

To: All SACRE Members, Council Members,  
Kent County Council Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education,  
Head Teacher / Chair of Governors all schools in Kent NASACRE

## **KENT STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2020-2021**



**Kent SACRE is a member of the national Association of SACREs**

## **Introduction from the Chair**

Welcome to the 2020 -2021 Annual Report of the Kent SACRE.

The year has again been significantly affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

This resulted in a cancelled meeting as well as cancellation of public exams.

Kent SACRE continues to work with partner organisations such as the RE Hub as well as links with schools and teachers across the county.

We are keen to ensure that schools keep in mind their statutory responsibilities during these difficult times.

I am grateful for the enthusiasm and dedication of the members of Kent SACRE.

I would also like to thank Mr Richard Long, cabinet member for schools at KCC during this academic year for his support. We look forward to working with his successor Mrs Sheila Prendergast to further support the work of Kent SACRE.

The work of Kent SACRE also relies upon the dedication of our professional adviser Mrs Penny Smith-Orr.

We look forward to resuming more normal activities next year as we learn to live with the corona virus.

Steve Manion

Chairman Kent SACRE

## **Overview**

The SACRE has met three times during this year all on a virtual platform on 3 November 2020, 16 March 2021 and 22 June 2021. The meetings were all quorate. There were also three meetings of the standing committee made up of the leaders of each group and the Chair and RE Consultant.

The budget for SACRE is a standing item on the agenda. In November 2020 there had been a large underspend and it was agreed that money could be spent on a film project, making films on places of worship and pupils talking about their faith for schools to use as they are unable to go on visits.

The WIRE award for Kent schools is also a standing item and discussed at each meeting.

Members were asked to look at the Kelsi website and consider whether any of the documents needed updating or whether there are any other Guidance documents which would be helpful to schools.

Monitoring school websites was updated. The Ofsted review of Religious Education was discussed and an article 6 ways to improve teaching was given to members. The teachers group discussed the need to focus on education of pupils rather than teaching large volumes of religious information.

The NASACRE conference was discussed, and reports given by attendees. The workshop by Professor Trevor Cooling on Religion and Worldviews was a highlight and it was agreed that SACRE would ask him to do a training event for RE coordinators on the subject.

The NASACRE funding survey had been replied to and the results were discussed at SACRE, Kent SACRE receives a suitable amount of funding, and the Chair paid tribute to the Kent County Council for this.

## **Religious Education**

The Kent SACRE members had been monitoring the websites of Kent schools and once this bit of work was completed decided that schools should be written to advertising SACRE and reminding them to make sure that RE was visible on their websites. This letter was put on hold due to covid in order not to put more stress onto school leaders.

The Kent syllabus has a copyright of RE Today services and therefore is not on the Kelsi website. However, the RE Consultant is frequently requested to send a digital version to schools. This is a useful way of advertising the support that schools can receive from SACRE. Some members of SACRE are also members of the Interfaith groups in Kent and are very willing to go into schools and talk about their own faith.

No school has applied for the REQM award, but several schools had signed up to the Kent WIRE award. Many of these schools had emailed and had been given an extension to the year of collecting evidence. Part of the award involves visiting two different places of worship, it was suggested to teachers that they might do a virtual visit, as long as the subsequent work was suitable. The Kent SACRE film project continued through the year to help Kent schools with this.

SACRE puts on one big training event per year and this year it will be in Autumn 2021.

Some schools have contacted the RE Consultant about withdrawal of pupils and been given advice on how to deal with this.

The Annual report is always presented to the Children, Young People and Education cabinet Committee.

### **Collective Worship**

The Guidance on Collective worship was updated and can be found on the Kelsi website alongside other guidance on different aspects of RE.

The monitoring of school's websites that was undertaken by SACRE also searched for mention of collective worship. There were very few schools who did mention what arrangements were made and this will also be mentioned when the letter from SACRE goes out.

No determinations have been received by Kent SACRE, but the SACRE committee have had training on what to do if there ever was a determination application.

**Links with other bodies** Kent SACRE members are linked with, and part of many different other organisations as follows:

The Education Boards of Canterbury and Rochester	Support teachers and advisers nationally on RE for children with special needs.
Trustee of Kent Liberal Jewish community.	peripatetic teacher of Learners with vision impairment
Maidstone Interfaith Network.	Church of England General Synod and Canterbury Deanery Synod
Tunbridge Wells Interfaith	Council of Reference of the Church of England Readers Council.

<b>HMD commemoration event committee</b>	Chair of Govs at Victoria Rd Ashford
The Salvation Army	Chair at Little Ark preschool Ashford
Links with the NATRE exec and Culham St Gabriel's	Vice Chair at ACE Academies Ashford.
Head Teacher of a school in the Alethia Anglican Academies Trust	Methodist Church Elder and ECC - Ecumenical Church Council
Members of local faith forums go into schools to talk about faith.	President of Northwest Kent branch Trade union NASUWT

### **SACRE Arrangements**

The SACRE has the support of an RE Consultant at each meeting and advising teachers by email, organising one event annually. We also have the support of the Democratic services to do clerking for the meetings, The Education People service helps with arrangements for course for teachers.

The members of Kent SACRE are fairly representative of the county of Kent. We are fortunate to have members from both the Rochester and Canterbury Boards of Education.

The budget holder of the SACRE budget is available and provides a termly budget update and the SACRE has up to £5000.00 per year.

Several members came to the end of their term of office in 2020 but several continued to be members and some new members have joined.

All three meetings were quorate this year.

It has been difficult to arrange training for members during this year.

<b><u>GROUP A: Faiths and other beliefs other than C of E</u></b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b><u>GROUP B: Church of England</u></b>	<b>Attendance</b>
N Younosi Muslim	2	<b>Canterbury Diocesan board of Education</b>	
A Goldstein Jewish	3	R Swansbury	3
J Grant Bah'ai	2	R Walters	3
G Spragg Methodist	3	B Naden	2
J Wigg Salvation Army	2	<b>Rochester Diocesan Board of Education</b>	
N Kaur Cheema Sikh	2	J Roddan	2
F Hawkes Catholic	2	C Bostock	2
M Paddison Baptist	2	N Brownfield	2
Rev M Belgrove URC	1	<b><u>GROUP D: LA</u></b>	Attendance
S Malone Catholic	1	S Manion Chair	3
C Elapatha Buddhist	2	A Brady	1
		2 Vaccancies	
<b><u>GROUP C: Teachers</u></b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Others</b>	
K Burke	2	Clerk from demographic services	3
J Paul	3	P Smith-Orr RE Consultant	3
W Chambers	1		
M Duncombe	1		
Coopted - E Pope	0		

## Appendices

There have been no public examination results this year.

CPD has been two meetings on Ofsted and how to prepare for a Deep Dive, the third meeting of this course was cancelled due to Covid 19.

The 2020-2021 development plan is below

### Development Plan September 2020- July 2021

#### PRIORITY OBJECTIVE: Advise the LA on RE given in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus

##### Objective Advice and Guidance for Teachers

What?	and How?	Reporting	Resources	Legal Requirements	Progress
Analysis of exam results	Compilation of local and national data	Written Draft report to SACRE Annual Report sent to NASACRE, the LA, the DfE and the Education Cabinet Committee	Consultant – 1 days SACRE Chairman	Publish an Annual Report which is sent to NASACRE and the DofE	No Public exams in 2021
Hold 3 meetings of SACRE p.a. plus 3 meetings of Chair's pre-briefing meeting	On a virtual platform due to covid 19	Agendas and Minutes Financial Budget Annual Report	Consultant – 9 days Admin. support Chair Membership	Hold meetings in public. Make Agendas and Minutes available to the public	Meetings held on a virtual platform. Some members cannot use Teams
Advise LA on RE and CW matters relating its functions	Annual Report Verbal/written reports/briefing	Annual Report Verbal/written reports/briefings	Consultant – 3 days Admin. support SACRE Chairman	Produce and publish Annual Report to advise LA Meetings with LA Members & Officers as appropriate	Updated CW guidance on Website  Email questions and requests for help answered

Monitor provision of RE and collective worship in schools	Members to finish monitoring school websites.	Written summary to SACRE annually A letter sent to schools with the result of the monitoring and some guidance	Consultant – 2 days Admin. support	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	Monitoring finished Letter to schools on hold
Update documents on the Kelsi website and work with IT to make the SACRE pages more interesting	Consultant to check and update Send items to Max Edwards	To SACRE verbally Members to access Kelsi and report on documentation Send a news sheet to RE Coordinators each term	Consultant – 4 days Kelsi Admin support	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	New items on website pages
The WIRE Award – Encourage schools to take the award. Give advice	news bulletin, the Kent and Medway Hub on Facebook and the Kelsi website.	Each termly meeting to look at any entries and judge them Members of SACRE to give out certificates to local schools	Certificates Judging panel of SACRE members	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	Some schools shown their intention and some emails re the timing of evidence collection
Encourage teachers to look at the Kelsi website	Mention website in the news sheet to teachers	To SACRE verbally	Clerk to SACRE and RE Consultant	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	News sheet sent  Many requests through Kelsi for the digital syllabus
Make films of places of worship and people talking about faith Link with the WIRE	Ask faith members of SACRE Ask teachers on SACRE Small working party to oversee	Members of SACRE Working party	Mr Swansbury to make the film Budget of SACRE	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	Some films finished and signed off. K Burke pupils participated Ongoing



**OBJECTIVE: Management of SACRE**

<b>What?</b>	<b>and How?</b>	<b>Reporting</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Legal Requirements</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Raise profile and status of Kent SACRE	Communications with LA and schools Relationship with LA Hold a Kent Governors course	Evaluation and feedback to SACRE  SACRE Annual report  RE Consultant	SACRE members SACRE Chairman Consultant Admin. Support  RE Consultant	Stakeholders to contribute to wider educational objectives of the LA	Difficult through Covid Governors course on hold
Membership of SACRE to better reflect diversity of religions and teacher community	Check membership and ask unrepresented groups to send a rep. Ask Kent teachers to attend	Verbally to SACRE	Membership Chair and Vice Chair Clerk to keep track of membership	Bring together local stakeholders to act positively for the LA on statutory duties for RE and CW and wider strategic educational objectives	Local Interfaith group contacted and Jewish rep secured. Teachers asked but no response
Membership of SACRE training and understanding of educational objectives	Training for members during SACRE meetings	To SACRE and in Annual report	RE Consultant using NASACRE materials	Members to advise the LA on RE and CW and wider educational objectives of the LA	Training activity on hold due to covid
Support high quality CPD	LA to be advised to commission CPD Collaboration with Dioceses Collaboration with CCCU and Regional (NATRE) Hub	Financial support from budget as appropriate Evaluation and feedback to SACRE	SACRE members SACRE Budget	Monitor the provision and quality of RE	Course for Teachers planned for Autumn 2021

