



London Borough of Newham

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL on RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

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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.

Newham SACRE, which began its work in 1989, has certainly developed its own particular style and character as this report will testify.

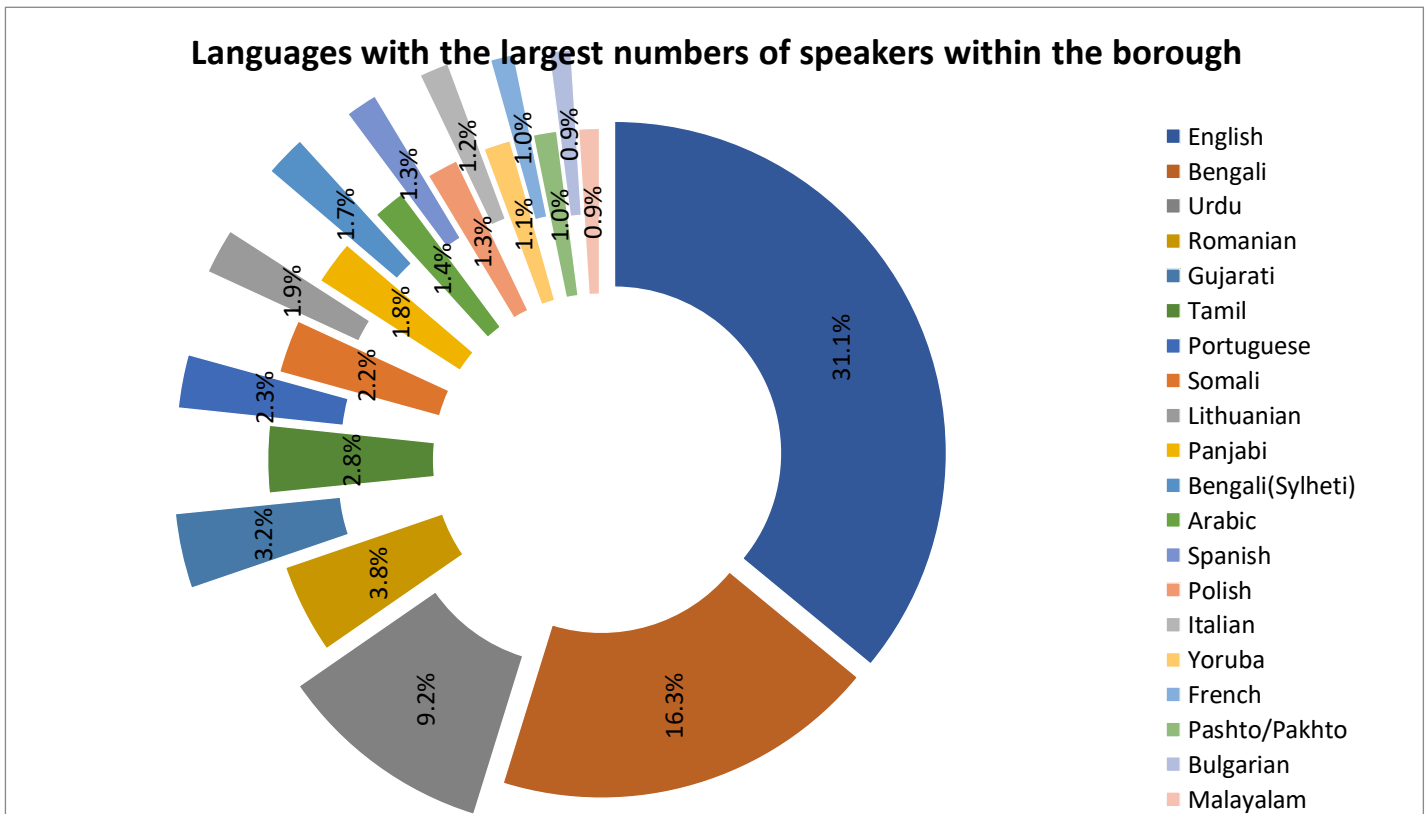
Some of the notable features of SACRE's work during 2019-2020 are included in this report, namely its support out to schools and its involvement with the new statutory advice for schools around teaching of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE).

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

Newham is one of the most dynamic parts of the country. It has a youthful population, not an ageing one as in many other areas. There is an energy here that few other places can match. It is at the heart of one of the largest areas of urban redevelopment in Europe. The Newham school census in January 2020 tells us there were 64,462 children and young people aged 4-16 in the figures on school and pupil numbers for Newham.

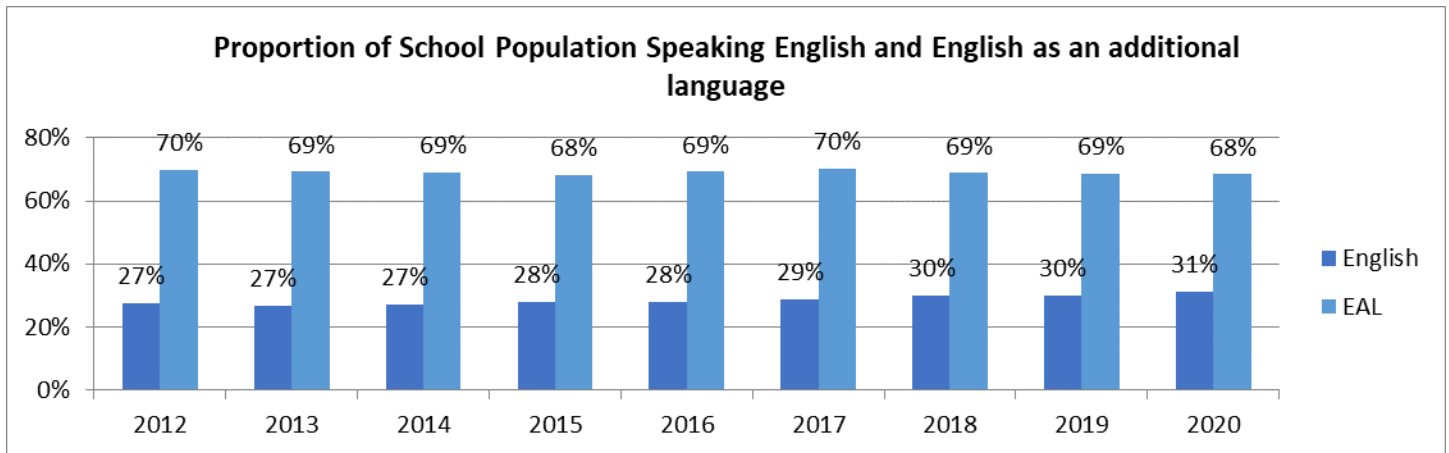
According to the 2011 census there were around 86,200 children and young people aged 19 or under in Newham. They make up 28% of the total population in the borough. For comparison, across London as a whole, children and young people are 24% of the population. The number of children and young people in Newham is an important feature of the area.



January School Census, 2020

Data shown are for languages or groups of languages where there are 500 or more speakers within the borough

English is the most frequently recorded first language spoken, although under one third of all pupils in Newham schools speak English as their first language.



There were 22 different languages spoken by at least 500 pupils across all of Newham’s schools, and in total there were 213 languages spoken by at least 1 pupil. This, with the ethnicity break down within schools, shows there is a rich diversity within Newham schools that the teaching of Religious Education embraces.

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Top 15 languages spoken in Newham schools in January 2020 were:

Language spoken	Number
English	20070
Bengali	10499
Urdu	5905
Romanian	2440
Gujarati	2045
Tamil	1822
Portuguese	1455
Somali	1450
Lithuanian	1236
Panjabi	1192
Bengali(Sylheti)	1126
Arabic	875
Spanish	869
Polish	850
Italian	802

Ethnicity

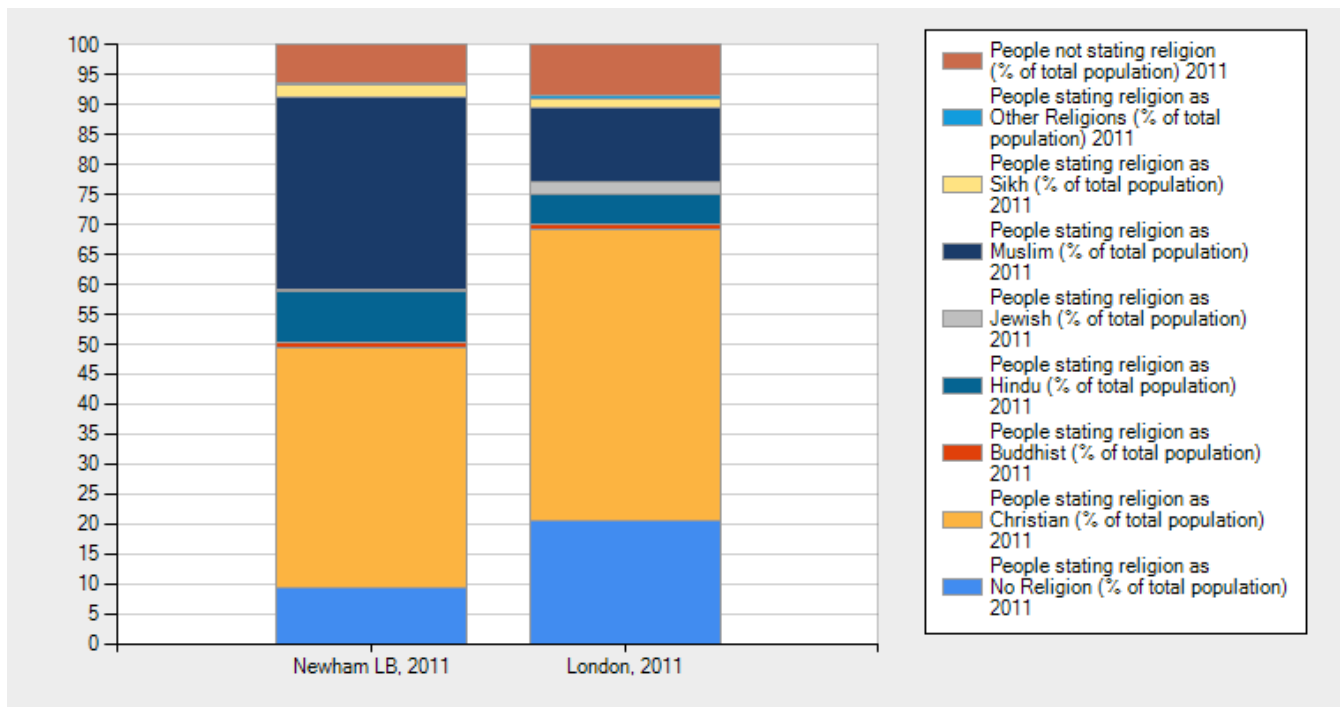
	Nursery		Primary		Secondary		Special		PRU		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Any Other Asian Background	56	1.8	1509	48.5	1541	49.6	2	0.1	1	0.0	3109	4.8%
Any Other Black Background	30	1.3	1439	60.2	911	38.1	9	0.4	2	0.1	2391	3.7%
Any Other Ethnic Group	48	1.4	1866	54.7	1488	43.6	10	0.3	2	0.1	3414	5.3%
Any Other Mixed Background	77	3.2	1381	57.5	934	38.9	6	0.2	3	0.1	2401	3.7%
Any Other White Background	145	1.8	4634	58.8	3088	39.2	11	0.1	4	0.1	7882	12.2%
Bangladeshi	245	1.7	8240	57.7	5734	40.2	41	0.3	13	0.1	14273	22.1%
Black - African	65	0.8	4163	48.9	4241	49.9	24	0.3	13	0.2	8506	13.2%
Black Caribbean	29	1.5	854	45.0	995	52.5	7	0.4	11	0.6	1896	2.9%
Chinese	14	4.2	212	64.2	104	31.5		0.0		0.0	330	0.5%
Gypsy / Roma		0.0	36	52.2	33	47.8		0.0		0.0	69	0.1%
Indian	112	1.9	3654	61.8	2138	36.2	3	0.1	1	0.0	5908	9.2%
Information Not Yet Obtained	24	4.1	207	35.1	350	59.4	1	0.2	7	1.2	589	0.9%
Pakistani	116	1.5	4324	56.5	3194	41.7	21	0.3	3	0.0	7658	11.9%
Refused	2	0.8	108	45.0	130	54.2		0.0		0.0	240	0.4%
Traveller of Irish Heritage		0.0	9	75.0	3	25.0		0.0		0.0	12	0.0%
White - British	77	2.3	1790	53.6	1457	43.6	8	0.2	8	0.2	3340	5.2%
White - Irish	1	2.2	23	51.1	21	46.7		0.0		0.0	45	0.1%
White and Asian	13	2.0	363	54.8	287	43.3		0.0		0.0	663	1.0%
White and Black African	9	1.2	393	54.4	318	44.0	1	0.1	2	0.3	723	1.1%
White and Black Caribbean	15	1.7	430	48.6	438	49.5		0.0	2	0.2	885	1.4%
gypsy/roma	3	2.3	105	82.0	20	15.6		0.0		0.0	128	0.2%
Grand Total	1081	1.7	35740	55.4	27425	42.5	144	0.2	72	0.1	64462	100%

January School Census, 2020

In the 2011 Census, Newham had the largest proportion of non-white, non-British ethnic groups in the country. Around 93% of children and young people were from these groups; the largest proportions were of Bangladeshi (18%) and Black African (16%) origin. However, the vast majority (85%) of Newham’s 0-15 year olds were born in the UK. This diversity is also expressed in terms of faiths. In the 2011 Census, 40% of the population said they were Christian, 32% Muslim (2nd highest figure for a Muslim population of a borough in the UK) and 9% Hindu, with the rest of the population members of other faith groups or with no religious affiliation. Newham is also an area of high mobility.

Figures from 2011 census

Religion	Number of people	Percentage
Christian	123,119	40%
Muslim	98,456	32%
None (includes agnostics, atheists)	29,373	9.4%
Hindu	26,962	9%
Non-stated	19,775	6.4%
Sikh	6,421	2.1%
Buddhist	2,446	0.7%
Other	1,090	0.3%
Jewish	342	0.1%



Newham Census 2011

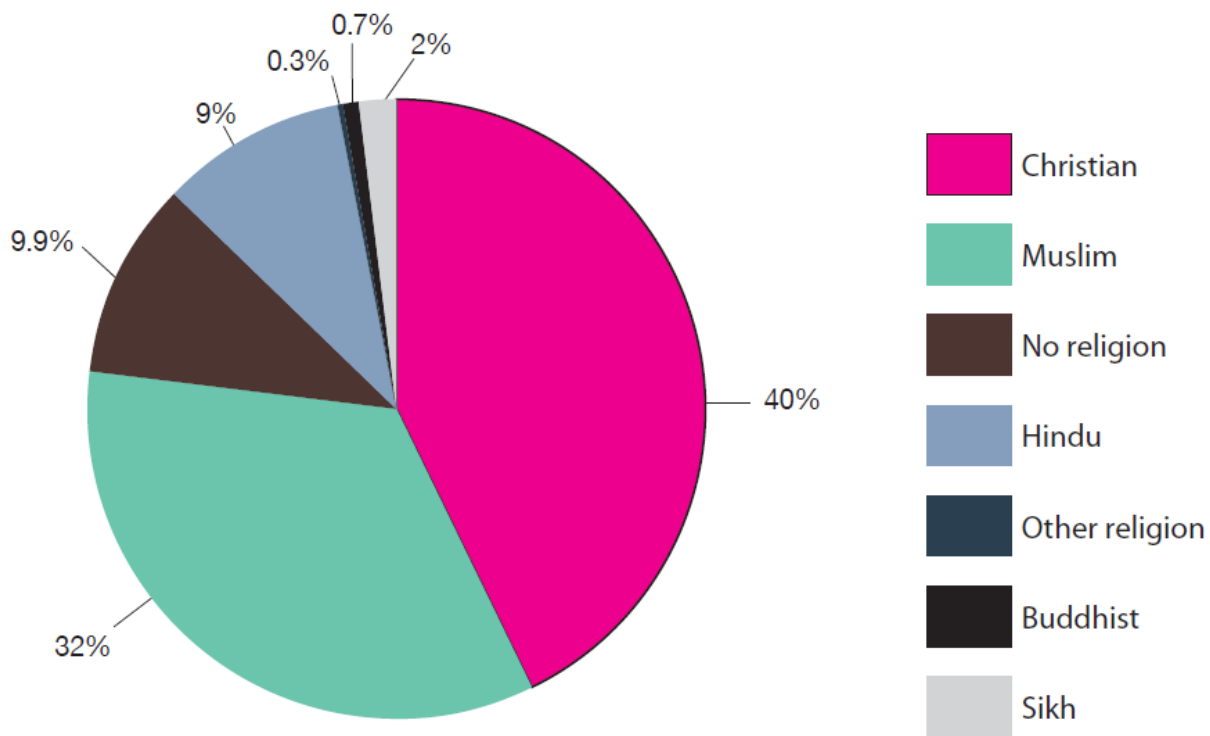
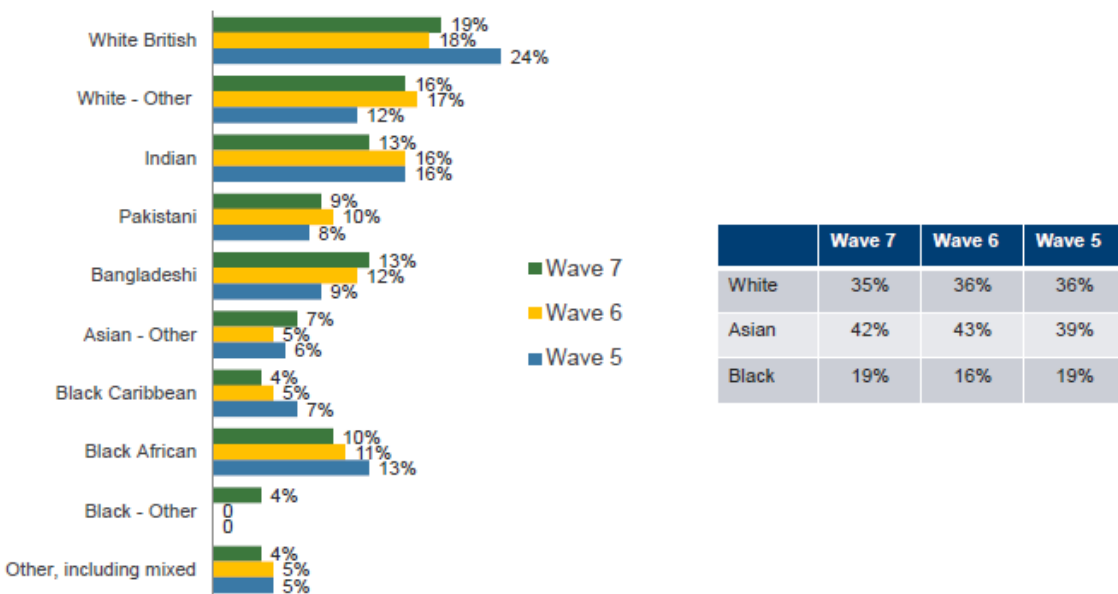


Figure 4.2 – Profile of Newham residents by ethnic group



Base: All; Wave 7: (1,019), 13 May - 2 September 2013; Wave 6: (1,153), 18 April - 28 June 2011; Wave 5: (1,485), August 2007 - February 2008

Similarly, religious affiliation has not changed significantly, over four-fifths of residents (83%) regard themselves as belonging to a particular religion, which is far higher than both the London (61%) and the national averages (52%). Just 17% say they have no religion. Christianity is still the largest religion in Newham (37% residents say they are Christian), followed by Islam (32%) and Hinduism (10%). (Taken from Understanding Newham 2018)

1 Advice to Statutory bodies

1.1 Within Newham, advice is available to schools in three forms, through:

- the SACRE RE consultant;
- regular CPD opportunities for RE and a collective worship course run by RE Matters and
- SACRE documents being sent electronically into every school.

1.2 The RE consultant to SACRE has given advice to the local authority on a number of occasions in 2019/2020. Some of these have fallen into assistance with parental objections to a part of the school curriculum on the basis of religion. The meetings often have to unpack cultural rather than religious objections, offering a great learning experience for parents as well as school leaders.

A large part of work for SACRE, and the RE consultant in particular, since March 2019 has been the new advice given to schools around Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). Schools have requested SACRE and the RE consultant to lead on how this statutory advice should be implemented in Newham schools. The RE consultant and the Newham RSHE advisor (along with one of our borough training schools) won a bid in February 2020 to train schools across North-East London and the East on the DfE ‘train the trainer’ programme. This has given the RE consultant a chance to share good practice around faith/student-sensitive RSHE to schools in Newham and in the surrounding areas.

The consultant sent out SACRE’s advice on Ramadan and fasting in schools for Muslim pupils, which was received well by schools and shared through NASACRE with over 20 other local authorities nationally. The consultant has also provided training for local faith leaders on the content of the RE syllabus, as well as hosting school visits to their places of worship.

1.3 The SACRE short film on the value of RE is now available to watch online at <https://youtu.be/JD-G24cNiAw>. It celebrates the role of SACRE, faith leaders, teachers and pupils in working together successfully in a local area to ensure high quality RE.

2 Standards and quality of provision of Religious Education

2.1 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 Qualifications 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)

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Looking to national standards the Joint Council for Qualifications 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)

2.2 Attainment in RE

Schools continue to make use of the Agreed Syllabus levels from 2016 in assessing pupil's 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.

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

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

Total Inspections	12
Nursery Inspections	1
Primary Inspections	9
Secondary Inspections	1
Special school	1

Comments within Ofsted reports about RE, culture and diversity:

Nursery, Infant, Junior and Primary Schools:

- Odessa: Pupils have regular opportunities to learn about and celebrate events from different cultures. Examples include Diwali and Chinese New Year. These opportunities help pupils understand and respect people with differing beliefs and customs.
- St Luke's: Religious Education (RE) and collective worship provide important space for personal reflection on the person of Jesus and life's big questions about meaning and purpose. The RE curriculum reflects the vision of the school in terms of its focus on Christianity and its inclusion of religious diversity. Parents, many of whom are Christian, said that it is important to them that the school embraces all religions and diverse cultures. The introduction of 'Understanding Christianity' resources has deepened pupils' thinking about the key concepts of Christianity. This is evident in written outcomes, in teaching, in the school environment and when speaking with pupils. They can discuss their ideas showing the respect that is expected as one of the school's values. RE creates a safe space in which pupils can both agree and disagree with others. They understand that RE is about similarities and differences and how, for some people, faith is a help in their everyday lives. Their own social action demonstrates the idea of love in action but does not always show an understanding of deeper ethical and moral motivations
- Upton Cross: Leaders recognise the importance of broadening pupils' horizons. They make sure that pupils learn about different faiths and cultures.

2.3 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 1 pupil has been withdrawn from collective worship from a total of 63,149 pupils. This means that 99.99% of pupils are in Newham RE lessons, and 99.99% of pupils are in acts of collective worship.

Primary

RE

	Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
No. of schools	18	41	1	0
Percentage	30%	68%	2%	0%

Secondary

RE

	Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
No. of schools	4	9	1	0
Percentage	29%	64%	7%	0%

From monitoring schools needs, Newham SACRE has discovered that secondary schools want to work further on upskilling non-specialist teachers who are now teaching RE. One school has asked for support, as they have changed to everyone sitting GCSE examinations in RS, in how they upscale to teaching the whole year group. Primary schools highlight their need for training around monitoring pupils’ progress in RE. The LA will seek to provide some CPD around these areas for schools in 2021.

2.4 Withdrawal from RE

There were 13 pupils withdrawn from Religious Education in 2019-20. This sustains our low figures over the last ten years and SACRE believes this flows from the authorities emphasis on inclusion, and the hard work of schools to explain the purpose of RE and the importance for all pupils to receive education about other’s beliefs. We are grateful to local faith leaders being prepared to go into schools and talk about this issue directly with families from their own religion to support understanding around the purpose of RE in our area and keep everyone, as far as possible, receiving RE.

2.5 Complaints about RE

There have been no formal complaints received about RE from any Newham schools during 2019-20.

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. The new Newham Agreed Syllabus was published in September 2016, building on the success of our last syllabus. We started the process of reviewing our agreed syllabus in January 2020. This was then placed on hold in March 2020 due to COVID 19.
- 3.2 SACRE is also delighted that virtually all free schools and academies within Newham have chosen to adopt the Newham Agreed Syllabus. 2019-2020 was spent supporting schools to deepen subject knowledge in Judaism and Humanism, along with a focus on the new Ofsted framework inspections.
- 3.3 SACRE decided in June 2020 to allow schools to teach a recovery curriculum, if they wanted to, in the autumn term 2020, due to schools returning from lockdown. The RE consultant worked on providing materials and support to schools in order to help teachers lead discussions around important themes. See appendix 3 for further details.

4 Collective worship

- 4.1 Compliance with the statutory requirement

Collective Worship has been reviewed and monitored in Newham through the collection of relevant data from schools, which has shown:

At Primary:

Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
17	42	2	0
28%	69%	3%	0%

At secondary:

Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
4	9	1	0
29%	64%	7%	0%

From this data it can be seen that 95% of schools judged, using our Newham criteria, that their acts of collective worship were good or outstanding.

From the LA's monitoring of schools we know that 1 pupil has been withdrawn from Collective worship from a total of 63,149 pupils. This means that 99.99% of pupils are in acts of collective worship.

- 4.2 Determinations: There were no requests for a determination from schools in 2019-2020, and there were no renewals.

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Complaints about collective worship: there were no complaints received by the LA or SACRE about collective worship in 2019-20.

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.

Chart of SACRE attendance 2019-2020

SACRE	Role	09/10/2019	06/11/2019	05/02/2020	18/06/2020	07/10/2020
Aisha Sheikh	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Akhter Raouf	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Alexia Charalambous	Guest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Y
Asma Hussain	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chetna Gandhi	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Claire Clinton	Officer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Councillor Aisha Siddiqah	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Councillor Canon Ann Easter	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Councillor James Beckles	Vice-Chair	Y	apol	apol	Y	Y
Councillor Joshua Garfield	Member	apol	apol	Y	Y	Y
Councillor Pushpa Makwana	Member	n/a	n/a	Y	Y	Y
Councillor Julianne Marriott	Guest – lead cabinet member for education	Y	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Edward Hoyle	Member/Deputy Chair	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Elicia Lewis	Member	n/a	apol	Y	Y	Y
Erin Docherty	Officer					Y
Georgina Neal	Officer		Y		Y	
Gillian Striesow	Member	Y	apol	You	Y	Y
Imam Khalil Laher	Member	Y	apol		Y	apol
Jo Mathias	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Jo Sell: Newham RSHE advisor	Guest	Y	Y	n/a	n/a	Y
Kishor Varsani	Member	Y	apol	apol	Y	Y
Marie Hardie	Chair	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Mariyam Ahmed	Student SACRE chair		apol	apol	Y	Y

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SACRE	Role	09/10/2019	06/11/2019	05/02/2020	18/06/2020	07/10/2020
Matthew Portal	Officer	Y	apol	Left	Left	left
Ms Ellen Kemp	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Pat McFarlane	Member	Y	apol	apol	Y	Y
Puja Roudh	Member	Y	apol	apol	Y	apol
Rakesh Samplay	Member – Police faith officer	n/a	n/a	n/a	Y	Y
Rafiq Patel Minhaj Ul Qur'an	Member	Y	apol	apol	Y	apol
Rev Christina Asinugo	Member	Y	Y	apol	Y	apol
Rev Rob Ryan	Member	Y	apol	apol	Apol	apol
Rev Susan Lucas	Member	Y	Y	apol	Apol	apol
Ross Paton	Officer	Y		Y	Y	Y
Ruth Everett	Member	Y	Y	apol	Y	Y
Saquat Ali	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Sarah Heath	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Shah Muhmud	Council Staff	Y	apol	Y	Y	
Sharmin Ali	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shirley Fortune/Antonella Burgio	Secretary	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Surinder Singh Jandu	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Susanna Harskamp	Guest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Y
Tanarum Afshan	Member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Venerable Makure Mangala	Member	Y	apol	Y	Y	Y
Yael Callaghan	Member	apol	Y	apol	Y	Y

5.2 Membership and training

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

In 2014 we created a 'buddy' system for all new members of SACRE. This has meant that new members had someone to sit with at meetings, and a point of contact outside of meetings with any issues they wanted to explore further. As a SACRE, we have always given new members the NASACRE booklet that explains their role on SACRE. This is no-longer available to purchase as all the resources are available on-line at the NASACRE website. The clerk has given all members of SACRE the username and password so these can be accessed by members.

In November 2019 we did some SACRE training for all members about their role on SACRE and how they can help us at meetings.

5.3 Complaints about RE and Collective worship: There have been none received.

5.4 Meetings

As is the usual SACRE practice, we held our three meeting in three different venues to reflect the main three groups who make up Newham SACRE. We also had a fourth meeting as we wanted to work with schools, faith communities and the LA on advice around teaching of RSHE. We held our June meeting virtually, with it being live streamed on the LA's YouTube channel. This has ensured that SACRE has continued to be active and discharge its responsibilities fully.

October 2019	Stratford Town Hall
November 2019	Dockside Newham
February 2019	Ramgarhia Gurdwara
June 2020	Virtually

6 Contribution of SACRE to wider Local Authority agenda

6.2 What SACRE has contributed to other agendas

Newham Council – Two of our Members are involved wider in the Local Authority. Ellen Kemp is a Member of Newham Councils Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission while Councillor James Beckles is also Cabinet Member for Crime and Community Safety

Governors Forum – Ellen Kemp is on this, and often represents SACRE along with other members. She also is chair of Newham's Governor Association.

Newham has set up annual neighbourhood and faith groups around the borough, bringing the religious and non-religious community together. Many SACRE members are part of these conferences and continue to support project work outside of these meetings, trying to build community cohesion.

We have had Shah Muhmud (Newham's Community Engagement coordinator), Claire Clinton (SACRE consultant) and Rakesh Samplay working with the LA to help support faith groups during COVID 19 lockdown. From this work, the LA now has action plans in all departments that involve religion and worldviews as part of the plans for the development of work within the LA. This is an exciting development. A Forum of Faiths has been set up and has been launched.

6.3 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 Newham have a voice in the decision making and policies of the council. The chair of the student SACRE group sits on the young mayor's council board with a brief on health and wellbeing.

6.4 SACRE's contribution to support schools through events and training

Five SACRE members have visited a number of schools in 2019-2020 to observe RE and Acts of Collective Worship taking place in Newham schools.

SACRE members have made contributions to initial teacher training by coming to sessions run by Claire Clinton, the SACRE consultant, to talk to trainee teachers about their religious practices and beliefs.

Many SACRE members have hosted school visits to their places of worship throughout the year. SACRE members have also gone into schools to lead collective worship times as well as being a school faith visitor.

Local

SACRE maintains a link with RE Matters (run by the SACRE RE consultant), which provides termly network meetings for all Newham schools on RE, as well as a number of continuing professional development days throughout the academic year (NQT training for RE; ITT primary and secondary SCITTs; Junior and Infant RE conference days; collective worship training; SMSC advice; visit a place of worship database and competition). RE Matters runs a student SACRE group, between the secondary schools, who meet half termly, and whose chair sits as part of the young mayor's cabinet in Newham, as well as being members of the adult Newham SACRE group.

RE Matters also provides whole staff twilights training events, lesson modelling and advice around RE, CW and SMSC to Newham schools.

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

6.5 Links to broader community initiatives

Newham SACRE is a part of NASACRE and the LA consultant is a member of AREIAC, NATRE and the NASACRE executive.

Achievements by SACRE members

During the year, individual SACRE members made significant contributions not only to RE within the local community but also within a wider arena. Examples included:

- Student SACRE worked with adult SACRE members to investigate questions about ecology, religion & worldviews. Student SACRE gained a small grant from Hockerill Education trust that allowed them to make some films on what different religions and worldviews believe about how people should treat nature and the world. They then went on to work with an artist to create some artwork around what they wanted to say to the world on this issue. Films that the students created can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxCJaWkAyrq&list=PLBm9k0V6w4-VHT0Tlt30q0y3Vr5Z6TApk>
- We reviewed and published up-to-date advice on Ramadan to schools in Newham.

7 SACRE arrangements

Professional and administrative support

During the year 2019-20, three LA officers supported SACRE professionally and administratively:

- Claire Clinton as professional RE consultant;
- Matthew Portal as the Local Authority link office, and
- Shirley Fortune/Antonella Burgio as clerk to SACRE.

Finance: The sum of **£17,772.16** 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, refreshments, printing and postage for all SACRE. (These figures break down to: £1550 for the clerk to SACRE; printing £135.90, and catering for meetings: £389.40; NASACRE membership £95; RE Advisor consultant £15,399.86; postage £42; NASACRE conference and travel £160).

Membership of Newham SACRE 2019-2020

Church of England panel

Ruth Everett
Rev. Christiana Asinugo
Ms Ellen Kemp
Rev Sue Lucas
Rev Rob Ryan

Ross Paton/Erin Docherty
Rakesh Samplay

Clerk to SACRE

Mrs Shirley Fortune
Mrs Antonella Burgo

LA panel

Councillor James Beckles,
Saquat Ali (LA Governor rep),
Councillor Joshua Garfield
Councillor Aisha Siddiqah
Councillor Pushpa Makwana
Councillor Canon Ann Easter

Other faiths panel

Kishor Varsani (Hindu)
Yael Callaghan (Jewish)
Edward Hoyle (Humanist) Vice Chair
Raffiq Patel (Sufi Muslim)
Surinder Jandu (Sikh)
Ahktar Rouf
Funke Oham (Free Church)
Gillian Striesow (Methodist)
Venerable Mangala (Buddhist)
Asma Hussain (Shia Muslim)
Puja Roudh (Sikh)
Imam Kahlil Laher (Sunni Muslim)
Sharmin Ali (Sunni Muslim)

Teacher panel

Chetna Gandhi
Elicia Lewis
Marie Hardie Chair
Aisha Sheikh,
Pat McFarlene
Taranum Afshan
Jo Mathias
Stephen Madigan
Sarah Heath

Student SACRE chair's and vice-chair's

Maryam Ahmed

Local Authority lead officers

Claire Clinton
Matthew Portal
Shah Muhmud

Appendix 1: Review and analysis of Monitoring RE and CW information from schools in Newham

In March 2020, schools were asked to fill in a self-assessment form on Religious Education and Collective Worship. From the information given back from schools we have found out that:

There were 63,149 pupils in Newham schools in January 2020 from Reception to Year 12. 13 pupils were withdrawn from RE and 1 pupil from collective worship across our secondary and primary schools, a very low figure. 99.99% of children are not withdrawn from Religious Education and Collective Worship in Newham primary schools.

99.99% of students are not withdrawn from Religious Education, and 99.99% are not withdrawn from Collective Worship in Newham Secondary Schools. In Religious Education, 3 pupils are withdrawn at secondary and 10 pupils at primary. In Collective Worship no pupils are withdrawn at secondary and 1 pupil at primary.

Schools work very hard at keeping children within both of these aspects of schools' life, and we feel these figures show the success of our agreed syllabus working in our local community.

Within the monitoring form, schools were asked to assess their provision. Below the table shows the figures given.

Primary

RE

	Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
No. of schools	18	41	1	0
Percentage	30%	68%	2%	0%

Collective Worship

	Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
No. of schools	17	42	2	0
Percentage	28%	69%	3%	0%

Secondary

RE and Collective had the same results this year

	Outstanding	Good	Needs attention	Inadequate
No. of schools	4	9	1	0
Percentage	29%	64%	7%	0%

SACRE will seek to work with those schools expressing a need for support in RE and CW during the next year.

Appendix 2 SACRE priorities for 2020

Key:	 Task completed
	 Task to do
	 Task started

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
1	Annual report produced	<p>February 2020</p> <p>January 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>March 2020</p> <p>April onwards 2020</p> <p>Sept 2020</p> <p>Sept 2020</p> <p>December 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss GCSE, and AS exam analysis in meeting from 2019 Annual report Publish 2019 anonymised report to schools & on LA website Review schools survey at February SACRE meeting 2019, and pass new draft for sending out to schools RE Advisor to e-mail RE subject leaders new 2020 monitoring forms, and ask for monitoring survey to be completed by July 2020 RE Advisor to collect returns from schools RE Advisor to write Annual report from September 2020, ready for review at SACRE October 2020 meeting RE Advisor to liaise with LA data team to get 2020 GCSE, A/S exam analysis for RE September 2020 Send final Annual Report 2020 to DFE and NASACRE – December 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both the LA & SACRE will know that they are discharging their legal duty to produce an annual report by 31.12.20 LA & SACRE will have an overview provided on the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus in schools and school needs around RE and CW 	Total cost of this work to be met from Adviser’s commissioned time budget, paid by LA
2	Membership of SACRE	Feb 2020 On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE advisor and SACRE members to suggest new recruits: ongoing Ensure each panel is quorate Work with Mayoral office for new appointment of councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a good breath and diversity of faiths established on Newham SACRE SACRE as far as is possible is representative of Newham population 	No cost implication
3	Supporting good RE in schools	January 2020 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members should visit at least one school to see RE lessons in 2020 – on-going Consider new ways in which SACRE can support excellent RE in Newham schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members develop a vision and ownership for how SACRE can support good RE in schools Members visit local Newham schools get a better understanding of what good RE looks like 	No cost implication

Newham SACRE Annual Report 2019-20

No	Priority	Date	Process	Outcomes	Cost/resource implications
4	Links to best practice in RE and CW	January 2020 January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure RE consultant to keep SACRE and LA up to date on legal issues: LA employed Claire Clinton to ensure this is done for 12 months • Provide finances for consultant and SACRE member to attend National SACRE AGM May 2020 and London meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfil legal requirement to have a SACRE running correctly • Reflect on best practice from other authorities and use in Newham 	Funding for 25 days work by CC, to be secured for 2020
6	Develop our New Agreed Syllabus	January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a teacher review group and set meetings dates to work on units during spring and summer terms 2020 • Do a survey with teachers (RE leaders at primary and secondary schools) around what they like or don't like about our present AS, and ideas for anything they want included in our new review • Share results from survey with SACRE • Build upon Barbara Wintersgill's Big Ideas in RE, as well as Exeter University's work on aspects of RE – ensure Newham AS is up to date • RE advisor share plan for work with SACRE to ensure everyone is happy with the plan going forward • Have an agreed syllabus conference in Nov/Dec 2021, where the text of the new syllabus is agreed • Work with LA and design team to forward plan AS being ready for going into school's spring 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfil legal requirements to have an up to date AS • Reflect on best practice nationally as we develop our present AS • Ensure teachers voice is central to the process 	Funding secured from LA for this extra piece of work

Celebrating Diversity!

SACRE statement on recovery after lockdown Information for Autumn term 2020

SACRE is mindful of all the pressures on schools and teachers as they return after the pandemic. They met on 18th June and discussed what schools should do with their Religious Education (RE) curriculum in the Autumn term. This has led to a conversation with the LA and this statement.

SACRE are clear that as schools welcome more pupils back, RE has an important role to play as it seeks to support pupils to:

- make sense of the world they have experienced
- ask and consider big questions and responses from a range of people
- process and form their own views and opinions

For the Autumn term 2020 SACRE wants to emphasise to schools that it is their legal duty to provide RE for all pupils from the age of 4-19 as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. SACRE wants to allow schools to decide what they do for the **content** of their RE for this term. It may be that schools would like to use their RE time to give pupils time to discuss their thoughts and process their emotions as we collectively come out of lockdown and deal with issues that have arisen in children and young people's lives.

SACRE would suggest that schools who would like to do this consider using their RE time to explore ideas and beliefs around:

- Loss
- Life after death
- Hope
- Suffering
- Big questions like a consideration of 'Where was God during Covid19?' or 'Why do bad things happen to good people?'
- Issues around justice and discrimination

SACRE believes this gives schools the flexibility they may need during the Autumn term to meet the challenges of operating in new and different ways as schools come back together once more.

Schools can of course continue to teach our Newham RE Agreed Syllabus during the Autumn term.

From Spring term 2021 SACRE and the LA would expect all schools to return to teaching the Newham Agreed Syllabus.

