



**London Borough
of Hounslow**

Hounslow SACRE Annual Report 2012-2013

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Foreword and Summary

By the Chair of SACRE

Foreword and Summary

Every year SACRE receives applications for the renewal of a determination. This means that a school decided some years ago that the religious make-up of the school meant that the legal requirement to have mainly Christian worship had been deemed by the governors to be inappropriate for that school.

SACRE is the only body which can give permission for a school to do something different. After five years that permission, called a determination, lapses and the school must re-apply if they wish to continue in the way that they have previously managed.

It is not a legal requirement to consult parents but it is cited as best practice and in Hounslow the SACRE insists that must happen. Parents that were around when the original determination was granted may well have left and we feel that it is right and proper that current parents are consulted as to their wishes.

SACRE's vigilance has proved to be an important protection for schools because for the last few years some newspapers have used freedom of information requests to try and prove that schools are disregarding parental wishes. In Hounslow we have been able to prove that is not the case and we will continue to emphasise the importance of involving parents.

SACRE is an interesting and diverse body which is also our strength; our meetings and events are lively and challenging. We continue to be indebted to our excellent professional adviser, Lesley Prior and for the outstanding clerking service which the council provides.

Liz Wolverson
Chair of Hounslow SACRE

ANNUAL REPORT OF HOUNSLOW STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2012 - 2013

1 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1.1 Agreed Syllabus

At the SACRE Meeting on 11th November 2009, members decided that a revision of the Agreed Syllabus had become necessary and voted to institute an Agreed Syllabus Conference.

The first Meeting of the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) was held on 10th February 2010. Further Meetings of the ASC were held on 7th June 2010, 20th October 2010, 8th February 2011 and 15th June 2011.

The text of the current syllabus was agreed on 15th June 2011. It was issued to schools as a CD Rom and is also available via Hounslow Virtual Education Centre www.hvec.org.uk

1.2 Standards in RE

SACRE used to monitor standards in RE by carrying out an annual analysis of Ofsted reports. In 2012-2013, SACRE members continued to regret the fact that current Ofsted arrangements make it extremely difficult for them to carry out this statutory duty, as the necessary evidence is no longer available. SACRE members therefore sought other ways in which to monitor standards in RE, such as an analysis of results of public examinations in RE.

In previous years, examination results for all schools in the Authority were included in this report with such an analysis. In 2012-2013, SACRE members agreed that the difficulties encountered in obtaining accurate and reliable data rendered this analysis ineffective.

The Annual SACRE Sixth Form Conference for RE provides opportunities for teachers and SACRE members to gather qualitative feedback about standards in RE. This feedback is reported to SACRE in the autumn term.

1.3 Religious Education Achievement Programme (REAP)

From 1st September 2001 the REAP course was available as a statutory means of fulfilling the Key Stage 4 requirements of the revised Agreed Syllabus. Schools were able to adapt the course to meet local needs. Schools were responsible for standards and certification and the Authority offered a framework of support, advice, training and assistance with moderation in order to maintain consistency in the award of grades.

However, changes to the provision of support for RE in 2012-2013 and the requirements of the new agreed syllabus mean that REAP is no longer used in the majority of schools. The syllabus makes it clear that RE should be taught to all pupils (unless they have been withdrawn from the subject by a parent or guardian), regardless of whether or not they are studying for a public examination.

2 IN-SERVICE TRAINING: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

2.1 Short Courses

The Authority no longer offers a basic programme of in-service training.

In particular, SACRE noted with regret that for the first time, there have been no termly meetings for Subject Leaders for RE in primary and special schools.

However, during 2012– 2013, SACRE funded the following training session which was free of charge to delegates from all Hounslow schools, including those representing academies:

- **Implementing the Revised Agreed Syllabus for RE**

This course was held at Hounslow Civic Centre on 27th September 2012 and run by Lesley Prior, formerly Adviser for RE in The London Borough of Hounslow and Independent Consultant for RE, supporting Hounslow SACRE.

Participants were given opportunities to:

- consider their understanding of the role, nature and purpose of RE as set out in the syllabus
- devise ways of formulating a question-led approach to RE
- develop strategies for ensuring rigorous assessment in RE

Newly Qualified Teachers

SACRE was pleased to note that all Newly Qualified Teachers in Primary Schools continue to receive some input on RE as part of the Authority's induction programme for teaching staff.

All Newly Qualified Teachers in RE Departments in Secondary Schools are also offered advice, help and support but this is no longer funded by the Authority.

3 COMPLAINTS

No complaints on either Religious Education or Collective Worship were referred to SACRE for investigation in the year 2012 – 2013.

4 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

4.1 Determinations

At the SACRE Meeting on 26th June 2013, Spring Grove Primary School was granted a determination in relation to Collective Worship.

SACRE Members have been issued with a list of criteria to be used when considering applications for Determinations or renewals of Determinations (see appendix A).

A list of schools which have been granted Determinations will be found in Annex B.

4.2 Determination Renewals

No determination renewals were pending during the academic year 2012-2013.

5 MATTERS REFERRED TO SACRE

Hounslow SACRE has not received any complaint about either RE or Collective Worship.

No other matters were referred to SACRE for consideration in the year 2012 – 2013.

6 LINKS WITH OTHER BODIES

The Hounslow SACRE is affiliated to The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). Lesley Prior, SACRE Consultant represented the Hounslow SACRE at the NASACRE AGM and Conference in Birmingham on 23rd May 2013. Full details and copies of the relevant presentations can be found at: <http://www.nasacre.org.uk/events/2013-05-23/annual-general-meeting-2013>

Lesley Prior, SACRE Consultant for RE, became Chair of NASACRE at the AGM. Lesley is also a member of AREIAC (Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants) and former Chair of the London/South East Regional Groups of AREIAC, a member and former Chair of the Shap Working Party on World Religions in Education and a member of the RE Council of England and Wales. Lesley Prior represents England on the European Forum of Teachers of RE (EFTRE). She is in regular contact with

the Chief Adviser for RE at Ofsted and other key members of the RE community.

Lesley Prior is also Senior Lecturer in RE at Roehampton University. She regularly contributes to the Primary and Secondary PGCE programmes and a range of other Initial Teacher Training courses at Roehampton University, the Secondary PGCE in RE at The Institute of Education, University of London and other courses in various academic institutions. She is a member of the Association of University Lecturers in RE (AULRE).

In 2012-13, Lesley Prior's role as RE Adviser to Community Schools for the London Diocesan Board for Schools has also enabled her to work with teachers and other staff within the Authority as well as in other areas of the country.

7 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

On 29th January 2013, SACRE members and others gathered at the Civic Centre in Hounslow to commemorate those who suffered in the Holocaust and all other victims of prejudice and oppression.

This year's theme was '**LESSONS LEARNT?**' The event, hosted by the Mayor, was well attended and very moving. The guest speaker, John Dobai, spoke with great dignity of his experiences and how he had been affected by them. The event included profound moments of reflection. It was noted that there were many young people in attendance.

Basil Mann (Group A) once again played a vital role as part of the organising group for this event. Members thanked him for his contribution and also agreed that it was good to see so many people from SACRE present to support it.

8 ANNUAL LECTURE

The thirteenth Hounslow SACRE Annual Lecture took place to coincide with the official launch of the newly revised Locally Agreed Syllabus on 27th September 2012. The lecturer was Alan Brine, Chief Adviser for RE at Ofsted.

Alan has been involved as a learner, teacher, lecturer and adviser in RE for many years, working mainly in the Hampshire region. Since 2002 he has been an HMI and is currently Ofsted's specialist adviser for RE. Most recently, he was the author of Ofsted's major reports on RE 'Transforming Religious Education' (2010) and 'Making Sense of Religion' (2007) and also working on their successor which is published in autumn 2013.

Alan was an extremely insightful and well informed speaker. During his talk

he shared with us the latest research by Ofsted in relation to Religious Education. This was of enormous relevance to individual schools, but also very timely for Hounslow SACRE as the Local Authority formally launched its revised agreed syllabus. Please see below the presentation:



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9. ACADEMIES

At the SACRE Meeting on 29th February 2012, members discussed the place of RE in Academies and whether or not teachers from Academies could or should be members of Group C. It was noted that whilst Academies are not obliged to follow the Locally Agreed syllabus for RE, they do have an obligation to provide RE and Collective Worship. At present, all Academies in the London Borough of Hounslow are following the Locally Agreed Syllabus for RE and members hope that this will continue to be the case. It was agreed that teachers from Academies could continue to be members of Group C on SACRE, provided that their school is using the Locally Agreed Syllabus and that their membership of SACRE is supported by the appropriate Unions.

10. SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE

The Conference took place on 14th June 2013 at Lampton School and was attended by over 120 Sixth Formers. The young people represented a wide range of religious and secular belief systems. They came from several schools:

- Brentford School for Girls
- Cranford Community College
- Heston Community School
- Kingsley Academy (formerly Hounslow Manor School)
- Lampton School

The theme for the day Focused on the key question: **‘IS THERE A PLACE FOR GOD IN THE 21ST CENTURY?’** The conference was an opportunity for young people to explore this question through various ways which enabled them to interact with each other. They were encouraged to think critically and explore new ideas.

Participants were joined by members of our local communities. The conference also included an address on the place of religion in contemporary society by Dr Hugo Whately. Over the past few years Dr Whately has taught at both primary and secondary schools in East London and now works in Bristol. He has been Head of RE at a Grammar School and at a Comprehensive in Redbridge, where he sat on the teacher's committee of SACRE. Dr Whately has contributed to teacher training and MA courses at the London Institute of Education and King's

College, where he completed his doctorate in the Philosophy of Education. He has published in REsource, RE Today and The Journal of Beliefs and Values.

The Sixth Formers then participated in a variety of workshop activities which were planned and delivered by beginning teachers from the Secondary PGCE in RE at The Institute of Education, University of London.

Evaluations clearly show that once again, the day was a tremendous success. Particular thanks must go to Rachel Lawrence (Group C) and her colleagues at Lampton School for hosting such a worthwhile event and to Jane Savill (Group B) who is the Subject Leader for the Secondary PGCE in RE at The Institute of Education, University of London. Their commitment and enthusiasm made this event possible.

11 CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

In 2012 - 2013 SACRE bade farewell to several members. Their contributions to the work of SACRE are much appreciated. Fiona Lewis, Gurdial Jandu and Steve Line all have played vital roles in promoting the work of SACRE and enhancing the quality of RE and CW in schools across Hounslow. We are pleased to announce that Steve Line will remain with the Hounslow SACRE however as a new member of Group B.

12 SACRE CONTACT OFFICERS 2012 - 2013

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13 MEETINGS

Meetings of SACRE were held on:

- Wednesday, 21st November 2012
- Wednesday, 6th February 2013
- Wednesday 26th June 2013

The SACRE Executive Committee met on:

- 9th October 2012
- 9th January 2013
- 14th May 2013

14 SACRE MANAGEMENT

Ms Elizabeth Wolverson (Group B) continued as Chair and Ms Susan Roberts (Group D) continued as Vice Chair. The following Convenors were in post at the end of the academic year 2012 - 2013.

Group A (Faith Communities)

Convenor: Mr Sarup Singh Mahon (Sikh)

Group B (The Church of England)

Convenor: Ms Liz Wolverson

Group C (Teachers)

Convenor: Mr Steve Line (Lindon-Bennett School)

Group D (Local Education Authority)

Convenor: Ms Susan Roberts

**LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW LA STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2011-2012**

MEMBERSHIP

Group A: Christian and other religious denominations reflecting the principal religious traditions in the area.

Buddhist	<i>Vacancy</i>
Free Church	Isabel Tayler
Free Church	Alan Crabtree
Hindu	Haresh Vyas (November 2011)
Hindu	<i>Vacancy</i>
Jewish	Basil Mann
Muslim	Humaira Saleem (February 2012)
Muslim	Imaan Iftikhar (resigned February 2012)
Orthodox Christian	Gregory Wolcough (February 2012)
Pentecostal Christian	Maf Cavill
Roman Catholic	Tressz Paczek
Sikh	Ranvir Singh
Sikh	Sarup Singh Mahon (Convenor)

Group B: Church of England

Reverend Rosemary Hoad
Jane Savill
Elizabeth Wolverson (Chair)

Group C: Teachers

Eileen Crabtree
Sumita Kalisperas
Rachel Lawrence
Fiona Lewis (resigned June 2012)
Steve Line (Convenor)
Heather Sullivan
Jenny King (retired February 2012) / Magda Winiarczyk (February 2012)
Mehmoona Yousaf

Group D: LEA Representatives

Gurdial Jandu (resigned February 2012)
John Leeson (Humanist)
Susan Roberts (Convenor) (Vice-Chair)
Alamdard Hussain Shah
Councillor Peter Thompson
Councillor Peta Vaught (resigned June 2012)
Councillor Liz Hughes (June 2012)

Officers: Lesley Prior, Adviser for RE
Frances Nwanodi, Committee Clerk

**SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE BEEN GRANTED DETERMINATIONS
IN RESPECT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP:**

SCHOOL	EXPIRES
Alexandra Infant and Nursery	17 th November 2014
Alexandra Junior	17 th November 2014
Berkeley Primary	8 th November 2016
Andrew Ewing Primary	17 th November 2014
Chiswick Community	7 th June 2015
Cranford Infant and Nursery	17 ^h November 2014
Cranford Junior	17 ^h November 2014
Cranford Community	15 th October 2013
Grove Road Primary	15 th October 2013
The Heathland	15 th June 2016
Heston Community	7 th June 2015
Hounslow Heath Infant and Nursery	17 ^h November 2014
Hounslow Heath Junior	17 ^h November 2014
Hounslow Manor	17 ^h November 2014
Lampton	17 th November 2014
Norwood Green Infant and Nursery	17 th November 2014
Norwood Green Junior	17 th November 2014
Orchard Primary	17 th November 2014
Springwell Infant and Nursery	17 th November 2014
Springwell Junior	17 th November 2014
Wellington Primary	14 th November 2014

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING DETERMINATIONS

- Consultation with School Governors
- Consultation with Parents
- Collective Worship Policy
- Current Practice
- Statistics for Faith Make Up of the School
- Legal Requirements Met
- Monitoring