



Annual SACRE Report 2015-6

The SACRE has several aspects to its role. It:

- ❖ Advises the local authority on matters relating to collective worship and religious education
- ❖ Advises on methods of teaching and resources for religious education
- ❖ Decides whether or not to grant determinations to those schools which apply to have daily worship which is other than of a broadly Christian character
- ❖ Identifies the need for a revised religious education syllabus

In principle, every pupil is entitled to RE of the highest quality... A core duty of the SACRE is to gain an overview of the quality of the RE provision in LA Maintained schools and to develop effective strategies to promote the highest standards." - National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

To help with this endeavour the Bracknell Forest Borough SACRE works with NASACRE (the National Association of SACREs) and The Diocese of Oxford and the other Berkshire SACREs.

This report sets out a brief summary of the work of the Bracknell Forest SACRE over the academic year 2015 - 2016.

The minutes of the meetings which give more detail can be found at

<http://democratic.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=157>

For more information about the role and business of the SACRE please contact:

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Adviser: anne.andrews@oxford.anglican.org 07884 65509

Introduction

The SACRE has had an inspiring year with a number of developments which will enable local schools to increase their RE knowledge, an awareness of other faiths and the common values we hold.

David Fawcett resigned from SACRE after 10 years as a member, the last 4 of which were as Chairman. We have benefitted from his consistency and focus and thank him for his contribution to its work. All has been achieved despite funding cuts and we are grateful that Bracknell Forest is able to sustain the basic funding for the time being.

The 6 Berkshire Local Authorities jointly created a pan- Berkshire SACRE hub for collaborative working. The hub was to develop collaborative working on communication and lead on the agreed syllabus review for 2018. We planned to appoint a project coordinator for our 'Crossing the Bridges' Project developed by the 2015 Conference. The purpose was to promote understanding of different places of worship through school visits. Jan Lever, our hub co-ordinator, successfully applied for a NASACRE / Westhill Award to fund the Crossing the Bridges project which will enhance our Action Plan.

A conference for teachers on the contribution RE could make to British Values was well received in Spring 2016.

Madeline Diver, Vice Chair

September 2016

Standards, quality & provision of RE

- Results of GCSE & A levels were very good and showed an improvement on last year. They are attached
- Subject leader training continues to be well attended and subject leaders make contact with the adviser outside of sessions to seek advice.
- Assessment is one of the areas in which SACRE is aware that schools may need to improve on RE and this is included regularly in Subject leader meetings.
- OFSTED reports are made available to SACRE where they make mention of RE, which is rarely and SIAMS reports are used as a useful benchmark for what can be achieved in RE.
- No complaints have been received by SACRE about either the quality or provision of RE.

Agreed Syllabus

- Preparations have begun for the syllabus review that needs to begin in 2017. The Pan-Berkshire hub co-ordinator will head up the review as part of the hub.
- The LA has been advised that funding will need to be made available in the financial year 17-18 for the review.

Standard, quality & provision of Collective Worship

- Having taken the decision not to follow up the collective worship survey from last year in the light of developments in the reports, such as the Woolf Institute report, main input to CW has been the inclusion of a reminder in each SACRE newsletter about the statutory requirement to include a daily act of CW and suggestions for good resources and websites.
- Some members of Group A on SACRE have been invited into schools to take assemblies as a result of the raised profile of SACRE.
- A recent OFSTED report mentions “stimulating assemblies” in one secondary school. In another the following paragraph is found: The school promotes pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well and tackles discrimination effectively. Pupils develop spiritual understanding through their assembly programme that includes reflection, for example, upon the values of the patron saints of the different parts of the United Kingdom. As well as a broadly Christian curriculum, other major faiths are explored and this helps to foster respect for different religions. In addition to visits to different places of worship, parents from different traditions come in to school to explain their faiths to pupils. Differences between right and wrong are discussed in lessons and each class has drawn up its own charter to support good choices and actions. In another school OFSTED said: Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted effectively. This helps to foster good relations and tackle discrimination. There is a rich and varied programme of assemblies, often centred on the school’s explicit values, including respect, courage and individuality.
- No requests for determinations have been received, nor have there been any complaints regarding Collective worship.

Advice and training offered to LA, schools & governors

- SACRE continues to offer regular training for RE subject leaders on a termly basis. This year the three sessions have covered training on the materials produced by the Pan-Berkshire hub for visiting places of worship, a workshop on age-related expectations and a session sharing resources and good practice. At each session a range of artefacts from the extensive collection has been looked at, and suggestions made as to how to use them in class. There has been an increase in the numbers of artefacts borrowed as a result. The group is linked to NATRE and the resources sent out monthly by NATRE are distributed to subject leaders.
- Progress has been made with collecting the contact details for subject leaders; this needs to continue into 2016-7.
- Advice was sent out to all schools in preparation for Ramadan. This was compiled by the adviser to SACRE and the Muslim representative from advice issued by other SACREs and the Muslim Council of Great Britain. This was sent to all head teachers in the local authority.
- A training day on RE and British values was organised in conjunction with the SACRE in Windsor and Maidenhead and RE Today. It was well attended; the Local Authority officer, the adviser and a member of SACRE were also present. Positive feedback has been received from the teachers who attended.
- The termly SACRE newsletter, distributed to all schools continues to offer advice on RE and collective worship, now in two sections to keep the distinction between them. It ensures

that teachers, governors and SACRE members are kept up-to-date with the latest developments in RE and Collective Worship

- Following a survey of secondary schools to ascertain which religions they are planning to offer at GCSE, training was also offered in conjunction with Windsor and Maidenhead SACRE on Islam. Sadly, no teachers from Bracknell Forest were able to take up the offer.
- The Local Authority has agreed to host the Crossing the Bridges materials on the schools' internal website to make it more easily accessible for all schools.
- Training in RE from the Oxford Diocese is made available to all Bracknell Forest Schools and this will continue next year.

Management of SACRE

SACRE has met three times this year: 12th November 2015

3rd March 2016

21st June 2016

- All meetings have been quorate and well attended, though again there has been some change of personnel. A new clerk was appointed by the LA for the June meeting and has engaged fully with the work of SACRE.
- One of the councillors has had to stand down from SACRE on her appointment as Mayor.
- The chair of SACRE resigned after the March meeting; the vice-chair has been acting as chair and a new chair will be elected at the autumn meeting in accordance with the constitution of SACRE. The vacancy in group B of which the chairman was a part was filled by the time of the June meeting.
- The LA has agreed to approach some of the faith groups that have not yet provided representatives to see if some of the vacancies can be filled. The unions have been contacted to provide union reps, but as yet no responses have been received.
- The LA agreed to vary the days on which SACRE is held to ensure that more people are able to attend. This has improved attendance this year.
- SACRE has continued to engage with NASACRE, again sending a representative to the AGM in London. SACRE then engaged in the activity that delegates to the conference undertook and will in due course feedback their responses to NASACRE.
- SACRE has already renewed membership of NASACRE for next year.
- SACRE has agreed to support the Pan-Berkshire hub to develop the Crossing the Bridges materials and develop a directory of all the places of worship in Berkshire that are happy to receive school visits.
- Members of SACRE attended the joint SACRE conference that launched the Pan-Berkshire Crossing the Bridges hub and also the training sessions that were offered for teachers and hosts to produce the draft materials.

Contribution to Local Authority Wider Agenda

- The key contribution of SACRE to the social cohesion agenda has been through the development of the Crossing the Bridges project. This is a project designed to enable schools and places of worship to establish better contacts and to raise the quality of visits to places of worship.
- Members of SACRE were also invited to attend the interfaith events in November and June.

- The British Values and RE conference contributed to the promotion of the Prevent Agenda as well as that of promoting British Values

Conclusion

Bracknell Forest SACRE continues to keep itself up-to-date with the latest developments in RE and all the recent reports – RE for Real, the Woolf Institute report and the New Settlement – have been distributed to all SACRE members. The difficulties of monitoring RE and CW in schools continue, as OFSTED often makes no mention of them and lack of sufficient funding makes it hard for SACRE to carry out the monitoring itself. However, the commitment of SACRE to the Crossing the Bridges Project, which should give schools valuable resources and training is an exciting development. The increased contact with schools through the training provided will hopefully create more opportunities to evaluate RE in schools. The additional training offered to the hosts in places of worship may also help to fill some of the current vacancies.

SACRE Membership and Attendance 2015-6

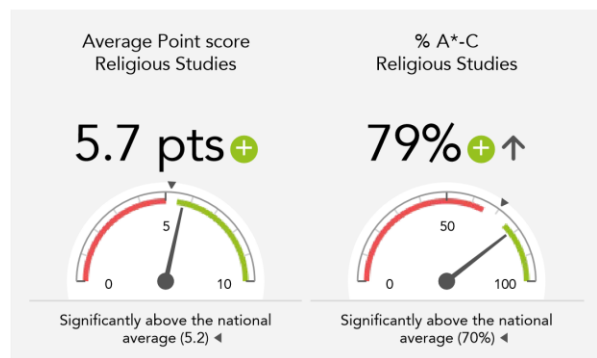
Group Represented	Name	November 2015	March 2016	July 2016
Free church	Rev Jackie Case	Yes	X	Yes
Free Church	Manfred Lemke	Yes	X	Yes
Free churches	Ken Blanton	X	X	X
Catholic	Steve Rollins	Apologies	Yes	Yes
Catholic	Chris Cooper	Yes	Yes	Apologies
Muslim	Arfan Rashid	X	Yes	Yes
Hindu		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
Buddhist		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
Sikh		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
Jewish community	Zvi Solomons	X	Apologies	Yes
Church of England	David Fawcett (Chair)	Yes	Yes	Tracey Williams Yes
Church of England	Mark Olney	Yes	Yes	Apologies
Church of England	Rev Paul Collins	Apologies	Apologies	Yes
Church of England	Carol Logan	Yes	Yes	Yes
NAS/UWT	Ben Britton	Resigned	Vacancy	Vacancy
VOICE	Madeline Diver	Yes	Apologies	Yes (Vice-chair acting as chair)
NUT		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
ATL		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
NAHT	<i>Ruth Jackson (Jan 16)</i>	Vacancy	Yes	Yes
SHA		Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
Councillor	Gareth Barnard	X	Yes	Yes
Councillor	Dorothy Hayes	X	Yes	Yes
Councillor	Moiria Gaw	Yes	Yes	Yes
Councillor	Isabel Mattick	X	Yes	Apologies
Councillor	Ash Merry	X	Yes	Resigned (appointed mayor)
Co-opted member	Kathy Hadfield	Apologies	Apologies	Yes
School Adviser	Chris Salt	Yes	Yes	Yes
Professional Adviser	Anne Andrews	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clerk	Priya Patel	Yes	Elizabeth Rich Yes	Yes

GCSE: Religious Education Results 2014-6

Overview

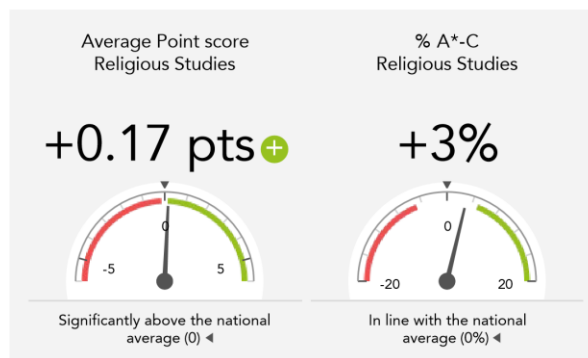
LA KS4 Attainment 2016 · Actual results

Religious Studies · 302 pupils



LA KS4 Progress 2016 · Value Added

Religious Studies · 287 matched pupils

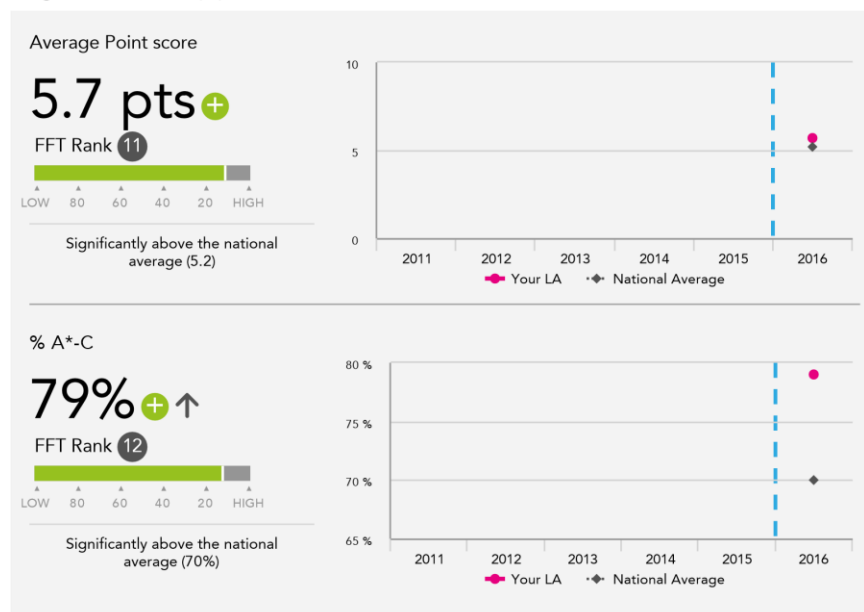


LA KS4 higher and lower performing schools 2016 Religious Studies

Attainment & progress

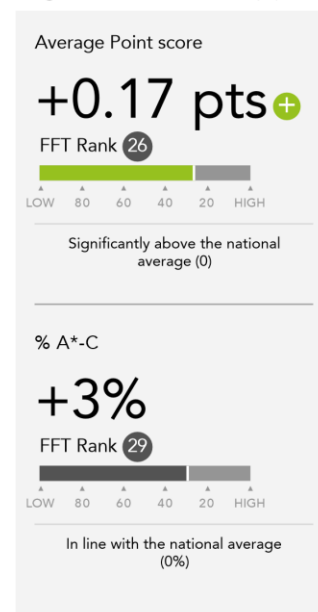
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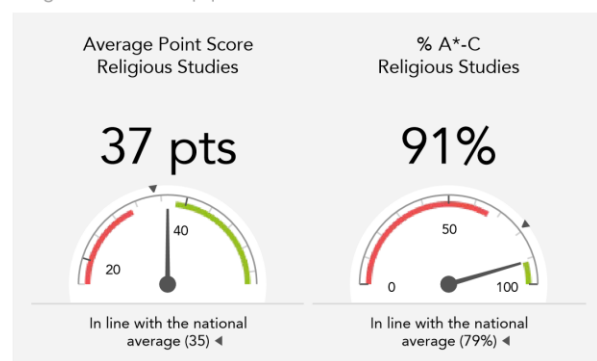
LA KS4 performance summary Religious Studies

A Level RS results

Overview

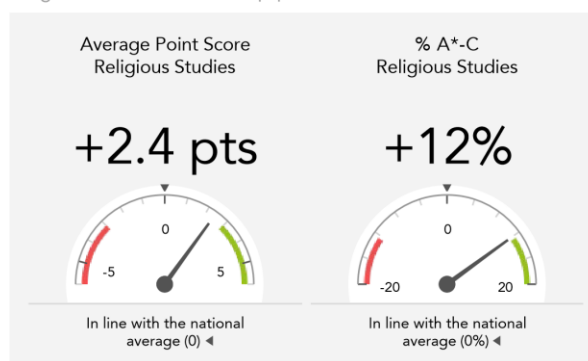
LA KS5 Attainment 2016 · Actual results

Religious Studies · 44 pupils



LA KS5 Progress 2016 · Value Added

Religious Studies · 44 matched pupils



LA KS5 higher and lower performing schools 2016 Religious Studies

LA Grade distribution 2016 · actual results 44 pupils

