

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Annual SACRE Report 2021-2022

(Sep 2021-Aug 2022)

Contents

- 1. Introduction & Overview**
- 2. Statutory Responsibilities in RE**
- 3. Statutory Responsibilities in Collective Worship**
- 4. Links with other bodies**
- 5. Local Involvement**
- 6. SACRE arrangements**
- 7. Appendices**

1. Introduction and Overview

We have had a year of uninterrupted education but the academic year 21-22 has not been without its stresses and strains. The causes being the lack of staff because of people still getting Covid, having to make up in some part for two years of interrupted education and having to welcome children into our schools from war torn countries.

BCP SACRE continued to have its Autumn and Spring meetings virtually but our June meeting was a face to face one. We are still short of a few members on Committee A but we have been quorate for all our meetings.

Before I sent out the annual letter about Ramadan to head teachers this year, I asked members of the Muslim community to look at the letter and a few changes were made because of their input. It was sent to all headteachers and also Heads of RE departments. The feedback that I had after Ramadan from the members of the Muslim community was very positive. I would like to praise one school in particular, Twynham School in Christchurch. The schools under the guidance of Karen Baker the Head of RE, working with the SLT and all heads of department, put together to really positive response, including a place where their Muslim students could prayer during the day. Karen gave a presentation about this at our annual conference and hopefully this good practice will be replicated in other schools for Ramadan 2023.

We have spent great deal of time this year in discussions about reviewing our Syllabus. A questionnaire was sent to all schools about the present syllabus and we had responses from 18 schools. These showed an emerging picture of a mixture of responses about how the BCP Council syllabus was being used in particular schools and areas teachers wanted identified for attention as part of the review. At our meetings it was confirmed that contribution from schools and from teachers would be a key and essential part of the process including particularly the SEND sector and input from Christchurch schools who were not within the BCP Council area at the time of the previous review. There were clearly a wide range of issues to address with the objective of agreeing a syllabus which provided useful but not too detailed guidance and which reflected the way that the school environment was evolving.

The council asked interested parties to tender for the rewrite of the syllabus and I am very happy that this went to Jan Lever MBE. Jan is known to quite a few local teachers as she used to work Poole. As I am writing this report I know that Jan is working very hard to produce a working document for discussion with all interested parties on September 14th. I have seen the draft document and she has done an incredible job, taken on board the responses to the questionnaire, what came up at our Annual RE teacher's Conference and new trends in the teaching of RE.

We decided to have our conference at Merley House this year and it was so lovely to be face to face once again. We invited Justine Ball to give a presentation on her MA research project: An approach to decolonising teaching about Jesus in primary schools. This was received very well and gave lots of food for thought. The rest of the conference was dedicated to the rewriting of our syllabus and the Jan lead on this. After her keynote speech we went into breakout rooms, lead by our teachers representatives on SACRE, in which teachers and SACRE members were encouraged to say what they wanted taken out and to added to our new document. This was all fed back to Jan in afterwards.

The afternoon started with a session by David Rees, our SACRE RE advisor and Trevor Willis from St Edwards School on The Worldview approach to teaching RE.

At our March meeting I talked about the number of pupils that were in and going to be coming into our schools as refugees and suggested that we should think about getting some of our BCP schools to consider becoming Schools of Sanctuary. One of our Winchester Diocese representatives on SACRE

Rev'd Dr Ian Terry agreed to be the local lead for Schools of Sanctuary. At the conference Megan Greenwood the Schools of Sanctuary Coordinator spoke to us via the internet and Ian followed this up by saying what he thought was get the way forward. I sincerely hope that it will be reported in the next annual report that this project has got off the ground.

The whole day was very fruitful and well organised thanks, not only to the staff at Merley House who with the SEND interns who contributed to the catering looked after us really well, but to Georgie Pinder our LA officer, Robyn Gough, the planning team of our teacher reps and David Rees our RE advisor.

We have decided that our new Agreed document will be launched in January 2023 and there will be continued work on developing resources to support the teaching of our new agreed syllabus.

50% of the support material is hopefully going to be ready by the end of November and will be shared at the launch conference in January

We have had a busy year and September 2022 to July 2023 is likely to be even busier, but with the continued support of David Rees, Georgie Pinder, Julie Colman, Robyn Gough, Bob Hanton our clerk and all the BCP SACRE members we will get there.

Lynda Ford-Horne

Chair of BCP SACRE August 2022

2. Statutory Responsibilities in RE

Our Locally Agreed Syllabus (LAS) is well-established in most of our schools, and some academies have also adopted it although SACRE recognises that it needs to find out more about how much it is adhered to. With this in mind SACRE distributed questionnaires as part of the syllabus review process. The questionnaires helped inform the direction and content of the new syllabus as well as recognising a shift in approaches to RE which have occurred since the last syllabus. SACRE recognises that communications with schools were carefully managed during the pandemic to ensure that support was offered whilst not wishing to overburden already stretched teachers and leaders with paperwork and requests. Now the systems are fully restored SACRE is picking up the communication levels and will continue to offer the appropriate guidance and support.

We are due to produce a new LAS in 2023. The process has begun in earnest under the expert leadership of Jan Lever and her teams of consultants working closely with BCP LA representatives and BCP teachers. It will be a fully co-operative endeavour.

In 2021-22 we continued to monitor and support the teaching of RE regularly, whilst being mindful of the difficulties faced by schools post pandemic. SACRE chair Lynda Ford-Horne is a frequent visitor to schools where she is often requested to run sessions on Judaism. We have teacher representatives from Key Stages 1-5 and SEND schools. The teacher reps are involved in running teacher networks and a padlet has been set up to provide information and regular updates.

We did not receive any information about withdrawals from RE this year.

SACRE is not aware of any REQM awards this year but is keen to promote the REQM. The professional adviser is an assessor and often includes information about the REQM to teachers through the termly newsletter. Hopefully when the REQM website is refreshed the map will help us identify local schools who have been through the award process.

SACRE also supports RE teachers and leaders in schools by producing a newsletter every term. These newsletters are produced by the RE Adviser and are a combination of local and national events, cpd opportunities, new resources (particularly free ones) and feedback from events (for example NASACRE AGM and Strictly RE).

3. Statutory Responsibilities in Collective Worship

Schools were working remotely for much of the previous year, and we were not able to monitor their ability to provide Collective Worship apart from some anecdotal evidence. SACRE is aware of the need to monitor collective worship and has been actively trying to engage

with local religion and worldview communities to provide appropriate speakers to help schools hear the lived experience and lead reflections.

SACRE produced some advice and guidance on Collective worship in the form of a document which was sent to all schools two years ago. Since then, Christchurch has joined the SACRE so it was decided to send the guidance out to all schools in the next term. This guidance had information on what collective worship is and isn't, theme suggestions and guidance for and about how to involve external speakers. SACRE hopes that with 'a return to normality' external speakers can once again be welcomed into schools to offer their experiences and share reflections..

It has not been necessary to renew any determinations during this year. (A determination is permission for a school to provide daily collective worship which is not 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'.) We have not considered our Determination Process in recent years.

4. Links with Other Bodies

BCP SACRE has links with other SACREs as some members sit on other SACREs like Wiltshire and Dorset. The SACRE adviser also works with other SACREs in the Pan Berkshire area and is able to build connections which can benefit SACRE and teachers through the arranging of virtual CPD and conferences. Even when the pandemic situation eventually allows the world to open again it is hoped that these virtual connections will continue allowing us to make the best of opportunities provided to collaborate and share cpd.

SACRE includes and values membership of NASACRE in our budget each year, the adviser tries to attend the AGM and conference, making sure to rollout materials and feedback to SACRE at the next SACRE meeting. SACRE adviser David Rees helps SACRE stay in touch with recognised RE lead organisations like RE Online and the chair regularly informs on the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust and inter-faith initiatives. Links to other organisations are actively being sought and SACRE members are encouraged to investigate local and national contacts. We have recently made diversity and equality a standing agenda item and have been inviting speakers in form the LA and external service providers to speak to SACRE. This will be extended and further outreach will be made.

5. Local Involvement

Recently SACRE has discussed further utilising the religion and worldview representatives on SACRE to engage with teachers through RE CPD. Local teacher conferences in the summer term regularly include inputs from Muslim, Jewish and Humanist representatives. This will hopefully be continued as we are planning another teachers conference in January 2023 to tie in with the launch of the new agreed syllabus. Although the BCP area has limited diversity there are many opportunities which will be developed through contacts with

other SACREs and virtual link ups with members of religion and worldview communities known to SACRE members and teachers..

6. SACRE Arrangements

As mentioned above, David Rees continued to serve as our Professional Adviser. David is a member of AREIAC and NATRE and was the editor of the REOnline website and newsletter until August 2021. BCP SACRE is ably supported by the Council and especially the LA officer, Georgie Pinder. Lines of communication are always open and SACRE is confident that the good working relationships will remain.

All four membership groups are regularly represented at meetings, and there were no issues with quoracy this year. We made efforts to recruit a wider range of faith representatives, with some success, further attempts will be made to reach out to fill vacancies

Committee		First Name	Surname
A	Baha'i	Rob	Lawton
(from 03.20)	Buddhist	Sally	Badgi / Knight
	Free Church	Resigned with effect 27 Aug 2020 Nigel	Ford
	Hinduism	Bharati	Joshi
	Humanist	Sally	Hawksworth
	Islam	Replaced from March 2021 Hammadi	Nait-Charif
	Muslim	Ibrar Replaced from Oct 2021 Maaria New from Oct 2021	Mohammed Kanamia
	Judaism	Lynda	Ford-Horne
	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Deneen	Kenchington
	Roman Catholicism	Peter	Thomson
	Sikhism	Jindy	Atwal
B	C of E Portsmouth	Jane	Kelly
	C of E Salisbury	Nicola	Coupe
	C of E Winchester	Ian	Terry
C	Primary	Cheryl RESIGNED June 2021	Smith
	Primary	Ruth	Lawrence
	Secondary	Karen	Barker
	Secondary	Ian	Harris
	Secondary	Trevor	Willis
	SEND	Vincent	Saunders

D	Councillor	Bryan	Dion
	Councillor	Nicola	Greene
	Councillor	Marion	Le Poidevin
Co-Opted	PACE (TBC)	Dave	Pegg
	Poole SCITT	Resigned with effect 22 Sept 2020 Alison	Harris

In the financial year beginning April 2022 SACRE was granted budget of £5000, a further figure will be provided to ensure the agreed syllabus conference has the opportunity to consult with teachers and religion and worldview leaders appropriately. SACRE is grateful for this especially as money is very tight as a result of the pandemic amongst other economic constraints.

Appendix 1 - Public Examination Results –

SACRE has reached out to schools to get these – it is becoming increasingly difficult to get this information from schools.

Appendix 2 – CPD Provided to Schools

Schools were invited to the Refresh RE conference run through the Salisbury diocese in March – this conference is cross phase and had workshops on the worldview approach, Diversity within Islam, Humanism and Decolonising the curriculum. Next year a conference will launch the new agreed syllabus.

Appendix 3 – Action Plan

See below

BCP SACRE action plan Apr 21-July 22

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Cost	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
CORE BUSINESS To be a supportive and proactive SACRE enjoying full and well-informed membership	Fill membership vacancies	Ongoing	SACRE Chair SACRE Clerk		BCP SACRE is representative of the BCP area. However, this needs to be constantly monitored		
	SACRE members attend termly SACRE meetings (3 per year) and, when possible, teacher meetings and training events	Termly SACRE meetings: Autumn 2021 Spring 2022 Summer 2022	SACRE Chair/SACRE Adviser SACRE members SACRE Clerk	SACRE Adviser to prepare and attend x3 SACRE meetings a year SACRE Clerk to administer each meeting LA officers/ Adviser time	Wednesday 13th October 2021	Wednesday 9th March 2022; DR cannot attend – please can we change?	Wednesday 15th June 2022.
	Produce annual SACRE Report	Autumn Term 2021	SACRE Adviser and clerk with foreword by SACRE Chair	SACRE Adviser x1 day (includes draft and revisions)	New format – NASACRE training 7 Oct 2021 Draft this term	Completed brought to SACRE - Send to NASACRE by Dec 2021	
	Review the action plan at each meeting and discuss updates	At each SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser and SACRE	SACRE Adviser time	At each SACRE meeting	At each SACRE meeting	At each SACRE meeting
	Subscribe to NASACRE Representation at annual NASACRE conference & AGM Attend other relevant and useful events	Ongoing	SACRE clerk SACRE Adviser & G Pinder Adviser to find out and inform	Subscription £105 <i>SW SACRE conference fee and advisor time</i> <i>NASACRE Conference & AGM</i> - SACRE Adviser time to attend NASACRE conference?	Subscription rate £105	SW SACRE conference – March 2022 <i>DR to attend?</i> <i>feedback to network and SACRE</i>	NASACRE AGM 2022 Birmingham (should we be represented?)
	Review the Locally agreed syllabus and the 5-year cycle	Ongoing – syllabus review 21-22	SACRE	Extra funding usually allocated to allow proper consultation process	Update at each SACRE meeting ASC dates set?	Update at each SACRE meeting	Update at each SACRE meeting
<i>To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE learning in their schools.</i>	<i>Provide a RE teachers and leaders conference</i>	<i>Summer 2022</i>	G Pinder & possibly SACRE Adviser	Possible Adviser time - Speaker costs - Venue hire etc.	Discussed at meetings – will it be face to face?		June/July 2022
	<i>Make connections with RE leaders through networks</i>	Ongoing	SACRE teacher reps with support	<i>C Smith/R Lawrence Adviser time if needed.</i>	Either establish SACRE run networks or reach out to existing networks – these could be virtual – could involve Hub.		

	3. Collate and Distribute a termly newsletter	Termly	SACRE Adviser – SACRE members to offer suggestions	Adviser time	Sept 2021	Jan 2022	April 2022
	4. <i>Subject Leader Training CPD sessions</i>	<i>Yearly?</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Could be held once a year</i>		