



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL

Manchester SACRE Annual Report 2023

This report covers academic year 2022-2023.

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 2022-2023.

I am pleased to report that our new agreed syllabus became live at the start of this academic year. The syllabus is also used across four partner Local authorities in greater Manchester, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with regard to CPD related to the syllabus.

I am delighted to note that Manchester SACRE continues to engage 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 SACREs.

During this year SACRE was pleased to welcome new representatives from the Hindu and Jewish faiths strengthening our links with faith groups across the city. We will always strive to ensure a broad faith representation reflecting the diversity of this great city.

I am grateful for the help we have received from Nick Paul from the Manchester City Council particularly regarding communications between SACRE and the schools in the city, as well as partners across Greater Manchester.

In finishing, I am delighted to note the work of our newly constituted working party and I am sure that the work of this group will drive forward new and exciting developments which will benefit teachers and children across the city.

Cllr. Ahmed Ali JP
Chair Manchester SACRE

Membership of Manchester SACRE at the end of academic year 2023

Name	Committee	Representing
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
Warren Elf	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
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:

19th October 2022

21st March 2023

28th June 2023

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 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's new Agreed syllabus produced by R E Today in cooperation with Tameside, Trafford, Salford, and Stockport became live on September 1st, 2022. This syllabus will remain current until 2027.

All Schools were issued with electronic copies of the new syllabus. The full syllabus is copyright and licensed to the five commissioning authorities however an abridged version is available upon request to the Local Authority.

SACRE working party.

To further develop the work of the SACRE a working party was established in spring 2023 with the aim of the SACRE membership taking a more active lead in the workstreams undertaken and to drive new initiatives. The first report from the working party was issued in June 23 and highlighted two initial key initiatives to take forward. These were the provision of a regular newsletter to

schools and a directory of places of worship for school visits. These initiatives were to be taken forward and will be reported on in more detail in the annual report covering academic year 2023-2024.

Member presentations

Humanist representative Martin Knowles gave a very useful and interesting presentation on the Declaration of Modern Humanism which was ratified at a conference in Glasgow in May 2022.

Greater Manchester Faith and Belief Panel

During the year Manchester SACRE has continued to engage with this body and our vice chair Cedric Knipe is also member of the panel. A second meeting was held online November 28th, 2022.

R.E Data

The resumption of school examinations in summer 2023 means that we can present the validated data at the end of this report. Validated data from 2022 is retained from last years report for comparison purposes.

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. A new communication expected during the 2023-2024 academic year will be the Northern R E Newsletter produced and shared by colleagues from Pennine Learning.

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. Members can view Inspection reports and any R E related comments via the OFSTED website.

SACRE membership

During the period covered by this report Manchester SACRE was pleased to welcome Pranab Bhadra, and Warren Elf representing the Hindu and Jewish faiths respectively.

Freedom of Information requests (FOI)

No FOI requests were received by SACRE.

Requests for a determination

SACRE did not receive any requests for determinations regarding 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. 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
June 2024

Exam data 2023

Grade	Total no. of entries	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Manchester LA State Funded (no. of pupils)	3067	157	294	323	490	449	365	469	261	170
Manchester LA State Funded (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)		5%	10%	11%	16%	15%	12%	15%	8%	6%
National (All Schools) (no. of pupils)	205740	16429	21941	24646	33996	28708	22190	27718	16345	9093
National (All Schools) (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)		8%	11%	12%	17%	14%	11%	13%	8%	4%
National (State Funded) (no. of pupils)	193610	13721	19436	22554	31913	27516	21604	27301	16035	8936
National (State Funded) (percentage of pupils achieving each GCSE Grade)		7%	10%	12%	16%	14%	11%	14%	8%	5%

Exam data 2022

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