

East Riding of Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Annual Report – 2017/18

This report provides a summary of the actions and impact of the East Riding of Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) during the academic year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018. The role of the SACRE is to

- Advise the local authority on matters connected with religious education and collective worship
- Monitor provision and standards in religious education
- Advise on methods of teaching, choice of materials and provision of teacher training
- Support schools in reviewing and self-evaluating their provision for RE and collective worship
- Consider complaints about the provision and delivery of RE and collective worship referred to it by the local authority
- Publish an annual report of its work
- Make a determination on collective worship when requested
- Establish an occasional body called an Agreed Syllabus Conference to review the agreed syllabus for RE adopted by the LA every five years

Advice to statutory bodies

Local authority:

- a briefing paper was written and presented at the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 February 2018. This addressed the corporate priorities of Helping Children and Young People Achieve and Promoting Healthy Lifestyles.

Schools:

- Schools were forwarded details of numerous activities to support RE and collective worship throughout the year, including a number linked to Hull City of Culture.
- A letter was written to a secondary school advising them of the statutory requirement to teach RE. A response by the new headteacher reassured SACRE members that changes had been made and pupils were now being taught RE.
- Sue Holmes (RE Consultant) was paid by SACRE to plan, run and follow up on 5 RE network meetings across the local authority throughout the year.

Government and other statutory bodies:

- Members were encouraged to send in their responses to the consultation on the interim report from the Commission on Religious Education which focuses on the future of RE in schools
- A school in West Yorkshire was advised it could use the East Riding Locally Agreed Syllabus free of charge.

Standards and quality of provision of RE

The quality of RE provision in maintained East Riding schools is largely unknown except for those schools who attend RE Network meetings, led by the RE consultant provided by SACRE. In these schools, provision is generally good or better. In Church of England schools, the impact RE makes to the school's distinctive Christian ethos is good or better in all schools inspected during the period of this report. In Roman Catholic schools, RE is good or better.

Public examinations:

	GCSE	2015	2016	2017
Key Stage 4	Number of students taking Religious Studies GCSE	1850	1503	1647
	% grade 4+ (out of 9, with 9 being highest)	68% (sig-)	70%	63% (sig-)
	% grade 5+	47%(sig-)	47%(sig-)	41%(sig-)
	% grade 7+	22% (sig-)	23%(sig-)	19% (sig-)

A level		2014	2015	2016	2017
Key Stage 5	Number of students taking Religious Studies A level	47	73	70	58
	Average score across LA (with 1 being national average, below 1 is below average)	0.9	0.96	1.00	0.98
	Average grade across LA (on a 1-9 scale, 1 being highest)	7	5	5	5

Withdrawal from RE

SACRE provided advice to one school who had received a request for withdrawal of their child from a baptism role-play activity.

Complaints about RE

SACRE responded to a complaint received from one parent about an RE activity at their child's school.

Agreed Syllabus

The locally agreed syllabus was reviewed and revised in 2016. It is bespoke to the area and well-received by schools. For the academic year 2017-18, from 4 September to 20 July, the number of hits on the site was 60,658, with Key Stage 2 content proving most popular. Traffic to the Agreed Syllabus site is highest at the start of term.

The RE consultant, Lucy Jordan (Improvement Adviser, Primary and LA SACRE representative) met with the website controller to update pages in July 2018, ensuring the Agreed Syllabus remains relevant and fit for purpose. School staff are encouraged to use the online contact page to report any errors or omissions.

The Agreed Syllabus will be reviewed in 2020 in time for any updates to be completed by 2021.

Collective worship

A survey of all primary and secondary schools is being undertaken in autumn 2018 to ascertain whether schools are meeting the requirement to have a daily act of collective worship. This will inform future SACRE planning.

There were no determinations during the period of this report.

There were no complaints received by SACRE during the period of this report.

Management of SACRE

Action to ensure membership is active and reflects local groups have resulted in one resignation and two new members joining.

SACRE MEMBERSHIP – EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Committee A: Christian and other Religions / Denominations / Faiths in the Community (10 members)		
Tina Grant	Beverley Community Church	Free Churches
Dr Sholeh Missaghi Hakiman	Baha'i Faith	
Mr Michael Westerman	Jewish Orthodox	
Reverend Mark Witherden	Driffield Christian Fellowship	Free Churches
Dennis Young	Yorkshire Baptist Association	Free Churches
Vacancy	Roman Catholic Church	
Vacancy	Buddhism	
Vacancy	Hinduism	

Vacancy	Islam	
Vacancy	Sikhism	
Committee B: Church of England (4 members)		
Mrs S Steel	Diocese of York	
Miss Jane Cawthorn	Diocese of York	
Professor Julian Stern	Diocese of York	
Reverend Eleanor Robertshaw	Sheffield Diocese	
Committee C: Teacher Associations (6 members)		
Mr Howard Nind	NASUWT	
Mrs Wendy Butler	NEU-ATL (Beverley High School)	
Mrs Julie Cattle	NAHT	
Mrs Caroline Swift	NEU-NUT (South Hunsley Academy)	
Vacancy	Voice	
Vacancy	ACSL	
Committee D: Local Authority members (4 members)		
Mr Chad Chadwick (Vice-Chairman)	ERYC	
Councillor Philip Davison (Chairman)	ERYC (Liberal Democrat Group)	
Councillor Victoria Aitken	ERYC (Conservative Group)	
Councillor Geraldine Mathieson	ERYC (Independent Group)	
Co-options (no more than 4 members)		
Mrs Lucy Jordan	School Improvement	
Vacancy	Humanist Representative	
Mrs Sue Holmes	RE Consultant	

CLERK – Iain Edmiston, Senior Committee Manager, East Riding of Yorkshire Council,

Attendance at SACRE meetings during the period of this report was as follows:

2 March 17 (Attendance 69%)

22 June 17 (Attendance 46%)

16 November 17 (Attendance 53%)

8 March 18 (Attendance 42%)

21 June 18 (Attendance 73%)

15 November 18 – TBC

Contribution of SACRE to the wider LA agenda

SACRE has provided funding to enable an RE consultant to network with faith members to organise and run Living Faiths days, attended by 11 East Riding Schools over the course of the year.

SACRE has provided funding to enable an RE consultant to liaise with Label of Love (a Christian educational charity) and church communities to deliver REAction RE days to 22 schools across the LA.

SACRE has provided funding for an RE consultant to provide email/phonecall support in relation to the locally agreed syllabus throughout the year.