



# City of Wolverhampton Council SACRE

23 May 2019

Dear All,

## CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL SACRE - THURSDAY, 23RD MAY, 2019

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the Thursday, 23rd May, 2019 meeting of the City of Wolverhampton Council SACRE, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

<b>Agenda No</b>	<b>Item</b>
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5	<b><u>Report from Religious Education (RE) Today (Pages 1 - 2)</u></b>
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[To receive an update from RE Today – to be tabled.]

8	<b><u>2019 - 2020 Provision of Services (Pages 3 - 4)</u></b>
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[To approve Provision of Services for 2019 – 2020.]

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

**Contact** Shelley Humphries

**Tel** 01902 554070

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Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

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## News update: Wolverhampton SACRE May 2019

### Ofsted Framework and Handbooks published

Following consultation, the new Framework and Handbooks are available.

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/education-inspection-framework#handbooks-and-framework](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/education-inspection-framework#handbooks-and-framework)

p.42, 172. All pupils in maintained schools are expected to study the basic curriculum, which includes national curriculum66, religious education and age-appropriate relationship and sex education.

Academies are expected to offer all pupils a broad curriculum<sup>68</sup> that should be similar in breadth and ambition. Footnote 68: Academies must include English, mathematics, science and religious education in their curriculum.

### NATRE Meetings with the DFE

NATRE representatives continue to meet frequently with the DFE. Recent agenda items have included discussing complaints about RE, non-compliance with the law on RE and the necessity of support for RE from government. NATRE were pleased to work with the DFE to jointly provide subject knowledge enhancement courses for secondary trainee teachers, and are currently meeting with the DFE approximately once a month on behalf of RE teachers.

### NASACRE hears from DfE about school compliance on RE

Neil Lawson from the Curriculum Unit of the Department for Education has written to NASACRE Chair, Paul Smalley, setting out the expectations of the government with regards to school compliance in RE, covering:

- The requirement to teach RE (including what is expected from academies and free schools)
- Advice about the application of the agreed syllabus, and whether qualifications can be stipulated as part of that
- How to handle reports of a school not meeting its duty to teach RE

It is extremely useful to have these aspects set out in writing, and we hope that this will help SACREs to be proactive in challenging schools of all types to provide the very best RE. The letter can be found here:

<http://nasacre.org.uk/file/nasacre/1-97-item-2.pdf>

### National and Regional Ambassadors

A reminder that the National and Regional RE Ambassadors are continuing to work to support and connect teachers of RE. More details here: [www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/regional-ambassadors-announced/](http://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/regional-ambassadors-announced/)

### GCSE RS BBC Bitesize

The BBC's support for RE at KS4 continues with the launch of its Bitesize revision guides for Eduqas GCSE specifications. Others will follow soon.

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zb48q6f>

### The RE All Party Parliamentary Group

At the January meeting of the APPG for RE, NATRE Primary Vice-Chair Katie Freeman was one of four serving teachers of RE who spoke about excellent RE. Katie received her invite from her MP Luke Pollard. Katie spoke about the RE that goes on in her school and the importance of this to all her pupils to an audience including numerous parliamentarians and guest from different branches of the RE community.

How can Wolverhampton SACRE encourage teachers to Is your MP a member of the RE APPG? Write and ask them if they would like to visit your school and see excellent RE in action.

### NATRE and Culham St Gabriel's

NATRE and Culham St Gabriel's are partnering together to offer a new 200-hour DfE funded subject knowledge enhancement course. There is detailed information about the course at [www.teachre.co.uk](http://www.teachre.co.uk) as well as information about our well established courses for those who are already teaching (Teach:RE Tailor Made). You can also email Kate Christopher directly at [kate@cstg.org.uk](mailto:kate@cstg.org.uk)

### **Better RE in 1000 primary schools: can SACRE nominate schools for this RE-improvement project?**

Are there Primary schools in Wolverhampton who rarely engage with SACRE or with RE events? The 'Primary RE 1000' project from NATRE is designed to reach these schools with support for better RE.

NATRE has received funding for an amazing RE development project called Primary RE 1000. The aim of the project is to benefit 'hard to reach' schools so that they are more engaged with RE. We have a list of project activities that will help Primary schools to improve their RE, wherever they are currently.

The project has been designed to challenge, support and inspire Primary schools where they need to change and improve the RE opportunities they give to pupils.

The schools accepted to join the project will receive:

- A digital starter pack to kick start better RE in their schools
- Over 1000 free-to-use classroom resources
- Links with a local group of RE teachers to share best practice
- NATRE membership at a discounted price (£55 for two years, instead of £150!)
- Opportunities to attend high quality training at a discounted rate
- And much more

Can SACRE send school names, email contacts and subject leader contacts for schools who may benefit from this support? NATRE will then invite eligible schools to join the project. The invitation may come from NATRE via SACRE, or directly from SACRE. If SACRE gives NATRE its recommendations, NATRE will check which schools qualify for Primary RE 1000 and get back to SACRE with a personal invite we can send to them. NATRE is very eager to work in partnership with SACRE.

Contact Mandeep Singh Shekhon [Mandeep@natre.org.uk](mailto:Mandeep@natre.org.uk)

### **Cohesive Communities and Effective Partnerships; RE near and far (local, national, global)**

The 2019 annual NASACRE conference and AGM will be held in Manchester on Wednesday 22nd May at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 1 Piccadilly Place, 1 Auburn Street, Manchester M1 3DG, 10.30 – 4.30.

Can Wolverhampton SACRE send a delegate?

Peter Bull and Dr Julian Stern will be speaking about their experience and thoughts around the title of the conference. There's a full programme of workshops too. Further details can be found at

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm/2019>

### **Jewish Museum: Teachers' Seminar Days**

At the Jewish Museum, we care about teachers feeling ready, supported and inspired when teaching their students about Judaism and Jewish History. We have run successful teachers' events around topics such as 'Teaching Judaism for the First Time', 'Holocaust Memorial Day' and 'Making the Most From our Online Resources' and we continue to support teachers with curriculum changes. All workshops are hands-on, encourage questions and provide teachers with an opportunity to share good practice and make the most from a visit to the museum. We are holding two Teachers' Seminars this Year:

- Teaching Judaism for the First Time: Special Times, Special Stories (For Primary Teachers) Friday 5th July 2019 9.30-3.30pm
- Teaching Judaism for GCSE and A Level Thursday 4th July 2019 9.30-4.30pm

Early Bird tickets are £15 if booked by 31st May 2019.

Follow the links:

<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/event/teachers-seminar-primary/>

<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/event/teachers-seminar-secondary/>

## Wolverhampton SACRE

### Agreed Syllabus Review 2019

#### Proposal within the RE Today contract

SACRE is aware that our syllabus 'runs out' this year and should be reviewed / renewed. Please note:

- 5 years ago we invested heavily in a scheme of work, and this has been welcomed by our schools.
- Our syllabus itself is very brief, and now seems a bit outdated – nothing on the new EYFS, fundamental British values, new GCSEs
- The latest HMI requirements frame the planning of subjects around 'intention, implementation, impact'. This will be important framing in the coming 5 years.
- The September 2018 CoRE report identifies weaknesses in current provision and ways forward for RE while calling for legal change – but the government has rejected this.
- Our syllabus relies on the unit plans to describe achievement, but maybe having nothing on outcomes led assessment is a weakness
- Can we give teachers more help with SEND, meeting the inclusion needs of RE better?

**In the light of this set of issues, my proposal to SACRE – within this year's budget and contract – can be summed up in four points.**

- We should conduct a light touch review of our syllabus aiming to strengthen the use of our scheme of work for the coming 5 years.
- Revision of the scheme of work is too expensive and extensive to do – last time we spent nearly £8k on the scheme, which we don't have unless we seek additional funds
- I'm proposing that we expand the brief syllabus pages to address all the issues in column one helpfully for teachers, and republish it with the scheme of work.
- RE Today advisers can do this work as part of the current contract, but the production / publication / web-hosting of the syllabus looks like an additional cost.
- Timescale: review from May 2019 – Feb 2020. Production / publication for the new financial year.

Lat Blaylock, 5/19

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