



Lambeth SACRE Annual Report 2017

**Lambeth Standing Advisory Council on
Religious Education**

Contact names and addresses

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**Lambeth SACRE is a member of the National Association of
SACREs**

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/>



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1 **Overview**

SACRE Meetings

21 st . February 2017	Orchard Primary School SW2
27 th . April 2017	International House, Brixton
5 th October 2017	International House, Brixton

Agreed Syllabus Conference Meetings

13th March 2017	International House, Brixton
11 th May 2017	International House, Brixton
5 th October 2017	International House, Brixton

This year Shaun Burns was re-elected Chair of both the SACRE and the ASC.

Despite this being a time of change and a time of austerity both nationally and locally, SACRE members continued to engage in many activities to support their work. As well as attending the full SACRE and ASC meetings this year, members were involved in working groups and individual meetings to progress work streams for both SACRE and the ASC.

During the year the SACRE's Vice Chair stepped down and was replaced as a representative of Humanism by a new member. The role of Vice Chair became vacant and Jo Backus was elected in October.

1.1 Foreword by the Chair of Lambeth SACRE.

Welcome to Lambeth SACRE's Annual Report for 2017.

As a statutory committee of Lambeth Council we have the responsibility of promoting, protecting, supporting and monitoring Religious Education (RE) and Collective Worship in all community schools within the borough.

This is a role that we all take seriously, all recognising the vital importance of RE in the education of our children and young people of Lambeth.

RE is at the centre of a holistic education, which features a broad and balanced curriculum. It is an academic subject that contributes fully to the all-rounded development of an individual. Taught properly and effectively, it can develop community cohesion in Lambeth and enrich Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development.

As you will see from this report, Lambeth SACRE has had another busy year, with a large focus on our work continuing to review the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus of RE. We aim to have this major piece of work completed during the next academic year.

I would like to thank all my SACRE and Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) colleagues who have loyally worked diligently this year in attending and contributing to meetings and spent time outside of meetings on syllabus work. Particular thanks must go to Denise Chaplin, RE Adviser to Lambeth SACRE; Rachel Norman our Local Authority Officer and Maria Gabrielczyk, our Clerk; each for their exceptional hard work.

Thank you also to Lambeth Local Authority for resourcing SACRE to carry out its work.

We say farewell and thank you to those members who have left us during the year and welcome to our new members.

In these turbulent and unsettling times for our country, city and not least our borough, RE matters now, perhaps, more than ever.

In whatever role you have, please do keep valuing RE and championing its potential impact upon our community of Lambeth.

Thank you.

Shaun Burns
Chair,
Lambeth SACRE.

2. Religious Education

2.1 Locally Agreed Syllabus

This year the Agreed Syllabus Conference continued in its work to produce a new Agreed Syllabus for Lambeth schools. Several meetings have focused on the developing of the syllabus and SACRE members have liaised via email about the detail pertaining to different units and how they support the teaching of the different beliefs and non-religious world views.

2.1.1 Monitoring

The SACRE remains concerned about how to monitor both the quality of RE in Lambeth schools and the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus. SACRE members continue to investigate ways of monitoring RE that will be useful to teachers and to SACRE. Rachael Norman delivered a report on exam data on public examinations.

2.1.2 Standards in Religious Education

Locally devised measures of pupils' attainment: Assessment Guidance

Revision of the Assessment Advice will be considered in the Agreed Syllabus review

2.2 Religious Studies Performance in 2017

SACRE conducts an annual review of GCSE and A Level religious studies examination entries and outcomes.

RE GCSE RESULTS 2017

There were 1154 entries for GCSE in 2017 compared to 1219 in 2016, 1214 in 2015, and 1268 in 2014. All entries were for the Full Course. There were only 168 entries for the short GCSE course.

Overall Lambeth averages for GCSE A*-C results in RE have decreased compared to last year and are now at 66% for A*-C grades compared to 72% in 2016. Results are below national at A*-C grades (71%).

Individual Lambeth school performance ranged from 100% to 37% A*-C. Girls achieved 72% compared to boys at 57%. Lambeth scores reflect the national pattern of attainment in terms of gender where girls nationally achieved 76% compared to boys at 63%.

When compared to other subjects RE continues to perform lower than overall Lambeth averages for English, but now performs significantly higher than history and geography.

			Religious Studies Full	History	Geography	English
Lambeth	A* to C	Boys	57%	48%	55%	58%
		Girls	72%	62%	68%	77%
		All	66%	55%	60%	67%
	A* to G	Boys	96%	95%	99%	99%
		Girls	98%	98%	100%	100%
		All	97%	97%	100%	99%
National	A* to C	Boys	63%	59%	59%	61%
		Girls	76%	67%	67%	78%
		All	71%	64%	64%	70%
	A* to G	Boys	97%	96%	98%	98%
		Girls	99%	98%	99%	99%
		All	98%	97%	99%	98%
Difference	A* to C	Boys	-6%	-11%	-4%	-3%
		Girls	-4%	-5%	+1%	-1%
		All	-5%	-9%	-4%	+3%
	A* to G	Boys	-1%	-1%	+1%	0%
		Girls	-1%	0%	+1%	+1%
		All	-1%	0%	+1%	+1%

School or college name	Number of students at the end of KS4	Number entered full RS 2017	% cohort entered for RS 2017	% cohort entered for RS 2016	% cohort entered for RS 2015	Entry up or down on 2016	Entry up or down on 2015	A*-C full course (Nat 71%)
Archbishop Tenison's	83	78	94%	88%	95%	+6%	-1%	56%
Bishop Thomas Grant	166	164	99%	100%	100%	-1%	-1%	76%
Dunraven School	205	69	34%	37%	39%	-3%	-5%	100%
Durand Academy	32	0	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
The Elmgreen School	165	164	99%	92%	96%	+7%	+3%	37%
Evelyn Grace Academy	177	43	24%	36%	5%	-12%	+19%	98%
La Retraite	144	143	99%	99%	98%	0%	+1%	80%
Lambeth Academy	169	25	15%	27%	16%	-12%	-1%	76%
Lilian Baylis	112	67	59%	61%	60%	-2%	-1%	72%
London Nautical School	95	0	0%	7%	76%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Norwood School	134	20	15%	24%	20%	-9%	-5%	85%
Platanos College	180	165	92%	92%	81%	+11%	+11%	52%
Saint Gabriel's College	94	85	90%	93%	99%	-9%	-6%	55%
St Martin in the Fields	134	131	99%	99%	100%	0%	-1%	66%

Grade	Number Full Course	Percentage Full Course	Number Short Course	Percentage Short Course
Grade A*	102	8.8%	24	15%
A	197	17.1%	22	14%
B	226	19.6%	21	13%
C	232	20.1%	28	17%
D	159	13.8%	27	17%
E	93	8.1%	20	12%
F	62	5.4%	13	7%
G	51	4.4%	6	4%
U	32	2.3%	7	3%

RE post 16

In 2015, 50 students across 7 institutions took AS level RE, with 94% achieving A-E grades and 42% achieved A-B grades. The national figures were 92% A-E and 43% A-B.

In 2016, 86 students across 8 institutions took AS level, with 97% achieving A-E grades and 42% achieving A-B grades. The national figures were 93% A-E and 45% A-B

In 2017, 30 students across 4 institutions took AS level, with 90% achieving A-E grades and 33% achieving A-B grades. The national figures were 93% A-E and 47% A-B

In 2015, 41 students across 6 schools were entered for A level RE. All students achieved A-E grades, 44% achieved A-B grades and 5% A*/A grades. The national figures were 99% A*-E, 55% A*-B and 24% A*-A.

In 2016, 39 students across 7 schools were entered for A level RE, with 92% achieving A-E grades, 44% achieving A-B grades and 18% achieving A*/A grades. The national figures were 99% A*-E, 54% A*-B and 24% A*-A.

In 2017, 63 students across 8 schools were entered for A level RE, with 99% achieving A-E grades, 40% achieving A-B grades and 14% achieving A*/A grades. The national figures were 98% A*-E, 55% A*-B and 24% A*-A.

2.3 Teaching

2.3.1 Methods of teaching - training

National information about courses organised, for example by the National Association of Teachers of RE, and the Board of Deputies of British Jews have been circulated to schools

2.3.2 Methods of teaching - The choice of teaching materials

During the year schools were also sent information about national resources.

2.4 Other Information

2.4.1 Complaints about RE

No formal complaints about RE in Lambeth schools have been presented to the SACRE this year.

2.4.2 Membership

SACRE members have been supporting the Clerk to pursue appropriate sponsoring bodies to fill vacancies. For example the Chair had contacted Churches Together in Lambeth, the Borough Deans and the ecumenical website. The Clerk has been contacting members whose attendance has been limited to explore ways forward.

3. Collective Worship

3.1 Advice

No Advice on Collective Worship has been issued this year.

3.2 Determinations

No schools applied for a Determination this year

3.3 Monitoring Collective Worship & Spiritual Development

Part of SACRE's role is to monitor the quality of Collective Worship in Lambeth schools. During the year this work has been limited due to work on the Agreed Syllabus.

The SACRE have also taken an interest in the British Values agenda and its link with SMSC.

3.4 Other information

3.4.1 Complaints

There have been no complaints about collective worship in Lambeth schools this year.

4. Links with other agencies

4.1 National

Information from a number of contacts and bodies enables the SACRE to keep abreast of national initiatives and to be involved in developments.

4.1.1 The Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC)

The Consultant RE Adviser supporting the SACRE is a member of AREIAC, an organisation for specialist educationalists, all qualified teachers, providing advice, challenge, leadership, training and support for multi-faith religious education in schools and colleges.

4.1.2 The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Lambeth SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACREs and its Adviser is on the Executive of that body. Two SACRE members, Sandra Teacher and Jo Backus, attended the annual AGM and conference.

The Big NASACRE Survey

In their February meeting members discussed the NASACRE Survey. They were asked to reflect on the discussion and feedback to the RE Adviser and the LA Officer who then submitted an online response from the SACRE.

4.1.3 The RE Council of England and Wales (REC)

The work of the REC has been disseminated throughout the year to inform SACRE, faith communities and local schools. Several SACRE members are representatives on the REC at different levels.

In October SACRE members discussed the **Interim Report of the RE Council's Commission on RE** and a SACRE delegate later attended the joint **NASACRE & AREIAC conference on 24th November** where there was an opportunity to talk with a commissioner and ask some of SACRE's questions.

Members felt that this project by the REC was a very big undertaking and had cost a lot of money. In the interim report the RE Commission suggest the role for SACRE should be expanded, but it is not an empowerment to control the syllabus locally. SACRE discussed the four key areas covered in the recommendations and expressed interest and some concerns.

4.2 Local

SACRE members have links with local schools, faith communities and Inter Faith groups.

5. SACRE Arrangements

5.1 Support

The SACRE is supported by a consultant RE Adviser, a Clerk and a local LA Education Officer. The London Borough of Lambeth meets salaries and administrative costs for these posts and a budget for the revision of the Agreed Syllabus.

5.2 Induction arrangements for new members

SACRE members are concerned to ensure that new members can understand SACRE's work and participate actively as soon as possible. A Training session was provided in October for new or inexperienced members.

6. Other areas of work

6.1 Streatham Faith Trail

In February Sarah Thorley gave positive feedback of being warmly welcomed in all the venues and the pupils being interested and well behaved. They had enjoyed learning about some aspects about each faith. Sarah informed that religions (and the buildings visited) agreed and wanted to be part of the planned Faith Walk. As the Synagogue was currently under staffed, due to the person who assisted with the Faith Walk moving on and said they did not have the staff to cater for school visits, she would ask Sandra Teacher whether she would be able to assist with possible contacts.

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Lambeth Syllabus would fit well with the Faith Walk and that schools should be engaged in this event. It could be allied to a structured unit and would tie in with the SMSC Ofsted criteria of shared values. SACRE Members felt that RE was not high up on the agenda for schools and this would provide beneficial focus.

Sarah volunteered to be the “Go To” person for one year to get the Faith Walk off the ground. It was proposed that training would be provided for teachers to introduce them to the venues; the trained teachers would then become champions for the project and engage other teachers to grow the network.

It was agreed that the Streatham Faith Trail would be an ongoing SACRE Agenda item.

In October Sarah reported that two groups had been taken round; they had given very positive feedback and had asked to go again.

6.2 The Accord Inclusivity Award

In February members heard that the Accord Award Application had been submitted by the set deadline but unfortunately Lambeth was not successful this year. It was agreed however that the process had been interesting, helping SACRE to evaluate its work.

6.3 SACRE Constitution – revision

In February SACRE Members went through the Constitution and various amendments were suggested and agreed. It was agreed to have a Lambeth Prevent Lead added to Co-Optees and also a representative of Young People.

This work was allied to a rigorous attempt to fill vacancies. It was agreed that the categories must to be more specific and there needs to be a more methodical way of filling vacant places.

A discussion arose around the legal process of the Constitution and Rachael offered to check with the Legal Team for clarity.

6.4 Code of Conduct - revision

During the year the Code of Conduct was reviewed and some amendments were agreed that would strengthen SACRE if somebody worked to the detriment of SACRE. SACRE agreed to adopt the revised Code of Conduct and for it to be used with all existing and new members. The Code can be found in Appendix D of this Report.

6.4 Ramadan Advice to Schools

In April SACRE discussed the advice, which was highlighting to schools that children and young people may be fasting during Ramadan and ways in which schools and colleges could support Muslim pupils and staff during this time.

Sandra mentioned that Eid was to fall during the SATS and other public examinations and suggested that pupils be given special dispensation on exam days. The student would have to sign a contract either before or after the exams. This has been accepted in schools and universities. The same thing has happened for Shavuot (Pentecost) celebrated in Judaism.

Sandra had sent out a list of Jewish festival dates and she had recommended that individual cases should be dealt with separately. A precedent has been set, as it was done in Judaism with the assistance and support of the Equalities Act Accountancy Board. Sandra was asked to liaise with Muslim reps on the Lewisham SACRE to make sure that the dates are accurate.

The advice was circulated to schools.

6.5 SACRE Advice - Guidance in Times of Crises

In April SACRE revisited this advice.

The guidance was drafted to help support schools and provide pastoral support for children, with RE and Collective Worship as a vehicles. Work continued on the advice and it was revised further following the Grenfell Tower disaster.

6.6 The NATRE 'State of the Nation' report on RE

In their October meeting SACRE discussed this report. Members were concerned that in 28% of Secondary Schools there is no dedicated curriculum time for RE. Other findings were found to be of concern.

7. Appendices

Appendix A - Membership of Lambeth SACRE. - 2017

Committee A:	
GROUP A: Faiths and other beliefs other than C of E	
Caribbean Hindu Pentecostal Humanist Buddhist Majority Black Churches - Roman Catholic Archdiocese Judaism Sikhism	Vacant since August 2016 Helen Mills Richy Thompson —Vice Chair Jo Backus Vacant since July 2016 Mike Cullinane Sandra Teacher Lady Kanwaljit Kaur Singh -
Committee B:	
GROUP B: Church of England	
Sarah Thorley Shaun Burns - Chair Susie Santoro	
Committee C:	
GROUP C: Teachers	
Pat Bennett - ATL Rep Jason McInnis – Secondary Teacher Marisa Rodgers -RE Teacher	
Committee D:	
GROUP D: LA	
Cllr Marcia Cameron Rachael Norman (representing the Director of Children’s services) Denise Chaplin	
Co-opted:	

Prevent Officer	Steven Tippell
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Appendix B

Distribution of this report

The report is made available electronically to:

The Department for Education

The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Lambeth SACRE members

Lambeth Council, Elected Members

Director of Children's services

Teaching Unions in Lambeth

SACRE Nominating Bodies

The main Faith Groups in Lambeth

Ecumenical Borough Deans

All schools in Lambeth

Lambeth LA Website

Appendix C – Revised Lambeth Constitution

LAMBETH STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Standing Advisory Council shall be called the Lambeth SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education). It is established under Section 3.90 – 3.97 of the Education Act 1996 as amended.

Interpretation

In this Constitution

'Local Authority' means Lambeth Council acting either independently or through the Education Lead Member and Children and Young People's Directorate.

'The council' means Lambeth's SACRE.

'Member' means a member of SACRE and includes a substitute or co-opted member.

'Elected member' means an elected member of the Lambeth Council sitting on Committee D as a SACRE member

All questions of Interpretation are governed by the "Interpretation Act" 1978 as may be subsequently amended.

Role and functions

(i) To advise the Local Authority (Lambeth Council) on the religious education to be given in its schools in accordance with an Agreed Syllabus. In particular, the SACRE can offer advice on methods of teachings, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.

(ii) To advise the Local Authority on matters pertaining to school worship in its schools.

With regard to (i) and (ii), the Local Authority may refer matters to the SACRE, which the latter must then consider and advise on. The SACRE may also take the initiative and make recommendations to the Local Authority on these matters.

(iii) To receive, determine and review applications from Head Teachers as to whether the requirement for collective worship that is wholly or mainly of a Christian character may not apply. This application to vary the legal requirement for collective worship may be for the whole school or for groups of pupils.

(iv) To require the LA to set up a Statutory Agreed Syllabus Conference to review the Agreed Syllabus if, in the opinion of SACRE, this becomes necessary.

(v) To produce an annual report on its work which will, inter alia:

- a) describe the work that SACRE has undertaken
- b) specify matters in respect of which the SACRE has given advice to the Local Authority;
- c) broadly describe the nature of the advice given and the response given by the LA;
- d) where any such matters were not referred to the SACRE by the Local Authority, provide the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on the matter.

Copies of the report will be made available to schools and the public on the SACRE and/or other appropriate website.

To facilitate its work, at the discretion of and in partnership with the Local Authority, the SACRE may:

- (a) monitor the provision of Religious Education in order to inform its advice and reporting;
- (b) monitor the provision of collective worship in order to inform its advice and reporting;
- (c) be involved in Complaints Procedures.

Officers

The SACRE will have an elected Chair and an elected Vice Chair.

In the absence of the Chair or Vice-Chair at any meeting the Council can elect one of its members to act as the Chair for that meeting.

Membership

A list of those members deemed appropriate for the Lambeth SACRE under the legal framework is in the Appendix.

All members shall be delegates who are interested in education in general and religious education in particular.

Delegates as members shall remain until such time as they will have resigned or have been removed from under the rules dictated by their sponsorship group, Governing Body of that class of Members or for any reason stated therein.

Terms of Office of Members

Termination of SACRE membership by reason of non-attendance:

If a SACRE member is absent for 2 or more consecutive meetings without apology the clerk will write to the member concerned to check whether their membership has lapsed and whether they would like to nominate a substitute or to refer their membership back to their sponsoring body.

Should they be absent from the next meeting without apologies or for any reason not acceptable to the SACRE there may be deemed to be a vacated place to be filled by the sponsorship group / governing body for that class of members. The SACRE clerk will write to the lapsed member informing them of the decision and then write to the sponsoring body requesting a new member be nominated.

Vacancies

The Clerk, working on behalf of the LA and the Officers will approach sponsoring bodies for new delegates as soon as a vacancy arises.

Deputies / Substitute members

There can be a substitute member nominated by the absent member and notice of this substitution should be notified to the clerk of SACRE in advance of the meeting.

If a member so wishes, they may nominate a substitute who will receive papers and may attend in their place or with them at any meeting. Should a vote be required only one vote can be cast for their position.

Procedure for electing Chair and Vice Chair

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council shall be chosen from Members of the SACRE and shall be elected at the first meeting in each education (academic) year.

Nominees for these positions should have served on the SACRE for at least twelve months so that members would have developed a relationship with that person and have confidence to nominate or elect them to such an important position.

Co-options

Co-option – SACRE has the power to co-opt members as agreed by the majority of its members.

Quorum

A meeting will only be quorate if the following numbers of representative/s of the respective groups are present: -

Group A - minimum of 2 representatives (1 Christian and 1 non-Christian)

Group B - minimum of 1 representative

Group C - minimum of 1 representative

Group D – minimum of 1 representative

Meetings

Frequency of meetings

There will be a minimum of 3 SACRE meetings per year. These will be normally 1 in the Autumn and Summer terms and one in the Spring term

An Extraordinary meeting may be called or convened to deal with urgent matters of national or local importance.

Notice of meetings

The dates of the main meetings will be decided at the first meeting in the education (academic) year and circulated by the clerk to all members

Sub-Committees

Occasional sub committees or working parties will be convened for specific pieces of work. These will report back to the full SACRE meeting for the duration of their work.

Agendas

Matters or items for the Agenda of any meeting shall be sent to the clerk at least 21 days in advance of the meeting. The Agenda shall be distributed to reach members at least 7 working days in advance of the next listed meeting.

Voting

All members are entitled to speak and vote on any issue as invited by the Chair but Co-opted members may speak but not vote at any meeting. SACRE will always seek

to reach decisions on a consensus basis but when voting is to be exercised as only one vote is allowed from each group A, B, C or D as mentioned above.

In the event of an equality of votes on any issue the Chair may exercise a casting vote.

Minutes

Minutes will be taken by the clerk and cleared by the Officers. The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated to members within one month of the meeting taking place where possible or at the latest with the next set of meeting papers

Availability of papers to the public

Papers for each meeting will be made available on the Lambeth Council website

..... (Chair) on behalf of Lambeth SACRE

Dated:

Appendix D – Revised SACRE Code of Conduct

LAMBETH SACRE

Code of conduct

All representatives should:

- Regularly attend the meetings of SACRE and take part in the deliberations and work of SACRE
- Where attendance is difficult, aim to ensure a substitute member is nominated who can attend
- Ensure apologies are submitted when attendance is not possible
- participate in and review the work of SACRE for the benefit of the whole community
- actively challenge and resist stereotyping
- assume at all times that other members of SACRE are honourable and concerned with the best interests of SACRE and its work
- state views and opinions honestly, whilst respecting and listening to each other's contributions
- respect the rights of other members to disagree with your point of view
- be in agreement about the promotion and delivery of all beliefs on behalf of SACRE
- have respect for the work of SACRE, believing that the RE and collective worship that all students are legally entitled to experience should be of the highest quality
- be nominated from a respected professional body and / or faith and belief community and have the support of their nominating body behind them

Belief group representatives should:

- ensure that they have sufficient knowledge, skills and understanding to represent authentically their belief, community or sponsoring body
- be able to explain how they intend to inform and consult with their belief community
- feel a sense of responsibility not only to the children coming from their own belief but also to all the children of Lambeth
- provide expertise, or assist in providing access to such expertise, in matters of fact, tradition, theology and practice relating to their own belief for the benefit of the whole school population
- represent to SACRE the interests and concerns of their own belief community
- endeavour to represent fairly the views and interests of the widest possible range of belief positions within their community (this is particularly relevant if they are the sole representative on SACRE for their belief.)
- recognise that stating a belief or religious tenet is not the same as advancing an argument for or against any proposal, although it may well be an overriding consideration

- inform members of their belief community of the work of SACRE

Teacher and teacher association representatives should:

- provide information and expertise in relation to teaching and the school environment
- where appropriate provide information and expertise in relation to the teaching of religious education and the delivery of collective worship in schools
- represent the interests and concerns of teachers, pupils and schools
- consult with teaching colleagues and students
- keep colleagues informed about the work of SACRE
- ensure that the welfare and education of all the children in Lambeth is the primary focus of SACRE

Council representatives should:

- represent the wider public interest
- provide information and expertise to SACRE in their capacity as an elected member of Lambeth Council
- inform SACRE of concerns or issues known to Lambeth Council relating to education and in particular the provision for SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development), teaching of religious education and the delivery of collective worship in schools
- support the work of SACRE by representing its interests in Lambeth Council
- endeavour to ensure that SACRE is adequately funded and supported
- ensure that legal requirements for the conduct of SACRE are observed in particular in relation to the suitability and qualifications required to be a member of SACRE