

Telford & Wrekin Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Annual Report for Academic Year 2013/14

1. Telford & Wrekin SACRE – constitutional details

1.1 Officers: Chair: Michael Mottram Vice Chair: Ben Hollas
RE Consultant: Joan Furlong
Assistant Director Education & Corporate Parenting: Jim Collins
Clerk: Phil Smith

1.2. Committee A: Other Christian Denominations / other Faiths

Mrs J Osmund- Smith	Baptist Church
Pastor Josie	Free Gospel Church
Vacancy	Buddhism
Mr David Rolfe	Religious Society of Friends
Mrs Cathy Pocock	Salvation Army
Mr Ajmer Singh	Sikhism
Mr Bill Morris	Greek Orthodox
Dr Eve Clevenger	Judaism
Mr Henry White	Methodist
Mr Qamar Maqsood	Islam
Mr Austin Atkinson	Roman Catholic
Vacancy	Hinduism
Ms Sylvia Bailey	United Reformed Church

Committee B: Church of England

Mr Phillip Sell	Hereford Diocese +vacancy
Mrs Joan Furlong	Lichfield Diocese
Mr Ben Hollas	Lakeside Academy

Committee C: Teachers' Associations

Mrs Samantha Carbell	NUT
Mr Michael Mottram	ATL
Mrs Mary Jennings	NASUWT

Committee D: LA Members

Cllr Veronica Fletcher	Councillor
Cllr Amrik Jhawar	Councillor
Cllr Leon Murray	Councillor

Co-opted:

Mrs C Smith	Humanism
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1.3 Quorum. The quorum is three members, or a third, whichever is the greater.

2. Administrative Matters

2.1. There have been three meetings of the SACRE in the academic year 2013 / 2014 since the last report. Minutes of all the meetings are available on application to

the Clerk, Democratic Services, Telford & Wrekin Council, Addenbrooke House, Telford (phil.smith@telford.gov.uk). Meetings are open to the public.

- 2.2. With the change in venue of various LA support services, it was with great relief that the Multi-Cultural resource centre, with all its resources and space to hold RE network meetings and the SACRE was kept at Hollinswood Primary. Thanks were expressed to Jim Collins for managing this decision, and preserving the status, role & continuity of RE provision for schools.

3. RE advisory support

- 3.1. **Joan Furlong** 's contract as Telford & Wrekin RE consultant – 10 days a year – was renewed for the academic year. She is able to be contacted by email or phone for individual school support. Her details are on the Learning Platform.

Joan.furlong@telford.gov.uk 01952 404381 07896 898179

Joan.furlong@lichfield.anglican.org

She has no budget for this work. An accountability paper for her time is attached.

- 3.2. **The RE networks** for Secondary, Special and Primary schools have each met three times in the year. Primary meetings are held in the RE resource room at Hollinswood Primary, Secondary meetings are held at different schools.

75% Secondary RE managers have attended and 40% of primary RE co-ordinators.

Colleagues have been very appreciative to have such support.

Secondary meetings tend to focus on national issues, examination issues and LA issues.

Primary meetings have focused on Teaching Core Beliefs in Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, and Hinduism, followed by teaching core concepts from these religions.

It was agreed that Judaism & Buddhism would be taught at Key Stage 3.(see 3.5)

- 3.3. A **central RE course** at Teagues Bridge for primary schools entitled 'What Price Peace?' focused on values and principles with the World War 1 anniversary as the context. Material provided was a resource for RE lessons and school assemblies.

3.4. **The review of the RE Agreed Syllabus – Primary scheme of learning**

This has involved much consultation, discussion and liaison with Lat Blaylock, the writer.

The outline scheme is attached. The launch is 11th September 5pm at Hollinswood Primary. SACRE members, schools and dignitaries have been invited.

3.5. **Prayer Spaces in schools**

This initiative in secondary schools continues to make a contribution to SMSC- Spiritual, moral, social, cultural development. Two talented teams of volunteers are providing this experience at Hadley Learning Centre, Burton Borough, Newport Girls Academy, Adams Academy. Annual training courses have been held at Admaston House for teachers – run by the 'Prayer Spaces' and 'Sacred Spaces' in schools teams. Other academies are interested in implementing this.

3.6. **Beacon School Status for RE**

This has been successfully implemented, Lakeside Academy was the first to receive GOLD status, swiftly followed by Haughton and Southall Special schools. Tibberton VC Primary and Erccall Wood Academy also have received GOLD awards.

Schools were visited by 2 SACRE members. An evaluative report was written for each school and accreditation ratified by SACRE.

3.7. **Analysis of Secondary RE results**

We congratulate schools on their results.

3.8. Church school inspection (SIAMS)

St Georges VC primary school had its SIAMS inspection this year, and was graded *outstanding* – RE is an important factor in the judgment of how Christian distinctiveness meets the needs of learners in Church schools.

3.9. Schools continue to support the work of the **Inter-faith group & Telford Christian Council**. The Holocaust memorial service was noted as a very special spiritual event.

3.10 Telford Open Door primary event at All Saint's Wellington July 14

This event for year 6 pupils, run by volunteers and professional youth/children & schools' advisers, provided a day's experience of living Christianity, presented as a pilgrimage trail around the church. Core RE questions from the Agreed syllabus were the focus for each activity group. 8 schools attended. Feedback was extremely positive.

3.11 We congratulate Sarah Bowater from Adams Grammar on her Farmington Fellowship.

4. The Policy Framework

4.1. RE – National guidance is available on the Learning Platform.

4.2 . The Agreed Syllabus 2009 for RE is still providing the legal requirements for the subject. The supporting papers on Assessment in RE (Joan Furlong 2010) RE & Community Cohesion (Joan Furlong 2011) and Teaching Christian Beliefs in RE (Joan Furlong 2011) are well used.

More modern planning is available from the Leicester City scheme of work for primary schools and RE Today services. Website material forms an important resource for the subject. Currently Lat Blaylock (RE Today services) is writing a scheme of work for all primary schools – implementation September 11th 2014. The Long Term Plan is attached.

4.3. Collective Worship

No evidence is available for community schools in Telford & Wrekin. Church schools are monitored through their 5 yearly SIAMS inspection. The SIAMS report this year was graded outstanding for Collective worship – St George's.

Joan Furlong wrote Collective worship guidelines May 13 for all T&W schools. These restate legal requirements and contain a rationale for good practice. (to be found on the Learning Platform)

5. Consultation

5.1 NASACRE (National Association of SACREs)

- NASCRE runs a comprehensive website at <http://www.nasacre.org.uk> this is full of useful information for all those interested in SACREs, RE and collective worship.
- The RE Council, NATRE and RE Today Services also have a wealth of information regarding the subject.

5.2. SACRE has kept in close touch with the All-Party Parliamentary Group on RE and the process it has developed to ensure the future of the subject in a turbulent national time.

SACRE is fully committed to the support and development of RE as essential to pupils' Education in Telford and Wrekin.

5.3. SACRE (via the Chair) have included articles in the Governors' LEADING magazine to raise the profile of RE and communicate information.

6. Letters

There had been no requests for alternative worship provision for the SACRE to consider.

Report to be circulated to

Members

Telford & Wrekin LA

Telford & Wrekin Maintained Schools

Lichfield and Hereford Diocesan Directors

NASACRE.

Joan Furlong : RE consultant 6.8.14