

Birmingham

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

SACRE



Annual Report

2013-2014

www.faithmakesadifference.co.uk





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1. MEETINGS

Full SACRE meetings during 2013-2014

- 30th September 2013
- 5th December 2013
- 10th February 2014
- 18th June 2014

For SACRE membership (see appendix)

After 8 years of service, Guy Hordern stepped down as Chair and in May 2012 Councillor Dr Barry Henley BSc MSc DBA MCIM FCMI took over the role. Dr Henley is a deputy Chair of Governors at Uffculme, an all age school for children with autistic spectrum disorders and Chair of Governors at King David Primary School.

The practice was continued of alternating SACRE meetings between afternoons and evenings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to accommodate the attendance of as many members as possible.

Officers

The following people have had a function with regard to SACRE:

Simone Whitehouse,
RE Adviser, Learning and Assessment Service, Services for Education

Sarah Marshall
Services for Education

All other officers attend at the invitation of SACRE

The statutory role and responsibilities of SACRE:

- To advise the Local Authority (LA) upon such matters connected with religious worship in community schools as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.
- To advise the LA upon such matters connected with religious education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus in community schools as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.
- To consider applications made by a head teacher for a determination which lifts the requirement for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character for some or all of the pupils at the school.
- To publish an Annual Report.
- To consider whether or not to require a review of the agreed syllabus currently adopted by the LA and to require a Statutory Conference to be called into being to review the agreed syllabus.



2. THE BIRMINGHAM AGREED SYLLABUS DEVELOPMENTS

1. Enabling Resources Context:

- a. The website www.faithmakesadifference.co.uk was further developed as a teaching tool in a number of ways: information, news and interactivity.
- b. Videos of lessons at the different key stages were added to show teachers how the learning materials could be used effectively in a classroom setting.

2. Protecting and Embedding the Syllabus in the Community:

- a. We adopted a systematic approach to Academies to encourage them to continue to use the Syllabus if they left local authority control
- b. Similarly we were pleased to note that Free Schools set up in Birmingham also adopted the Syllabus even though not legally obliged to do so.

3. Future Action:

- a. Continued work on the Agreed Syllabus monitoring and evaluation survey
- b. Extending the use of the material developed for the Syllabus into daily Collective Worship in schools to make it more meaningful and spiritually uplifting than the conventional format.



3. WEBSITE AND UPDATES



www.faithmakesadifference.co.uk

Updates

The website continues to be a dynamic vehicle for how SACRE's vision for the Agreed Syllabus is shared within schools. For teachers, the schemes of work have been amended and changes have been instantly accessible.

- A comprehensive, multimedia magazine featuring inspirational films and articles to guide you through the Birmingham approach to Religious Education.
- Information for planning Religious Education and delivering Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education for Early Years, Primary, Secondary and Academies.
- Films featuring parents, governors, faith leaders and teachers using and endorsing the Birmingham approach.

Purple Mash



www.purplemash.co.uk

Birmingham SACRE is working in conjunction with the creators of Purple Mash. Our materials can be used with their full range of fun learning activities including making posters, leaflets and post-cards.

Work with Purple Mash is ongoing with an additional 70 'Made in Birmingham' assets and resources due to be rolled out through the Purple Mash website under their 'values' header. It is hoped that these assets will help to generate an income source and enable investment in the further development of resources.





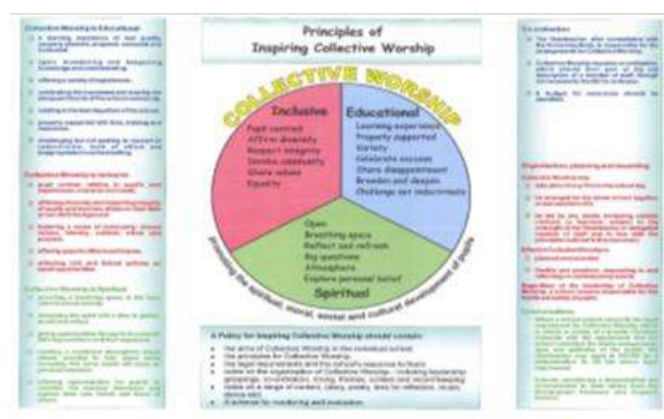
4. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Collective Worship working group has developed a 3 layered approach which ensures collective worship is appropriate ? for pupils of all backgrounds; universal, theistic and faith specific.

The 'universal' layer is the theme of teaching whereby ? r ? is offered which would be considered acceptable by all parents in the city, for example 'thankfulness'.

The 'theistic' layer is the 'God' layer. This is a theme or idea that the majority of parents from a faith would agree to, for example 'God is generous'.

The third layer is the faith specific layer. This exemplifies what one are if faith believes for example 'God is the source of all gifts'.

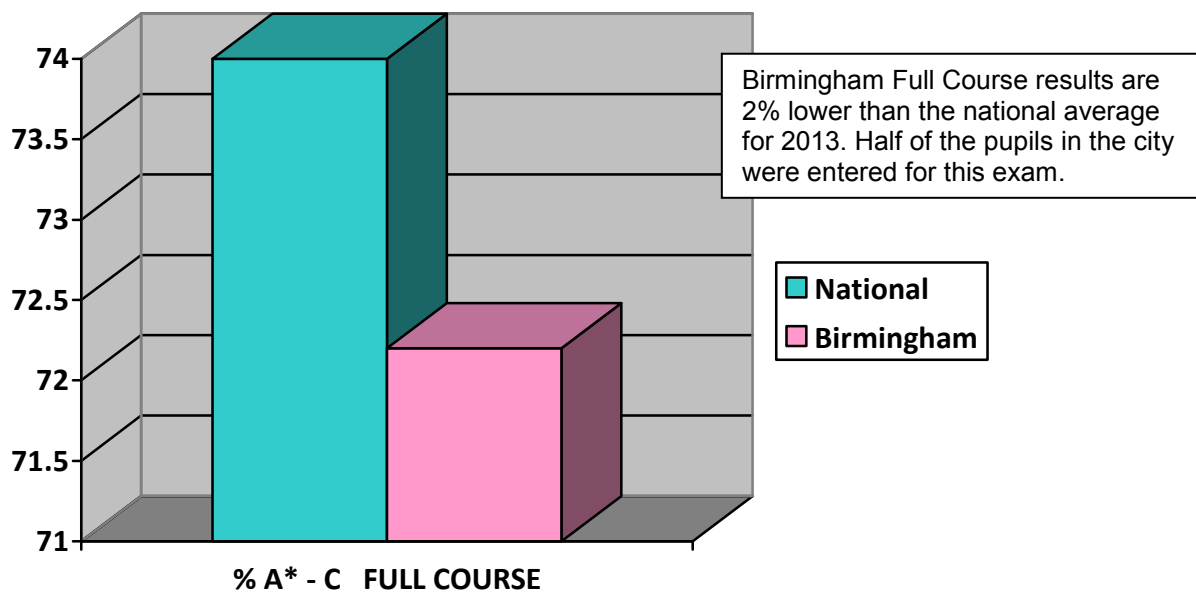


A series of twilight training sessions on Collective Worship took place in Autumn 2013 and Spring 2014. Well received by those in attendance the sessions presented an opportunity to address any misunderstandings of collective worship, to reflect on what might currently be being provided in school, and to help improve the quality and impact of future collective worship by looking at examples of more innovative, inspiring and wider reaching provision.

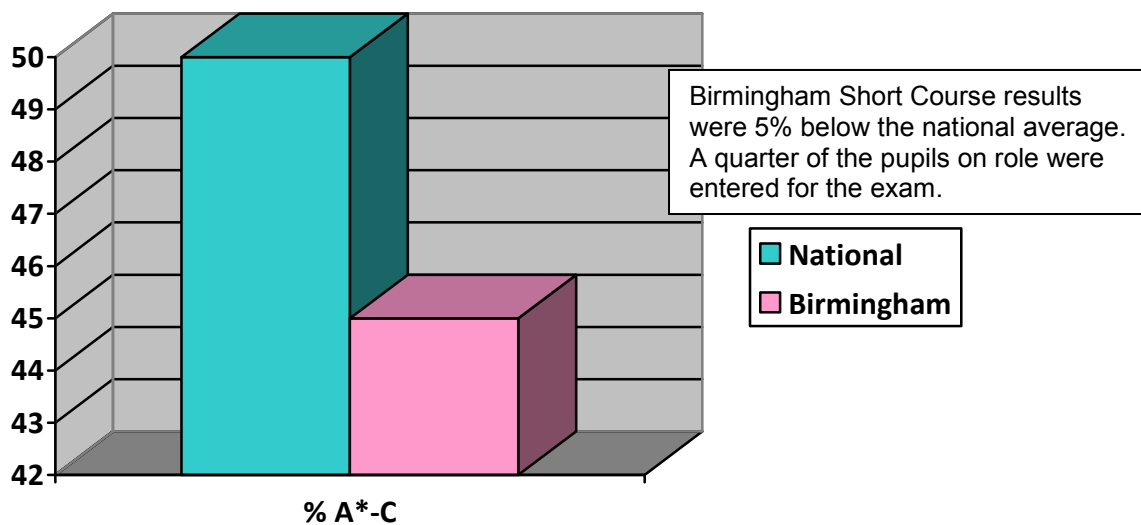


5. GCSE RESULTS

2013 FULL COURSE A* - C



2013 SHORT COURSE A* - C



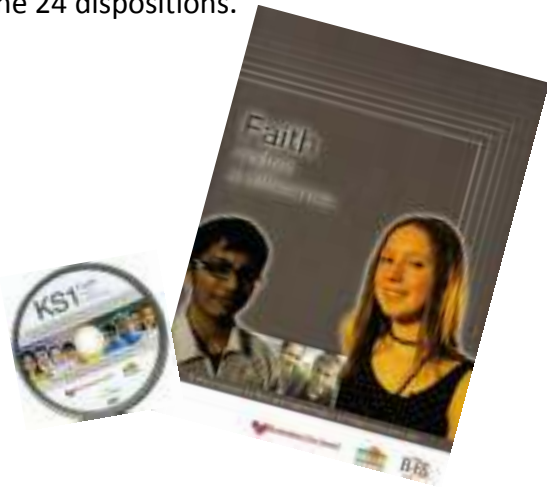


6. DVDs SUPPORTING THE AGREED SYLLABUS

To enhance the implementation of the new Agreed Syllabus, and working with Television Junction, SACRE has commissioned a series of DVDs to support the syllabus.

Teaching Resources

These include *"Faith makes a difference"* which provides over four hours of material which takes a unique look at faith through the 24 dispositions.



These are suitable for primary and secondary phases of education.

More recently, this has been augmented by *"Learning from Faith: Early Years"*.

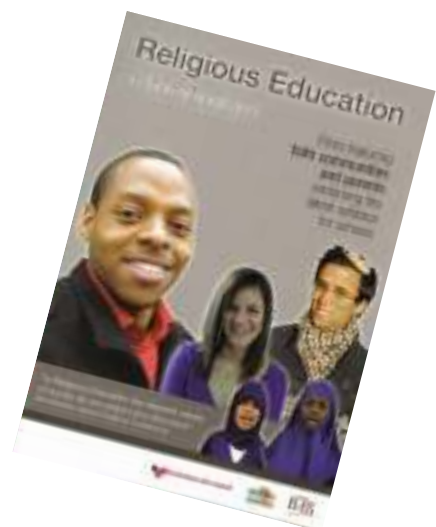


It introduces the aims and shows how the new RE syllabus can be built into everyday practice in the Early Years phase of education.

Whilst RE is not statutory in the Early Years Foundation Stage, the film demonstrates how practitioners and leaders find the syllabus useful in planning their activities.

Ownership by Parents and Faith Communities

"Religious Education in Birmingham" provides a series of films in which faith communities and parents endorse the Agreed Syllabus.



"What I like about the new Syllabus is that it takes children's spirituality seriously."

**Bishop David Urquhart,
Bishop of Birmingham**



7. DETERMINATIONS FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The 1988 Education Reform Act (ERA) states that “the majority of Acts of Collective Worship must be wholly or mainly of a Christian character. They should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination”.

However, it recognises that, although the spiritual traditions of the country are Christian, in some schools the spiritual/cultural make-up includes significant numbers of pupils of many faith traditions.

In these schools an application can be made to SACRE for a Determination which lifts the requirement that the majority acts of collective worship should be “wholly or mainly of a Christian character”.

School	Date determination Granted by SACRE	Date of Expiry/ Renewal
Adderley Primary	April 2010	April 2015
Anderton Park Primary School	January 2008	January 2013
Arden Primary School	September 2009	September 2014
Birchfield Community School	September 2010	September 2015
Bordesley Green Girls' Specialist and Enterprise School	September 2013	September 2018
Broadway School	September 2012	September 2018
Canterbury Cross Primary School	June 2010	September 2015
City Road Primary School	January 2010	September 2015
Conway Primary School	September 2004	September 2009
Cromwell JI (NC) School	September 2012	September 2017
George Dixon International	September 2011	September 2016
Highfield JI	December 2013	January 2018
Ladypool Primary	December 2013	January 2018
Marlborough Infant School	April 2010	April 2015
Marlborough Junior School	December 2013	January 2018
Moseley School Language College	June 2011	June 2016
Nansen Primary School	September 2010	September 2015
Oldknow Academy	January 2006	January 2011
Park View Secondary School	April 2008 “part school”	April 2013



School	Date determination Granted by SACRE	Date of Expiry/ Renewal
Parkfield Primary School	January 2010	January 2015
Shaw Hill Primary School	September 2013 "part school"	September 2018
Somerville JI School	June 2010	September 2015
Springfield Primary School	September 2009	September 2014
Starbank Primary School	April 2003	April 2008
Washwood Heath Technology College	September 2012 "part school"	September 2017
Wilkes Green Junior School	September 2009	September 2015
Yew Tree Community School	January 2013	January 2018



8. SACRE MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL YEARS TO SEPTEMBER 2014

COMMITTEE A:

Christian and other religious denominations, not including the Church of England

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of Birmingham	<i>Violent Owen (co-opted)</i>	Representative Council of Birmingham and Midland Jewry	<i>Shmuel Arkush</i>
Heart of England Baptist Association	<i>Revd Siôr Coleman</i>	Methodist Church	<i>Keith Dennis</i>
West Midlands Buddhist Council	<i>Tony Lister</i>	Muslim Liaison Committee	<i>Zahida Hussain Malik Hussain Azkar Mohammad Nasim Awan Mohammed Hashim Tahir Alam Elaine Ashraf</i>
Council of Black-led churches	-		
Birmingham Churches together	<i>Gareth Davies</i>		
Duke Street Chapel	<i>Janet Hopton</i>	Greek Orthodox Church	-
Churches Associated with the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches	<i>Sue Fearon</i>	Rastafarian Community	<i>Jennifer Moses (co-opted)</i>
Hindu Community	<i>Ravi Ladva</i>	Roman Catholic Church	<i>Father Edwin Cownley Bill Ozanne</i>
International Mahavia Jain Mission	<i>Arvinder Jain (co-opted)</i>	Sikh Community	<i>Pritpal Kaur Riat</i>
		United Reformed Church	<i>Dr. Marius Felderhof</i>

COMMITTEE B: The Church of England

*Jill Stolberg
Andrew Smith
Rachel Jepson*

*Patricia Williams
Linda Isiorho
Samantha Cosgrove*



COMMITTEE C: Teachers' Associations

ATL	<i>Ashraf Ghouse Andrew Hopton</i>	NUT	<i>Lucretia Fields Samantha Dawson Netta Ford</i>
NAHT includes BHTA	- -	ASCL	<i>Ronald Skelton</i>
NASUWT	<i>Alan Jones Nafiza Khan Derek O'Dowd</i>	Voice	<i>Jane Hetherington</i>

COMMITTEE D: The Local Authority

*Birmingham City Council - Guy Hordern
Councillor Gurdial Singh Atwal
Councillor Valerie Seabright
Councillor Barry Henley*

*Councillor Jon Hunt
Councillor Chauhdry Rashid
Councillor Lyn Collin
Councillor Phillip Davis*

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

*Simone Whitehouse
RE Adviser, Learning & Assessment Service,
Services for Education*

*Sarah Marshall
Clerk, Services for Education*

SACRE WORKING GROUPS

Curriculum

<i>Sue Fearon</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Val Johnson</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Rachel Jepson</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>Christine Tanquee</i>	<i>C</i>
<i>Zahida Hussain</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Simone Whitehouse (Convenor)</i>	<i>LA</i>

Finance

<i>Shmuel Arkush</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Marius Felderhof</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Guy Hordern (Convenor)</i>	<i>D</i>

Pupil Related Projects

<i>Azkhar Mohammed</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Samantha Dawson</i>	<i>C</i>
<i>Sandra Bailey (Convenor)</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Simone Whitehouse</i>	<i>LA</i>

Collective Worship

<i>Siôr Coleman (Convenor)</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Jill Stolberg</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>Tahir Alam</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Mohammed Hashim</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Sue Fearon</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Malik Fazal Hussain</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Azkhar Mohammed</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Nasim Awan</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Zahida Hussain</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>Simone Whitehouse</i>	<i>LA</i>

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Shmuel Arkush (Convenor)



9. APPENDICES

9.1: Birmingham SACRE Collective Worship Strategy

9.1. BIRMINGHAM SACRE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP STRATEGY