

# Southampton SACRE

## Annual Report: August 2023-July 2024

### 1. Chairs Introduction & Context

It has been my privilege to continue to chair Southampton SACRE this year.

Reviewing the constitution has been a priority this year, ensuring other world views have opportunity to be represented within group A. There has also been some changes in membership - we formally thank those members who have stepped down over this period and hope for their continued support to gain new members in their place.

We do still have some gaps in membership, but have begun to work more closely with Southampton Council of Faiths which hopefully over time will enable our membership to broaden.

Throughout the year, we have worked on ensuring we have robust systems in place – an induction process to support new members of SACRE and for monitoring of RE and collective worship in schools. In the coming year we are looking forward to re-establishing a pattern of monitoring visits.

A highlight for SACRE this year has been a member who is a primary school RE lead giving a presentation as to what RE looks like in practice in her school. This gave us the opportunity to better understand and see the impact of some of the revisions from our latest agreed syllabus.

### 2. Advice to Statutory Bodies

#### i. Local Authority

Implementation of reviewed Locally Agreed Syllabus: Living Difference IV. The locally agreed syllabus (Living Difference IV) was adopted at the Agreed Syllabus Conference held in November 2021. During this period of reporting, the SACRE has provided advice on the implementation of the syllabus to the Local Authority. It has been able to ensure that high quality advice is available to schools in several ways:

- SACRE officers have made face to face visits to a small selection of primary and secondary schools during this period. Reports on these visits are regularly made to SACRE.
- SACRE officers have continued to work with heads of department in secondary schools and subject leaders in primary schools through Subject Network meetings.

#### ii. Schools

Where appropriate, information and guidance has been distributed to schools over the past year. This has included several elements including updates on local religious events and signposts to continuous

professional developmental materials. Advice and support also offered through local Secondary RE network – supporting events with members to meet and work with pupils on specific activities.

### iii. Local Community/ Wider Interests

South Central Hub – Southampton SACRE members attend and participate in this group

Southampton Council of Faith (SCOF) chair and vice-chair have begun to attend as co-opted member place on SACRE with the aim to connect the work of the two bodies where it is relevant to. SCOF have been working with SACRE and LA to establish a CPD provision for schools covering all faiths represented in Southampton. This continues to be developed and show promise with schools showing willing to support

Portsmouth and Winchester DBE – the professional adviser is a board member representing Southampton LA.

### iv. Government

The annual report was submitted as expected within the statutory duties and guidance.

### v. Response to advice given

The LA, through the professional advisor, has worked with the Chair of SACRE to create an induction process to support new members to SACRE. There is also work on creating robust systems for monitoring. This includes training members of SACRE to ensure there is greater knowledge of the syllabus, but also of how schools deliver RE and CW within schools. The professional advisor has been promoting working between RE networks, and RE leads with additional RE provisions within the city through SACRE e.g. SCOF. This has resulted in more information being passed between networks and SACRE.

NASACRE has updated reports and information which is published on their website.

## 3. Standards & Quality of provision of RE

### i. Public Exams

GCSE Results				
768 pupils were entered into an exam				
Results from 2023/24 academic year				
	4+ (Number of pupils)		5+ (Number of pupils)	
LA	74.0% (568)		64.3% (494)	
National	67.6%		n/a	
School breakdown of entrants				
School	4+ Grade	Entered into exam	Not Entered	Total Number of Pupils

1	63.6%	22	182	204
2	44.4%	9	149	158
3	54.3%	138	37	175
4	21.4%	28	185	213
5	80.0%	40	170	210
6	50.0%	26	359	385
7	70.0%	10	172	182
8	75.9%	83	157	240
9	87.8%	180	17	197
10	84.2%	203	13	216
11		0	178	178
12	86.2%	29	153	182
13		0	58	58
14		0	7	7
15		0	19	19
16		0	6	6

## ii. Quality of RE

No formal monitoring, solely undertaken by SACRE, took place during this period meaning that the SACRE were unable to confidently or accurately make any statements around the quality of the provision for Religious Education or Collective Worship from their own independent monitoring. However, professional advisors were able to advise SACRE on elements such as individual lesson delivery, collective worship and related elements after visits to school. Work with secondary subject networks helped identified areas which schools wish to develop but also highlighted the many strengths that schools within the city have in promoting and valuing RE.

## iii. Withdrawal from RE

No notifications of withdrawal have been received during the period of this report.

## iv. Complaints about RE

No complaints have been received about RE under the local statutory complaint's procedure during the period of this report.

# 4. Agreed Syllabus

## i. Review

There was no review of the Agreed Syllabus during the period of this report.

## ii. Next review

The next review process will begin during the next reporting period. This will then take 18 months and be due to complete in Spring/Summer 2027.

## 5. Collective Worship

### i. Compliance with statutory requirements

### ii. Quality of CW

The quality of collective worship seen in schools was assured through a process of discussions with schools as well as a few occasions of the advisor observing collective worship whilst working in schools. However, this is an area for development over the next reporting period.

### iii. Complaints about Collective Worship

No complaints have been received about RE under the local statutory complaint's procedure during the period of this report.

## 6. Management of SACRE

### i. Attendance at SACRE

Over the report period the following meetings were held (attendance is listed on each report):

Meeting	Agenda link	notes
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	<a href="#">Agenda for Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) on Monday, 6th November, 2023, 4.30 pm   Southampton City Council</a>	Meeting held
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	<a href="#">Agenda for Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) on Monday, 26th February, 2024, 4.30 pm   Southampton City Council</a>	Meeting held
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	<a href="#">Agenda for Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) on Monday, 8th July, 2024, 4.30 pm   Southampton City Council</a>	Meeting held

### ii. Membership & Training

Membership and training have become a focus area for SACRE over this period. Due to changes in membership, combined with the disruption caused by COVID-19, many of the members have not had access to the regular training which would benefit SACRE members. Consequently, NASACRE training has been highlighted to members and discussions between the LA advisor and the chair have been held regarding the creation of a formalised training schedule for future years to support members.

In some areas, membership posts are still unfulfilled and even some areas where members are named attendance has not been as strong as hoped. Contact has been made with several of the representatives asking for a 'second/deputy' who would be able to deputise where needed. SACRE have also approached groups where membership has been unfilled. These discussions are currently on-going.

### iii. Complaints about RE and CW

No complaints have been received about RE or CW under the local statutory complaint's procedure during the period of this report.

## 7. Members of SACRE

### STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### MEMBERSHIP August 2023- July 2024

##### GROUP A Christian Denominations\*(\* Religions and other bodies listed in the SACRE Constitution)

The Roman Catholic Church Steve Deadman

The Baptists Chris Davies (\*ASC)

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) VACANCY

The Greek Orthodox Church VACANCY

The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches Ruth Gill (\*ASC)

The Methodist Church VACANCY

The United Reformed Church Susanne Dawson

The Assemblies of God Neil Maddock

The Salvation Army Matthew Stone

##### *Other Religions*

Religions other than Christianity (as listed in the SACRE Constitution) –

Baha'i, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism = 6

Baha'i Elizabeth Jenkerson(\*ASC)

Buddhist VACANCY

Hindu VACANCY

Jewish

Muslim Imam Sayfullah

Sikh VACANCY

South Hampshire Humanists Mary Wallbank, (full member from November 2022)

Southampton City Mission:

**GROUP B (Four representatives of the Church of England)**

Lucy Heptinsall (\*ASC)

Liz Allen (\*ASC)

Vacancy

From diocesan education team:

Richard Wharton (\*ASC)

**GROUP C (Six teachers representing associations recognised by the Authority for the purposes of consultation and negotiation)**

National education Union (NEU) Amelia Day (\*ASC)

The National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) Suzanne Underwood (\*ASC)

Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) VACANCY

National Association of Head teachers (NAHT) Sian Carr (\*ASC)

**GROUP D (4+substitute) - Four representatives of Southampton City Council, at least two of whom shall be elected members of the City Council at start of report, changes can be found in minutes)**

Cllr Kataria

Cllr Baillie (J)

Cllr Bunday

Cllr Laurent

GROUP D SUBSTITUTE

**OTHERS (Non-voting) CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

Professional adviser Alison Philpott (\*ASC) & Silas Bingley (Since February 2024)

Southampton City Mission, Ellie Cousins when moved into Group A in-year (\*ASC)

Southampton Council of Faith Chair David Vane Summer 22 , vice chair Tim Tofts

**ASC Group**

No ASC during this report period

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