

# Coventry Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Annual Report 2022-23



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### Introduction

This is the annual report of the Coventry Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for 2022/23 and is published in accordance with the requirements of section 391 (6) of the Education Act 1996. It provides an account of SACRE activities during this period.

#### Circulation of this report

This report will be circulated electronically to:

Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of Coventry schools
Coventry City Councillors
Department for Education
Diocesan Board of Education (Coventry Church of England Diocese)
Diocesan Education Service (Roman Catholic Archdiocese Birmingham)
The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)
SACREs in neighbouring authorities
Faith groups

It will also be available to download at: <a href="https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacre">www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacre</a>
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Information on administrative and organisational matters is available from Lucy Lambert: Education Improvement and Standards, PO Box 15, Council House, Coventry, CV1 5RR – telephone 024 76976979 or email <a href="mailto:lucy.lambert@coventry.gov.uk">lucy.lambert@coventry.gov.uk</a>.

This report is written in memory of Gill Kingston, a beloved member of the Chairs Group who sadly passed away in 2023 after many decades of support for local RE and many dedicated years of service on SACRE.

### Message from the Co-Chairs of SACRE

This was the year in which our grand vision for a home-grown Agreed Syllabus grew from a healthy sapling to a tree soaring skywards. We have based it on the latest concept of Religion and Worldviews [RWV] as a strongly academic school subject; we are convinced that all pupils should become involved through analysing their own worldviews, whether held consciously or not; we have built into it the city of Coventry's unique mission for peace and reconciliation, arising from its experiences in World War Two. It is the ideal launching pad from which schools can overturn, at least locally, Ofsted's comment in its latest Annual Report that "RE in schools is generally of poor quality".

The whole project was dreamed up and has been brought almost to fruition (at the time of writing) by our RE Facilitator Jen Jenkins, who has turned her vision into reality through her diligence and determination. Helping her have been ten practising RE teachers; staff and pupils from other schools; and SACRE members of various faiths and none. Coventry City Council officers and members have added their support and wisdom. Reassuring comments on the Syllabus as it is taking shape have come from national figures on the RE scene.

Meanwhile, the core work has continued: supporting RE in schools, monitoring the number of public examination entries and their results (although they are not always easy to obtain within a convenient timeframe); providing courses and resources for teachers, often in video form; extra education on the concept and practice of RWV for SACRE members. Noteworthy were three CPD sessions in an Orthodox Church which welcomes worshippers of many backgrounds - a good example of both Christian cooperation and the heterogeneity of the worldwide Christian Church.

Meanwhile, the SACRE has continued to play an active part within the life of the city's many faith groups, helping to promote co-operation and community cohesion.

Opportunities for gratitude are too numerous to mention, as our report indicates - please read it and find out.



Miss Manjit Kaur



Mr Roderick Clark

### 1. Executive Summary

The main priorities for Coventry SACRE in 2022/23 were:

We had one priority as outlined by the NASACRE toolkit: Section 1 Standards and Quality of Provision. This was in light of the disruption to education due to Covid.

Item	Actions	Person Responsible /Overview
1a – RE provision across the LA	New RE Agreed Syllabus for Coventry and Warwickshire	RE Facilitator LA officers SACRE members Teacher writing group
1b – Standards of achievement and public examination entries	Monitoring of GCSE and A-Level results Ofsted outcomes & follow-up	RE Facilitator LA officers SACRE clerks
1c – Quality of learning and teaching	Development of units of work for new RE Agreed syllabus and accompanying resources	RE Facilitator LA officers SACRE members Teacher writing group
1d – Quality of leadership and management, including the provision and management of resources	INSET for RE subject leaders Westhill Grant application	RE Facilitator
1e – Recruitment and retention of skilled specialist RE staff	Training of RE subject leaders and RE teachers	RE Facilitator

#### CPD in 2022-2023 included:

Date	Session	Suitable for	Description
10 <sup>th</sup>	Microsoft Teams: Getting	Primary and	This will be a re-run of the
November	Ready for Change- Re-run of	Secondary RE	October 2021 session on the
2022	Worldviews Approach to RE	Leaders/Teachers	Worldviews Approach to teaching
4.00-	CPD		RE. The new Agreed Syllabus
5.30pm			(due in 2024) will shift from the
			World Religions Paradigm to a
			Worldviews Approach to teaching
			RE, so this is essential training
			for any RE subject leader seeking
			to be ready who has not attended

			previous training or watched the recordings.
17 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 4.00- 5.30pm	Microsoft Teams: <i>Getting Ready for Change</i> - Re-run of  Balanced, Multi-Disciplinary  RE CPD	Primary and Secondary RE Leaders/Teachers	This will be a re-run of the January 2022 session on the multi-disciplinary, balanced RE. The new Agreed Syllabus (due in 2024) will focus on a multidisciplinary approach to teaching RE as an academically rigorous subject, so this is essential training for any RE subject leader seeking to be ready who has not attended previous training or watched the recordings.
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023 4.0- 5.30pm	Microsoft Teams: <i>Getting Ready for Change</i> - Diving Deeper into the Disciplines	Primary and Secondary RE Leaders/Teachers	This session will focus on the three main disciplines of RE: theology, philosophy and human & social sciences, and the associated methodology and tools for bringing the disciplines into the classroom.
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 4.00- 5.30pm	Microsoft Teams: Getting Ready for Change- Fulfilling the Requirements of the Ofsted Research Report on RE	Primary and Secondary RE Leaders/Teachers	This session will look in detail at the May 2021 Ofsted RE Research Report on RE which will impact upon the new local Agreed Syllabus and the RE curriculums of schools in Coventry and Warwickshire.

In-Person Sessions were also held in 2022-2023 in response to the demands of the GCSE and A-Level Christianity content:

Date	Session	Suitable for	Description
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Live: Orthodox Christianity Session 1:	Secondary RE	This session will
2022	General Introduction of Orthodox	Teachers of GCSE	introduce you to
4.30-	Christianity	& A-Level but may	some of the key
6.00pm		also be of interest	theological
	Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton	to primary	differences and
	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for	important
	Warwickshire, CV21 3QT	teaching diversity	practices of
		in Christianity	Eastern Orthodox
			Christianity.
2.20			
20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Live:</b> Orthodox Christianity Session 1:	Secondary RE	This session will
October	Orthodox Celebration of the Nativity	Teachers of GCSE	introduce you to
2022	(Christmas)	& A-Level but may	some of the
4.30-		also be of interest	important
6.00pm	Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton	to primary	theology and
	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for	essential
	Warwickshire, CV21 3QT	teaching diversity	practices and
		in Christianity	their symbolism in
			the Eastern

			Orthodox celebration of the Nativity.
16 <sup>th</sup>	Live: Orthodox Christianity Session 1:	Secondary RE	This session will
February	Orthodox Celebration of Holy Week and	Teachers of GCSE	introduce you to
2023	Pascha (Easter)	& A-Level but may	some of the
4.30-		also be of interest	important
6.00pm	Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton	to primary	theology and
	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for	essential
	Warwickshire, CV21 3QT	teaching diversity	practices and
		in Christianity	their symbolism in
			the Eastern
			Orthodox
			celebration of
			Great Lent, Holy
			Week and Holy
			Pascha (Easter).

SACRE members offered in-person and remote visits to schools via Teams and Zoom during 2022-2023, visiting primary and secondary schools.

Videos were added to Coventry SACRE YouTube Channel, including: those made by SACRE members and all CPD sessions created by the RE Facilitator: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCffPoYcgi0e3cplRa0jmG6Q">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCffPoYcgi0e3cplRa0jmG6Q</a>

Resources for schools were developed in line with local needs and national developments in RE and national events (e.g. the release of the 2021 Census data on religion).

Another funding grant application went in to Westhill Charity by Coventry Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) on behalf of both local SACREs and was successful. This will see a digital photo pack of local communal worldviews, places of worship and faith communities developed with the support of a local photographer. *Images That Speak* will be a resource developed during 2023-2024.

SACRE continued to support local community projects, such as Coventry Sacred Space, the Lord Major's Peace Committee Coventry Peace Award and the annual peace poetry competition.

### 2. **SACRE Meetings 2022-2023**

#### a) Attendance at SACRE Meetings

Coventry SACRE met on three occasions during the 2022/23 academic year. Details of venues and attendance are provided in the table below.

Date	Venue	Numbers	Numbers in attendance from each group				
		Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Co-opted Members	Other attendees
10/10/22	Council House, Coventry LA building	4	3	2	2	0	3
02/02/23	The Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Transfiguration	4	3	2	3	0	2
26/06/23	Council House, Coventry LA building	5	3	1	2	0	2

#### Membership Groups:

Group A - Christian and other religious denominations other than the Church of England (11 members)

SACRE met in person during 2022-2023. SACRE met in places of worship and Local Authority premises during this period as schools were largely unable to host.

### 3. Support for RE

SACRE continues to support the Local Authority in seconding a RE specialist in the form of a RE Facilitator to provide support to Coventry schools and Coventry SACRE.

Coventry SACRE also continued joint-working with Warwickshire through the merging of the two Chairs Groups and one joint full SACRE meeting annually.

The RE Facilitator updated SACRE on national developments in RE, including the Religion and Worldviews Approach and Multi-Disciplinary RE and the underpinning

Group B - Church of England (5 members)

Group C – Teacher Associations (5 members)

Group D – Coventry City Council (5 members)

principles from the Religion & Education Council's Worldviews Project that has fed into our syllabus development.

The local syllabus writing group have also been working to produce a framework inline with the draft national statement of entitlement (NSE) and guidance in the REC Worldviews Draft Resource. A team of ten teachers from primary and secondary community and CE schools have worked together on these joint endeavours. They have been supported by Céline Benoit (Aston University) and Tim Hutchings (Nottingham University), sociologists of religion and teacher liaison officers for TRS-UK. Feedback from the REC project leaders, Stephen Pett (RE Today) and Trevor Cooling (Canterbury Christ Church University and previously Chair of the REC) has been very positive about the work.

The new agreed syllabus will be launched in April 2024 in readiness for implementation from September 2024. The Agreed Syllabus Conference has been assembled and active since September 2022. In the interim period, the RE Today syllabus has been extended for a further two years and this will come to an end in July 2024.

The RE Facilitator had contact with 10 Coventry schools via email contact initiated by RE teachers and subject leaders during 2022-2023 and was able to provide support, share resources, answer queries and follow-up with SACRE supportive visits as needed/requested.

#### a) Uptake of Agreed Syllabus (including academies)

Currently 93 schools use the Coventry & Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus, of which 41 are academies.

The following Coventry schools have released teachers as part of the agreed syllabus writing group:

Blue Coat School, Coventry

The following Coventry schools have provided feedback on the development of the agreed syllabus:

- Seva School, Coventry
- Eden Girls School, Coventry

#### b) Standards and monitoring of RE

**SACRE Monitoring Visits** 

SACRE monitoring visits were on hold during this academic year while the new agreed syllabus was in development. These will be picked up again once the syllabus has been launched.

#### **Ofsted Follow Up**

Ofsted visits to Coventry schools in 2022-23 were as follows:

Nursery/Early Years - 1 inspection Primary Schools - 19 inspections Secondary schools - 6 inspections Special schools - 1 inspection

There were 18 inspections under section 5 and 9 inspections under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Some comments made in Coventry schools' Ofsted reports regarding RE were:

#### **Positive Comments About RE in Coventry Schools**

Pupils learn about different religions and cultures.

At Little Heath, difference is celebrated. Pupils understand that people can be different in a variety of ways. For example, over 40 languages are spoken at home by pupils and their families. Pupils enjoy learning about other faiths and cultures. One pupil, voicing the view of many, said: 'If everyone was the same, it would be boring.'. Leaders also ensure that all pupils learn tolerance and understanding. For example, pupils spoken to enjoyed learning about other faiths and beliefs.

Pupils learn about life in other countries and cultures. The curriculum reflects the multicultural nature of the local community. For example, leaders have introduced an Eritrea after-school club. Pupils demonstrate strong knowledge of different religions.

Pupils learn about difference, and explain that everyone is treated equally. Pupils from different faiths share their celebrations and beliefs with their peers in school.

Leaders have ensured that their teaching about the Muslim faith is explicitly linked.

Leaders have ensured that their teaching about the Muslim faith is explicitly linked to fundamental British values and character building. They achieve this with 'hadith of the week'. For example, pupils learn to be respectful of differences and to promote tolerance. This teaches pupils to become well-rounded citizens, who are prepared for life in modern Britain.

Visits to local places of worship help pupils to understand different faiths. Pupils celebrate and value difference.

One response from a head teacher: Thank you for your email Jennifer, it is nice to receive feedback from other services. As a multi-cultural school, we strongly believe that all children should have the opportunity to learn about different religions and cultures. We are proud that we celebrate differences in our school and teach our children about respect, tolerance and understanding.

Where RE was specifically mentioned or implied, email contact was made with the school of the following nature:

• To congratulate them on the RE provision

• To offer support with regards to a particular finding or comment in the report

This was the response from one Coventry school following an email from the RE Facilitator in response to Ofsted follow-up:

Thank you for contacting us and thank you for your kind words. Everyone worked incredibly hard, and we are all delighted with our report.

In response to your enquiry, we do take the children on educational visits to local places of worship. Most recently, our Reception classes visited our local Gurdwara. They were taught about the temple and about the Vaisakhi festival. In the past, we celebrated world religion day, where we had visitors from within the community to talk to the children about different faiths, their practices and their beliefs, with the opportunity to answer questions from the children. We are hoping to incorporate this a lot more next academic year.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to drop me an email.





The Hindu festival of Holi being celebrated at Blue Coat School, Coventry

#### **Exam Data**

In 2022, 1673 Coventry year 11 students were entered for Religious Studies qualifications, this is approximately 44% of the year 11 cohort. There were 1671 entries for the full GCSE, and 2 for the short course GCSE.

17 of the 22 Coventry schools offered the full GCSE course. Some schools (Bishop Ullathorne, Blue Coat, Cardinal Newman, Cardinal Wiseman, Eden Girls School, Finham Park, Lyng Hall and Meadow Park) enter the vast majority of their students for Religious Studies.

The numbers taking short course Religious Studies GCSE are low, which reflects the national situation. There has been a decrease in entries from 14 in 2019, to 2 in 2022.

Students at Eden Girls School performed particularly well in 2022 compared to other schools with a high number of entries. Attainment was also high at Coundon Court compared to other schools where relatively fewer students were entered.

	Full GCSE Coventry
Number of entries	1671
9-1 passes	96%
9-5 passes	62%

#### c) REQM

Several schools in Coventry now have the REQM Award. We have not been made aware of any new schools gaining the award in 2022-2023.

#### d) Teacher CPD and resourcing

#### **Online CPD**

CPD for RE teachers and subject leaders continued to take place during 2022-2023 via Microsoft Teams as requested by teachers. The following sessions focused on supporting RE subject leaders and RE teachers in getting ready for the new agreed syllabus:

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In-Person Sessions were also held in 2022-2023 in response to the demands of the GCSE and A-Level Christianity content:

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6.00pm		also be of interest	theological
	Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton	to primary	differences and
	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for	important
	Warwickshire, CV21 3QT	teaching diversity	practices of
		in Christianity	Eastern Orthodox
			Christianity.
20 <sup>th</sup>	Live: Orthodox Christianity Session 1:	Secondary RE	This session will
October	Orthodox Celebration of the Nativity	Teachers of GCSE	introduce you to
2022	(Christmas)	& A-Level but may	some of the
4.30-		also be of interest	important
6.00pm	Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton	to primary	theology and
	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for	essential
	Warwickshire, CV21 3QT	teaching diversity	practices and
		in Christianity	their symbolism in

6.00pm Orthodox Church of the Ascension, Clifton Road Cemetery, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3QT  to primary teachers for teaching diversity in Christianity theology ar essential practices a their symbolis the Easter Orthodox celebration Great Lent, F	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 4.30- 6.00pm	Road Cemetery, Rugby,	teachers for teaching diversity	the Eastern Orthodox celebration of the Nativity. This session will introduce you to some of the important theology and essential practices and their symbolism in the Eastern Orthodox celebration of Great Lent, Holy Week and Holy Pascha (Easter).
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#### **SACRE Resources for Schools**

The following resources were provided for schools during 2022-2023:

- Autumn/Spring/Summer RE Bulletins
- Teaching Non-Religious Worldviews guidance
- Census 2021 documents for schools
- Holocaust Memorial Day Bulletin
- New Syllabus Update
- SACRE worldviews videoshttps://www.youtube.com/channel/UCffPoYcgj0e3cpIRa0jmG6Q/about)
- New to RE Subject Leadership document
- Preparing Your School for the New Syllabus document for RE subject leaders
- Full range of RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement materials available to schools:
  - https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/UKCOVENTRY/2023/01/12/file\_attachments/2378098/Westhill%20RE%20Subject%20Knowledge%20Enhancement%20Materials%20Flyer.pdf
- Coventry SACRE have established an 'Essential CPD' page which collates past training and provides links to recordings for RE subject leaders: <a href="https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/7067/essential-cpd-for-re-subject-leaders-and-teachers-of-re">https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/7067/essential-cpd-for-re-subject-leaders-and-teachers-of-re</a>
- A Story Tent event (run by SACRE member Dr Anne Moseley) and hosted at Coventry Cathedral involved SACRE members from both local SACREs sharing stories from the faith traditions with groups of school children. You can

view a video of the event, held at Coventry Cathedral, here: https://youtu.be/WolsaClLHPg?si=L5QCQSQC-kaaFxVg.

#### **SACRE Visits to Schools**

SACRE representatives continued to offer visits to local schools both remotely and inperson as requested. Schools can access SACRE members and request visits using our SACRE-suggested list of visits and visitors available on the Warwickshire SACRE website.

• Hema, a Hindu SACRE rep, visited a local school and reported the following:

I made a visit to Manor Park Primary school today and did their assembly on Hinduism.

Spoke about key concepts in Hinduism through 2 stories. Topics covered were

- 1) Main concepts in Hindu tradition
- + Dharma
- + Karma
- + Punar janma
- + Atma
- + Paramatma
- + Moksha
- 2) How Hindus greet each other; meaning of namaste; how to greet each other formally and informally; meaning of namaste and it's etymology. Had student volunteers to demonstrate it. A video I created on Namaste was shown.
- 3) Spoke about Diwali/Deepawali. How it's celebrated; How many days is the celebration for and what it stands for; A video I made on Diwali was shown and discussed.
- 4) Answered questions like
- + Is Diwali the only festival Hindus celebrate What is Rangoli, the
- + meaning and what it was traditionally made out of and why?
- + What is bindi/bottu and what is the meaning behind it and why and when do Hindus wear it; and ho else apart from Hindus also wear it.
- + Why animals and animals are fed
- + why caring for the environment is integral part of Hindu Dharma.
- Ros, a Jewish SACRE rep, visited Sidney Stringer Academy in Coventry to do an assembly on Hannukah.

#### School visits to places of worship

Local schools continue to visit a variety of local places of worship. We have a set of guidance for this on the Warwickshire SACRE website, as well as an open survey for schools to record when they are making these visits. A SACRE-suggested list of visits and visitors supports schools in making the arrangements for these enriching activities within the RE curriculum: <a href="https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/4">https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/4</a>









**ggnpcoventry** This academic year Ggnp has hosted

Children & Adults - 1267 18 Schools and 2 Organisations

Guru Nanak Parkash Gurdwara in Coventry have a well-established visiting scheme for local schools

#### e) Withdrawals from RE

Coventry SACRE has not been made aware of withdrawals from RE although these are encountered at times during SACRE supportive visits and reported by SACRE members and appropriate advice and documentation is signposted.

#### f) Complaints

SACRE received no complaints during 2022-2023.

#### g) Advice to the LA

The RE Facilitator provided advice to the LA regarding national updates around the Religion and Worldviews approach, as well as ongoing feedback from the REC Worldviews project. This has been used to support development of the new agreed syllabus and Coventry LA have funded teachers to write the syllabus and units for work during 2022-2023 and will continue this in 2023-2024.

The Agreed Syllabus work has developed as follows in 2022-2023:

- Teacher group meetings online- June, September, October 2022
- Teacher group meetings in-person- November 2022
- SACRE review/audit of existing syllabus completed- summer term 2022
- Updates to SACRE on progress- October 2022, February 2023, June 2023
- Update for South Warwickshire NATRE Group- November 2022. Teacher responses to plans for the new syllabus: "sounds good"; "very clear"
- Work with teacher writing group on syllabus and units of work- ongoing from autumn 2022-summer 2023
- Two Farmington scholars have been involved in the development of the new agreed syllabus and associated work on the REC framework: Alice Thomas (Southam College and Coventry SACRE Group C) working on assessment and Sophie Smith (George Eliot Academy & Warwickshire SACRE Group C) working on disciplinary lenses. Their work has been shard with SACRE as part of the development of the new local agreed syllabus.

SACRE provided advice to Coventry LA regarding Collective Worship and both guidance for schools and a new system for Determinations were developed in 2022-2023.

SACRE also provided guidance to the LA regarding issues around religious dress and prayer spaces within schools.

#### h) Advice to other bodies/organisations

During 2022-2023, SACRE offered the following support to other bodies/organisations:

 AREIAC conference July 2022- arranging visits to places of worship, providing SACRE panel on visits and visitors, local EYFS teacher leading a session on RE & EYFS.

- RExChange Conference October 2022: The RE Facilitator led a session on the Christian Worldviews & Advocacy Project (managed by Coventry DBE), the RE Facilitator & a local secondary RE teacher (Blue Coat School, Coventry) led a session together on Hermeneutics for RE.
- The RE Facilitator and Chair of Coventry SACRE supported NASACRE through two contributions to NASACRE webinars regarding the Westhill grant that had funded the RE Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programme (see <a href="https://www.westhillendowment.org/coventry-and-warwickshire-sacres/Home">https://www.westhillendowment.org/coventry-and-warwickshire-sacres/Home</a>).
   The presentation is available here: <a href="https://nasacre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/15th-Supporting-RE-Teachers-with-Enhanced-Subject-Knowledge Westhill-Presentation.pdf">https://nasacre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/15th-Supporting-RE-Teachers-with-Enhanced-Subject-Knowledge Westhill-Presentation.pdf</a>

### 4. Collective Worship

#### a) Standards and monitoring

 New guidance for schools regarding collective worship was developed and issued to schools, with support from SACRE members. Legal compliance for a daily act of collective worship mainly of a broadly Christian character was included in the guidance, alongside a proposed structure, resources and making use of visitors.

#### b) Determinations

Two schools (Holbrook Primary School and Frederick Bird Primary School) that were granted a determination in 2016-17, continued in 2021-2022. Holbrook Primary School submitted a new determination application and this was upheld by SACRE after determination measures were applied and criteria was met.

Frederick Bird began the process of seeking a renewal for their determination but this was then put on hold while the school academised.

There were no further applications for determinations to alter the character of collective worship for all pupils in any other schools during 2022/23.

#### c) Teacher training

No CPD on collective worship took place in 2022-2023.

#### d) Advice to LA

The guidance document on collective worship was positively received by Coventry LA and distributed to schools. It is housed on the Warwickshire SACRE website alongside other SACRE resources: <a href="https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/2">https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-resources/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre/2</a>

### 5. SACRE work with the community

- SACRE continues to support the Coventry Sacred Space Initiative, with several SACRE members active members of the project (see https://tiatrust.org/coventry-sacred-space-initiative/ for more information).
- SACRE Chair supported the community celebration of Hannukah in December 2022.
- SACRE have also supported and encouraged local businessman, Avi Torjman, in the refurbishment of the Coventry Synagogue.
- Coventry's annual Hiroshima Day event took place in August 2022 and was supported by SACRE members:

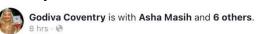






Bishop Christopher gave an address in the House of Lords following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, making Coventry and Warwickshire connections: <a href="https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2022-09-10/debates/1A292C36-9BBE-4B5A-9366-ADD0154812E5/details#contribution-38A64BBA-4787-4C48-8EB5-9EA2219071E8</a><a href="https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/lykcCMjREfv31ovfwlzFK?domain=hansard.parliament.uk">https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/lykcCMjREfv31ovfwlzFK?domain=hansard.parliament.uk</a>

Other SACRE members and associates also gave tribute at an event in the Peace Garden in the city:



I have been a member and trustee of MFF for over 20 years and early on Saturday morning I was involved and gave my thoughts, reflections and prayers with members and trustees including some of my coventry godiva sisters for a remembrance of our great Queen Elizabeth

It took place at the new community Peace Garden at the Canal Basin it was was a beautiful quiet solemn small gathering

Well organised by Multifaith Forum members Manjit Kaur and Asha Masih joined by representation from many of the faiths that work and live together in our city each gave and shared their thoughts

Closing our time together Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Zoroastrian, and Sikh faiths formed a circle and held hands to recite the Lord's Prayer

I am very grateful to be given the opportunity to share a moment of gratitude and reflection in a tranquil space with all faiths together remembering the extraordinary life of our Queen, Elizabeth II.

God save the King

- SACRE continues to support the Annual Peace Poetry event in Coventry Methodist Central Hall on 14th September:
  - Ten secondary pupils and three teachers attended from two schools (Blue Coat and Seva).
  - A representative from Coventry SACRE spoke about SACRE supporting good RE, leading to community understanding and peace.

- The students did three exercises: an acrostic about a favourite person • a poem about an "unsung hero" • a collaborative poem about Coventry (each student contributing one line).
- The Positive Images poetry event was supported by SACRE in November 2022.
- The RE Facilitator supported RRC Durham SACRE with some CPD on Orthodox icons.
- The RE Facilitator and SACRE Chairs supported the Religion & Media Council
  in planning a Coventry event (planned for October 2023) as part of their
  'Creating Connections' programme aimed at bringing faith communities,
  journalists and young people together. Our RE Facilitator had completed a form
  recommending Coventry as a great venue and this was agreed by the RMC.

### 6. SACRE Arrangements and Working

#### **SACRE** has a statutory duty:

- To advise the Local Authority on collective worship and Religious Education in community schools and foundation schools which do not have a religious character. Religious Education in these schools must be delivered in accordance with an Agreed Syllabus.
- To advise the Local Authority on collective worship and methods of teaching, choice of materials and teacher training in Religious Education and collective worship.
- To provide an annual report.
- To require Coventry City Council to periodically review the locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (at least every 5 years).

#### In addition the SACRE can:

Consider applications made by a Headteacher to release some or all of the pupils in a particular school from the requirement for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character (a Determination).

#### a) Membership

#### Membership of SACRE:

Coventry SACRE comprises four statutory groups:

Group A – such Christian Denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions as will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area.

Currently Coventry SACRE has provision for representatives from the following faiths – Baha'i, Buddhism, Christianity (Free churches, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholicism, Society of Friends), Islam, Judaism.

Group B – Church of England (Christianity)

Group C – Teacher Associations

Group D – Local Authority

Additional members including people with particular expertise in areas of religious education or who represent perspectives not included in the statutory groups are coopted by SACRE.

Membership details are shown in Appendix B.

#### b) Training

Members of Coventry SACRE attended the online NASACRE Conference in 2022-2023.

NASACRE webinars were also attended.

SACRE members received training on the Religion & Worldviews approach and multidisciplinary RE courtesy of the RE Facilitator.

#### c) Professional and Financial Support

A budget is provided to SACRE by the City Council to cover the priorities identified. The SACRE Chairs' Group has advised the local authority on priorities and how this funding should be spent. In 2022-23, this was used to fund the following:

- Supporting the writing and development of the Agreed Syllabus
- Monitoring RE provision via Ofsted report scrutiny and exam entry/results data
- Training for local RE teachers
- Salary for RE Facilitator one day a week during term time, plus expenses (mileage and resources)
- Servicing of SACRE meetings venues, refreshments
- NASACRE annual subscription / attendance at AGM
- NATRE annual subscription
- Chartered College annual subscription
- CPD for RE Facilitator

The local authority has continued to provide annual support to SACRE with LA Officer time, a clerk and other administrative staff in order to enable SACRE to fulfil its duties.

#### **Appendix A**

#### **Glossary of Terms**

AGM Annual General Meeting

AREIAC Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants

ASC Agreed Syllabus Conference

C of E Church of England

CPD Continuing Professional Development

DfE Department for Education

EBacc English Baccalaureate

GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education

ICT Information and Communication Technology

INSET In-Service Training Day

KS Key Stage

LA Local Authority

LOtC Learning Outside the Classroom

NASACRE National Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education

NATRE National Association of Teachers of Religious Education

NQT Newly Qualified Teacher

Ofsted Office for Standards in Education

PEBBLE Public Body Liaison Committee for British Paganism

RE Religious Education

REC Religious Education Council

RS Religious Studies

SACRE Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

SIAMS Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools

SMSCD Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

### Appendix B

### **SACRE Membership**

Name	Group	Representing
Bill Rattigan	A	Baha'i
Ghulam Vohra	A	Islam
Ros Johnson	A	Judaism
Jonathan Passman	A	Judaism
Helen Maoudis	A	Greek Orthodox
Pauline Luckett	A	Free Churches
Anne-Marie Taylor	A	Black Churches
Alka Gandhi	A	Hindu Dharma
Pavanjeet Sandhu	A	Sikhi
Roderick Clark	В	Church of England
Joanne Evans	В	Church of England
Jennifer Jenkins	В	Church of England
Emma Griffiths	В	Church of England
Muhammad Imran	С	Teacher (Secondary)
Alice Thomas	С	Teacher (Secondary)
Janey Manton	С	Teacher (Secondary)
Gemma Hathaway	С	Teacher (Secondary)
Manjit Kaur	D	Coventry City Council
Gyll Brown	D	Coventry City Council
Rev. Terry Colling	D	Coventry City Council
Cllr Kindy Sandhu	D	Coventry City Council
Rachel Cooper	Co-opted	University of Warwick ITE
Dr. Asim Mumtaz	Co-opted	Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Martin Ledgard	Education Improvement and Standards	Coventry City Council
Lucy Lambert	Clerk	Coventry City Council

### **Appendix C**

### **Funded Development Plan**

## Coventry & Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus Review Spending Proposal: Four Year Costings

These costings are in addition to the usual SACRE budget allocations that cover RE Facilitator salary and expenses, SACRE hospitality, conference and subscription fees.

Costing	Financial Year
Cost of extending current AS for two	£1500
additional years	
Cost of a day's supply cover for each of	£4,800.00
20 non-statutory units to be written	Split evenly between Coventry &
	Warwickshire
Meetings x3 half days with teacher	£2,250
writing group	Split evenly between Coventry &
	Warwickshire
3 days of time payable to Coventry DBE	£980.00
	Split evenly between Coventry &
	Warwickshire
Design costs for final version of Agreed	£1,000 for each LA in April 2023-2024
Syllabus	
Launch costs (venue, refreshments,	April 2023-April 2024 budget
speakers, etc)	