



Hull  
City Council

## HULL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2024





## Hull SACRE Annual Report 2024

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## Introduction

2024 has been another busy year for SACRE and my thanks go to the members of SACRE for their attendance and commitment, as well as to our Clerk, Poppy Young, our Local Authority Officer, Yvonne Briggs and our extremely knowledgeable RE Consultant, Marilyn Cowling, for all their advice and wisdom.

- Most SACRE meetings have continued to be held as hybrid sessions when taking place at the Guildhall. Meetings have also been held at a Hindu cultural centre and at a mosque.
- This year the NASACRE conference was held in York and one member attended and reported back to SACRE at the June meeting.
- A number of SACRE members have attended training sessions provided by NASACRE to help us be more effective in our roles. Two members attended RE Hubs re-accreditation training to continue to be recognised as RE specialist/trainers and have their details on the website <https://www.re-hubs.uk/hubs/yorkshire-humber/> for schools to contact them. This website, organised on a regional basis, is a 'one stop shop' for teachers looking for CPD, resources or places to visit in our area.
- One key focus for SACRE this year was the publishing of a guidance document, linked to current legislation, on Collective Worship. A joint working party made up of members of Hull and East Riding SACREs, met to consider how schools were organising Collective Worship and to develop a joint guidance to reflect not only British society, but also core British values. In October, the final version of the document was produced and the Hull and East Riding Collective Worship Guidance was ratified by both Hull and East Riding SACREs on 27th November. Training sessions on the guidance will be available in readiness for its implementation in mid-2025.
- Another key focus was starting the review and future development of the locally agreed syllabus, which many schools were finding useful as a structure and planning tool for the teaching of religion and worldviews. Although the first joint Agreed Syllabus Conference would not be convening until late October 2025, we intend to hold a number of consultation workshops in the Summer term for a range of people who either teach, or are influential in the teaching of, religion and worldviews within primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units (PRUs). All Hull and East Riding schools are being invited to participate to try to find some commonality across the areas. An online questionnaire has also been produced for those unable to attend.
- During the year, a number of SACRE members have carried out school visits to promote awareness and understanding of their religion or worldview. Members have also

participated in a number of Living Faith Library events in both primary and secondary schools. These events show young people in our schools that no matter which religion or other worldview a person may hold we have more in common than our differences.

- In December, SACRE held its first Religion and Worldviews Conference for a number of years at the Guildhall. There were 84 delegates from the Hull and East Riding area representing a range of multi-academy trusts, independent schools, faith schools and local authority schools. The keynote speakers were Deborah Weston OBE and Dawn Cox. The feedback from delegates and the evaluation questionnaires were extremely positive and we are looking to hold another conference in 2027.

Overall, it has been a good year for SACRE as we have been able to make a positive difference by supporting the teaching of religion and worldviews in Hull schools. Hopefully, with the review of the agreed syllabus and the implementation of the Collective Worship guidance, we can continue to make SACRE's role not only fit for today, but also to make SACRE relevant for the future.

**Ian Sugarman, Chair of SACRE**

## **SACRE meetings**

SACRE has continued to enable members to attend meetings by holding them at the Guildhall and in other venues and where possible through providing the opportunity to attend via TEAMS where preferred.

### **2023**

- 7 November – SACRE AGM at the Guildhall & via Teams. New Chair elected. Meeting was quorate. Amended constitution ratified. Report received from Collective Worship working party. Discussion of teaching hours (secondary) for RE informed by the School Workforce Census and the lack of information provided by some schools. LA to follow up and report back to SACRE. Information was shared about RE Hubs and National Content Standard

### **2024**

- 19 March - Meeting held at the Guildhall & via Teams. Annual Report published and shared with NASACRE and DfE. Discussion of membership of SACRE and need to recruit additional members to groups 2 and 4 in particular. Collective worship (CW) guidance nearing completion though concerns raised that it had a primary bias; SACRE agreed to host a Religion and Worldviews conference in the Autumn term; members discussed monitoring of RE in schools and the challenges of engaging when all schools are academies and with a number of MATs. Agreed to send a representative to NASACRE Conference in May 2024. The Clerk to SACRE advised that all future meetings

and minutes of meetings will be available on Hull City Council CMIS pages. Agendas will still be circulated via email for upcoming meetings.

- 13 June – Joint meeting with East Riding of Yorkshire SACRE at Hull Jame Masjid with an interesting talk about the role of the mosque in the immediate and wider community from the Imams there.
- 25 June – Meeting held at the Guildhall & via Teams. Meeting was quorate. Interest in joining SACRE received from Humanists UK who are looking to recruit a local member. Monitoring of RE, a range of strategies discussed, plus two invitations received but no fixed dates. Feedback from NASACRE conference received. Conference suggested programme and date considered. Revisited CW guidance document.
- 24 September – Joint meeting with East Riding of Yorkshire SACRE at the Hindu Cultural Centre, Hull. A number of teachers were also in attendance.
- 22 October – Meeting at the Guildhall. Attendees represented only 2 out of the four groups so not quorate and no minutes taken

## 2025

- 14 January – Meeting was quorate. Discussed the success of the Religion and Worldviews Conference which took place on 3 December 2024 at the Guildhall with 80+ attendees. Made plans to begin reviewing the current agreed syllabus in line with the five-year statutory requirement (last reviewed in 2019/20). The revised guidance on collective worship had been adopted at a meeting with East Riding SACRE and can now be sent to schools with an offer of training. The group discussed the NASACRE Conference which will be held in London on Monday, 19th May 2025. The Chair was likely to attend and encouraged other SACRE members to attend, if possible.
- Future Hull SACRE meetings would be held on Thursday, 12 June 2025, and Thursday, 9 October 2025 from 4:30 pm.

## Statutory responsibilities for RE –

RE is not part of the National Curriculum, it is a local responsibility. Through the SACRE, local communities and teachers have the opportunity to influence and support what pupils learn in RE.

SACRE is required

- to provide advice to the Local Authority (LA) on all aspects of its provision for Religious Education (RE) in its schools. This does not include Voluntary Aided Schools. (Academies, whilst not under the responsibility of the LA, may or may not choose to avail themselves of the *Agreed Syllabus for Religion & Worldviews 2022* and benefit from the support of SACRE)
- to decide whether the LA's Agreed Syllabus for RE needs to be reviewed and to require the LA to so do (the previous syllabus was reviewed in 2019/2020 and

determined to require revision, published in October 2021). The current agreed syllabus will be reviewed with stakeholders in the academic year 2025/26.

SACRE has been encouraged by the number of academies, both primary and secondary continuing to use *The Agreed Syllabus for Religion and Worldviews 2022*, the result of a working partnership with East Riding of Yorkshire SACRE on a joint Agreed Syllabus Conference.

The provision of guidance and resources covering all ages from Early Years through to sixth form has been welcomed by teachers across a range of settings. SACRE has been pleased to receive positive and enthusiastic responses from many teachers on the approach to learning about **religion and worldviews** in this syllabus.

### **Teacher training/advice for schools**

Whilst a programme of CPD for teachers of religious education was offered by local independent consultants during the school year 2022/23, take up by teachers has been limited, due largely to the constraints on schools of limited budgets. Recurrence of Covid infections in staff and meeting the challenges presented by the cohorts of pupils who missed so much school time during the pandemic are also cited as factors.

The Adviser to SACRE, working with a colleague from East Riding SACRE, has provided termly RE network meetings for primary teachers of RE in Hull and the East Riding to provide advice and support.

As all schools in Hull are academies support for religious education was not provided by the LA.

### **Standards and monitoring of RE**

SACRE members have made few visits to schools during this period, speaking with pupils and their teachers. Ofsted reports of Hull schools which have referred to provision for RE and learning in the subject have been considered at SACRE meetings; more recently Twitter feeds, collated by the Adviser to SACRE, have been useful in enabling SACRE members to gain some evidence of the range and quality of RE taking place, particularly in primary schools.

Some limited evidence of standards in RE has been provided by the Adviser to SACRE who has spoken with teachers at the termly RE network meetings and seen some examples of pupil work.

No requests for support with withdrawals from RE have been received this year.

## Collective Worship

With regard to collective worship, it is the responsibility of SACRE to:

- provide advice to the LA on collective worship in its schools
- to consider any requests from Head teachers to hold collective worship that is not of a broadly Christian character
- to advise on matters relating to training for teachers in RE and collective worship

No requests have been received by SACRE, from any school, for a determination to change from holding collective worship that is of a broadly Christian character.

A revision of SACREs guidance on collective worship for schools has been worked on jointly with representatives from both Hull and East Riding SACREs. The document was completed late 2024, was ratified and adopted by each SACRE and is now available to be sent out to all settings.

## Links with other bodies

- NASACRE - National Association of SACREs - ( [Home | NASACRE](#) ) A SACRE member attended the Conference and AGM in York in 2024
- HERI - Hull and East Riding Interfaith - ( <https://heri-online.org/> ) Meets bi-monthly and some members of SACRE attend regularly
- AREIAC - Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers & Consultants <https://www.arei.ac.org.uk/> )
- NATRE - National Association for Teachers of RE ( <https://www.natre.org.uk/> ) Teachers are encouraged to make use of the excellent resources available from NATRE
- CSTG – Culham St Gabriel’s Trust ( <https://www.cstg.org.uk/> ) Provides resources, access to research, links to a wide range of different religions and worldviews and free online training/support for teachers of RE via [www.reonline.org.uk](http://www.reonline.org.uk)
- RE Hubs – Two members of SACRE are registered trainers on RE Hubs [Explore RE in your area](#) and information is regularly shared with schools about the amenities offered via this website.
- SACRE has regular contact with local faith communities, York Diocese and Hull Minster

## **SACRE involvement locally**

Through links with the local Imams, SACRE provides advice about Ramadan and fasting for schools and publishes this information on 'REinHull' <https://reinhull.wordpress.com/>

Members attending HERI meetings converse with a range of people with very differing worldviews and encourage them to get involved with the 'Living Faiths Library' events which are so popular with both primary and secondary schools.

Members of local faith communities and people with non-religious worldviews attended and contributed to the Religion and Worldviews conference organised and run by Hull SACRE in December 2024 and made links with many of the teachers who attended the conference.

## **SACRE's own arrangements**

Professional and administrative support is provided by the LA through clerking and funding an independent RE adviser. The LA and city council representatives regularly attend SACRE meetings. The LA also publishes details of SACRE meetings on the CMIS webpage. SACRE meetings are not always quorate which slows progress on some issues. However, we have seen an increase in members from faith communities but would like to increase representation for each of the four groups

SACRE members have attended training provided online by NASACRE and locally in person at a mosque, a synagogue and the Hindu cultural centre.

SACRE is provided with sufficient funds to carry out its work.

- Circulation details for this Annual Report: SACRE members, LA, City Council, all Academies and Free Schools, NASACRE and DfE. Also published on Hull CMIS webpage



## Appendix

### Table of Exam Entries and percentage time RS is taught in KS3

Table showing number of GCSE Full Course entries and A Level entries together with percentage of teaching time given to religious studies in Key Stage 3 according to data from [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and SWF data for Hull provided by Deborah Weston OBE

	GCSE RS FC #entries 2024	A Level RS # entries 2024	% Y7 hours - RE	% Y8 hours - RE	% Y9 hours- RE
Ron Dearing UTC	0		N/A		
Hull Trinity House	0		not available		
The Boulevard Ac	0		2.58	4.74	3.39
Malet Lambert	52		not available	not available	not available
Archbishop Sentamu CE Academy	235		6.59	6.53	8.1
St Mary's Voluntary Catholic College	349	15	10.43	7.14	7.06
Newland SF Girls	28		3.75	3.53	1.37
Kelvin Hall	9		not available	not available	not available
Winifred Holtby	3		3.53	3.95	4.6
Sirius Academy North	20		not available	not available	not available
Sirius Academy West	0		not available	not available	not available
The Marvell College	185		3.63	8.00	7.38
Kingswood Academy	0		3.27	3.29	3.22