

Nottingham City SACRE

Annual Report 2023/4



Nottingham
City Council

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1. Introduction



'I'm really pleased with the year that we've had engaging with the national body, NASACRE, and accessing the training on offer from them.

We have welcomed new members to the board to work alongside existing members. Their commitment to prioritising the provision of good quality religious education in our schools will enable us to develop and strengthen the board and its work.

Visiting different religious venues and schools enables us to learn, share and develop. This last year we have been able to issue guidance on Ramadan to schools and will look to what other support we can offer'.

Cllr Cheryl Barnard, Chair, Nottingham City SACRE

Nottingham City SACRE has met three times in 2023/24, alternating between educational settings and places of worship. A key priority has been to ensure strong membership across all four SACRE Groups and the Committee has benefitted for the consistent leadership of the Chair, Cllr Cheryl Barnard in seeking to build a strong and consistently quorate group.

However, SACRE was not quorate at its final meeting in July as Group B were unable to be represented. An overview of individual attendance has been tracked and non-attenders proactively contacted in the summer 2024 to confirm their intentions re membership and participation for 2024/5.

An overview of key areas for discussion at each meeting is set out below:

Meeting	Venue	Content	Quorate?
October 2023	Nottingham Liberal Synagogue Nottingham Liberal Synagogue A warm and welcoming community for Jews of all backgrounds	Religious education: The national & local overview	YES
March 2024	Huntingdon Primary Academy Huntingdon Academy — A L.E.A.D. Academy	Supporting schools & communities after the Nottingham attacks Guidance for Schools: Ramadan	YES

July 2024	Gurdwara Sahib Miri Piri House Home - Gurdwara Baba Budha Ji (gbbji.org)	Self-evaluation exercise in groups SACRE Constitution	NO
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Religious Education for All: The Agreed Syllabus for RE in Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Intentions, Implementation and Impact 2021-2026 remains in place. Nottingham City SACRE will meet jointly with colleagues in Nottinghamshire next academic year in advance of revisions needed to agree a syllabus beyond 2026.

2. Religious Education and Collective Worship (statutory responsibilities)

A sub-group of SACRE has recently been formed to monitor RE teaching and establish a baseline of current provision across Local Authority and Academy schools. Funding has subsequently been requested from the authority to cover the cost of 20 days per year (supply teacher rate), approximately £10K for an appropriately qualified person to develop a baseline audit of religious education in the city, a gaps analysis and resultant work plan. This would be additional to the cost of SACRE co-ordination. The Monitoring sub-group will meet once per term to support this development, and the LA Officer will identify any new resources/opportunities from SACRE members to support professional development.

Following the Israel Palestine events in the autumn 2023, SACRE sent schools information, guidance and resources to use with students and communities to promote understanding and cohesion.

Drawing on the work of colleagues across NASACRE, Nottingham City SACRE supported schools this year by issuing a guidance document on Ramadan. This was welcomed by schools and can be further developed to give a greater local emphasis.

Nottingham City SACRE has not been in a position to support local teacher training this year. The RE Monitoring sub-group needs to await a response regarding funding and undertake an audit before it can progress.

CPD Provided to Schools by Nottingham Schools Trust Religious Education Network Group (Primary Only)

Date	Content	Attendance
Autumn Term 2023	Half day workshop delivered by Fiona Moss on teaching about diverse Muslim world views.	27
Spring Term 2024	1.5-hour session on diversity and unconscious bias delivered by Laura Gregory-White from Jigsaw RE.	15

Summer Term 2024	Full day workshop delivered by Fiona Moss on teaching world views – Judaism and Hindu Dharma.	16
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Determinations: There have been no Determinations received by the Director Education. The guidance for schools and academies regarding the process for Determinations will be reissued in the autumn term 2024.

3. Links with other bodies and local involvement

Nottingham City SACRE supports its members by joining NASACRE, including access to its training plan and NATRE. Members send on information from their relevant faith/worldviews for dissemination to schools as appropriate. Links have been made with the Governor Training Team with a view to building RE Monitoring into the governor training plan over time.

4. SACRE's own arrangements (statutory responsibilities)

Nottingham City SACRE is supported by a Local Authority Officer whose remit is to provide co-ordination with Constitutional Services, confirm the meeting agendas with the Chair and support membership recruitment and liaison with relevant bodies, particularly with regard to specialist advice. This is a casually contracted post. The Director of Education also provides professional support and links to wider city and council initiatives but there is no dedicated religious education expertise allocated to SACRE.

Recruitment and team building has been a priority this year, with a significant number of new members welcomed to the Committee. There remain vacancies which will continue to be pursued. Several members have taken up introductory training from NASCARE and several others participated in training to support the monitoring of Religious Education.

Finance given to SACRE for its work in 2023/4 is as follows:

LA SACRE Officer: £2,500

Constitutional Services: £740.80 (3 meetings per year)

NASACRE membership & training package 2023/4 £155

RE Today Professional Membership 2023/24 £100 **Total:** £3,495.80

5. Circulation

This Annual Report has been circulated to all SACRE members.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Table of GCSE & A Level RS results 2022/23