

SALFORD SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2013-2014.

The Locally Agreed Syllabus

Salford's most recent Locally Agreed Syllabus came into force in September 2011, having been launched in May 2011. The main focus of the new syllabus has been on **how** religious education should be taught and less on **what** should be taught. The syllabus aims to provide high quality teaching and learning in Religious Education through guidance on progression, enquiry-based approaches and linking RE to other subjects and cross-curricular issues.

Salford's involvement as a key partner in the Greater Manchester RE Collaborative has helped to support the embedding of the principles and materials of the syllabus. Although funding for this collaborative came to an end in March 2013 Salford's primary 'hub teacher', Kindra Belcher (Monton Green Primary School), has continued to liaise with colleagues from Manchester, Stockport, Tameside and Trafford local authorities and also to provide guidance and materials for RE teaching in primary schools across the city.

Further explanation of the content and rationale of the Salford syllabus can be found at www.salford.gov.uk

Support for maintaining standards in RE

For the whole of the 2013-14 academic year, support for RE in Salford was provided by a consultant, funded for eight days per year by Salford Council. This consultant support was provided by Steve Illingworth. This involved supporting teacher network meetings, leading training sessions on RE for schools, reporting to SACRE, helping to organise events such as Holocaust Memorial Commemorations, monitoring provision and standards in schools and leading on the implementation of a new syllabus. This support from an independent consultant will continue for the school year 2014-15.

Additionally, the primary RE hub teacher for Salford has provided extra resources for supporting the maintenance of standards (see above). Although the hub teacher has not been expected to report directly to SACRE on a regular basis, she has liaised with the consultant in this respect and has provided ongoing specialist support to colleagues in schools. The funding (from Greater Manchester Challenge) for the RE hub teachers expired in the summer of 2013, but it was agreed that the funding for one of the consultant days (see above) should be diverted to Monton Green Primary School to cover any costs incurred through the work of the school's RE co-ordinator in her wider role across the Local Authority.

Professional Development 2013-14

Professional development in RE has continued to be a strength in 2013-14, especially in the primary sector. Salford's continued involvement in the Greater

Manchester Collaborative gave its teachers access to another regional RE conference in Manchester in July 2014, at a generous rate.

The regular Primary RE co-ordinators network meeting has continued to be well attended, with nearly 30 different schools being represented at these meetings. There has been some whole school training for RE in primary schools in 2013-14, particularly in schools that had not received the initial training provided for the 2011 syllabus. Additionally, there has been regular liaison with RE co-ordinators to provide customised support for their school.

Individual support to RE subject leaders in Salford secondary has been provided regularly by the consultant, on many different aspects of teaching and learning.

Membership issues

At the end of the 2012-13 academic year, a local humanist group made a presentation to Salford SACRE to apply for membership. This application was debated at the SACRE meetings in October 2013 and March 2014, with SACRE voting to accept a humanist representative as a non-voting member.

GCSE Results for 2013

Numbers entered for the GCSE Full Course in RE in 2013 were down slightly on the 2012 figure but not significantly. The percentage of pupils across Salford gaining A*-C grades in the Full Course increased from 63% in 2012 to 69% in 2013. This figure of 69% is very close to the national average of 72% and represents a pleasing three year trend (as shown in Appendix 1).

Numbers entered for the GCSE Short Course in RE saw a slight decrease in the number of entries and a slight increase in the overall percentage of pupils gaining at least a Grade C (see Appendix 1 for further details).

Two years ago, Salford SACRE members asked for examination results trends to be shown over a three year period in the annual report, as well as a more detailed breakdown of the most recent results. This is presented in Appendix 1.

Complaints concerning RE

There have been no complaints concerning RE.

Determinations

There have been no applications for determinations during 2013- 2014.

Complaints concerning Collective Worship

There have been no complaints received about collective worship.

Links with other agencies

Salford SACRE remains a member of NASACRE although circumstances meant that the body was unable to send a delegate to the 2014 annual conference.

The consultant hired to serve SACRE has continued to develop links with the Trans-Pennine AREIAC, reporting back to Salford SACRE on various matters.

There are strong links with the Jewish Board of Deputies and Salford SACRE meetings include regular feedback from members who have attended the conferences of this group.

At a local level SACRE has links with the Salford Schools Forum and the Salford Council Equalities and Community Cohesion Team. This cohesive approach has been particularly evident in the collaboration around the annual Holocaust Memorial events.

Links with other Greater Manchester authorities on syllabus collaboration and implementation have been described above. Salford SACRE's involvement in Greater Manchester hub teacher meetings has been maintained throughout 2013-14 by the primary RE hub leader, including involvement in the RE Conference organised by this group in July 2014 (see above).

National Holocaust Memorial Day

From 2006 to 2011 Salford SACRE played a big part in organising the city's annual commemoration of The Holocaust. Since 2012 the main responsibility for the public memorial event passed from SACRE to the city council's Equalities and Community Cohesion Team. This was mainly because the educational advisers and administrative assistants who had previously done this work were no longer employed directly by the council. The 2014 event was held at Broughton Community Centre on 28 January 2014. Salford SACRE made a substantial financial contribution to the staging of the event.

Last year's annual Salford SACRE report commented on discussions about encouraging more involvement from young people at the Salford public event commemorating the Holocaust. A substantial amount of the Salford SACRE budget is dedicated to Holocaust commemoration and it was felt that the 2013 event, although a moving and well-presented programme in its own right, did not reflect sufficiently SACRE's core aim of promoting good quality religious education. In this respect, it was felt that the January 2014 event had been a significant step forward. Young people from Salford's Roma community, educated in Salford high schools, gave a talk on their ancestors' involvement in the Nazi persecution of this community. Also, a

large number of pupils from Moorside High School in Salford delivered a drama performance, based on a workshop they had done with an educational theatre company around the theme of Kindertransport. This workshop had been funded from Salford's SACRE budget.

The schools' event for Holocaust Memorial Day, featuring presentations by a Holocaust survivor and the son of a survivor, was hosted for the third year running by Irlam and Cadishead College (an 11-18 high school). A large number of Year 9 from Irlam and Cadishead College were present, plus a class from St. George's RC School and a class from Wentworth High School (since re-named Ellesmere Park High School). Other schools were also interested but understood that space was limited and that they would have a chance to attend other similar events in future.

Professional and Administrative Support

Throughout 2013-14 Salford SACRE was supported by an administrative officer and by an independent educational consultant employed by the council for 8 days per year (see above for explanation of arrangements).

Finance

The SACRE budget covers basic running costs, allows members to represent Salford at national conferences and contributes towards Salford's Holocaust Memorial Events. This budget was maintained for the school year 2013-14. Additionally, as explained elsewhere, the council has agreed to fund eight days a year for an educational consultant to support the work of SACRE and intends to continue with this arrangement for the academic year of 2013-14 at least.

There was a debate at the Salford SACRE meetings in 2013-14 about funding for RE, both at local council and school level. Some research was undertaken with primary schools in particular, revealing generally that RE co-ordinators were satisfied with the funding for the subject in their schools. Further research would be undertaken with secondary schools when possible. There were also debates about the funding for SACRE's work in general. The overall feeling was that the current budget was just about sufficient for existing needs, especially in the light of financial cutbacks across the city, but that further funding may be sought for the development of the new RE syllabus to be introduced in 2016.

Summary

This has been a productive year for Salford SACRE, particularly in terms of developing and re-establishing stronger links with other partners in the council and in the local community. Good links have been maintained with Salford schools, enabling SACRE to gain a good indication of local developments and providing good quality support and advice for teachers of RE in both primary and secondary schools.

Appendix 1

GCSE results 2013

The following chart shows the number of pupils entered for GCSE Full Course Religious Education in 2013. The percentage of pupils gaining each grade is given as well as the percentage gaining grades A*-C

	Entries	A*-C	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	X
National	210372	72%	10%	19%	23%	20%	11%	7%	5%	3%	2%	0%
Salford Local Authority	581	69%	7%	17%	24%	21%	16%	7%	5%	3%	0%	0%
All Hallows RC High school	27	67%	0%	4%	7%	56%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Harrop Fold School	15	13%	0%	0%	0%	13%	33%	7%	40%	0%	7%	0%
Oasis Academy: MediaCityUK	20	45%	5%	10%	15%	15%	30%	15%	5%	5%	0%	0%
Salford City Academy	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
St Ambrose Barlow R C High School	142	76%	5%	21%	30%	20%	13%	6%	4%	1%	0%	0%
St George's R C High School	107	63%	3%	10%	21%	29%	16%	10%	5%	6%	1%	0%
St Patrick's R C High School	175	71%	7%	16%	29%	19%	15%	6%	5%	3%	0%	0%
The Swinton High School	41	59%	2%	12%	29%	15%	17%	17%	2%	5%	0%	0%
Walkden High School	46	96%	37%	46%	13%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Wentworth High School	7	100%	0%	29%	29%	43%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

The following chart shows the number of pupils entered for GCSE Short Course Religious Education in 2013. The percentages of pupils gaining grades A*-C and A* to G are shown.

GCSE Short Course Religious Education, 2013	A*-C	D-G	U,X
All Hallows RC High school	29	52	14
Buile Hill High School	4	28	14
Harrop Fold School	1	0	0
Irlam & Cadishead Community High School	16	3	5
Oasis Academy: MediaCityUK	0	1	0
Salford City Academy	7	44	3
St Ambrose Barlow R C High School	5	2	1
St George's R C High School	0	9	2
Wentworth High School	1	0	0
Total	63	139	39

Salford RE GCSE Results – Trends over three years

Entries

	2011	2012	2013
Full course	685	626	581
Short course	406	249	241

Percentage passes at Grades A* to C

	2011	2012	2013
Full course	60.1	63.1	69.0
Short course	33.5	24.1	26.1

Appendix 2

Membership of the SACRE

Committee A

Christian Denominations and Other Religions and Religious Denominations

J. Michelson (Jewish Community)
17 West Meade
Prestwich
Manchester
M25 OJD

Alexander Klein
(Jewish Community),
3 Lancaster Drive
Prestwich
M25 0HZ

Isobel Phillips (Roman Catholic)
12 Barff Road
Salford
M5 5FS

Mrs Pat Wilson (Methodist)
25 Orient Road,
Salford
M6 8LB

Committee B

Church of England

John Wilson
Manchester Diocesan Board of Education,

Reverend Daniel Burton

Reverend Kim Wasey

Rose O’Gara
Headteacher
St Paul Peel CE Primary School

Committee C
Teachers Association

NASUWT
Anne Broomhead
24 Grange Road
Eccles
M30 8JQ

PAT

NUT

Committee D
Local Authority

Councillor Brocklehurst
Councillor Compton
Councillor Dawson
Councillor Mold
Councillor B Ryan (Chair)
Councillor R Wilson
Councillor A Humphreys

Officers

Steve Illingworth (educational consultant)

