



**MANCHESTER**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

# **Manchester SACRE Annual Report 2022**

**This report covers academic year 2021-2022**

## **Foreword**

Welcome to the Manchester SACRE Annual Report. It gives me great pleasure to write a brief introductory comment to this record of our activities during the academic year 2021-2023.

Manchester SACRE continues to strengthen its links with the schools in our area and will always offer support to schools through the commissioning of CPD, advice and guidance. I am pleased to note that we have a new agreed syllabus in place ready for teaching in September 2022 and that we will be aiming to support schools with its use through the provision of further CPD.

I am delighted to note that Manchester SACRE has engaged with the GM Faith and Belief Panel and I look forward to continuing this relationship to further promote the work of SACRE in the GMCA and continuing to build valuable working relationships with other SACRE's.

I am pleased that we have once again broadened our membership to further strengthen our links with faith groups across the city. We have welcomed a new representative from the Chinese Christian Church and will continue to strive to ensure a broad faith representation.

I am grateful for the help we have received from Nick Paul from the Manchester City Council particularly regarding contact and communications between SACRE and the schools in the city.

In finishing, I would like to note the quality of discussion that occurs in our SACRE meetings, this discussion is often very stimulating. Having emerged from the restrictions of the COVID pandemic we look forward to opportunities to continue our discussion and activities not only online but face to face across a variety of settings.

**Cllr. Ahmed Ali JP**  
Chair Manchester SACRE

**Membership of Manchester SACRE at the end of academic year 2022**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Cllr Ahmed Ali	Committee D (Chair)	Local Authority (LA)
Cedric Knipe	Committee A (Vice Chair)	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Heather Steward	Committee A	Methodist
Jenny Chan	Committee A	Chinese Christian Church
Nick Paul	Committee D	Local Authority
Maureen Curley	Committee B	Church of England
Martin Knowles	Committee A	Humanist
Julie Darbyshire	Committee C	RE Lecturer
Christine Howard	Committee A	Baptist Denomination
Mike Chesterton	Committee A	Evangelical
Simon Caplan	Committee A	Jewish
Rachel Skelton	Committee A	Unitarian and Free Christian Churches
Valerie Clark	Committee A	Quaker
Nidhi Sinha	Committee A	Hindu
Dr S Sinha	Committee A	Hindu
Sukbhir Singh	Committee A	Sikh
Imran Naseem	Committee A	Islam
Rev. Fujo Malaika	Committee A	Interfaith Minister Christian
David Levien	Committee C	VOICE
Helen Tidesley	Committee C	NASUWT rep
Patrick Davern	Committee A	Roman Catholic
Sara Talai	Committee A	Baha'i
Hannah Kaira	Committee A	Baha'i
Afnan Carmel	Committee A	Baha'i
Sara Radivan	Committee A	Jewish

## **The role of the SACRE**

The SACRE is independent of the Local Authority and its main function is to advise the Local Authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in Community and Voluntary Controlled schools.

Also, it: -

- can require the Authority to review its current agreed syllabus
- and must consider applications made by a head teacher that the requirement for collective worship in Community schools or Schools which have not been designated as having a religious character to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character shall not apply to the collective worship provided for some or all of the pupils at that particular school.

The broad role of the SACRE therefore is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and collective worship in schools.

### **Meetings held:**

19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

29<sup>th</sup> June 2022

All meetings were held online principally by the Microsoft TEAMS platform. SACRE remains open to offers from faith groups who may wish to host meetings and also a return to occasional face to face meetings is proposed for specific purposes such as visiting speakers.

### **New Agreed syllabus**

As referenced in our last annual report Manchester SACRE agreed to work with Tameside, Trafford, Salford and Stockport in the commissioning of a new Agreed Syllabus from R E Today.

This work came to a conclusion in academic year 21-22 resulting the implementation of the new syllabus in September 2022. This syllabus will remain current until August 2027.

Launch events took place in February and March 2022 which took the form of CPD days led by colleagues from R E Today. Attendance at these events were over 300 teachers.

Following these events all schools were issued with electronic copies of the new syllabus so that they could prepare for teaching in September 2022.

The full syllabus is copyright and licensed to the five commissioning authorities however an abridged version is available upon request. Authority.

An outcome of the launch events was a surplus of funds which will be used by the five commissioning authorities in the provision of CPD and resources.

## **Collective Worship**

During the year work with the aid of colleagues from Pennine Learning SACRE has agreed a basic collective worship policy document that can be used and adapted by schools. Work is also in progress to ensure that SACRE has a process to follow should requests for determinations be received from any of its schools.

## **Greater Manchester Faith and Belief Panel**

During the year Manchester SACRE has engaged with this body and our vice chair Cedric Knipe is also member of the panel.

An initial meeting was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> bringing together officers from a variety of local SACRE's. The intention was to create contacts and look at ways in which SACRE's can work together and with the panel itself.

SACRE's were given the opportunity to highlight their priorities and it was felt that there should be an opportunity to get teachers and students more involved with SACRE's.

It was proposed that SACRE's meet every six months with representatives of the panel.

## **R.E Data**

The resumption of school examinations in summer 2022 means that we are able to present the validated data at the end of this report.

## **SACRE communication with schools**

Through the SACRE LA Officer schools continue to receive regular communications via the Children and Families Directorate School Broadcast Circular system. These communications include notification of events, requests for contact details and training /support materials from SACRE members or other faith organisations.

## **Provision of information for SACRE members**

Manchester SACRE continue to be members of NASACRE and all members have access details to the website, including the regular briefings. OFSTED inspections have recommenced following their temporary suspension during the COVID related period of considerable disruption to school life in 2020/21. Members can view Inspection reports and any R E related comments via the OFSTED website.

## **SACRE membership**

During the period covered by this report academic year Manchester SACRE was pleased to welcome Jenny Chan as a new representative of the Chinese Christian Church replacing Eric Keasberry. It was also reported that SACRE would benefit from representation of the Buddhist and Hindu faiths.

Additionally, we lost Ruth Watson from the United Reform Church and Rachel Kemp as a Primary School representative. Both of these colleagues need to be replaced in the coming year.

Manchester SACRE thanks Eric, Ruth and Rachel for their support over a number of years.

## **Freedom of Information requests (FOI)**

SACRE received two FOI request During the period covered by this report. No FOI requests were received by SACRE.

## **Requests for a determination**

SACRE did not receive any requests for determinations with regard to Collective Worship during the period covered by this report. Any school wishing to explore the relevance of a determination (daily collective worship which is other than 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character) in their context should contact SACRE via the local authority officer, Nick Paul (n.paul@manchester.gov.uk). Church schools are not eligible for a determination and for an academy wishing to apply for a determination the correct process is for the Trust to apply through the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to the Secretary of State.

## ***Complaints concerning RE***

There have been no complaints concerning RE.

## ***Complaints concerning Collective Worship***

There have been no complaints received about collective worship.

## **Finance**

SACRE does not have a dedicated budget; however, the LA covers the costs of a professional clerk, meeting costs and the membership of NASACRE.

The LA representative on SACRE has the authority to consider requests for financial support for SACRE activities and to authorise payment where funds exist and there is a clear benefit to the role of SACRE

Nick Paul  
Manchester City Council  
Spring 2023

## Exam data 2022

Grade	Total no. of entries	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Manchester LA State Funded (no. of pupils)</b>	<b>3054</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Manchester LA State Funded (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)</b>		<b>7%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>National (All Schools) (no. of pupils)</b>	<b>201710</b>	<b>19910</b>	<b>23640</b>	<b>26330</b>	<b>34130</b>	<b>28560</b>	<b>21710</b>	<b>21980</b>	<b>13530</b>	<b>7710</b>
<b>National (All Schools) (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)</b>		<b>10%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>National (State Funded) (no. of pupils)</b>	<b>189780</b>	<b>16620</b>	<b>21190</b>	<b>24260</b>	<b>32250</b>	<b>27520</b>	<b>21180</b>	<b>21600</b>	<b>13350</b>	<b>7620</b>
<b>National (State Funded) (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)</b>		<b>9%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>4%</b>