

Enfield Annual SACRE report 2016-17

Introduction & context This year has seen the publication of some key reports acknowledging the important role that good Religious Education plays in preparing young people for life in modern Britain. The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Report '**Improving Religious Literacy**' was published in July 2016. The **REC Independent Commission** begun its important task of looking at RE in English schools. After an extensive consultation, the draft report will be published in September 2017 with the final report due out in 2018. SACRE met three times: 8th November; 21st February 2017 & 22nd June 2017. A termly newsletter was sent out to all schools & SACRE members & was put on the SACRE website for future reference. At the beginning of the Spring Term a Holocaust pack was sent out to all schools & SACRE members. As ever, the Local Authority needs to be acknowledged for its continued support. Through the funding for the work of Sabah Raza, Primary RE Advisor, who with her expertise, enthusiasm & drive has been crucial in the development of excellent primary RE in the Borough in her work with primary coordinators & NQTs, the support for Anna Sallnow, RE Consultant & the LA expertise of Clara Seery, Pauline Swain & Janet Balfour. Thanks too, to all the volunteers who give of their time & expert knowledge with great generosity without all this support SACRE would not be able to function as it does. This year the programme has included **SPEED FAITHING** a one to one sessions where colleagues spent time getting to know each other better and understand more about other Members' faiths. Navaratnam Shanmuganathan hosted a special visit for SACRE members and members of the Faith Forum to his temple & was thanked by members who participated. The joint Enfield & Barnet **Faith Ambassadors project** was evaluated & we had the pleasure of being joined at our November meeting by Debbie Ramkeelawon, a year 9 Faith Ambassador from Winchmore Hill School who shared her experiences. She described the process & how the experience had expanded her knowledge of her faith and developed her communication skills and boosted her confidence.

Membership There have been some key changes, including the resignation of Margaret Hobbs as chair, who moved away from the area. She was thanked for all her hard work and commitment to the SACRE during her time as a member & as Chair for the last 6 years and she was wished well for the future. At the June meeting no nominations had been received for the positions of Chair or Vice-Chair Sabah Raza, current Acting-Chair, was going on a year sabbatical from September 2017 and was unlikely to be able to attend SACRE meetings during this time. It was decided that each SACRE meetings would be chaired by different members on a rotational basis to ensure that essential SACRE business was completed and meetings managed effective I Thanks, must be given to the local Authority & their representatives who support the work of SACRE with their time expertise & resources.

Advice to Statutory Bodies THE BIG NASACRE SURVEY was discussed and members felt that the strength of a locally agreed syllabus was that it enabled pupils to learn about religions in their own locality (e.g. the Alevi community) & that SACRE held an important role in bringing together representatives of different local religions and faith groups.

3 Standards & Quality of RE provision

3a overview of KS1 & 2 Sabah Raza has provided support for schools with primary coordinators training, NQT training & individual visits to schools. She leads by example obtaining the Gold REQM for the second time.

3b Overview of KS3 & 4 At KS3 the syllabus enables schools to deliver the material in a way that suits the school structure.

3c GCSE full course results 2017 **1528 pupils** (806 boys & 722 girls) were entered for the examination from 14 schools with 63.4% achieving an A*-C grade. However, the figures entered range from the whole cohort to 1 pupil. In 2016 1982 students were entered for the examination the trend over the last few years has been an increase. In 2009 only 990 pupils were entered so the subject has seen a dramatic increase.

GCSE short course it has been possible to be able to access the short course data. In 2017 there were 321 entries from 4 schools in 2016 there were 570 entries. There has been a move away from the short course to the full course (as indicated by the number of pupils entered in 2008 when 1813 pupils were entered). This is a national trend as explained above.

'A' level Results 2017

There were **88** entries with 8 schools (Winchmore, Southgate, Enfield County, Chase, Lea Valley High, Highlands, Latymer & the Oasis Academy) entering pupils. This compares with the figures from 2016 when 93 pupils took the examination. So, a slight drop in numbers but the trend from this decrease can be partially explained by a decrease in the number of 18-year-olds in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland of 1.7%.

A/S level

46 entries in 2017 with 10 schools (Winchmore, Southgate, Enfield County, Chase, Lea Valley High, Highlands, Latymer Broomfield, Aylward & the Oasis Academy) entering pupils compared with **44 in 2016** so a slight increase. This goes against the national trend where there was a decrease of 54% in comparison with the 2016 figures.

4 The effectiveness of the local agreed syllabus

The key development for SACRE this year has been the **review of the Enfield Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education**. SACRE discussed the options available, for example: purchase an established Syllabus; maintain the current Syllabus; revise the current Syllabus.

Consultation took place & it was highlighted that the production of the current Locally Agreed Syllabus 10 years ago had involved a considerable amount of work by teaching professionals and faith representatives. Also, there was a national debate regarding whether there should be a National RE Syllabus. Given the above circumstances SACRE considered whether it was appropriate to continue with the current Agreed Syllabus, following any essential review and revision. It was decided to retain the current Locally Agreed Syllabus subject to review and revision of assessment arrangements, pedagogy, Enquiry based learning & to expand the guidance provided regarding withdrawal of pupils from RE. The document was discussed at the June 2017 meeting & an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) was convened & it was adopted.

5. Collective worship Last year guidelines were produced & this year a pack on visitors to schools was produced including a form to facilitate the recording of visits made to schools by members of SACRE. A series of visits have been made by SACRE members & reports shared with SACRE. Colleagues were impressed by the quality of Collective worship observed.

6. Managing SACRE & partnership with the LA & other key stakeholders. SACRE has valued the high-quality support & approach to partnership provided by the Local Authority in its support