

ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Date and Time:- Thursday 19 September 2024 at 4.00 p.m.

Venue:- Rotherham Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

AGENDA

1. Welcome to New Members

To welcome any new members to SACRE and provide an introduction to the Committee.

2. Appointment of Chair

To appoint a Chair of SACRE for the 2024/2025 academic year.

3. Appointment of Vice- Chair

To appoint a Vice-Chair of SACRE for the 2024/2025 academic year.

4. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from any members who are unable to attend.

5. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from any members with respect to an item of business.

6. Exclusion of Press and Public

To determine whether any items on the agenda require the exclusion of members of the public or press.

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 3 - 6)

To review and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 March 2024, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and to be signed by the Chair.

8. Review of the Terms of Reference (Pages 7 - 9)

To discuss any updates required to the SACRE Terms of Reference.

9. CPD Update

To receive an update on CPD Training.

10. Development Plan Update

To receive a verbal update on the SACRE Development Plan.

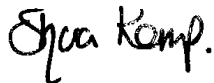
11. SACRE Annual Report

To receive an update on the SACRE Annual Report for 2024.

12. Urgent Business

To determine any items which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

**The next meeting of the Rotherham Standing Advisory Council
for Religious Education will be held on Thursday 5 December 2024
commencing at 4.00 p.m.
in Rotherham Town Hall.**



SHARON KEMP OBE,
Chief Executive.

**ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(SACRE)
TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2024**

Present:-

Group 1

D. Homer

T. Williams- Brown (Vice-Chair)

Group 2

H. Lambert (Chair)

Group 3

E. Nicholls

L. Melvin

S. Yasseen

N. Choudry

A. Shazad

Group 4

Councillor Griffin

Also in attendance was Pam Ward.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no matters of business for which it was deemed necessary to exclude members of the public or press.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the last meeting on 22 June 2023, were approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

4. TEACHERS CPD UPDATE- ARTEFACTS

This agenda item provided an update on the Artefacts item discussed at previous meetings. The following was discussed and noted:

- The Local Authority provided an allocated budget of £6,000 to SACRE which had been used to purchase artefact resource boxes.
- The purchased boxes were being held at Wingfield Academy and would remain there. The boxes would be outsourced via a borrowing system from the start of the summer term.
- The development of an inventory for the resource boxes would be added to the SACRE Development Plan, as an action for the next academic year.

5. SOUTH YORKSHIRE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONFERENCE - 29 JANUARY 2024

This agenda item provided an update on the South Yorkshire Religious Education Conference, held on 29 January 2024. The following was discussed and noted:

- The Conference was added as an action on the SACRE Development Plan and was funded by local authority funding. The Conference was well attended with over thirty people present, the feedback from the Conference was very positive.
- Subject leaders had requested a progression plan for Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.
- It was noted that not all teachers in the Borough followed the agreed syllabus. This was because there were many schemes available which provided more ease for teachers when planning and delivering high quality lessons, this was a benefit for non-specialist teachers. An example was provided of schemes such as Jigsaw that provided added value with ready-made tasks, worksheets, and PowerPoints for teachers to use.
- It was noted that members felt that the available schemes should be assessed to determine whether they were suitable schemes for Rotherham.
- It was agreed that the next time the agreed curriculum is reviewed, a detailed glossary should be provided for non-specialist teachers.
- It was noted that the Conference should be run on an annual basis.

6. SECONDARY NETWORKING SESSION

This agenda item provided an update on the Secondary Networking Session. The following was discussed and noted:

- Only one school attended the secondary linking session.
- The Chair requested that the sessions continue to run in the future, beginning with another session to be hosted at the start of the new academic year in September.

7. GCSE AND A- LEVEL RESULTS

This agenda item provided an update on GCSE and A-Level Results. The following was discussed and noted:

- There was no specific update to provide regarding GCSE and A-Level Results as members did not have this information available.
- The Head of Service for Education agreed to request the relevant data and information of the local authorities Performance Team.
- GCSE and A-Level results would also be added to the agenda for the next Secondary Networking Session in September.

8. SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

This agenda item provided an update on SACRE Development Plan. The following was discussed and noted:

- The Development Plan covered the period of April 2023- April 2024. The Plan was due to be revised next month.
- In relation to the first objective which was to develop RE subject knowledge for Rotherham primary teachers and subject leaders, subject meetings had been held three times during the year.
- In relation to the second objective which was to develop range of resources for use by schools, as discussed in minute No.4, the resources had been purchased and would be available to schools from the start of the summer term.
- In relation to the third objective which was to develop content for RE platform, this information had been uploaded throughout the year and a staff base was gradually being built.
- In relation to the fourth objective which was to review and carry out determinations for collective worship, there had not been any schools in the Borough that said that they were not carrying out acts of collective worship. This was not an area that was checked by Ofsted during inspections. It was advised that the schools governing body would be responsible for ensuring this requirement was fulfilled within a school. It was agreed that the Head of Service for Education would contact the Department of Education to clarify the process for reviewing determinations of collective worship.
- In relation to the fifth objective which was to increase SACRE membership, it was noted that the membership had increased over the academic year.
- In relation to the sixth objective which was to develop links with Sheffield and Doncaster SACREs, the Chair advised that they had met with the Vice-Chair of Sheffield SACRE and had also become a member of Doncaster's SACRE. Sheffield and Doncaster SACRE were invited by the Chair to the South Yorkshire RE Conference and members of Sheffield SACRE attended the Conference. An

email had been sent to Barnsley SACRE but no response was received.

- In relation to the seventh objective which was to develop a progression document which aligns to the Rotherham agreed syllabus, this had been facilitated as part of the RE Conference discussed in minute No. 5.
- In relation to the eighth objective which was to provide support to enhance provision in RE in schools, it was advised that Doncaster SACRE had started to develop an online directory and the Chair hoped to work alongside Doncaster SACRE to share best practice.
- In relation to the ninth objective which was to increase prominence of RE through the Rewards celebration, it was advised that there had been no interest in the REwards Ceremony to date, however this would be communicated through the next ROSIS newsletter. It was agreed that each REward Ceremony category would offer individual or group contributions and examples would be provided to schools to ensure a greater understanding of each category. The following categories for the Rewards Ceremony were agreed by SACRE members:

1. Custody of the Earth
2. Outstanding Student
3. Values and Virtues
4. Standing Together.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The following future meeting dates were noted by SACRE members:

- 11 July 2024
- 19 September 2024
- 5 December 2024
- 27 March 2025.

10. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to consider.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Rotherham Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education was scheduled for 11th July 2024, commencing at 4.00pm at Rotherham Town Hall.

1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1 To advise the Local Authority (LA) upon such matters connected with collective worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus (including methods of teaching, choice of teaching material and the provision of training for teachers) as the LA may refer to SACRE or as SACRE may see fit.
- 1.2 To advise on the effective and creative implementation of the collective worship requirements of the Education Act 1996 and to consider requests by schools for determinations.
- 1.3 To encourage the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus and in this regard to monitor the production of teaching resources and support material.
- 1.4 To support the LA in reviewing provision for religious education and collective worship in county schools within the Borough.
- 1.5 To disseminate an understanding of the educational role of religious education and collective worship and to encourage the active involvement of local religious groups and organisations.
- 1.6 To keep under review the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Agreed Syllabus until such time (and no later than five years after the publication of the last agreed syllabus) it decides to require the LA to convene an Agreed Syllabus Conference to institute a formal review.
- 1.7 To publish an annual report on its work specifying any matters on which it has advised the LA, broadly describing the nature of that advice, and setting out the reasons for offering advice on any matters which were not referred to it in the first place by the LA.
- 1.8 To send its annual report to the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) by 30 December each year as well as to local schools and other persons and organisations as it sees fit.

2. Membership of SACRE

2.1 SACRE shall comprise four committees, whose members are appointed by the LA, as follows:

Committee A - Christian denominations and other religious and religious denominations representative of the local community:-

- Free Church Christian member
- Roman Catholic member
- Jewish member
- Muslim member
- Sikh member
- Hindu member
- Pentecostal member

Committee B – The Church of England

- Members nominated by the Diocese

Committee C – Teachers Associations

- Members nominated by the Professional Associations Group representing as far as is practicable, primary, secondary and special schools.

Committee D – Local Authority

- Members nominated by the Local Authority

2.2 Members of Committees A, B C and D are appointed for a period of four years, but shall thereafter be eligible for re-nomination by their nominating bodies.

2.3 Any member of SACRE may at any time resign his/her office and a replacement be sought from the relevant nominating body.

2.4 SACRE shall have the right to co-opt additional members who shall remain co-opted for as long as SACRE deems necessary or until such time as the co-opted member resigns.

Roles within SACRE

2.5.1 The Chair of SACRE shall be a member of the LA Committee and nominated by that Committee.

- 2.6 Each of the Committees A, B and C on SACRE shall elect a chair to hold office for one year. The chairs of these committees shall act as vice-chairs of SACRE and will meet with the Chair of SACRE and the Director or his representative to form a SACRE agenda-planning group.
- 2.7 The Clerk to SACRE shall be the Chief Executive of the Local Authority (or nominated officer)

Decision-making

- 2.8 Voting at SACRE shall be on the basis of one vote per Committee and formal resolutions to the LA shall be passed only if all four Committees are in agreement. Within each Committee, voting shall be by simple majority.

Attendance at Meetings

- 2.9 The membership of any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without good cause shall lapse and a replacement or reinstatement be sought from the relevant nominating body.
- 2.10 SACRE meetings are to be considered quorate if one-third of members of SACRE are in attendance, rounded up to the nearest whole number, with at least one member from each of Committees A,B,C and D.
- 2.11 Meetings of SACRE and its sub-groups shall be open to the public except under those circumstances where matters under discussion are considered by SACRE to be confidential.

Frequency of Meetings

- 2.12 There will normally be three SACRE meetings held each academic year.