

**The Surrey**  
**Standing Advisory Council**  
**on**  
**Religious Education**



**Annual Report**  
**Academic Year 2024-2025**

Approved by Surrey SACRE March 2026

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### I. INTRODUCTION by Sarah Harris, SACRE Chair



It is with great pleasure that I present our annual report; the year has not been without challenges but we continue to move forward ensuring we give all pupils in Surrey schools the very highest quality Religious Education possible. SACRE has continued to support teachers with curriculum advice and support including a training session for new primary R.E subject leaders. The Ofsted review 'Deep and Meaningful' has highlighted what we knew already; that teachers often lack curriculum knowledge to teach R.E. and this is an area we are planning to improve as we move forward.

SACRE should represent the major faith communities in the County and we have been very fortunate to have Dr. Suha Rawhani join us from the Bahá'i Community. Sadly Rosslyn Doney, who was a teacher representative on SACRE for many years and latterly the Baptist representative, has had to step down. Her deep knowledge and commitment to Religious Education and to children will be greatly missed. We have also welcomed some new teachers to Group C, ensuring that the reality of school life and the voice of children and young people remain at the heart of what we do.

Last year we reported that it had not always been possible to fulfil all our statutory functions because we were not always quorate. I'm pleased to report that this issue has largely been resolved over the last year and it is important to recognise the commitment of each of the groups that make up SACRE, but particularly the teachers who join us at the end of their working day.

Two major challenges are approaching, the most immediate is local government re-organisation. We have discussed as a statutory body how we hope to go forward together and we are awaiting the outcome of the plans of the implementation team.

The second challenge is the government's curriculum review. Part of the discussion will be the possibility of incorporating R.E. into the National Curriculum; this will also involve changing the nature of SACREs, and how they support schools locally: however this is potentially an exciting development!

What ever happens in the next twelve months, I hope this report demonstrates that we are in a strong position to go forward. This would not be possible without the hard work and commitment of our adviser Rachel Boxer, our clerk Liz Mitchell, and the hard work of all Surrey teachers.

**Sarah Harris**

**Surrey SACRE Chair, and Jewish member of Group A**

**March 2026**

## Contacts

If you have any issues which you would like to raise with Surrey SACRE, please contact Sarah Harris, SACRE Chair, or Rachel Boxer, Associate RE Consultant, and Adviser to SACRE via Liz Mitchell, Clerk to SACRE, by email at: [SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk)

### I.1 SACRE Meetings and Attendance

All meetings of Surrey SACRE took place in hybrid format (on Zoom or Teams and in person at Church House, Guildford) during this academic year, in order to maximise attendance, but allow those who wanted to meet face to face to be able to do so. Minutes of these meetings can be accessed from Surrey SACRE's webpages: [Surrey SACRE - Diocese of Guildford \(cofeguildford.org.uk\)](https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk)

#### 2024-25 Member Attendance at SACRE meetings (excluding Officers):

All meetings were quorate during this academic year. There were also several changes to membership of the SACRE during the year, especially within Group C. Member attendance has continued to be a significant concern during this academic year and will be robustly addressed during 2025-26, at the request and with the support of, the Local Authority. This will include ensuring that all members make appropriate arrangements for substitutes to attend in their absence and removal of any persistent absentees, in accordance with [SACRE's constitution](#). We are pleased to welcome a new SCC officer, Jo Kenyon, who has been appointed to work alongside the SACRE, replacing Carrie Truill.

<i>Attendance figures don't take account of any co-opted members, but are adjusted for vacancies</i>	<b>November 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 (22 members)</b>	<b>March 12<sup>th</sup> 2025 (21 members)</b>	<b>June 25<sup>th</sup> 2025 (23 members)</b>	<b>Av. group attendance across 2024-25</b>
<b>Group A – 13 (11, 2 vac.)</b>	7 (64%)	6 (55%)	8 (62%)	<b>60%</b>
<b>Group B – 4 (4)</b>	1 (25%)	3 (100%) (1 vac)	2 (67%) (1 vac.)	<b>60%</b>
<b>Group C – 6 (3, 3 vac.)</b>	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	4 (80%) (1 vac.)	<b>64%</b>
<b>Group D – 5 (4, 1 vac.)</b>	2 (50%)	1 (25%)	1 (25%)	<b>33%</b>
<b>% SACRE committee:</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>65%</b>	

### I.2 Brief Summary of Issues Raised & Discussion Points for each full SACRE Meeting:

#### Autumn term 2024:

- Addressing membership attendance;
- Approving appointment of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community representative to Group A;
- Completion of Baha'i concept map for syllabus resources;
- Results of RE survey sent to all schools via SCC Schools' Bulletin comms;
- Feedback on 'Open House' CPD events for teachers to support subject knowledge – disappointing attendance, even though the events were free;
- Updates on actions relating to Hindu Dharma resources for schools;
- Request by Wiltshire CC to purchase Surrey Agreed Syllabus for use in their schools.

#### Spring Term 2025:

- Local Government Reorganisation plans and potential impact for SACRE;
- Understanding the importance of diversity of faith and belief communities within SACRE and across Surrey;
- Focus on the Ofsted RE Report 'Deep and Meaningful?' and the implications for schools in Surrey;
- Discussions about RE and the National Curriculum;
- Presentation and ratification of the 2023-24 Annual Report;
- Assessment protocols for schools using the Surrey Agreed Syllabus;
- Impact of discussions with Jigsaw RE, who provide commercial schemes of work in our area: many schools use these – concerns re. conflict with statutory content;
- Report on SACRE development plan (2023-26) priorities, including updates from the Hindu Dharma working group on progress.

### **Summer Term 2025:**

- Introduction of new members to Group C & Baha'i member in Group A;
- Recruiting members for vacancies in Group A & request to broaden membership of Group A to include the Pentecostal Church;
- Report from monitoring sub-committee re. school website analysis;
- Challenges of communication with schools & lack of knowledge in regard to statutory compliance;
- Feedback from NASACRE Conference & AGM with key recommendations for SACREs;
- Curriculum and Assessment Review – interim report findings & implication for SACRE's work;
- Implications of SCC Unitary restructure & key issues for Surrey SACRE (which might include a 2<sup>nd</sup> SACRE!);
- Recommendation to review year 3 of SACRE's Development Plan and make adjustments in light of LGR or priorities proposed by SCC.

### **1.3 SACRE Development Plan 2023-2026**

As well as fulfilling the requirements set out in the contract for each year of the development plan, further specific priorities have been identified for each year: 7 targets, reported on annually, relate to SACRE's statutory responsibilities, which are set out annually across the three-year plan, and further targets relate to specific projects supporting schools with RE and Collective Worship. These are outlined in [7.6: Appendices](#), by year.

Specific focuses for 2024-25 were to:

- *seek to ensure that schools continue to have locally sourced, high quality resources in RE, especially relating to the lived experience of members of faith and belief communities;*
- *invest in the professional development of Primary RE subject leaders in Surrey schools, including new RE subject leaders;*
- *ensure Primary RE subject leaders are informed about local, regional & national developments in RE – and receive support for teaching the new syllabus – through the Surrey Primary RE networks;*
- *continue with 'Open House' visits across places of worship, to support teacher subject knowledge;*
- *engage with the proposed curriculum review in England;*
- *promote the relevance of RE and the worldviews approach for life in modern Britain.*

SACRE had previously made the decision to suspend visits to schools during the statutory period of revision (2022-23), and into the first year of implementation during 2023-24. The Speakers' Forum video resources are available to Secondary schools, utilising new technology to great effect to ensure that the work of SACRE continued, and linking it from the new Surrey Agreed Syllabus webpages. There is more detail about this in section **2.7 Support for Surrey Schools**. We are very grateful to the members of SACRE for their flexibility and creativity!

All the work of SACRE is undertaken with the aim of raising achievement in RE and improving the quality of teaching and learning, to improve the provision and quality of Collective Worship and to help promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including Fundamental British Values. As a body representing various religions and beliefs in Surrey, it supports inter-faith dialogue and learning about religions for the promotion of respect and racial harmony.

### **1.4 Status of the Agreed Syllabus Review**

The statutory revision period ended in May 2023, with SCC adopting the syllabus in a full cabinet meeting on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. SACRE has granted a full year (2023-24) to allow schools to make appropriate curriculum adjustments to ensure full implementation from September 2024.

## 2. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Most of SACRE's work this year has been in continuing to support schools in implementing the new Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE and reflecting on any challenges that are raised during this process, primarily through established networks. Due to a lack of attendance at Secondary Forums during 2023-24, sessions were reluctantly withdrawn for 2024-25, and consideration for future offers will form part of SACRE's discussions going forwards. Training for Primary RE subject leaders has continued to be in person and via Zoom. Recorded presentations and resources for Primary RE subject leaders to use with staff teams have also been provided as part of this package of support. The 2 free video introductions (one for Primary, one for Secondary, both available on the syllabus webpage) may continue to be helpful for any new school staff members, highlighting key features of the revised syllabus and the impact on their planning. There are also additional materials for Primary schools, accessible from the 'RE Downloads' section of the schools training portal: <https://gdbe-elevate.org/> Schools will need a free log-in to access these; apply here: <https://gdbe-elevate.org/register>

All documents and guidance produced by Surrey SACRE can be accessed via their webpage here: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/education-schools/about/-/surrey-sacre/>. The syllabus has its own separate area, which hosts many helpful documents and links to the non-statutory support materials, which are free for all schools to access: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/education-schools/about/-/surrey-sacre/surrey-agreed-syllabus/> Further details about these resources can be found below, in **section 2.1**.

As a statutory part of Surrey County Council, there is also information about Surrey SACRE on SCC's website: [Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education \(SACRE\) - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/standing-advisory-council-on-religious-education), now updated with details about the new syllabus.

### 2.1 The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools (2023-2028)



On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, the revised Surrey Agreed Syllabus became the statutory document for maintained Surrey schools, and was also adopted by the Board of Education of Guildford Diocese for use in their Voluntary Aided schools. This means that a significant majority of schools across Surrey are now using the same syllabus document, which will improve pupils' transition into the Secondary phase. Surrey SACRE again wishes to remind schools that this Agreed Syllabus has the equivalent legal standing of a National Curriculum order and that **RE continues to be a statutory entitlement for all registered pupils in all schools (including academies), in**


**addition to the National Curriculum.**


Academies and free schools without a religious character may also use an agreed syllabus, and Surrey's Agreed Syllabus is available to them, enabling all schools which choose to use it to fulfil their statutory duty to provide RE for all pupils (unless withdrawn at the request of their parents). Schools wishing to seek guidance about the right of withdrawal should contact Surrey SACRE via the Clerk to SACRE,


#### Academies:


Currently, in the secondary phase, there are only 2 maintained schools, 2 maintained denominational schools and 1 Foundation school in Surrey that have not converted to academy status. There are an increasing number of Infant, Junior and Primary schools converting to academy status. Whilst academies are officially outside the remit of the LA (and therefore SACRE), NASACRE states that many are increasingly opening up their previous contacts, or establishing new relationships with the academies in their area.

Over recent years, there have been some significant developments nationally in thinking about both schools' curriculum and Religious Education. Whilst these shifts may not yet have resulted in any change to legislation, they have most certainly impacted on decisions made about our locally agreed syllabus, which is designed to:

 *be flexible enough for schools to make connections with their wider curriculum, whilst providing robust sequencing of RE [substantive] content so that pupils' understanding of key concepts is built over time;*


 *help pupils (and teachers) to make connections within and across concepts in order to build schemata, better enabling the recall of 'sticky' knowledge;*

 articulate clearly what it means to get better in RE across substantive, disciplinary and personal knowledge (Ofsted's three 'ways of knowing');

 reflect not just the 'theology' of religion or belief, but the lived experience of different communities, drawing on the rich diversity of global and cultural influences in developing pupils' understanding of both organised ('institutional') and personal worldviews, including their own.

Recognising the fact that many secondary schools are academies and have already developed their own RE curriculum, the KS3&4 elements of the syllabus consist of a menu of units from which schools can select to construct or support their RE curriculum. The units for KS3 build on what pupils have learned during the Primary phase and also reflect multi-disciplinary approaches through the use of key questions. In support materials designed for this phase, schools can access KS3 curriculum 'walk-through' videos, where three experienced Heads of Department talk about their curriculum design, based on the content in the syllabus. These can be accessed from the [Agreed Syllabus webpage](#), under the Secondary 'Non-statutory support materials' tab.

In the Primary sections of the syllabus, units include:

- 
- Statutory **substantive content**, which in the syllabus is called '**sticky knowledge**'
  - **Six key questions**, and linked with these, **expected outcomes**, reflecting our multi-disciplinary lenses of **theology ('God')**, **sociology ('Community')** and **philosophy ('Identity')**
  - Links to prior / future learning which schools will have used to construct their long term plan.

Alongside each Primary unit of work are comprehensive **non-statutory support materials**; this is extended planning for each Primary unit of work and bespoke resources for many units, designed to help teachers to create a sequence of learning that will deliver the statutory content. These resources are freely available to all Primary schools using the syllabus, via the GDBE-elevate portal, for which they can register from this link: <https://gdb-elevate.org/register> Locate them in the 'RE Downloads' area: <https://gdb-elevate.org/help#re> Members of SACRE have been very generous with their time in providing some of these resources, for which we are very grateful.

## 2.2 Implementation of the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE

The period of statutory revision ended on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, when Surrey County Council formally adopted the revised syllabus. SACRE granted schools a full academic year (2023-2024) in which to make adjustments to their existing curriculum to take account of the revised syllabus. 2024-25 is therefore the second year of implementation.

During the 2024-25 academic year, through the Surrey Primary RE networks, and the Surrey Schools' Bulletin, regular updates have been provided for schools giving further resources and advice as they continue to implement the syllabus in their school. There is more detail about this in **section 2.7 SACRE's support for Surrey schools**.

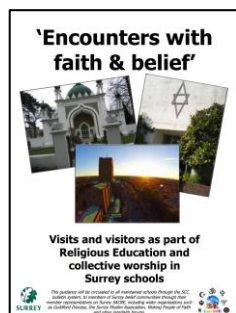
## 2.3 Standards in RE

Ofsted's inspection framework covering the academic year 2024-25 follows a model where inspectors may conduct a 'deep dive' of specific subjects, of which RE may be one, or where RE may be used as evidence of 'preparing pupils for life in modern Britain' or to triangulate elements of schools' whole curriculum, for example, assessment practices across all subjects. During this academic year, significant changes to the way that Ofsted operates have been proposed, with a new inspection framework being published in November 2025. During this academic year, SACRE has again received no information from the local authority in relation to schools inspected under these areas.

In communications during this year (through SCC's Schools Bulletins), SACRE has continued to recommend that schools using its Agreed Syllabus should ensure that they understand and can articulate the intent of their current RE curriculum, to implement the syllabus in ways that meet statutory requirements, as well as being creative and age-appropriate, and also to reflect on the impact of the RE that is being taught in classrooms as part of pupils' entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum. The publication of the long-awaited subject inspection report '**Deep and Meaningful?**' in April 2024 features conclusions drawn from 50 school visits from 2021-23, which has provided some helpful insight for SACRE and for schools going forwards.

## 2.4 Advice to Schools

SACRE's advice to schools during this academic year has again prioritised the impact of the changes to the Agreed Syllabus and signposting to support as schools enter the second year of implementation. You can find out about the support that SACRE offers on SACRE's webpages: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/education-schools/about-surrey-sacre/surrey-agreed-syllabus/>, using the concertinas to navigate.



Surrey SACRE has also produced comprehensive guidance relating to visits and visitors as part of RE and Collective Worship, **'Encounters with Faith and Belief'**. This document establishes some important principles (including a code of conduct) for schools and belief communities to adhere to in order to establish and maintain good relationships and ensure high quality learning for pupils, bringing the authentic voice of faith and belief into the classroom – either within or outside of school. This guidance can be accessed from the SACRE website or via this link: [Visits and visitors to RE and collective worship in Surrey schools](#)

**This guidance also contains advice to schools about the parental right to withdraw their child(ren) from RE. Schools are also reminded that their school prospectus and/or website should display clear information about withdrawal and how any parents might make such a request.** You can find SACRE's recommendations here: [sacre-good-practice-guides---re-on-school-websites.pdf](#)

## 2.5 Religious Studies Examinations

### GCSE Religious Studies

Full Course GCSE Religious Studies	number on roll from Oct 25 NOR					
Surrey	Full course 2018	Full course 2019	Full course 2022	Full course 2023	Full course 2024	Full course 2025
NOR (Number on roll)	9841	10,388	11,080	11,713	11,842	11,792 ↓
Total no. of entries	5413 (55% of NOR)	5766 (58.5% of NOR)	5771 (52.1% of NOR)	5631 (48.1% of NOR)	5352 (45.2% NOR)	5088 ↓ (43.1% NOR)
Total passes (A*-C / 9-4)	70%	69%	78%	72%	73%	75% ↑

source 2425\_subject\_pupil\_level\_la\_dat KS4 National and LA revised

Table I.0

The number of entries for GCSE Religious Studies had a marginal decline for the full course, with a decrease in 2.1% NOR in 2025, however we observe a 9% drop comparing 2025 to 2022. This trend has continued since 2019 and therefore continues the previous consideration, that students are not being entered for Religious Studies GCSE and quite possibly not receiving their statutory entitlement to RE.

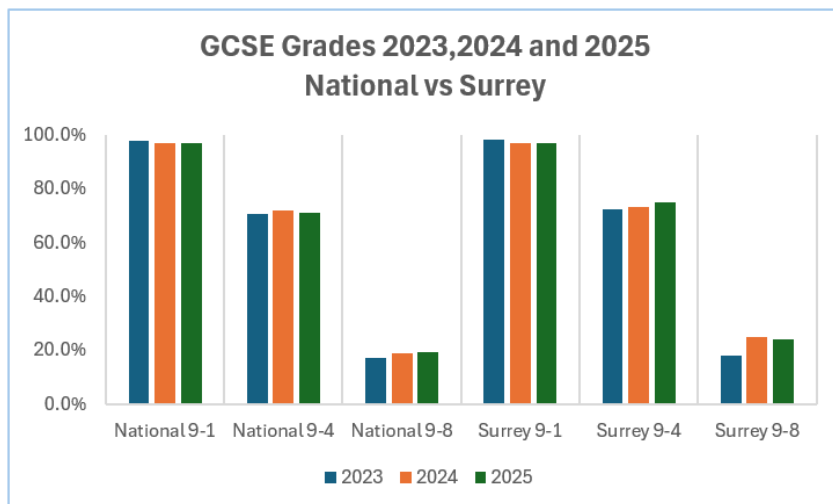
Table I.1

Full Course GCSE Results with National Comparators – 2018, 2019, 2022 & 2023, 2024,2025 9-1 gradings								
Year	Entries	National			Surrey			
		9-8	9-4	9-1	Entries	9-8	9-4	9-1
2018	201,390 (38.5%)	15.6%	70.2%	97.9%	5413 (55%)	14.4%	69.9%	97.8%
2019	210,810 (38.8%)	17.9%	71%	98.1%	5766 (58.5%)	14.7%	68.9%	97.7%
2022	207,350 (35.1%)	20.1%	75.5%	97.8%	5771 (52.1%)	21.2%	77.9%	98.1%
2023	210340 (34.7%)	17.2%	70.8%	97.7%	5631 (52.1%)	17.8%	72.2%	98.0%
2024	209614	18.6%	72%	97%	5352 (45.2)	25%	73%	97%
2025	204914	19.0%	71%	97%	5088 (45.1)	23.5%	75%	97%

source 2425\_subject\_pupil\_level\_la\_dat KS4 provisional

Table I.1 and Figure I.0 (overleaf) provide comparisons of Surrey to National results. There is a continuation of a greater proportion of students taking GCSE Religious Studies in Surrey compared to national entries. The students who complete the full course in Surrey attain well compared to National with 23.5% achieving Grades 9-8 (compared to National 19%) and 75% achieving Grades 9-4 (compared to National 71%). SACRE have considered a range of approaches, including a review of school websites to review consider the Religious Education (RE) activity in school. The council will continue to support SACRE to consider additional ways to collate the schools' provision of RE.

Figure I.0



AS Religious Studies

Table 2.0

AS Grades in Religious Studies				
AS Level	Entries	A	A-B	A-E
Surrey 2018	373	73 (18.6%)	157 (42%)	338 (90.6%)
Surrey 2019	121	21 (17.4%)	54 (44.6%)	108 (89.3%)
Surrey 2022	16	6 (37.5%)	12 (75%)	16 (100%)
Surrey 2023	34	14 (41.2%)	26 (76.5%)	32 (94.1%)
Surrey 2024	7	4 (57.1%)	5 (71.4%)	7 (100%)
Surrey 2025	12 ↑	3 (25.1%) ↓	10 (83.3%) ↑	12 (100%) ↑
National 2018	15590	2588 (16.6%)	5581 (35.8%)	13517 (86.7%)
National 2019	7180	1185 (16.5%)	2585 (36%)	6290 (87.6%)
National 2022	1081	266 (24.6%)	554 (51.2%)	997 (99.2%)
National 2023	2070	490 (23.7%)	1000 (48.3%)	1890 (91.3%)
National 2024	949	196 (20.7%)	409 (43.1%)	854 (90%)
National 2025	704 ↓	143 (20.3%) ↓	302 (42.9%) ↓	639 (90.8%) ↓

Source data-a-level-and-other-16-to-18 National 25  
 Source A level and other 16 to 18 results 2025 Surrey  
 Entries and Results - A level and AS by region and subject (single academic year)

In 2025 there has been an increase in number of Surrey students studying AS Religious Studies in KS 5 (up from 7 in 2024 to 12 in 2025), there is a continuation of decline nationally. All students entering, passed the AS examination with 25.1% achieving an A grade and a notable increase to 83.3% achieving either a grade A or B. Surrey students achieve significantly higher (Grades A and B) than compared to national comparators. Factors considered for the small number of entries are in line with our review in 2024 which relate to anecdotal feedback that students are feeling the increased level of content to cover is impacting on the balance of their studies. It could also be reflected on that teacher recruitment and retention to offer this level in the subject is impacting on numbers. It is important to note that statistical interpretation of the size of this cohort impacts on analysis.

A Level

Table 3.0

A Level Grades in Religious Studies:					
A-Level	Number of entries	A*	A*-A	A*-B	A*-E
Surrey 2018	232	16 (6.9%)	61 (26.3%)	121 (52.2%)	227 (97.8%)
Surrey 2019	182	5 (2.7%)	45 (24.7%)	93 (51.1%)	177 (97.3%)
Surrey 2022	206	18 (8.7%)	70 (34%)	153 (74.3%)	201 (97.6%)
Surrey 2023	358	28 (7.8%)	132 (36.9%)	259 (72.3%)	356 (99.4%)
Surrey 2024	180	5 (2.8%)	41 (22.8%)	94 (52.2%)	178 (98.9%)
Surrey 2025	153 ↓	10 (6.5%) ↑	38 (24.8%) ↑	86 (56.2%) ↑	152 (99.3%) ↑
National 2018	16490	4.7%	23%	52.3%	98%
National 2019	15980	4.4%	21.7%	50%	97.9%
National 2022	12883	9.8%	31.1%	64%	98.5%
National 2023	14720	6.0%	25.5%	55.1%	97.3%
National 2024	14552	6.2%	26.1%	54.7%	97.6%
National 2025	14210 ↓	6.3% ↑	26.3% ↑	56.7% ↑	98.1% ↑

sourceTime-series - National 2025 A level subject entries and grade by sex  
 Student counts and Results - Surrey A level by region and subject (end of 16-18 study)

In 2025 we have seen a continued decrease in the number of entries for A level in Surrey. A total of 153 students completed the A Level examination in Religious Studies in 2025. (Table 3.0) In 2025 those sitting the examination have achieved in line with national comparators in the higher grades A\*-B. However, the total number of students achieving A\*-E remains higher than national comparators.

## Summary

Students in Surrey achieve well in Religious Studies GCSE, AS and A Level compared to national comparators. Surrey SACRE continue to work effectively with the Local Authority to consider forward planning in relation to Religious Studies in our schools. NATRE has provided a report in November 2025 NATRE-survey-report-final-for-publication 'NATRE Secondary Survey Report 2025' which will provide useful considerations regarding Religious Education in secondary schools in England. In addition to this we anticipate the Curriculum and Assessment Review (2025) will provide further influence in the coming year.

## 2.6 SACRE Partnering Visits

During this academic year, planned partnering visits were again suspended due to the syllabus being relatively new for schools. The aim of partnering visits is to help SACRE to understand how the syllabus is being implemented, its impact on pupil progress and to consider how SACRE can best support schools in the future. Discussions are currently ongoing about the relative benefit of these visits for both schools and the SACRE, with a view to offering opportunities to a small selection of Primary schools during 2025-2026. Please email Liz Mitchell, clerk to SACRE, if your school is interested in hosting a visit: [SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk)

## 2.7 SACRE's Support for Surrey schools

### RE Training:



RE training for teachers offered by Surrey SACRE's professional adviser during 2024-25 has included a full day course as part of the **Surrey South Farnham SCITT programme**, repeated across 5 locations for 30+ students at each session. This is not funded by Surrey SACRE but is an important insight for them through SACRE's professional adviser in the development of teachers in training within Surrey and understanding current educational theory. Part of the day included a very brief introduction to Collective Worship as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. For many trainee teachers this is the only input that they receive to equip them to teach RE and deliver collective worship,

A training session for **new Primary RE subject leaders** was also delivered on Zoom in November 2024, across two twilight sessions, with 21 new subject leaders attending. This session aimed to give teachers an understanding of the statutory role of RE within Primary schools, including its contribution to SMSC and British Values, and an introduction to the Surrey Agreed Syllabus, knowing that these new RE leaders may not have received the implementation training during the previous academic year. The sessions also included an insight into what good teaching and learning and expected attainment in RE might look like and into the role of a school leader managing RE. It is expected that this training will be repeated during the Autumn term of each new academic year and will be adjusted to reflect the current needs of new leaders. There are now significant challenges delivering training on Zoom, as a large number of delegates at this and other training join with their camera turned off or not working and don't always engage with discussion opportunities.



### Surrey Primary RE Networks:

The Surrey Primary RE Networks for Subject Leaders met termly during 2024-25 online and in person. These are booked through the training portal: <https://gdbe-elevate.org/> These networks are run by Rachel Boxer, RE Adviser for Surrey SACRE, whose other work as an adviser in Diocese of Guildford means that she brings a broad professional expertise that is much valued by schools. These sessions are free to attend and are repeated across two different dates in the term as twilights (4.00-5.30pm), with one meeting each term being offered as an in-person event, allowing subject leaders to better share good practice (and cake!) During this academic year, these networks have been the main opportunity to help support subject leaders as they continue to implement the Surrey Agreed Syllabus in their school.

*During the academic year 2024-25:*

- In the **Autumn term**, we reviewed the recently-published RE report from Ofsted, '[Deep and Meaningful!](#)' and considered how the recommendations in relation to complexity in RE might help to prepare pupils for life in a multi-religious and multi-secular world. This is likely to be the last subject inspection report by Ofsted due to changing inspection priorities;
- In the **Spring term**, we introduced some protocols in relation to assessment in RE, following many requests for guidance. It is important that schools consider how assessment in RE aligns with their approaches to assessment

in other subjects, but we have created some additional guidance for Primary settings, which schools can access via the [GDBE-elevate portal](#), under **‘Materials for school leaders – Materials to support Assessment’**.

- In the **Summer term**, we reflected on monitoring and evaluation in RE, helping to articulate the impact that RE is having in schools, and launched another toolkit for subject leaders to help them to do this well. We also considered the importance of high-quality resources and experiences for pupils. The evaluation toolkit can also be found on the [GDBE-elevate portal](#), under **‘Materials for school leaders’**.

All resources linked with these networks can be accessed through subject leaders’ GDBE-elevate course bookings. There are also three short videos for class teachers, **‘From page to classroom’**, designed to help them to implement the syllabus and providing them with a ‘walk-through’ turning planning into learning in both compulsory and thematic units. There is also a **‘From page to classroom: Assessment’** resource which might help support schools as they consider assessment as part of the Surrey Agreed Syllabus units of work. These can be accessed from [GDBE-elevate](#), under the **‘Resources to support teachers’** tab.



**Unlocking Primary RE: Christian concepts in the Surrey Agreed Syllabus** is a new online resource for Primary RE subject leaders and class teachers, designed to support understanding of key concepts in Christianity. There are also suggestions to help subject leaders adapt these video resources for use in staff meetings. Each short video explains:

- the theological concept within **Christianity**;
- where the concept fits into the **Christianity concept map**;
- why this concept is important for **children’s understanding**;
- **how the concept is shaped** through the relevant units of work within the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE.



Each presentation requires some supporting materials, which can be found on [GDBE-elevate](#), in **‘Materials for school leaders’**, under the **‘Unlocking RE’** tab, as well as selected units of work referred to in the sessions. Also included are **‘helpsheets’** to support subject knowledge around each concept, which will also contain links for anyone needing further information. There is a short introductory video, which can be accessed [here](#).

In addition to the free RE networks and introductory videos created for schools, outlining the aims and principles of the Surrey Agreed Syllabus, schools can also access, at a small cost, a suite of short video tutorials, to walk them through some key elements of the syllabus. This series, entitled ‘Unpacking RE’ can be booked via GDBE-elevate (<https://gdb-elevate.org/help#ure>) and consists of:

1. **Unpacking RE:** Assessment
2. **Unpacking RE:** Golden Threads
3. **Unpacking RE:** Introduction for Subject
4. **Unpacking RE:** Personal Knowledge
5. **Unpacking RE:** RE in Early Years Foundation Stage
6. **Unpacking RE:** Thematic units
7. **Unpacking RE:** Compulsory units
8. **Unpacking RE:** Weaving your curriculum
9. **Unpacking RE:** Staff Meeting
10. **Unpacking RE:** RE for school governors (Church school / Community school / Academy)



### **Open House – welcome to ‘my place’ visits:**



‘Open House – welcome to ‘my place’ offered a final opportunity in November 2025 to visit the Ahmadiyyah Mosque in Tilford, to enhance teacher subject knowledge, invest in teachers’ CPD – and establish some links with local faith and belief communities. This project was generously supported by members of Surrey SACRE, who opened their places of worship across 2024 and 2025 to subject leaders and teachers across Surrey. The visit included a meet and greet by the community, a tour, a short presentation and plenty of time for questions and answers, as well as the opportunity to take photographs for use back in school. There was also one online event, facilitated by Jennie Johnson, Humanist member of Group A. Although these events sadly didn’t draw large numbers, the feedback from those who did venture out was overwhelmingly positive and provided them with unique insights into the lived experience of these Surrey communities. Our thanks go to the SACRE members and their communities for facilitating these visits. A visit to the visiting ‘Jewish Ways of Living’ Exhibition at North West Surrey Synagogue is to be offered to all schools in November 2025.

### **Surrey Primary RE E-Newsletter:**

The Surrey Primary RE E-Newsletter has an established (and free) subscription, with over 100 schools signed up to receive regular updates. In addition to the Surrey Schools Bulletin service, this has proved a very reliable way of keeping

all schools updated with RE news, resources, and national initiatives and advertising local events. For more information about the newsletter, please use the link [here](#) to sign up and view previous publications, or email Liz Mitchell, Clerk to SACRE: [SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:SurreySACRE@cofeguildford.org.uk)

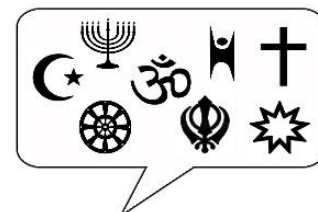


### SAfE Secondary Curriculum Leaders' Forum:

As part of their support for secondary schools, the Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE) run a range of subject forums which provide discussion opportunities for heads of department focusing on teaching, learning and curriculum design. More information about SAfE's curriculum support can be accessed here:

<https://schoolsallianceforexcellence.co.uk/product/secondary-curriculum-leaders-network-25-26/>

**Speakers' Forum:** One of the roles of any SACRE is to be a resource to support the delivery of their locally agreed syllabus. Speakers' Forum is one way in which Surrey SACRE chooses to do this. As a group of speakers from different perspectives of faith and belief, they are passionate about engaging children and young people with the big questions they have. Over the period of time since they were set up, the group have supported interfaith dialogue in several Surrey secondary schools – and have also developed a suite of virtual resources, which are now freely available for KS3 and KS4, located in the Secondary 'Non-statutory support materials' area: [Surrey Agreed Syllabus](#). They have also created resources to support a selection of Primary units of work in the new syllabus, especially the thematic units. These materials can be accessed from the 'RE Downloads' area of GDBE-elevate: <https://gdb-elevate.org/help#re>



## 2.8 Other Guidance:

During the past academic year, SACRE has received several communications from schools in relation to RE provision in the agreed syllabus, as well as some queries about implementing the syllabus in their context. The RE adviser, to whom these queries were sent, ensured an appropriate outcome for all emails, and recommended attendance at the appropriate networks. Further information about the support that SACRE can offer can be found [here](#). **The SACRE also regularly draws on advice from faith and belief members in order to answer relevant queries from schools.**

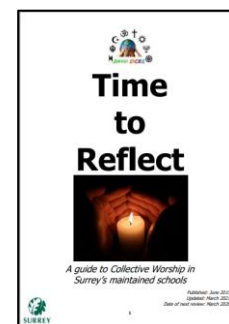
## 2.9 Complaints Concerning RE

Every school governing body and LA is required by law to have an accessible and easily understood route through which parents and others can make a complaint about school or other educational matters, including RE. A copy of this procedure should be available in each school and the school prospectus must make reference to it. Local Authorities can seek advice from their SACREs in addressing complaints about RE. No complaints have been made and no such consultations have taken place during this academic year.

# 3. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

## 3.1 Time to Reflect – SACRE's guidance for Collective Worship in Surrey Schools

Although there are other reports & guidance relating to Collective Worship in schools, schools are strongly encouraged to read Surrey SACRE's Guidance on Collective Worship in community schools, 'Time to Reflect'. This document outlines what the law requires of this important element of school life, and how schools might realistically interpret these requirements. The law states that Collective Worship is to be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character" and may, to many, seem very restrictive. However, it does in fact allow schools a wide scope for the variety and breadth of approach to reflect the religious and non-religious traditions of those who form a part of their school community. It also reflects the challenge to craft collective worship that is inclusive and inspiring, and which embraces the increasingly diverse communities of which we are a part. **You can access this guidance [here](#).**



**This guidance also contains advice to schools about the parental right to withdraw their child(ren) from collective worship. Schools are also reminded that their school prospectus and/or website should display clear information about withdrawal and how any parents might make such a request.**

Ofsted continues to confirm the value of Collective Worship as part of schools' SMSC provision in its current Education Inspection Framework. Surrey SACRE believes that **'Time to Reflect'** can help schools, parents and governors to fully understand (and meet) the legal requirements for Collective Worship.

### 3.2 Determinations

No Surrey maintained schools currently have determinations in regard to Collective Worship. SACRE provides details of the process and criteria for applying for a determination, linked both from the guidance document above and via this link: [Applying for a determination](#)

### 3.3 Complaints

As with RE, every school governing body and LA is required by law to have an accessible and easily understood route through which parents and others can make a complaint about collective worship. A copy of this procedure should be available in each school and the school prospectus must make reference to it. Local Authorities can seek advice from their SACREs in addressing any complaints. No complaints have been made and no such consultations have taken place during this academic year.

## 4. LINKS WITH OTHER BODIES

### 4.1. Links with Other Agencies – National

Surrey SACRE is a member of NASACRE (National Association of SACREs), and a representative attends national meetings, with the professional adviser. A representative also attends any regional meetings for SACRE.

As required by the contract terms of reference, Surrey SACRE's adviser for RE is a member of AREIAC (The Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants) and NATRE (National Association for Teachers of RE) and attends regional and national meetings whenever possible.

### 4.2 Links with Local Bodies

Through membership on SACRE, there are also established links with:

- Surrey Muslim Association [Home \(surreymuslims.org\)](http://surreymuslims.org);
- Ahmadiyya Muslim Community: [Mubarak Mosque](#) and [Ahmadiyya Muslim Community - Official Website](#)
- Jewish Board of Deputies; [Board of Deputies of British Jews - Board of Deputies of British Jews \(bod.org.uk\)](http://bod.org.uk)
- Humanists UK; [Humanists UK](http://humanists.org.uk)
- Diocese of Guildford [www.cofeguildford.org.uk](http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk)
- Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE), through co-opted membership; [Schools Alliance for Excellence | Schools Alliance for Excellence](#)
- Local interfaith forums: Guildford & Godalming Interfaith Forum, Elmbridge Multifaitth Forum, Woking People of Faith and Surrey Heath Faith Forum. Find contact information in the Interfaith directory: [Local Inter Faith Groups - South East - The Inter Faith Network \(IFN\)](#)
- RE Hubs: <https://www.re-hubs.uk/>

## 5. OTHER AREAS OF LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

### The Role of the Governing Body

The role of the Governing Body in monitoring coverage of the Agreed Syllabus is critical for its successful implementation. Governors also have a key role in providing a challenge to schools to raise standards in specific areas and SACRE believes that this can have a significant impact on standards in RE. Schools are encouraged to identify a governor with specific responsibility for RE. There is now an information leaflet for governors about RE in schools, SACRE and its work, which can be found in the section ['SACRE support for Religious Education'](#). There are also resources for school leaders on the [GDBE-elevate platform](#), aimed at helping governors to understand the statutory nature of RE and the requirements of the Surrey Agreed Syllabus. Schools will need a GDBE-elevate login to access these resources.

**The SACRE also regularly draws on advice from faith and belief members in order to answer relevant queries from schools.**

## 6. SACRE'S ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

### 6.1 SACRE Contract – Professional Adviser and Administrative Support

SCC currently hold a contract with the Diocese of Guildford to provide management support to Surrey SACRE. Surrey County Council have also now awarded a further 2-year contract for 2024-2026. The contract provides for the efficient operation of the work of SACRE which undertakes its statutory duties autonomously and independent of the Diocese of Guildford whose sole engagement with SACRE is through its membership of Committee B of Surrey SACRE.

Operational management of Surrey SACRE is exercised through SCC's commissioning officers and the Director of Education for Guildford Diocese, Alex Tear.

The professional adviser to Surrey SACRE is Rachel Boxer, who has been working with SACRE since 2011 and administrative clerking support was provided during 2024-25 by Liz Mitchell, as part of the contractual agreement.

### 6.2 Current SACRE Membership, as at March 2026 (Full membership list available in [Appendix 7.5](#))

Group A (14) 13 members, 1 vacancy representing:		Group B (4) 4 members, representing	Group C (6) 5 members, 1 vacancy, 1 co-opted representing	Group D (5) 5 members, representing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methodist</li> <li>• United Reformed Church</li> <li>• Baptist Union</li> <li>• Society of Friends (Quakers)</li> <li>• Roman Catholic, Diocese of Westminster &amp; Diocese of Arundel &amp; Brighton</li> <li>• Pentecostal Church</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hindu</li> <li>• Sikh</li> <li>• Surrey Muslim Association</li> <li>• Ahmadiyya Muslim Community</li> <li>• Jewish Board of Deputies</li> <li>• Buddhist, Woking Dhammakaya Temple</li> <li>• Bahá'í UK</li> <li>• Humanists UK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diocese of Guildford</li> <li>• Diocese of Guildford</li> <li>• Diocese of Southwark</li> <li>• Diocese of London</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEU (National Education Union)</li> <li>• NASUWT</li> <li>• Secondary teacher rep.</li> <li>• Surrey Primary RE networks</li> <li>• NATRE Primary teacher representative</li> <li>• Secondary &amp; Academies rep (vacancy)</li> <li>• Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE, co-opted)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservative party – 3 SCC members</li> <li>• Liberal Democrats – 1 SCC member</li> <li>• Independent – 1 SCC member</li> </ul>

During this academic year, SACRE was pleased to be able to confirm the appointment of a representative from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to join SACRE Group A. The appointment was provisionally approved at the Summer term meeting, but as this meeting was not quorate, was formally confirmed in November 2024, following 4 years of discussion. Similar discussions have taken place during 2024-25 to approve the appointment of a member of the Pentecostal Church to SACRE. Following changes to their constitution, and approved by SCC, SACRE also appointed its first ever Chair from within the SACRE groups, long-standing Jewish member Sarah Harris.

### 6.3 Training for SACRE members:

#### New member induction

In response to the irregular timescales for new members joining SACRE, a pre-recorded induction module has been prepared which can be accessed by new members as they join. This was launched in January 2024, and will be followed by an opportunity for new members to attend a drop-in session on Zoom/Teams as part of their induction process. SACRE Group Chairs and the Clerk to SACRE are also a significant point of contact for new SACRE members. All new members are encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunity to attend these sessions in order to help them understand their new role.

The training covers SACRE's statutory responsibilities for RE and Collective Worship, a brief tour of the Surrey Agreed Syllabus, other key documents for RE, and guidance that SACRE has produced for schools, as well as opportunity to find out about how SACRE supports schools and think about what it means to be a 'good' SACRE member. We are grateful to the more 'experienced' SACRE members who have also offered their support and advice.

## 7. APPENDICES

### **7.1 GCSE – short and full, A/S & A Level RS results:**

This data has been published in section 2.5

### **7.2 Details on CPD provided to schools**

SACRE provided no additional CPD for schools this academic year, although the professional adviser has been providing termly CPD for Primary RE subject leaders, as outlined in section **2.6 SACRE's support for Surrey schools.**

### **7.3 LA/SACRE policy statements on RE or CW**

Please see links in previous sections 2.7 Religious Education: 'Encounters with Faith and Belief' and 3.1 Collective Worship: 'Time to Reflect'. Documents are clearly signposted on SACRE's webpages, and key information about Surrey SACRE, including links to SACRE's webpages, can be found on Surrey County Council's webpage: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/at-school/standing-advisory-council-on-religious-education>

### **7.4 List of organisations to which SACRE's Annual Report has been sent:**

Copies of Surrey SACRE's Annual Report are distributed to all maintained schools in the County via Surrey's School Bulletin system with a request that governing bodies consider the report and take any appropriate action. A copy has also been sent to NASACRE, Surrey County Council, Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE), nominating bodies represented by SACRE members, and the Department for Education. It is also available to view on the SACRE website: [Surrey SACRE](#)

## APPENDIX 7.5 SACRE Membership (as at March 2025)

**Chair** Sarah Harris (*from March 2024*)  
**Vice-Chair** Rev Allan Taylor (*from March 2024*)

### **Committee A: Other Faiths and Beliefs (10 members, 2 vacancies)**

Jennie Johnson (Group Chair) Humanists UK  
Rev Allan Taylor Methodist Church  
Vacancy *United Reformed Church*  
Rosslyn Doney Cranleigh Baptist Church  
Vacancy *Society of Friends*  
Peter Ward Roman Catholic, Diocese of Westminster & Diocese of Arundel and Brighton  
Rajendra Pandya Hindu (Sanatana) Dharma, Kingston Interfaith Forum and Shree Vishwa Sanaatan Dharma Mandir, Croydon  
Inderjeet Singh Rehncy Sikh [*nominating body TBC*]  
Kawther Hashmi Surrey Muslim Association (*to March 2024*)  
Sadia Irfan Surrey Muslim Association (*appointed March 2024*)  
Sarah Harris Jewish Board of Deputies  
Patrick Jatumet Buddhist, Woking Dhammakaya Temple  
Simon Mortimore Bahá'í [*nominating body TBC, resigned Nov 2024*]  
Rashida Nasir Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (*appointed Nov 2024*)

### **Committee B – The Church of England (3 members, 1 vacancy)**

Jane Whittington (Group Chair) Diocese of Guildford  
Shaun Burns Diocese of Southwark  
Rev. Sarah Hutton Diocese of Guildford  
Jayne Pavlou Diocese of London (*appointed Oct 2024, retired March 2025*)

### **Committee C – Teachers (4 members, 2 vacancies, 1 co-opted)**

Deborah Jackson NEU (National Education Union) (*appointed June 2023*)  
Saadia Nawaz NASUWT (*appointed June 2022*)  
Alex Page Secondary teacher, The Priory School, Dorking (*appointed Nov 2022, resigned Summer 2024*), leaving a vacancy  
Vacancy *Secondary & Academies teacher rep.*  
Rashida Nasir Primary teacher representative (*Surrey RE networks, to Nov 2024*)  
Saima Saleh Primary & Academies teacher rep. & NATRE exec member  
Emma Johnston Co-opted member, Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE) (*March 2025*)

### **Committee D – Local Authority (4 members, 1 vacancy)**

Cllr Jordan Beech (Group Chair) SCC member, Conservative  
Cllr Buddhi Weerasinghe SCC member, Conservative  
Cllr Bob Hughes SCC member, Conservative  
Cllr Dennis Booth SCC member (*appointed March 2024*)  
Vacancy *SCC member*

### **Officers in Attendance**

Rachel Boxer (Adviser) Associate Consultant for Primary RE, Surrey SACRE & Guildford Diocese  
Liz Mitchell Clerk to SACRE (*from September 23*)  
Carrie Traill Commissioning Officer, SCC (*from October 2021-March 2023, and from March-Sept 2024*)  
Nicola Morgan Senior Educational Effectiveness Advisor, acting in place of Commissioning Officer (*from March 2023-March 2024*)  
Jo Kenyon Service manager for Educational Effectiveness (*from September 2024*)

## APPENDIX 7.5 SACRE Membership (as at March 2026)

**Chair** Sarah Harris  
**Vice-Chair** Rev Allan Taylor

### **Committee A: Other Faiths and Beliefs (13 members, 1 vacancy)**

Jennie Johnson (Group Chair) Humanists UK  
Rev Allan Taylor Methodist Church  
Sue Shoveller *United Reformed Church (appointed March 2026)*  
Vacancy *Baptist Union of Great Britain*  
Richard Perkins *Society of Friends (Quakers) (appointed March 2026)*  
Rev. Mark Witherspoon *Pentecostal Church (appointed March 2026)*  
Peter Ward Roman Catholic, Diocese of Westminster & Diocese of Arundel and Brighton  
Rajendra Pandya Hindu (Sanatana) Dharma, Kingston Interfaith Forum and Shree Vishwa Sanaatan Dharma Mandir, Croydon  
Inderjeet Singh Rehncy Sikh [*nominating body TBC*]  
Sadia Irfan Surrey Muslim Association  
Sarah Harris Jewish Board of Deputies  
Patrick Jatumet Buddhist, Woking Dhammakaya Temple  
Dr Suha Rawhani UK Bahá'í Community (*appointed November 2025*)  
Rashida Nasir Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (*appointed Nov 2024*)

### **Committee B – The Church of England (4 members)**

Jane Whittington (Group Chair) Diocese of Guildford  
Shaun Burns Diocese of Southwark  
Rev. Sarah Hutton Diocese of Guildford  
Fiona Foreman Diocese of London (*appointed March 2026*)

### **Committee C – Teachers (5 members, 1 vacancy, 1 co-opted)**

Deborah Jackson NEU (National Education Union)  
Saadia Nawaz NASUWT  
Fiona Lewis Secondary teacher (*appointed November 2025*)  
Vacancy *Secondary & Academies teacher rep.*  
Naomi Ezzard Primary teacher representative (*Surrey RE networks, appointed November 2025*)  
Saima Saleh Primary & Academies teacher rep. & NATRE exec member  
Emma Johnston Co-opted member, Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE)

### **Committee D – Local Authority (5 members)**

Cllr Robert Hughes (Group Chair) SCC member, Conservative  
Cllr Buddhi Weerasinghe SCC member, Conservative  
Cllr Saj Hussain SCC member, Conservative (*appointed March 2026*)  
Cllr Chris Townsend SCC member, Independent (*appointed March 2026*)  
Cllr Louise Morales SCC member, Liberal Democrats (*appointed March 2026*)

### **Officers in Attendance**

Rachel Boxer (Adviser) Associate Consultant for Primary RE, Surrey SACRE & Guildford Diocese  
Liz Mitchell Clerk to SACRE  
Jo Kenyon Service manager for Educational Effectiveness (*from September 2024*)

## APPENDIX 7.6 Surrey SACRE's Development Plan 2023-2026

**Surrey SACRE is a statutory body, working on behalf of Surrey County Council to support and advise maintained schools on Religious Education and Collective Worship, in partnership with the Diocese of Guildford, who manage the SACRE contract on behalf of Surrey County Council.**

The contract to facilitate the work of the SACRE, which began in April 2019, has been extended in 2-year increments to cover the period until 31.8.26. The Diocese provide the professional adviser, clerking services and the web presence for SACRE's documentation. This development plan covers the final portions of that contract, across the 2024-2025 academic year, as the syllabus continues to be implemented in schools. In this contract, the following requirements are set out by the local authority for the work of the SACRE:

- *Provide a suitably qualified RE teacher/consultant who is a registered member of AREIAC (Association for RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants) and The National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE) to advise three meetings per year of the Surrey SACRE.*
- *Provide clerking services to all meetings, ensuring that all SACRE meetings run smoothly and all minutes and supporting paperwork are distributed in a timely manner.*
- *Liaise at least 3 times per year with the Chair/Vice-Chair of SACRE for agenda and report planning.*
- *Liaise with the SCC Commissioning Client and the Chair of SACRE regarding the booking and payment of meeting venues.*
- *Produce the draft annual report on the quality of RE teaching in Surrey maintained schools in accordance with NASACRE guidelines.*
- *By agreement with SACRE, liaise with schools to enable SACRE members to undertake pre-arranged visits to monitor the impact of the Surrey Agreed RE syllabus.*
- *Provide support, advice and guidance to SACRE to address general correspondence received in relation to RE or collective worship in schools.*
- *Provide appropriate support to the commissioning client to ensure that the Surrey SACRE website pages are updated and relevant.*

These requirements are taken into account and will be repeated for each year of the development plan, actioned along with further specific priorities for each year agreed by SACRE, so that it will continue to improve outcomes for pupils in local authority schools (as well as other settings that use the Surrey Agreed Syllabus, though at no extra cost to SACRE), and contribute to the professional development of RE leaders and class teachers.

All the work of SACRE is undertaken with the aim of raising achievement in RE and improving the quality of teaching and learning, to improve the provision and quality of Collective Worship and to help promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including Fundamental British Values. As a body representing various religions and beliefs in Surrey, it supports inter-faith dialogue and learning about religions for the promotion of respect and racial harmony.

**Surrey SACRE, March 2026**

### **Annual objectives to meet SACRE's statutory responsibilities, for each year in the Development Plan**

- Ensure SACRE conducts its statutory duties efficiently
- Ensure that SACRE is informed about national developments
- Provide regular information to SCC client on progress of contract
- Ensure Surrey SACRE representation at regional / national meetings
- Produce the annual report on the work of SACRE
- Ensure Surrey SACRE website pages are regularly updated and relevant
- Monitor standards of RE & Collective Worship in Surrey schools through school websites
- Develop SACRE's self-evaluation

### **Additional priorities for 2024-25**

- Seek to ensure that schools continue to have locally sourced, high quality resources in RE, especially relating to the lived experience of members of faith and belief communities;
- Invest in the professional development of Primary RE subject leaders in Surrey schools, including new RE subject leaders;
- Ensure Primary RE subject leaders are informed about local, regional & national developments in RE – and receive support for teaching the new syllabus – through the Surrey Primary RE networks;
- Work with SCC to acquire information about which schools use the Surrey Agreed Syllabus;
- Engage with the proposed curriculum review in England;
- Promote the relevance of RE and the worldviews approach for life in modern Britain.