



## Barnet SACRE Report September 2015 – August 2016

Three meetings were held, these took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015, 2<sup>nd</sup> March & 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 all at Hendon Town Hall.

### **Chair's report**

It is heartening to know that RE continues to be in the news & discussion on its value to children & young people examined. There have been a number of important publications that have implications for SACREs & RE, information has been circulated to all SACRE members through the termly newsletter & there are opportunities at each meeting to discuss any implications or clarifications. All material is included on the Barnet SACRE website. Publications have included: 'A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools' by Charles Clarke and Linda Woodhead; 'Living with Difference, the report of the Commission on Religion and Belief in Public Life', the report celebrates the role that religious education plays in preparing pupils for life in Modern Britain. 'RE for Real' from the Faiths & Civil Society Unit at Goldsmiths, University of London released a major new report on RE in secondary schools. The report highlights broad support for Religious Education from students, parents, and employers.

After the presentation made to the Scrutiny Committee last year the chair of SACRE has been invited to attend Education committee meetings.

A training programme for new & established SACRE members is in place & joint visits to places of religious interest have continued by teachers & SACRE members in London. This year SACRE members joint Manorside Primary School to visit the Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple, (in the Mahayana tradition) & All Saints Church both in Margaret Street. It was an opportunity for SACRE members, teachers & pupils to look at what make a visit to a place of worship educationally valuable. After the visit materials will be produced for other teachers to use.

The Directory of Places of Worship has been updated & is used by teachers to build links with faith groups in their locality.

The joint Barnet & Enfield bid for a Westhill grant entitled 'Faith Ambassadors in Schools: Encounters & Understandings' was successful. The young people discussed the project at the June SACRE meeting & came with their teachers, head teacher, parents & friends to receive hospitality & certificates. It was suggested that a

presentation could be made at the next head teachers briefing in November 2016 to include the role of SACRE, the Westhill Project & the REQM.

The Faith presentations continued & this year these included three excellent sessions: at the December meeting a presentation on the Society of Friends by Cllr Claire Farrier; a presentation at the March meeting on Hinduism by Mrs Veena Vendi & at the summer meeting the Westhill project was the focus.

Membership changes: at the end of the year we said goodbye to Janet Robinson who had served SACRE as clerk for many years with great commitment & dedication there will be a formal acknowledgement of her contribution at a future meeting.

## **Barnet examination results**

### **Barnet 'A' level Results 2016**

In 2016 there were 191 entries (compared to 2015 when 165 pupils sat the examination so an increase) 22.3% achieved an A\* or A result & 62.6% achieved an A\*-B grade. In 2015 26% achieving an A\* or A result & 61.2% achieving an A\*-B grade.

The following schools 13 schools entered students: Ashmole; Bishop Douglass, Copthall, Finchley Catholic High, Hasmorean High, Hendon, J Coss, London Academy, Mill Hill High, Queen Elizabeth Girls, St James', St Michaels & The Wren Academy.

### **Barnet A/S level 2016**

Nationally there was a fall in number of entries of 2%. However, in Barnet numbers have grown, in 2015, 64 students were entered & in 2016, 335 pupils were entered, a dramatic increase. Students were entered from the following 15 schools: Ashmole; Bishop Douglass; Copthall; East Barnet School; Finchley Catholic High; Hasmorean High; Hendon; J.Coss; London Academy; Mill Hill High; Queen Elizabeth's Girls; St James'; St Michael's Grammar School; The Compton & the Wren Academy. Two schools entered students for the first time J.Coss; The Compton & the Wren Academy. 22.8% achieved an A grade compared to 14% in 2015 & 74.4% obtained an A-C result compared with 48% in 2015. So an increase in numbers & achievement.

### **Barnet GCSE Full course 2016**

In 2016, 1751 students were entered **a rise in numbers** from 2015 when 1635 students entered. The trend seems to be upwards after a drop in 2014 (1353) & nearer to the numbers of entries in 2013 (1800). So the numbers of students being entered for the full course is increasing,

The following 24 schools entered pupils for GCSE full course: Ashmole, Bishop Douglass, Christ College, Copthall, East Barnet, Finchley Catholic High, Friern Barnet, Hasmorean High, Hendon, J.Coss, London Academy, Mill Hill High, Northgate, The Pavilion Centre, Queen Elizabeth's Girls, Queen Elizabeth's School, St James', St Mary's, St Michael's, The Compton, Henrietta Barnet, The Totteridge Academy, Whitefield & Wren Academy.

Ashmole Academy, East Barnet & Christ College had no entries in 2015 but all entered students in 2016 & Northgate School & the Pavilion Study Centre entered pupils for the first time.

In 2016 A\*-C passes were 79.9% compared with 2015 86.17%.

So an optimistic picture with more schools, students & those from a wide range of ability being entered for the full course GCSE.

### **Short course 2016**

No data was available for 2015 but this year figures 570 students were entered from 12 schools: Ashmole, Bishop Douglass, Cophall, Finchley Catholic High, JCoss, Mill Hill High, Northgate, The Pavilion Centre, Queen Elizabeth's Girls, Queen Elizabeth School, St James', St Mary's, Henrietta Barnet, The Totteridge Academy & Wren Academy.

Overall entries 2321 students were entered for GCSE full & short course from. All secondary schools in Barnet entered students for the examination.

### **Support for the Agreed syllabus**

Termly half day meetings have been held for primary co-ordinators & a termly meeting open to all teachers in Barnet & Enfield has been arranged. A new in post RE co-ordinators course was held in the autumn term after requests from teachers. Visits were made to schools & staff meetings & inset provided under the Barnet for School Improvement Programme. A termly newsletter is circulated to all schools & SACRE members in Barnet & Enfield. A Holocaust pack was written with the support of Rev Bernd Koschland & it was circulated to all schools in Barnet & Enfield & SACRE members. Young people from JCoss who had taken part in the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) were invited to speak at the Holocaust Commemoration Service in Barnet.

### **Membership Academic year 2015-6**

Group A

Mr Alae & Mrs Golesanah Baha'i

Vacancy Buddhist,

Mr C O'Halpin Catholic,

Mrs Catherine Salinger Free churches

Mrs Judith Smith Free Churches

Mrs Karaolis (attending on behalf of the Very Revd AC Damiano) Greek Orthodox,

Mrs Venna Bendi Mr H Bose & Mr Saha Hindu,

Mr E.Barbour Humanist,

Mrs Amreena Husain-Ali Islam,

Mr Levin Jewish

Rabbi Mark Goldsmith Jewish,

Mrs J Smith Free Church,

Mr Attariwala & Mr Chada Sikh,

Dr Shah Jain,

Major Paul Hilditch Salvation Army

**Group B**

Mrs Jane Pavlou	London Diocese
Rev Dr Gregory Platten	London Diocese (from June 2014)
Mrs Mel Adams	Diocese of St Albans
Rev Tristan Chapman	Diocese of St Albans

**Group C**

Mr Kevin McSharry	ASCL
Ms Anne Dyas/Neil Enright	NASUWT
Ms Marina Robb	NUT

**Group D**

Cllr Alison Cornelius, Cllr Claire Farrier, Cllr Brian Gordon, Cllr Joan Scannell, Cllr Mark Shooter, Cllr Agnes Slocombe.

From June 2014 Cllr Alison Cornelius, Cllr Claire Farrier, Cllr Brian Gordon, Cllr Sury Khatri, Cllr Joan Scannell, Cllr Mark Shooter & Cllr Agnes Slocombe.

Also in attendance: Mr Neil Marlow (LA representing the Assistant Director & Interim Director of Children's Services), Mrs Janet Robinson (clerk to SACRE) & Dr. Anna Sallnow RE consultant.