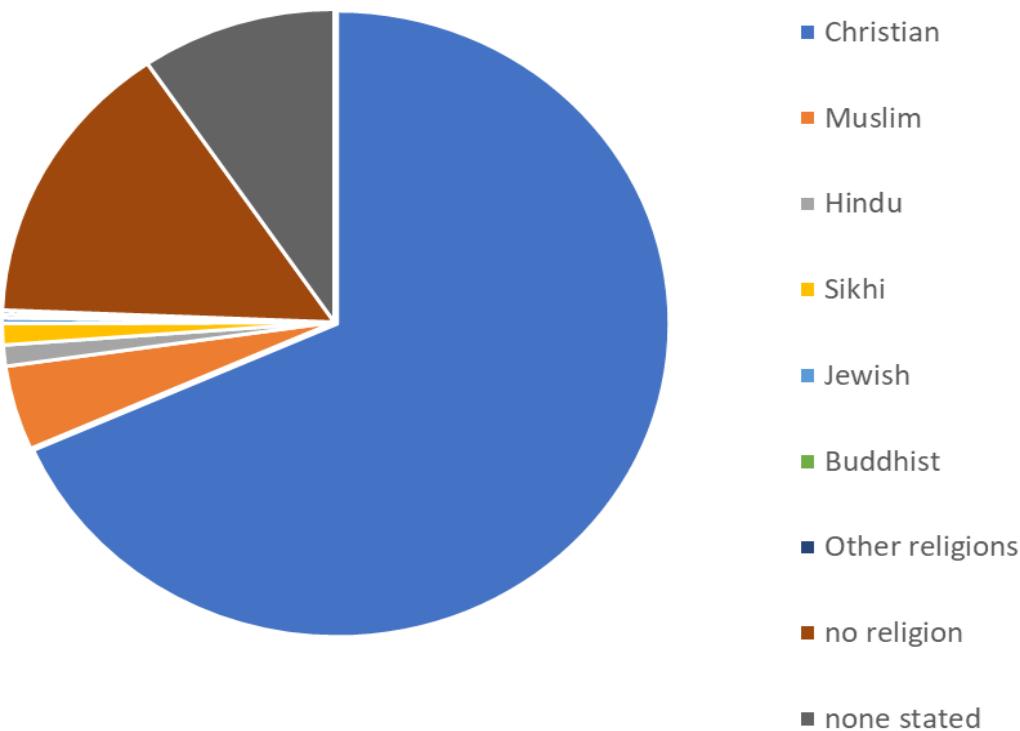
Barking and Dagenham SACRE, which began its work in 1989, has certainly developed its own particular style and character over this time. Some of the notable features of SACRE's work during 2019-2020 are included in this report.

It is a legislative requirement that each SACRE produces an annual report of its work and that this is sent to the Department for Education (DfE), NASACRE, to local schools and to other interested parties.

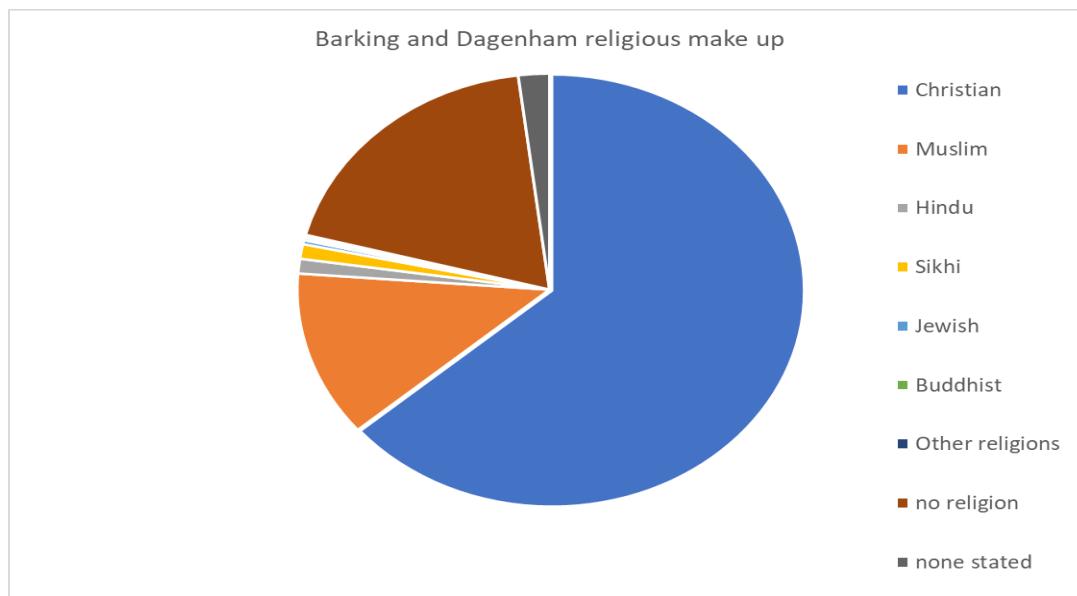
## Background to the Borough

In the 2011 Census, figures clearly indicate that Barking and Dagenham is a multifaith Borough; after Christianity (69%) the largest religious group in the Borough is made up of the Muslim population (4.4%), then Hinduism at 1,867 (1.1%), Sikhism at 1,800 (1.1%), Judaism at 500 (0.3%), Buddhism 400 (0.2%) and other religions at 308 (0.2%). More recent data indicates that there will continue to be demand for religious meeting places in particular for churches, mosques, mandirs and gurdwaras.

Barking and Dagenham religious make up



## 2018 London religious data



Religion & Worldview	2011	2018
Christian	64%	54%
Muslim	12.50%	22%
Hindu	1.10%	3%
Sikhi	1.10%	1.50%
Jewish	0.30%	0.30%
Buddhist	0.20%	0.20%
Other religions	0.20%	3%
no religion	19%	15%
none stated	2.00%	

According to the 2020 school census there were 43,722 (Source: School Census, January 2020). This includes pupils attending school-based nurseries and 6th forms in Barking and Dagenham. They make up 21% of the total population in the borough. For comparison, across London as a whole children and young people are 24% of the population.

There were 183 different languages spoken in Barking and Dagenham schools according to the January 2020 school census. The ten most spoken languages in schools were English, Bengali, Urdu, Romanian, Lithuanian, Yoruba, Albanian, Portuguese, Panjab and French. Understanding and appreciating difference and diversity is an important value to support in schools.

Language	Number
English	21433
Bengali	3096
Urdu	2285
Romanian	1761
Lithuanian	1528
Yoruba	1511
Albanian/Shqip	892
Portuguese	750
Punjabi	726
French	618

## 1 Advice to Statutory bodies

- 1.1 Within Barking and Dagenham, advice is available to schools through:
- the SACRE RE consultant;
  - termly network meetings being run for school RE leaders in primary and secondary schools. These meeting have supported teachers in understanding the aims of RE and middle leaders role and responsibilities in leading RE. In the primary meetings there was also a focus on - Spirited Play philosophical story telling technique; Thinking strategies in RE; Christianity Masterclass. In secondary meetings there was also a focus on – subject knowledge on Judaism and Orthodox Christianity.
  - SACRE documents being sent electronically into every school on practicing faith in schools;
- 1.2 The RE consultant to SACRE has given advice to the local authority on a number of occasions in 2019/2020.

## 2 Standards and quality of provision of Religious Education

### 2.2 Public examinations

Due to COVID 19 and lockdown there are no published examination results in RE/RS for summer 2020 that we can analyse as a local authority.

Looking to national standards the Joint council for qualification has published this for GCSE RS results  
(Cumulative percentages)

Summer 2020 results were issued under a different set of circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic and care must be taken when comparing to previous years.

The figures in brackets are the equivalent provisional figures for 2019.

Subject	Gender	Number Sat	% of Total No. Sat	CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGES by Grade			
				7/A	4/C	1/G	U
Religious Studies	Male	113026	4.0	26.6	74.7	99.2	100.0
		(113417)	(4.1)	(22.2)	(64.4)	(97.4)	(100.0)
	Female	134598	4.7	42.8	86.1	99.7	100.0
		(135605)	(4.9)	(37.9)	(79.1)	(99.2)	(100.0)
	Male & Female	247624	4.4	35.4	80.9	99.5	100.0
		(249022)	(4.5)	(30.7)	(72.4)	(98.4)	(100.0)

Looking to national standards the Joint council for qualification has published this for A'Level RS results  
(Cumulative percentages)

Religious Studies	Male	4662	1.3	10.9	34.4	62.7	87.3	97.0	99.7	100.0
		(5434)	(1.5)	(4.5)	(21.4)	(49.9)	(75.3)	(91.0)	(97.5)	(100.0)
	Female	12877	3.0	11.4	37.1	67.8	90.4	97.9	99.9	100.0
		(13972)	(3.2)	(4.3)	(22.1)	(50.8)	(77.3)	(92.6)	(98.4)	(100.0)
	Male & Female	17539	2.2	11.3	36.4	66.4	89.6	97.7	99.8	100.0
		(19406)	(2.4)	(4.3)	(21.9)	(50.5)	(76.7)	(92.1)	(98.2)	(100.0)

### 2.3 Attainment in RE

The RE consultant has worked with primary and secondary subject leaders through network meetings on grading and assessing pupils work in 2019-20.

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The RE Advisor has systematically reviewed school Ofsted reports in order to maintain an overview of standards within schools.

From September 2019- July 2020 the total number of inspections are as follows:

Total Inspections	12
Nursery Inspections	0
Primary Inspections	8
Secondary Inspections	2
Special	1
UTC	1

There were no comments within these Ofsted reports about RE, Collective worship or SMSC for us to highlight.

### **2.4 The quality of RE provision in schools**

From the LA's monitoring of schools we know that 13 pupils have been withdrawn from RE lessons across primary and secondary schools, and 20 pupils have been withdrawn from Collective worship from a total of 43,722 pupils. This means that 99.98% of pupils are in Barking and Dagenham RE lessons, and 99.97% of pupils are in acts of collective worship.

From monitoring schools needs Barking and Dagenham SACRE have discovered that secondary and primary schools have a need for support around contacts for visiting places of worship. Primary schools also highlighted their need for support around planning for high quality RE lessons; there is also a continued need for further subject knowledge enhancement in religions and worldviews. The LA and BDSIP have won via SACRE a Westhill/NASACRE award to provide teachers with 3 subject knowledge enhancement sessions in the Spring term 2021.

### **2.5 Withdrawal from RE**

There were 13 pupils withdrawn from Religious Education in 2019-2020

### **2.6 Complaints about RE**

There have been no formal complaints received about RE from any Barking and Dagenham schools during 2019-2020.

## **3 Agreed Syllabus**

- 3.1 Religious Education (RE) is not part of the National Curriculum but is a local responsibility. It is for this reason that, by law, each local authority must produce an agreed syllabus for RE. Legislation also requires that an agreed syllabus be reviewed every five years. SACRE, with the LA and BDSIP launched a new Agreed Syllabus for its schools in June 2020. Schools were given a days training on the new syllabus (1 day of training to EYFS leads; 1 day training to Primary leads; 1 days training to secondary RE departments)
- 3.2 15 secondary teachers; 46 Primary teachers and 50 EYFS teachers attended training in June and July 2020. Teachers rated the training providing at 5.7 out of 6. The RE consultant recorded the virtual training sessions, and schools who missed it due to illness or COVID related issues were sent the recording link. The consultant then met with teachers to answer any questions or queries they had.

## 4 Collective worship

### 4.1 Compliance with the statutory requirement

From the LA's monitoring of schools we know that 20 pupils have been withdrawn from Collective worship from a total of 43,722 pupils. This means that 99.98% of pupils are in acts of collective worship.

### 4.2 Determinations: no request was brought to SACRE for a determination in 2019-2020.

### 4.3 Complaints about collective worship: there were no complaints received by the LA or SACRE about collective worship in 2019-2020.

## 5 Management of SACRE

### 5.1 Attendance at SACRE, by committee

SACRE has been quorate for all of its meeting in the year September 2019-August 2020.

Name	19/9/2019	20/11/2019	6/2/2020	7/5/2020
Pastor A Adesina	x	Y	Apologies	Apologies
Councillor D Akwaboah	Y	Apologies	Y	Apologies
Ms E Anderton	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ms L Bird	Y	Y	Y	x
Reverend M Court	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mr W Crossman	Apologies	Y	Y	x
Reverend R Descombes	Apologies	Apologies	Y	Apologies
Mrs C D' Netto	Y	Y	Y	Apologies
Ms R Everett	Y	Y	Apologies	Apologies
Mr P Fing	x	x	x	x
Ms M Haig	not a member	Apologies	Y	Y
Mr H Jain	x	Apologies	x	Y
Ms F Jeens	Y	Y	Apologies	Apologies

Name	19/9/2019	20/11/2019	6/2/2020	7/5/2020
Ms S Khan	Y	Apologies	Y	X
Mr T Llewelyn-Jones		Y	Y	Y
Reverend K Miller	Y	Y	Y	Y
Miss N Nadeem	not a member	not a member	not a member	Y
Mrs R K Sahota	Y	Y	Y	Y
Councillor M Saleem	Y	Y	Y	Apologies
Rabbi I Shillor	Y	resigned		
Mr P Wallis	Y	Y	Y	X

## 5.2 Membership and training

Membership continues to be good, as is attendance at meetings.

SACRE received annual training about its role ensuring members can be critical colleagues to help SACRE and the LA to discharge their duties.

## 5.3 Complaints about RE and Collective worship: There have been no received.

## 5.4 Meetings

As is the usual SACRE practice we held our three meeting at Barking Town Hall and virtually on line once we were in lockdown. We also had an Agreed Syllabus Conference as a fourth meeting during this year head at Barking Town hall.

19<sup>th</sup> September 2019

14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Agreed Syllabus Conference meeting

6<sup>th</sup> February 2020

18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## 6 Contribution of SACRE to wider Local Authority agenda

### 6.1 What SACRE has contributed to other agendas

Governors Forum – The RE consultant helped lead workshops on the new RE Syllabus at the annual Governors conference and SACRE has a governor rep which is a great development.

Many SACRE members are part of Barking and Dagenham's faith forum and continued project work outside of these meetings, trying to build community cohesion across the borough.

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We have had members of the LA's prevent team join us, in order to work more strategically.

### 6.2 SACRE's contribution to the LA's public sector equality duty:

Councilors who are SACRE members have contributed to the LA's ongoing work to ensure all groups within Barking and Dagenham have a voice in the decision making and policies of the council.

### 6.3 SACRE's contribution to support schools through events and training

SACRE members have made contributions to primary and secondary network meetings.

Many SACRE members have hosted school visits to their places of worship throughout the year.

#### *Local*

SACRE via BDSIP provides termly network meetings for all Barking and Dagenham schools on RE.

The RE advisor also provides whole staff training events and advice around RE, CW and SMSC to Barking and Dagenham schools.

SACRE have supported the RE advisor practically by providing faith visitors to meetings and conferences throughout the year.

### 6.4 Links to broader community initiatives

Barking and Dagenham SACRE is a part of NASACRE and the LA RE advisor is a member of AREIAC, NATRE and the NASACRE executive.

## **7 SACRE arrangements**

### *Professional and administrative support*

During the year 2019-2020 three LA officers supported SACRE professionally and administratively:

- Claire Clinton as Professional RE advisor;
- Stephen Noon from BDSIP, Avril Carnelley as the Local Authority link office, and
- Jackie Day as Clerk to SACRE.

### *Finance*

The sum of **£16,015** was made available through the LA to support the work of SACRE during the year. The sum covered the cost of employing an RE consultant, the cost of clerking SACRE, membership of NASACRE and attending conferences and refreshments. (These figures break down to: £1550 for the clerk to SACRE; £5000 for Agreed Syllabus development; Catering for meetings £120; NASACRE membership £95; RE Advisor consultant £14,250; NASACRE conference and travel £90).

## Appendix 1: B&D SACRE priorities for 2020

Key:		Task completed
		Task to do
		Task started

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
1	Annual report produced	February 2020 May 2020 Nov onwards 2020 Sept 2020 December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss GCSE, and AS exam analysis in meeting from 2018-2019 Annual report</li> <li>Publish 2019 report to schools &amp; on LA website</li> <li>RE Advisor to write draft Annual Report from September 2020, ready for review at SACRE Jan 2021 meeting</li> <li>RE Advisor to liaise with LA data team to get 2020 GCSE, A/S exam analysis for RE 2020</li> <li>Send final Annual Report 2020 to DFE and NASACRE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both the LA &amp; SACRE will know that they are discharging their legal duty to produce an annual report by 31.12.20</li> <li>LA &amp; SACRE will have an overview on the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus in schools &amp; school needs around RE and CW</li> </ul>	Total cost of this work to be met from RE Adviser's commissioned time budget, paid by LA
2	Compliance in RE	May 2020 Oct 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass new draft monitoring form for sending out to schools</li> <li>RE Advisor to e-mail RE subject leaders new 2020 monitoring forms, BDSIP to send out to headteachers and ask for monitoring survey to be completed by Oct 2020</li> <li>RE Advisor to collect returns from schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE becomes clearer on what RE and CW is going on within its schools</li> </ul>	Cost of this work to be met from RE Adviser's time paid by LA
3	Membership of SACRE	Feb 2020 On-going July 2020 May 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RE advisor and SACRE members to suggest new recruits: ongoing</li> <li>Ensure each panel is quorate</li> <li>Work with council for new appointment of councillors</li> <li>Recruit a Buddhist and Hindu rep for SACRE – use Billy Crossman's contacts as a starting place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a good breath and diversity of faiths established on B&amp;D SACRE</li> <li>SACRE as far as is possible is representative of B&amp;D population</li> </ul>	No cost implication

Barking and Dagenham SACRE Annual Report 2019-20

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
4	Supporting good RE in schools	January 2020 onwards May 2020 March 2020 Ongoing Sept 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B&amp;DSIP along with SACRE provide a primary and a secondary termly network meeting to support the teaching of RE in its schools</li> <li>Consider new ways in which SACRE can support excellent RE in B&amp;D schools</li> <li>Application to NASACRE for Westhill grant for £4000 for CPD for schools in the next academic year</li> <li>SACRE members go to schools to support RE and CW, maybe at least one visit a year with an annual focus (eg CW focus, or EYFS)</li> <li>Ensure we have teacher input into SACREs work, create a teacher expert group that sit outside SACRE meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members develop a vision and ownership for how SACRE can support good RE in schools</li> </ul>	Total cost of network mtng work to be met from RE Adviser's time paid by LA
5	Links to best practice in RE and CW	October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RE consultant and SACRE develop advice to B&amp;D schools to ensure this aspect of the school day is understood by schools and SACRE has discharged its legal duty to support and monitor this aspect of a school's work</li> <li>Develop SACRE working group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fulfil legal requirement to have a SACRE running correctly</li> <li>Reflect on best practice from other authorities and use in B&amp;D</li> </ul>	Cost of this work to be met from RE Adviser's time paid by LA
6	SACRE CPD	January 2019 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide finances for consultant and SACRE member to attend National SACRE AGM May 2021</li> <li>Provide finances for being a member of NASACRE</li> <li><i>Create a document summary the point of SACRE – giving clarity to why we are meeting, how does SACRE enable pathways for schools to model good RE (Avril, Claire, Randip and Dorothy)</i></li> <li><i>Understand what SACREs role is – annual briefing</i></li> <li><i>SACRE members attend training that is happening for teachers</i></li> <li><i>Understanding the LA – pathways of communication clear, who are our key people. Invite some of those people to come to SACRE meeting (Claire and Avril to start to map)</i></li> <li><i>SACRE CPD to be trained in the focus for the year</i></li> <li><i>SACRE CPD to know how to evaluate what we have seen in our reports from school</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enabling SACRE to keep up to date with national best practice</li> <li>Enabling SACRE to reflect on its own practice and procedures</li> </ul>	Funding provided by LA annually to SACRE budget

Barking and Dagenham SACRE Annual Report 2019-20

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
7	Quality of teaching and leadership and management of RE	Sept 2020 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RE Advisor to work with schools in academic year 2020-2021 to get them ready for new monitoring form in which we will start to ask for information about standards of RE in 2021</li> <li>Work with headteachers and governors to help SACRE support high quality teaching, leadership and management in B&amp;D schools</li> <li>Look to train up RE SLE (senior leaders in education), so that we have a work force to support high quality RE</li> <li>Highlight to schools REQM as a way to reflect on their own practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE is able to support schools that are weaker in their teaching of RE</li> <li>SACRE and LA SLE's are able to understand what high standards look like in RE with confidence</li> </ul>	RE advisors time covered by LA budget
8	Launch new Agreed Syllabus	May 2020 June and July 2020 Sept-Oct 2020 April 2021 April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advertise schools training to B&amp;D schools: Primary 8th June; Secondary 16<sup>th</sup> June and EYFS 9<sup>th</sup> July</li> <li>RE consultant to plan new training as now will be on-line due to COVID19</li> <li>Plan an official launch for AS in Borough and find budget for launch after COVID is over</li> <li>Survey schools to gain feedback on implementation of AS</li> <li>Survey pupils and parents about RE in LA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B&amp;D LA fulfil legal duties on publishing a new Agreed Syllabus</li> <li>B&amp;D schools will be clear on new syllabus requirements and implementation</li> <li>Syllabus is known about within the LA, and SACRE becomes more recognised as a useful partner in community cohesion</li> </ul>	RE advisers time is covered in LA work <b>Budget needed for launch</b>
9	Work with B&D Faith Forum	March 2020 onwards Sept 2020 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To create a place of worship database for schools</li> <li>RE Advisor to offer training to faith leaders so they understand our new syllabus as well as top tips for receiving school visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE becomes a helpful and supportive partner for schools by providing appropriate links into local communities</li> </ul>	No costs involved
10	NASACRE grant and project	June/July 2020 Autumn term 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avril, Randip and Claire to meet to produce a plan for doing the project</li> <li>Autumn term create flyer for schools, get schools signed up for conference day for Spring term.</li> <li>Share dates with SACRE members so they can also attend (12<sup>th</sup> Jan; 14<sup>th</sup> Jan; 27<sup>th</sup> Jan; 26<sup>th</sup> Feb; 3<sup>rd</sup> March; 11<sup>th</sup> March)</li> <li>Organise opportunities for teachers and SACRE to meet across the year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support created for SACRE's to function more effectively</li> </ul>	No funding needed as gained grant from Westhill and NASACRE for £4000

Barking and Dagenham SACRE Annual Report 2019-20

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
<b>11</b>	SACRE budget	December 2020 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SACRE working party set up to look at budget (Avril, Himanshu, Margaret, Dorothy)</li> <li>• Report back to main SACRE group termly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	