



Nottinghamshire Standing Advisory
Council for Religious Education

Annual Report
2021/2022

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Nottinghamshire SACRE

1.1 Chair's introduction

Once again it has been a pleasure to work with such a diverse focused group.

Meeting at various venues around the County always with such a warm welcome. Personally I found the return to the Holocaust Centre particular meaningful, I am not sure what happened but came away enlightened, I would encourage anyone of my friends and colleagues to pay a visit.

Throughout the year there has been the underlying issue that we as a group were about to lose one of our greatest assets, the person who facilitates the meeting and keeps me on the straight and narrow. Unfortunately, due to a prior family arrangement that was a surprise for me I was unable to attend Ken's last meeting, my good friend Cllr Tracey Taylor said a few words on my behalf. Ken will most definitely be missed by the Nottinghamshire SACRE, he will always be made most welcome should he wish to attend one of our meetings.

Once again as the Chairman would like to wish the Rev Ken Johnson a truly happy and blessed future on behalf of the Nottinghamshire SACRE and all those connected with it.

Many thanks

Boyd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Elliott', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Boyd Elliott

Chair of SACRE
Vice Chairman of Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
County Councillor for Calverton

1.2 Meetings of SACRE

SACRE met once each term during 2021-2022

November 2021 *An online meeting due to ongoing Covid situation*

- Election of vice chair & membership update
- The online SACRE leaflet was welcomed - bit.ly/NottsSACRE
- A proposed SACRE Code of Conduct was to be further refined
- A discussion about funding from the LA was raised.
- The OFSTED review of RE was discussed
- SEF of SACRE was discussed to help formulate the development of SACRE
- Revised format of the Draft Annual Report was shared.
- How SACRE can effectively, if at all, monitor RE & Collective Worship
- SACRE effectiveness and Development Plan was considered in the light of the SACRE self-evaluation document.
- Local & National Developments were looked at.
- Report given on how we were approaching the filming from the grant from NASACRE & Westhills.

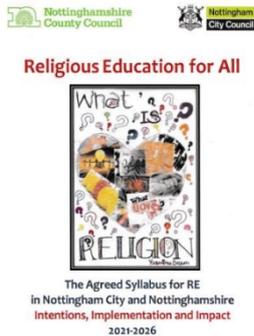
March 2022 *Held at the Holocaust Centre, - face to face meeting*

- Discussion of the financial situation with regard to SACRE which resulted in the chair seeking to see if SACRE could have a separate budget
- We an update from the Holocaust Centre about its work and members had the opportunity to look round the Centre.
- Annual Reports had been received by DfE & NASACRE
- SACRE members saw one of the films about the Friary which had been created from the West hill/ NASACRE funding. Agreed that SACRE should have a You Tube channel which would host the films to be used by schools nationwide. Resources to accompany them for use in class would be available on the RSresource Website in due course.
- SACRE looked at OFSTED inspection reports in the County and there was a need to support Collective Worship more from SACRE.
- It was hoped to have a Joint Meeting with the City SACRE

June 2022 *Held at Gurdwara Baba Budha*

- SACRE members had an introduction to the Sikh faith and to tour the Gurdwara.
- A Report on the recent online NASACRE Conference was given Some members attended various training courses from NASACRE following the conference.
- Attention of members was drawn to the Report Card for RE, the REC World views Project Draft Handbook along with the Government's White paper on Education- all for future deliberation.
- Nothing further about a joint SACRE meeting
- An update on the filming project which showed that completion was now in sight and the resource would be available from September.
- Members learned that there was a small working party of teachers looking at Skills progression across the Agreed Syllabus

2.1 The Agreed Syllabus



Teachers have welcomed the Syllabus. The resources on the website to support it are growing through teachers who are willing to share ideas and materials.

These were also available the corresponding website within the City of Nottingham.

SACRE Members were shown a list of support materials available on the Websites to accompany the syllabus

2.2 Standards & monitoring

SACRE members feel that this is a difficult task to report on. The Ofsted reports which showed some deep dives into RE were overall positive about the subject. These were shared as an overview to SACRE members

The Nottinghamshire RSresource Centre had worked with around 2,000 young people in schools during the academic year delivering faith experiences. This allowed some positive feedback about the work been carried out in school and academies within the County. Pupils were curious to learn about different faiths and displayed a positive knowledge from things they had been taught by their teachers.

www.rsresources.org.uk

Teachers commented on these experiences thus:-

I will do more active lessons in RE as shown by the visit.

For the children to embed & deploy their knowledge – it worked very well

A wonderful, creative experience that captured the interest of the pupils.

Fantastic as always – children loved the practical aspects!

In one school pupils asked if they could have more experiences in the future!

2.3 Teacher CPD & Support Materials

This year SACRE advertised two sessions which were organised by schools as part of their internal CPD across the LA and other schools joined in with them.

Our Primary RE Network met twice in an afternoon during the academic year.

Our Autumn Session was face to face at the Holocaust Centre where 20 teachers discovered how the Centre could be a resource for their teaching. We looked at local and national developments in RE. Colleagues shared their approach to assessment and the use of floor books as well as looking at OFSTED reports. In the evaluations teachers said of the session:-

Have so much to take away with me, Brilliant

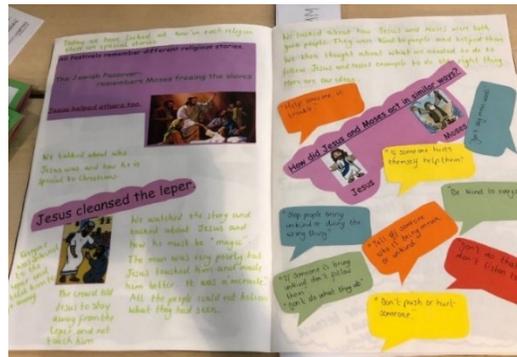
“ Excellent afternoon in a wonderful setting. I came away with so many ideas.”

Our delegates enjoyed discovering how colleagues were recording & assessing RE at KS2 as this helped them to grow in confidence with their role. The help with assessment was found to be so beneficial, along with the opportunity to meet & share ideas with others.

From this session teachers contributed materials to share on the website to support the Agreed Syllabus.

Our Spring Network Meeting was again face to face during which we shared: -

- the local & National Developments in RE
- what can we learn from Ofsted Reports on Primary Schools Inspection
- assessment resources developed since the last Network
- examples of floor books and how you construct them to assist with assessment of pupils
- Knowledge Organizers in RE - what are they – a teacher shared her school's experience
- Developing Knowledge organisers for use in school this was a creative session



We also discussed Skills Progression across the syllabus and a small working party has been formed from the Facebook group to look further into this.

SACRE Annual RE Conference June - again face to face

**Our Conference was entitled:
Better RE with the Notts Syllabus: Inspiring ideas for all schools**

The day included the following: -

The challenge of deeper thinking through RE:
The challenge of better writing in RE
The Launch of the SACRE films
The challenge of values and spirituality from RE



96% of the delegates said this very useful with 4% saying useful. Teachers found this valuable as it offered new insights into approaches as well as offering new resources to be more effective in teaching. The chance to share and listen to colleagues was much welcomed after a break from face-to-face meetings, as well as reviewing resources promoting deeper thinking in RE.

At the Conference we launched the films which SACRE had made with funding from West Hills and NASACRE which would be available to use in schools along with some suggested resources to accompany them. After viewing one film teachers commented

The Friary film was inspiring to link our William Booth English unit to RE. This was very powerful & an excellent resource to use in school. It was very moving and thought provoking, engaging & child friendly. Children will be enthused to make their own community video

The Friary film was a great insight into faith inaction & community support
It's great to know that there are other films available

Details of this development are in the appendix.

In their evaluations teachers commented that on going back to their establishments they would:

- Share Ideas with colleagues through staff meetings
- Review and Change the way RE is delivered
- Discuss with Senior Managers about children contributing more to our school- RE intention statement, introduction of floor books in classes & raise questions about RE in EY's.
- Use the videos
- Making learning more creative
- Focus more on pupil's own ideas & responses
- Look at how RE can assist improving the quality of writing in school
- Support teaching of RE & improve RE in reception
- Ensure more planning is cross curricular with writing & D&T

2.4 Other Information

The Secretary of SACRE has not received any enquiries about schools facing withdrawal issues either concerning sessions or full-scale withdrawal from RE. No complaints about the teaching of RE in schools.

We have also developed pages concerning SACRE on the local Authority website:-

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/nottinghamshire-standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-sacre-1>

Resource materials have been placed on the resources section to accompany the Agreed Syllabus through the year. Some of which were contributed by teachers within the County and City. These materials are shared on the City site as well. These are accessible to those institutions which have bought into the Agreed Syllabus.

During the Academic year the Secretary did receive enquiries asking about the following areas: -

- Parental right of withdrawal – clarification and guidance
- Post 16 RE
- Collective Worship Policy
- RE Policy Documentation

2 Collective Worship

SACRE is aware that there is a need to address the support offered to schools on Collective Worship in the future.

3.1 Determinations

There were no requests by schools in Nottinghamshire for a determination that the specific requirements regarding the character of collective worship, as set out in the Education Act 1996, should not apply to them.

Nottinghamshire SACRE does have a policy on Determination which can be requested.

4 SACRE LINKS

4.1 National Groups

SACRE continues to keep up to date of developments in the RE world through the REC and NASACRE. We attended the online conference of NASACRE. Some members of SACRE have attended the online training courses offered by NASACRE. At times the secretary has sought advice and guidance from NASACRE on some issues.

We continue to use the expertise of NATRE and RE Today consultants. We are in touch with the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust group offering to schools' materials they produce. We also liaise with other providers such as Picture News.



The Five Cities Project of the Religion Media Centre



The Secretary was invited by The Religion Media Centre to be involved in the planning of this event held in Nottingham.

In October and November 2021, the Religion Media Centre delivered an innovative project to bring together local journalists, representatives from religious groups, religious education teachers, academics, and civic leaders in five English cities. Some 300 people attended the events in the cities which included Nottingham. These were organised by the RMC with local steering groups of journalists, religious organisations, academics, teachers, and councils.

The intention was to raise understanding between religious groups and the media, exploring new stories, breaking down misunderstanding and showcasing the expertise of RE teachers and academics from local universities, who are plugged into local religious networks in a unique way.

Media panels in each city and subsequent question and answer sessions showed that relationships between religious individuals or organisations with the media are often non-existent outside large denominations with funds for public relations advice.

Our Secretary provided an input to the day about the religious make up on Nottingham & pointing out how the Agreed Syllabus for the City and the County was RE for all.

<https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/news/creating-connections-religion-and-the-media-in-nottingham/>

The
Faith
& Belief
Forum



On behalf of SACRE, our secretary was involved in the Focus Groups organised by the Faith & Belief Forum which exists to create good relations between people of different faiths and beliefs.

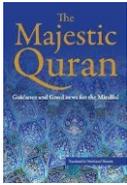
Our vision is a connected and supportive society where people of different faiths, beliefs and cultures have strong, productive, and lasting relations. They believe the future belongs to people of all beliefs, that intolerance has no place in society and that diversity adds value. We have contributed to various online meetings and gained various insights from the Forum including publications

4.2 Local Groups

SACRE membership includes teachers from different academies, along with representatives from Nottingham Trent University and Nottingham University.

The National Holocaust Centre also attends SACRE meetings as well our links with the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham advisors.

Some County Schools do use the facilities offered by the Nottinghamshire RSResources Centre which is a member of The Federation of RE Centres as reported earlier. All schools receive the termly newsletter which outlines training and development in the area each term.



Working with the Muslim Community we advertised a programme through which schools could receive obtain a free copy of this translation. 27 County Schools received one.

5.1 SACRE involvement in the Local Area

SACRE has produced an electronic flyer regarding what SACRE is. This has been made available to schools and can be made available to Faith communities in the County:

bit.ly/NottsSACRE

5.2 Governors

SACRE will be reviewing previous advice it offered to school governors.

5.3 Advice on community issues The Secretary has provided schools with advice on issues which arise at times such as during Ramadan.

6. SACRE

6.1 Support professional & administrative

The Local Authority provides a Secretary for SACRE who provides guidance to the SACRE on various matters pertaining to Religious Education and Collective Worship from various bodies which exist. The LA also provides support with minute taking and circulation of materials and other administrative assistance.

6.2 Training

SACRE members new to the body are sent the document produced by NASACRE about being new to the role and more recently have been made aware to the training sessions which NASACRE has been rolling out.

Advice is given to the LA regularly through the Authority representative about courses, network, and conferences to assist teachers, as well as sharing concerns which have been voiced. These requests are then discussed with liaison with higher authorities in the LA.

6.3 Membership, representation Support

The Secretary of SACRE does pursue vacancies with bodies who can propose members representing their world view in accordance with the constitution and tries to ensure that all meetings are quorate.

6.5 Finance

The LA does provide funding to cover the administrative work of SACRE and the time spent by the SACRE Clerk on a range of duties.

7 Appendices

7.1 Examination results

KS4 outcomes in Religious Studies (2022 Provisional)

All Pupils	Nottinghamshire				National				
	Exam Yr	NoE	9-5	9-4 / A*-C	9-1 / A*-G	NoE	9-5	9-4 / A*-C	9-1 / A*-G
2015	2,308			71.4	98.4	269,511		72.1	97.9
2016	2,085			72.7	98.0	268,759		71.6	97.8
2017	1,945			72.6	98.8	264,516		71.5	97.9
2018	1,641	57.4		70.4	97.4	213,853	60.3	71.8	98.1
2019	1,630	60.8		73.1	98.8	224,997	61.0	72.4	98.2
2020						225,031	66.0	79.5	99.2
2021						223,713	67.2	80.0	98.7
2022(p)	1,924	57.9		69.1	97.8	221,148	66.0	76.7	98.0

To note:

- Decreasing trend in number of entries between 2015-2019 but increase in entries in 2022 in Nottinghamshire.
- Number achieving A-C grades lower in Nottinghamshire than National in 2022. Gap in Nottinghamshire had widened.

2022 A level results not yet available

7.2 Details of CPD

SACRE has offered primary RE Leads a Network course over two half days which was been well supported. SACRE also provides the opportunity for an Annual RE Conference. All these CPD activities are made available to City of Nottingham Schools and academies as well as those in the County. Accounts of them were included in the report above.

7.3 Attendance Record

Attendance at SACRE meetings: - Membership from nominated groups: 32

All meetings were quorate

November	2021 from the nominated groups 4 apologies	60% present
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March	2022 from the nominated groups 10 apologies	44% present
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June	2022 from the nominated groups 7 apologies	53% present
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7.4 Any LA/SACRE policy statements on RE or CW

SACRE has in the past produced guidance documents on RE and CW

7.5 Development Plan

Each year the SACRE using the SEF produces a document which shows how it can be more effective which is a development plan which suggest areas to be considered.

7.6 Circulation details of Annual Report

The Annual Report of the Nottinghamshire SACRE goes to all schools and academies in the LA, is sent to NASACRE and DfE. It is also available for the LA to consider as well.

7.7 SACRE Development Outline

SACRE have these main responsibilities:

- Publish an annual report, which is sent to NASACRE
- Consider requests for determinations on collective worship when required.
- Advise LA on collective worship and RE to be given in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus
- Monitor provision for RE & Collective Worship
- Provide support, advice on RE & Collective Worship

In order to successfully fulfil these duties our development plan for 2022-2027 identifies priorities, actions, a time scale and success criteria for the following:

- The core functions of the SACRE
- Maintaining standards and quality of RE provision
- Maintain and monitor the effectiveness of the Agreed Syllabus
- Advise and support schools in providing Collective Worship

Success and areas for continued development are reviewed and identified at termly SACRE meetings.

7.8 SACRE Constitution

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2901573/nottinghamshiresacreconstitution.pdf

Conclusion

SACRE continues to develop its role in supporting schools and advising the Children and Young People's Cabinet on RE and Collective Worship and would welcome feedback and suggestions for its continuing work.

Rev. Ken Johnson
Secretary to SACRE for 2010 – 2022

Nottinghamshire SACRE would like to record their thanks for the amazing contribution of their secretary Rev Ken Johnson, who prepared most of this report and had shared his advice and expertise for the last 12 years, helping to maintain and inform and healthy, thriving SACRE. We wish him well in his retirement.

If you have any comments on the work/role of SACRE or require any further information please contact:

Sally MacDonald
Secretary of SACRE
Sally.macdonald@nottscc.gov.uk

Val Jones
Clerk
Valerie.jones@nottscc.gov.uk

SACRE Members

2021- 2022

Group A

Councillor Boyd Elliott (Chair of SACRE)
Councillor Phil Rostance
Councillor Vaughan Hopewell

Group B *Five representatives of the Church of England*

Dr Anne Lumb
Mrs Megan Brooksby
Mrs Kate Charlesworth
Mr Craig Moxham
Mrs Stephanie Smart

Group C *Eight representatives of teachers in Nottinghamshire*

Mrs Mary Moran	Secondary
Ms Fiona Hunter	Trent University (Until July 2022)
Mr Mike Follen	NAHT
Mrs Bethan Inglis	Secondary
Mr Richard Linford	Primary
Mr Chris Wellbrook	NEU
Anne Thompson	NASUWT
Mr James Bakewell	Wale Secondary

Group D *Sixteen representatives of Christianity (other than Church of England) and other religious faiths representing the principal religious/world views of Nottinghamshire from February 2021*

Mrs Gemma Pettifor	Assemblies of God
Mr Mike Arnold	Baptist
Mr Gareth Austen	Buddhist
Dr Shanaya Rathod	Hindu
Mrs Naomi Posner	Jewish
Mr Alan Darlington	Methodist
Mr Hafiz Muntazir	Muslim (until June 2022)
Tom Drew	Society of Friends
Mrs Naomi Waring	Roman Catholic (until June 2022)
Miss Caroline Hornsby	Roman Catholic
Mr Andrew Whitehouse	Salvation Army
Mr Gurjeet Singh	Sikh
Dr Graham Jennings	United Reformed Church
Mr Godfrey Nix	Baha'i
Mr Russell Davies	Pagan Network
Mr Will Richardson	BHA

Co-opted February 2021

Dr Irfan Malik Nottingham Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Observers

Rebecca Soulsby-McCreath
National Holocaust Centre
Mr Jon Hoover Nottingham University