



Spring 2020

**The Annual Report of Wakefield Local Authority
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)**

Summary

This report provides members and NASACRE with details of the work of Wakefield Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from September 2018 to July 2019.

1. Background

Under the provision of the 1988 Education Reform Act every Local Authority has a responsibility to establish a permanent body, called a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), together with an occasional body, called an Agreed Syllabus Conference.

2. Membership

The people who serve on SACREs are invited to do so by the Corporate Director of Children and Young People Services on the recommendation of various bodies in the local community with a concern for the religious education of school children. The law prescribes that there have to be four “committees” each comprising representatives of specified groups. Those four committees can together co-opt further non-voting members, provided a majority are in agreement. The actual members change over time and the current SACRE is constituted as follows:-

Representing the Wakefield WMDC are Councillors:

Cllr Ahmed Nadeem
Cllr Ros Lund
Cllr Olivia Rowley
Cllr Tracey Austin

Representing the Anglican Diocese:

Rev Gill Johnson / Archdeacon Peter Townley / Simon Sloan

Representing Other Denominations / Faith Communities:

John Wadsworth	Free Church Federal Council
Elizabeth Martin	Free Church Federal Council (Baptist)

Representing Teachers:

Mark Taylor	NAHT (Head of St Mary's)
-------------	--------------------------

Hugh Griffith
Nicola Madarasz
Jill Davidson
Lyndsay Ranby

ATL (Airedale Academy)
NUT (Minsthorpe Community College)
AST RE Horbury Academy
Acting Chair (Head of Darrington School)

Observers:

Maria Stead
Katherine Toney
Michaela Page
Leanne Hargrave
Suzanne Tomlinson

Cathedral Academy
Cathedral Academy
Castleford Academy
All Saints, Normanton
Outwood Grange Academy

In attendance:-

Rachel Redfearn (Adviser)
Andy Hoole (Clerk)

3. Methods of Teaching

The Wakefield Agreed Syllabus was implemented in September 2018. Much of the work of SACRE during the past year focused on providing the necessary support to schools to ensure high quality teaching and learning in RE, in line with the content of the agreed syllabus.

Following consultation with school leaders and RE subject leaders, it was agreed that training would be commissioned from RE Today to support primary schools, subsidised by the SACRE. An event took place during February whereby delegates enjoyed high quality CPD and received additional resources and materials, supported by the SACRE. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive:

100% of delegates indicated that the course content matched or exceeded course aims.

Comments recorded on evaluations were very positive and included the following:

Clear explanation of the RE syllabus, resources and ideas of how to implement it in lessons across all key stages.

Clarified how to implement the new syllabus in a practical and creative way.

Excellent course content. Fiona's knowledge was outstanding and she was able to answer all questions comprehensively. I really enjoyed the fact she gave analogies/proof of what we were discussing in practice.

Lots of ideas for RE to share with all staff.

Secondary teachers requested support in promoting RE in school. In order to support closer collaborative working, SACRE agreed to fund teachers to attend a local secondary network of RE leaders, providing colleagues in schools with the opportunity to review practice, share successes and learn from visiting speakers.

4. Outcomes of SIAMs inspections

During the period September 2018 to July 2019 there were 4 Ofsted subject inspections of Religious Education. Inspection reports indicate that all schools are compliant in the statutory provision of RE.

Crigglestone St. James Cof E Primary - Excellent (July 2019)

Alverthorpe St. Paul's Cof E Primary – Good (April 2019)

5. Supporting wider opportunities

In response to a request to support pupils from a Wakefield school to travel to London to visit places of worship including St. Paul's Cathedral and the Central Mosque, SACRE agreed to subsidise places for pupils in Year 10 studying RE, making the cost of the visit possible for 'disadvantaged' pupils and for pupils from low-income households. The RE Leader stated that the children had really enjoyed the London visit and explained that the excursion had been a great experience for some of the pupils who had not travelled far from Wakefield previously.

6. Summary of Key Priorities 2019 - 2020

The following priorities for the development of SACRE have been discussed and agreed with SACRE members:

- To continue to promote effective collaborative working for secondary school teachers
- To ensure that teachers continue to access appropriate CPD to deliver the revised syllabus skilfully, so that RE is an integral component of a carefully planned primary curriculum
- To widen the membership of Wakefield SACRE with increased representation from religions beyond Christianity within the district
- To strengthen the knowledge and expertise of SACRE members through appropriate training and development opportunities

7. Analysis of Examination Results for Religious Studies/Education Summer 2018

Full Course GCSE

See embedded document



2018 KS4 -
Religious Studies - 2

8. Complaints regarding the teaching of RE

None were made to SACRE during this reporting year.

9. Determinations

From time to time a school may request from the SACRE a “determination”; i.e. permission to waive the legal requirements for religious education and collective worship to be “wholly or mainly Christian”. The SACRE has received no requests for determinations during this reporting year.

10. Complaints regarding Collective Worship

None were made to the SACRE during this reporting year.

Report produced by Mark Taylor (Chair) and Rachel Redfearn (School Improvement Adviser)

Ratified by SACRE on 4.6.20