



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

SACRE

Standing Advisory Council

For Religious Education

Annual Report
2020/2021

| Table of Contents | | Page No |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1. | 1.1 Introduction from Chair | 2 |
| | 1.2 Meetings / venues / overview | 3 |
| 2. | Religious Education in Nottinghamshire | 4 |
| | 2.1 Agreed Syllabus | |
| | 2.2 Standards & monitoring | |
| | 2.3 Teacher CPD & support materials | |
| | 2.4 Other information – withdrawal/ complaints/ teacher recruitment | 8 |
| 3. | Collective Worship | 9 |
| | 3.1 Determinations | |
| 4. | 4.1 Links with National Groups | 9 |
| | 4.2 Links with local bodies (academies) | |
| 5. | 5.1 SACRE involvement in the Local Area | |
| | 5.2 Governors | |
| | 5.3 Advice on community issues | |
| 6. | SACRE | |
| | 6.1 Support professional & administrative | 10 |
| | 6.2 Training | |
| | 6.3 ASC | |
| | 6.4 Membership, representation Support | |
| | 6.5 Finance | |
| 7. | Appendices | 11 |
| | 7.1 Examination results | |
| | 7.2 Details of CPD | |
| | 7.3 Attendance Record | |
| | 7.4 Any LA/SACRE policy statements on RE or CW | |
| | 7.5 Development Plan | |
| | 7.6 Circulation details of Annual Report | |

Nottinghamshire SACRE

1.1 Chair's introduction

Well this has been another challenging year which has seen us only meet virtually, how I miss the different locations and warm welcomes.

The launch of the agreed syllabus was an amazing highlight of the year online.

It was also the year of the County elections which meant no councillors present at some meetings, they are long behind us now and it is a great honour to be returned and to have kept my outside bodies which I so much enjoy. I look forward to introducing two new colleagues at our first meeting.

I would like to remember one previous meeting, when my daughter accompanied me to the Holocaust Centre, this impressed on my daughter the important work that has and is being carried out by SACRE that she is now an ambassador for Religious Studies throughout Nottinghamshire.

So, as we look forward to meeting again hopefully soon in person may I say thank you for the hard work and dedication of the group.

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 2020-2021 online due to Covid restrictions

7 December 2020

- Election of vice chair & membership update
- Draft Annual Report was accepted showing no local examination results.
- Discussion concerning the development of a Nottinghamshire SACRE leaflet
- An update on the launch of the Agreed Syllabus with a presentation by Lat Blaylock was received
- SACRE effectiveness and Development Plan was considered in the light of the SACRE self-evaluation document
- Constitution was reviewed and new version was proposed to the LA for acceptance
- A Determination Policy was presented and recommended to the LA
- Local & National Developments were looked at.

March 2021

- New Constitution had been accepted and a new co-option agreed.
- Draft SACRE leaflet to be produced for consideration.
- Annual Reports had been received by DfE & NASACRE
- Discussion on ways to support the Agreed Syllabus for teachers
- Report on discussions with City SACRE working more in a collaborative way following on from the successful Joint Agreed Syllabus
- SACRE pages now created on Nottinghamshire County Council website with resources being added

June 2021

- A presentation online was given of RE in Lowdham C of E Primary School which was well received by SACRE members
- The draft SACRE leaflet was perused with recommendations to produce it as an online document by a small working group of SACRE members
- 3 Units to support the Agreed Syllabus were to be purchased by the County & City to assist teachers in delivering RE in Year 5
- Report on the recent online SACRE RE Conference was received.
- Discussion following on from the NASACRE Annual Meeting concerning Funding
- Acceptance of a modified Code of Conduct for Nottinghamshire based on the NASACRE template
- Date for a Joint SACRE meeting for both SACREs
- Details of a Bid made to Westhills connecting religion to life with primary pupils which was successful was outlined
- Preliminary discussion on OFSTED of the review on RE to be revisited

2.1 The Agreed Syllabus

Launch of the Agreed Syllabus

Our Joint Agreed Syllabus with Nottingham City Council was launched utilising technology with a package over several days in which over 220 teachers were able to engage.

SACRE was grateful to our consultant, Lat Blaylock from REToday, who led three launch sessions on three consecutive evenings. Two focussed on Primary Education with the third having material on Secondary education.

In the following week SACRE was grateful to members of the Working Party who were involved in three further sessions dealing with questions as well as sharing ideas of how to implement the Syllabus with colleagues.

These sessions were well supported by teachers from both the County and City.

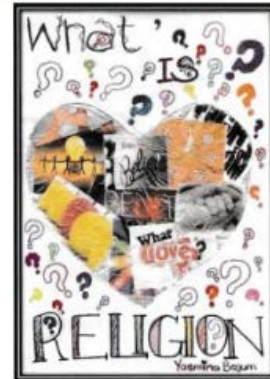
Each school attending received materials in advance prepared by our consultant to support the launch.

We also have developed a resource area on the County Website where various documents to support the teaching of the syllabus are available to those schools who have adopted the use of the Agreed Syllabus. This resource area will evolve as time goes on with more exemplars of approaches being shared. The City have also an area on their website to assist City teachers and all material is shared.

The response of teachers at the launch of the Agreed Syllabus is worth noting as this shows how teachers value the work of the ASC and SACRE in the City and County. The launch was an online event. 227 schools purchased the Agreed Syllabus in the County.



Religious Education for All



The Agreed Syllabus for RE
in Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire
Intentions, Implementation and Impact
2021-2026

Teacher's feedback to the Launch events:

Nicola Hird-Shaw:

The webinars have been very helpful, and I think on first look the syllabus is better and more well thought out than the one we have now.

Gaynor Bright:

I like the fact that there is a lot more detail in the medium-term plans and there is a very clear progression. I also like that there is enough flexibility to wrap it round our current long-term plans.

Pam Dance

It is clear and easy to follow. I liked the pre-recorded vids as I could stop, pause, think and go back. Thankyou

Charlotte Hart-Shaw:

I really valued the plans as it helped us to design and cross reference our curriculum across the year groups. Lots of detail for how to support deeper thinking in this curriculum

K Turner :

The three webinars were very useful and explained a lot about how to implement the syllabus. I like the phrase 'linger longer and dig deeper!'

L Bennison:

The webinars were particularly helpful, great that they can be viewed at any time. Thank you

Ciara Poyzer

It is clear and explicit. Extremely helpful for someone (like me) who has just taken R.E. on.

Marie:

I love the new syllabus, its coherent and exciting! very relevant too

Claire Monaghan

The syllabus is great and easy to follow. I like the fact that it's not too different to the old syllabus- this means the work I've done in school is worthwhile. The knowledge builders are great and offer confidence to colleagues. I'm looking forward to input on assessment. I like how reflective the syllabus is. The examples from RE today are great- progression in Diwali was brilliant! Thank you

C.Fletcher

What a fantastic and ambitious new syllabus, I cannot wait to start implementing it in our school. Its flexible but with clear guidance that supports the new OFSTED framework. Informative webinars too, it really makes you think about what you can bring to our much-loved subject! Thank you :-)

Lisa Roberts

Great syllabus detailed and easy to follow I just need some ideas for individual lessons, so I'll be looking at the resources available. Thanks

In response to the SACRE Working Party led sessions teachers commented: -

Yasmin Khalique:
Good to see clear
practical examples of
how to deliver this in
class

Lana Cubbon:
Thank you for the great
ideas of how to bring the
medium-term plans to life!

P Summers:
Thank you. It has been useful
this evening. Very relevant
and wonderful to have so
many linked resources.

Maria Hall:
Really helpful to see how to
put aspects of syllabus into
practice in the classroom,
thank you for sharing.

2.2 Standards & monitoring

Due to the situation caused by the Covid pandemic SACRE has little information about standards of RE in Schools.

2.3 Teacher CPD & Support Materials

[Primary RE Network](#) met once online in March 2021 with 15 delegates. During this session our co-ordinators were made aware of local and National Developments in RE. as well as various resources which were available as we have connections with various groups such as Picture News, The Holocaust Centre, The Friary and Southwell Minister Education as well as Archbishop of York's Youth Trust. A presentation was given about EYFS and the enquiries made by OFSTED.

[SACRE Annual RE Conference which was held online in June 2021](#)

An Ambitious RE Curriculum Challenging RE for 4-11s with the new RE syllabus Intentions, implementation, and impacts.

This was delivered in three sessions by our consultant Lat Blaylock-

- 1: Excellent RE – implementing the intentions through 5 great learning strategies
- 2: Culture, spirituality, and values: 5 great learning strategies which both meet the requirements of OFSTED and energise young minds
- 3: High impact RE: this session will present expert teaching ways to enable pupils to experience and show the impact of RE in high achievement and deep learning.

Our conference attracted 70 delegates from the County as well as from the City and was appreciated by delegates as we can glean through some of the comments we received-

Kate Tyrrell: *I loved the work about Dr Hammy and using a modern British Muslim and how this can challenge stereotypes.*

Pam Dance: *I loved it all. I think the longer pieces of writing will help with assessment. Letter to God and Reasons for teaching RE were probably the ones I will use with the Y5 and Y6.*

M Evans: *This has been an inspiring day, full of brilliant ideas that I can use to inspire the rest of the staff. I know they will love them as much as I have. I loved the way you catered for all ages (especially foundation as they often feel a little left out).*

Michaela Southey: *Thank you for sharing such brilliant examples of where RE can go.*

Fiona: *Thank you so much, My head is buzzing with new ideas to take back to school*

Liz. Bell : *I like all the resources, so useful. I have taken away the message to linger longer and dig deeper. I will be leading staff meetings to spread the message and raise the status of RE. Thanks so much. very inspiring. Only thing I didn't get anything from was the writing expectations, didn't really need that. Everything else was extremely useful and inspiring.
Thanks again*

Jenny Anderson: *Thank you. A really thought provoking day.*

Steve Moore: *Brilliant, engaging and inspiring conference!*

Rosie Reedman: *I liked all the many different creative teaching ideas that I can take back to school-- I feel very inspired and hoping to inspire the staff in my school.*

Mrs Burrows: *Fabulous conference! Thanks again for all the amazing ideas and inspirational lessons.*

Manpreet Chaggar: *I liked the work which you showcased; it was very inspiring.*

Samantha Miller: *I need to ensure RE lessons give children time to express their own thoughts and feelings*

Nichola Clarke: *Thank you, Lat, and it was very nice to meet the teachers in the chat room.*

Piyali.Ganguly: *Thank you for today - amazing as always*

Clare Thorne: *Many thanks for an inspiring conference*

Initial Secondary Online Network

SACRE supported an exploratory online meeting of Secondary Schools which was attended by some City schools as well as the NATRE Ambassador for RE. It was decided to have a meeting each term.

2.4 Other Information

The Secretary of SACRE has not received any enquiries about schools facing withdrawal issues either concerning particular 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.

2 Collective Worship

SACRE has not deemed it necessary to reissue any guidance on the topic of Collective Worship but has made teachers aware of resources to assist them deliver worship during the pandemic through listings on the SACRE social Media page, which is a private members group.

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. This policy was the result of a working Party of SACRE members and is available upon request.

4 SACRE LINKS

4.1 National Groups

SACRE keeps abreast of developments in the RE world through the REC and also NASACRE. We attend the conference of NASACRE and seek advice and guidance at times on developing new insights. We also use the expertise of NATRE and RE Today consultants when developing new materials as well as reviewing our Agreed Syllabus. We are in touch with the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust group offering to schools' materials they produce.

SACRE was represented at the NASACRE AGM and has received guidance through telephone calls on various issues from NASACRE representatives. We were also on some review work about World Views.

We have linked with NATRE RE Ambassadors to develop some aspects of our networks.

SACRE has also received bespoke advice from REToday.

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 and has contributed lesson units for teaching in line with the Agreed Syllabus. The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham advisors are involved with SACRE and share their expertise.

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

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 and creating a film about this.

5.3 Advice on community issues

During the lockdown weeks SACRE placed various links to assist teachers on the private Facebook page. This highlighted resources and which teachers could access to assist their pupils during this unprecedented period and reflected the way in which many

organisations were willing to assist teachers with a range of resources to enable good RE to continue through home learning. 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 SACRE 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 in liaison with higher authorities in the LA.

6.3 ASC

The LA has provided funding for an ASC to be formed with working parties, but this will not be required now until 2026. The Authority has provided some funds for creation of schemes of work to accompany the Agreed Syllabus along with the City SACRE

6.4 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

We have no local data regarding examination entry or results at GCSE or GCE levels due to the current situation. Previously we have recorded results with details of the National performances.

SACRE has noted the national provisional figures for England

GCSE Short Course

| | June 2021 | June 2020 |
|---------|--------------|-----------|
| Males | 11993 | 14258 |
| Females | 10615 | 12856 |
| Total | 22608 | 27114 |
| | | |
| Grades | | |
| 7 - 4 | 69.3% | |
| 7- 1 | 97.2% | |

4,506 decrease

GCSE Full Course

| | June 2021 | June 2020 |
|---------|---------------|-----------|
| Males | 101119 | 104202 |
| Females | 120300 | 122565 |
| Total | 221419 | 226767 |
| | | |
| Grades | | |
| 7 - 4 | 80.5% | |
| 7- 1 | 99.5% | |

5,348 decrease

GCE A Level

| | June 2021 | June 2020 |
|---------|--------------|-----------|
| Males | 4285 | 3948 |
| Females | 11374 | 10616 |
| Total | 16569 | 14564 |
| | | |
| Grades | | |
| A* - C | 91.3% | 88.6% |
| A* - E | 99.7% | 99.8% |

2,005 increase

GCE A/S Level

| | June 2021 | June 2020 |
|---------|-------------|-----------|
| Males | 443 | 493 |
| Females | 772 | 1165 |
| Total | 1215 | 1658 |
| | | |
| Grades | | |
| A – C | 76.1% | 75% |
| A-E | 97.7% | 97.8% |

443 decrease

7.2 Details of CPD

SACRE has offered primary RE Leads a Network course over one half days which was been well supported. SACRE also provides the opportunity for an Annual RE Conference. All of 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: 30

| | | |
|----------|--|-------------|
| December | 2020 from the nominated groups 2 apologies | 66% present |
| March | 2021 from the nominated groups 5 apologies | 70% present |
| June | 2021 from the nominated groups 5 apologies | 57% present |

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.

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.

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

Rev'd Ken Johnson
Secretary of SACRE

c/o
Val Jones valerie.jones@nottscc.gov.uk

SACRE Members

2020-2021

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
Mr John Graham
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 |
| Mr Mike Follen | NAHT |
| Mrs Bethan Inglis | Secondary |
| Mr Richard Linford | Primary |
| Mr Chris Wellbrook | NEU |
| | NASUWT |
| Mr James 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 |
| Deb Martin- until Feb 21 | Religious Society of Friends |
| Mr Tom Drew | |
| Mrs Naomi Waring | Roman Catholic |
| Miss Caroline Hornsby | Roman Catholic |
| Mr Andrew Whitehouse | Salvation Army |
| Mr Gurjeet Singh | Sikh |
| Dr Graham Jennings | United Reformed Church |
| | |
| From February 2021 | |
| 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
National Holocaust Centre
Mr Jon Hoover Nottingham
Mr Tim Hutchinson University