

Annual Report
Knowsley SACRE
2021/2022

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1. Foreword by the Chair of Knowsley SACRE

I am very pleased to present the Knowsley SACRE Annual Report 2021-22.

It has been a busy year for Knowsley SACRE, involving new membership and developments in practice. Very sadly we have lost a very important member of our SACRE team, Penny Thompson, who has been a member of Knowsley SACRE for many years. Penny was always a passionate and committed member of the group, and we all learnt so much from her. We extend our deepest sympathies for her family and friends. Damien McNulty has also left SACRE as he moves on to a new post, we thank Damien for his insight, commitment and advice.

We have further developed our membership of SACRE and we are pleased to welcome Fredrick Naftel who will be our Jewish representative. We very much look forward to working with Fredrick in the future. This demonstrates our ongoing commitment to ensuring that Knowsley SACRE truly represents all major religions and world views.

We remain absolutely committed to ensuring schools are supported with their religious education planning and delivery, and the work completed by our RE consultant, Layla Taylor, is absolutely central to this. Thank you Layla for all your excellent work and inspirational and practical support which the schools and teachers really appreciate. The RE network which is delivered by Layla grows in strength and numbers each year and provides an excellent forum to share good practice and allow space for teachers to explore, discuss and debate this vital area of the curriculum.

May I take this opportunity to welcome new members and thank them and all members for their time and commitment to Knowsley SACRE.

Cllr Margaret Harvey

2. List of SACRE Meetings 2021/2022

Members of SACRE

Chair

Cllr Margaret Harvey – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services

Clerk

Donna Spellman

Members

Katy Race – Education Improvement Officer – KMBC

Aby Hardy - Education Improvement Officer – KMBC

Layla Taylor – RE Consultant

Mair Hindmarsh – Diocese - Headteacher at Kirkby CE Primary school

Jude Ryan – Archdiocese - Headteacher at St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary school

Louise Byrne – Archdiocese - Headteacher at St Margaret Mary Catholic Infant School

Fredrick Naftel – Jewish representative

Penny Thompson - Liverpool Diocesan Board of Education

Damien McNulty – NASUWT representative

Date and Time	Agenda Items	Attendees
2 nd December 2021 4.30-5.30pm	Network update NASACRE conference update and actions Annual Report	Cllr Harvey, Katy Race, Aby Hardy, Damien McNulty, Louise Byrne, Penny Thompson, Donna Spellman
14 th June 2021 4.30-5.30pm	Network update NASACRE AGM feedback Focus group proposal Conference planning	Katy Race, Aby Hardy, Damien McNulty, Louise Byrne, Penny Thompson, Mair Hindmarsh, Jude Ryan, Layla Taylor, Donna Spellman
11 th October 2021 4.30-5.30pm	Network update Self-Evaluation tool Westhill Award Conference planning	Cllr Harvey, Aby Hardy, Louise Byrne, Penny Thompson, Layla Taylor, Donna Spellman

3. Standards and monitoring of RE, Teacher training and materials for schools, any issues with RE in schools

The locally agreed syllabus is Wirral Syllabus. This has been adopted by our maintained schools, and has now been implemented. Best practice has been shared during RE Network meetings, run by our RE Consultant, who reports that the curriculum is being fully embedded and schools are confident in its structure and can discuss progression and themes.

Standards and monitoring of RE in schools has been completed through our recent Ofsted inspections. Vulnerable schools continue to have school leadership support funded by the LA. This also ensures standards improve and are monitored each half term.

GCSE results for RE in the last academic year are attached in appendix 3.

The RE Consultant supports the RE subject leaders with regular meetings and advice. She has shared multiple teaching resources and assessment tools. The content of the most recent training sessions include;

- Wirral Syllabus and the Ofsted Inspection Framework
- Assessment & recording, Teaching through Stories
- Progression within the teaching of Christianity KS2 and KS3 and the three types of knowledge identified by Ofsted in relation to the Wirral Syllabus.
- What makes a good RE student?
- Effective use of retrieval to identify and fill gaps in knowledge
- Deep Dive: Top tips

The work of SACRE has been brought to the attention of the schools governing bodies to ensure they are aware of their statutory duties around RE and collective worship.

There have been no issues or complaints regarding RE education this academic year.

4. Advice on collective worship, standards and monitoring of collective worship, teacher training, determinations, any issues with collective worship

The expectation is in line with the Guidance for Collective Worship in schools January 1994, to provide daily collective worship opportunities. The Early Careers Framework which has been implemented in Knowsley this year provides new teachers and training teachers with appropriate support and guidance around RE and collective worship. This is being delivered by Best Practice in Knowsley which is one of the approved DFE bodies.

There has been no determinations or issues around collective worship in our schools this academic year.

5. National bodies

1 member of SACRE attended the NASACRE conference 2022. It is planned that the Local Authority officer for SACRE will be attending the NASACRE conference in May 2023.

6. Local Bodies and involvement locally

The Education Improvement Officers and Chair of Knowsley SACRE, Cllr Harvey, have close links with all schools across the borough as well as with the local police. In our work we work closely to a range of agencies such as YOS, Police, health, parent carer voice on a range of issues encouraging equality and diversity and the sharing of best practice across these organisations. Our academy chains and our voluntary aided schools take part in our link officer meetings, headteacher briefings and vulnerable schools reviews where necessary so they are also kept up to date with the work of SACRE. Governors have been reminded of the work of SACRE through their Governor newsletter and Chair of Governors forum.

7. Knowsley SACRE Arrangements

Knowsley SACRE will continue to use communication tools such as headteacher briefings, weekly bulletins and Governor communications to highlight and share their work amongst the school and community. The LA provides clerking for SACRE and funding for our LA advisor. The LA also provides time of one Education Improvement Officer to attend and organise SACRE meetings and agendas alongside the Chair. Funding for SACRE is set aside in the education budget should further training or development plans require its use.

Appendix 1

Development Plan

Priorities for 2022/2023

To support the professional development of RE Teachers in Knowsley

- To continue to run termly RE network meetings to share best practice and answer any questions about the syllabus or subject specific discussion

To support the development of collective worship

- Offer training to schools on collective worship via our collaborative leads
- Plan and deliver an RE conference for all schools to attend with a theme of Collective Worship (Date to be arranged)

To support the professional development of SACRE members

- Fund any SACRE member who wishes to attend NASACRE annual conference
- To offer training to new SACRE members
- To consult with Faith leaders to try to expand the membership of SACRE

To monitor and support RE in Knowsley

- To ensure that as part of the link officer meetings, SACRE and RE is specifically discussed
- Continue to further embed the RE Syllabus
- To apply for a Westhill Award (see attached briefing – appendix 2)

Appendix 2

KNOWSLEY <i>Education and Inclusion</i> BRIEFING	From:	Katy Race Education Improvement Officer	Date:	22 March 2023
	To:	Cllr Margaret Harvey	cc:	Jill Albertina Assistant Executive Director (Education and Inclusion)
Subject:	NASACRE (National Association of Standing Councils on Religious Education)/Westhill Bid			

1. Reason for Briefing

This briefing has been prepared to outline the contents of the Westhill Award bid via Knowsley SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) to NASACRE (National Association of Standing Councils on Religious Education).

2. Key Issues/Options

- 2.1 The Westhill Awards are held each year by NASACRE, and up to £4000 can be applied for via a bidding process. Applications are invited from SACREs with a closing date of 31st March 2023. The Westhill/NASACRE Awards encourage schools to engage with diversity through projects which will generate compelling learning experiences in RE for young people, relevant to today's context. Each year grants have been awarded to support suitable projects submitted by schools through their

SACREs. The Awards develop creative engagement among young people and build up a bank of ideas and good practice for others to use in their own ventures, to the benefit of their locality and society more generally.

2.2 Following the tragic death of Olivia Pratt-Korbel, a group of 5 local schools, including the two schools where Olivia attended, have come together wishing to mark her life in a positive way. The schools are;

- St Margaret Mary Infant School
- St Margaret Mary Junior School
- Malvern Primary School
- Huyton with Roby Primary School
- Huyton Church of England Primary School

Olivia was known for her love of dance and performance as well as her outgoing and vibrant personality. In light of the events and some negative publicity about the local area in Huyton, it was felt important to come together with children, families and the wider community to symbolically unite under a banner of kindness, support, inclusion and togetherness, all of which represent the underpinning values of the Christian faith.

2.3 With the support of Olivia's mother and family, an annual event will be planned on the 13th of June, which is Olivia's birthday. It is hoped that this event will involve the whole community and become an important part of the calendar in Huyton. It will ensure Olivia is remembered in a positive and personal way.

The opportunities for learning will be;

- Development of a memory and reflection garden in Court Hey Park for both the children and Olivia's family to use.
- Art projects where children from all five schools will work together to create lasting pieces to be displayed with the theme of community and togetherness.
- A workshop which will explore unity and community cohesion for both children and their families.
- A dance involving representatives from all five schools and Olivia's family to symbolise hope for the future.

- A school community choir who will come together to sing specifically selected songs to represent hope and faith.
- Commissioning of a short film - drawing on survey answers from the local community about important places, memories and values. The film will also capture the work happening in the workshops and rehearsals to further demonstrate the overall theme of unity.

2.4 It is hoped that through a developing understanding of difference, culture, religions and world views children will develop a sense of identity and belonging, which is incredibly relevant to the event and the theme of togetherness, which is central and vital to the project. The learning gained in the planned activities and the following event will support many elements of the agreed syllabus for RE in Knowsley, and both the catholic and church of England syllabuses.

The intended outcome for this project is to provide opportunities for both children and the community to explore togetherness through positive interactions and experiences which bring us all together in a spirit of shared unity, understanding and celebration of the beauty of life and the young.

2.4 With the above in mind, and careful consideration of the Westhill Award criteria, the Local Authority Officer responsible to Knowsley SACRE attended planning meetings and met with Olivia's mother and headteachers to explore the possibility of supporting this essential work with the bid. After they unanimously agreed, the bid was written ready for consideration.

3. Next Steps

3.1 The Chair of SACRE (Cllr Harvey) to endorse the Westhill Award application.

3.2 The Local Authority Officer to submit the Westhill/NASACRE bid application.

Suggested Background Reading:-

Westhill/NASACRE Awards (2023-2024) Application form – Knowsley SACRE
Westhill/NASACRE Briefing notes

Contributing Officers:-
Katy Race 07826873298

Appendix 3 - GCSE RE results 2022 Knowsley

Subject: Religious Studies (4610) / Exam: GCSE (9-1) Full Course (391)

QAN: 60188790

Est. No.	Centre	NOR	NOE	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Q	U	X	9-5	9-4	9-1	Avg Pts
-	National (All Schools)	650500	47150	9.2	11.1	12.8	16.2	14.4	11.8	10.5	7.2	4.2	0.1	1.7	0.7	63.8	75.6	97.6	4.9
-	National (State Funded)	587650	45610	8.5	10.9	12.7	16.2	14.6	12.0	10.8	7.4	4.4	0.1	1.7	0.7	63.0	75.0	97.6	4.8
-	LA (State Funded)	1199	29	3.4	3.4	10.3	17.2	6.9	13.8	17.2	13.8	10.3	-	3.4	-	41.4	55.2	96.6	4.1
4000	Kirkby High School	191	29	3.4	3.4	10.3	17.2	6.9	13.8	17.2	13.8	10.3	-	3.4	-	41.4	55.2	96.6	4.1

Subject: Religious Studies (4610) / Exam: GCSE (9-1) Full Course (391)

QAN: 60300796

Est. No.	Centre	NOR	NOE	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	X	9-5	9-4	9-1	Avg Pts
-	National (All Schools)	650500	17540	8.2	11.5	12.3	16.2	15.0	12.0	11.4	7.0	4.3	1.6	0.4	63.3	75.2	98.0	5.1
-	National (State Funded)	587650	16530	7.9	11.1	11.7	16.1	15.1	12.3	11.8	7.4	4.5	1.7	0.4	61.9	74.2	97.9	5.1
-	LA (State Funded)	1199	242	2.5	3.7	7.0	10.3	15.3	12.8	19.0	13.6	9.5	5.4	0.8	38.8	51.7	93.8	3.8
4615	All Saints Catholic High School	154	99	5.1	5.1	7.1	14.1	18.2	16.2	19.2	11.1	2.0	2.0	-	49.5	65.7	98.0	4.6
4002	Saint Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Academy	152	142	0.7	2.8	7.0	7.7	13.4	10.6	18.3	15.5	14.8	7.7	1.4	31.7	42.3	90.8	3.3
4613	The Prescott School	193	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	0.0	0.0	100.0	3.0

This report is to be sent to all members of SACRE listed above and Nadine Carroll Head of Education. The report will also be submitted to NASACRE to be uploaded and shared.

