



# City of Wolverhampton SACRE

## 7 October 2021

**Time** 6.00 pm      **Public Meeting?** YES      **Type of meeting** Other Committees  
**Venue** MS Teams

### Membership

Martin Gomberg (Chair)	Representative of the Jewish Community
Akeel Ahmed	Representative of the Muslim Community
Tanya Athwal	Representative of Teachers' Professional Association
Jaswinder Singh Chaggar	Representative of the Sikh Community
Kay Cresswell-Green	Association of Teachers and Lecturers Representative
Ourmala Devi	Uplands Junior School Representative
Fr. Craig Fullard	Representative of the Roman Catholic Church
Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Work
Laura Jude	School Improvement Advisor for Equalities
Maggie Keeley	Representative of National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
Daniel Lee	Representative of the Pentecostal Church
Aman Rai	Representative of the Church of England
Alison Smith	Representative of the Church of England
Ven. Bante Tejwant	Representative of the Buddhist Community
Rebecca Wood	Representative of the United Reformed Church

### Information

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

**Contact** Shelley Humphries  
**Tel/Email** Tel: 01902 554070 email: [shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

# Agenda

## PART 1 – Items open to press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

### MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1            **Welcome and Introductions**
- 2            **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**  
[To elect and appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair of City of Wolverhampton SACRE for Academic Year 2021 - 2022.]
- 3            **Apologies**
- 4            **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 4)  
[To approve the minutes of the meeting of 15 July 2021 as a correct record.]
- 5            **Matters Arising**  
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2021.]
- 6            **Report from Religious Education (RE) Today** (Pages 5 - 10)  
[To receive an update report from RE Today.]
- 7            **Review of City of Wolverhampton SACRE Action Plan 2020 - 2021** (Pages 11 - 12)  
[To review the City of Wolverhampton SACRE Action Plan 2020 – 2021.]
- 8            **City of Wolverhampton SACRE Annual Report 2020 - 2021** (Pages 13 - 22)  
[To approve the City of Wolverhampton SACRE Annual Report 2020 – 2021.]
- 9            **NASACRE Virtual Training Offer**  
[Discussion item to provide an overview of training opportunities.]
- 10           **Westhill Project Update**  
[To receive an update on the progress of the Westhill Project.]
- 11           **Ofsted Findings During the Last Quarter**  
[To receive an update on Ofsted findings during the last quarter.]
- 12           **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) and Inspection 48 Findings During the Last Quarter**  
[To receive an update on findings from SIAMS and Inspection 48 Visits.]
- 13           **Any other business**
- 14           **Dates of further meetings**
  - 10 March 2022
  - 19 May 2022

 <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">City of Wolverhampton SACRE</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Minutes - 15 July 2021</h3>
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## Attendance

### Members of the City of Wolverhampton SACRE

Martin Gomberg (Chair)	Representative of the Jewish Community
Tanya Athwal	Representative of Teachers' Professional Association
Fr. Craig Fullard	Representative of the Roman Catholic Church
Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Work
Laura Jude	Representative of City of Wolverhampton Council
Maggie Keeley	Representative of National Association of Schoolmasters / Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)

### In Attendance

Lat Blaylock	RE Today
Shelley Humphries	Democratic Services Officer

## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No. Title*

- 1 Welcome and Introductions**  
It was noted that the meeting was inquorate however it was agreed to continue on an informal basis and acknowledged that any decisions would need to be ratified at the next quorate meeting.
- 2 Apologies**  
Apologies were received from City of Wolverhampton SACRE members Rebecca Wood, Alison Smith and Reverend Stephen Jackson.  
  
Apologies were also received from Phil Leivers.
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting**  
Resolved:  
That the minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2021 be approved as a correct record, subject to approval at the next quorate meeting.
- 4 Matters Arising**  
There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 5 Local Authority Updates**  
Laura Jude, Representative of Wolverhampton delivered a verbal presentation on updates from the Local Authority.

6 **Update on the NASACRE Conference**

It was reported that a Data Workshop had taken place to discuss how data was used and how to bring about positive change. It was noted that the resources provided during the workshop had been very useful. Thanks were extended to those who attended and resources would be circulated to the rest of the membership.

Resolved:

That NASACRE Data Workshop resources would be shared with SACRE membership.

7 **Westhill/NASACRE Funding Bid Update**

It was reported that the bid for the Westhill funding had been successful and thanks were extended to Lat Blaylock for his support in making the bid application. A student-led project was planned to develop high quality learning resources to raise understanding and awareness of diversity, racial equality and an open worldview. This fitted well with the revised Locally Agreed Syllabus and the goal to ensure the diversity of the City of Wolverhampton was positively reflected. This also formed part of the wider plan to strengthen and encourage secondary school engagement in RE with the aim of increasing support for more learners to move into RE studies at a higher level.

An encouraging number of local schools had expressed an interest already and following recent school visits as part of the engagement process, it had emerged already that there was an appetite amongst students and teaching staff to broaden the curriculum to become more inclusive. A conference has also been planned for the Autumn term and members were advised that further information would be circulated soon. Members were also invited to make contact via Democratic Services if they wished to participate.

7a **Launch of the Wolverhampton RE Syllabus**

It was reported that the live launch event of 11 June had been a success with representatives from over 60 schools in attendance, which accounted for over half the schools in the City. There had been great interest expressed from non-maintained schools which was really positive. The pre-production copy of the new Syllabus was available now to download for use and the fully illustrated hard copy would follow in September accompanied by an implementation event on 21 September 2021. The main feature of the syllabus was that there were more resources included to support non-specialist teachers in delivering RE in schools and the event sought to strengthen this support further.

7b **Supporting RE in Schools – Academic Year: 2021 - 2022.**

It was felt that the education service had achieved much of what had been set out in the Action Plan in terms of RE development; in addition to the new syllabus there had been more development opportunities for teachers and schools. There had also a great deal of work being undertaken by Lat Blaylock on revising the Scheme of Work and so far information had been well received by schools. Specialist working group sessions had been planned for the Autumn Term for Secondary, Primary and special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) respectively.

Thanks were extended to all who had contributed as a great deal of work had been undertaken so far.

Resolved:

That the Local Authority Updates be noted.

8 **Report from Religious Education (RE) Today**

Lat Blaylock, RE Today presented the report from RE Today and highlighted salient points as well as providing a brief verbal update on the progress of the Agreed Syllabus and Scheme of Work. The report provided an update on RE related matters over the past few months.

It was reported that the Wolverhampton agreed syllabus had been well-received however it was acknowledged that the Scheme of Work was even more eagerly anticipated by teachers. Thanks were extended to Phil Leivers and his team for securing funding to enable the revision on the Scheme of Work to take place. 36 units of work were currently under development with additional material for Key Stage 3 compared to previous years. A good deal of progress had been made and it was projected that a draft version of all 36 would be available by September 2021. The content was very specific and included exercises, discussion prompters, suggested viewing material and resources to support lesson planning. It was planned for teachers to review the units as part of the aforementioned working group sessions to gain valuable feedback prior to final publication.

Particular attention was drawn to the publication of the OFSTED review on religious education, a link to which was provided within the report along with a summary of the content of the review. It was noted that as OFSTED inspections began to resume following the lifting of restrictions, extra attention would likely be on RE practice in schools. Assurances were offered as it was felt that the recommendations summarised in the report had been satisfied in the revised version of Wolverhampton's RE Syllabus.

In terms of the item on the NASACRE report on SACRE funding, it was noted that Wolverhampton was among the top third of SACREs that were well-funded which was positive.

Other items included the Spirited Arts competition, the launch of the Humanist Heritage website and a number of other announcements which may be of interest to members. Members were invited to forward any questions or comments on any of the items included.

Resolved:

That the Report from Religious Education (RE) Today be received.

9 **Ofsted Findings During the Last Quarter**

There had been no visits undertaken since the last meeting of SACRE.

10 **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) and Inspection 48 Findings During the Last Quarter**

There had been no visits undertaken since the last meeting of SACRE.

11 **Any other business**

Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Work wished to express his thanks for the hard work of members of City of Wolverhampton SACRE, Lat Blaylock and City of Wolverhampton Council officers to ensure a successful year. He also wished to acknowledge the contributions and excellent work of the Chair.

The Chair also commended the work of the local authority in progressing agreed actions and the efficiency of the virtual meeting format.

12 **Dates of further meetings**

- 7 October 2021
- 10 March 2022
- 19 May 2022

## National RE Updates for SACREs

Autumn 2021

### Research into public perception of an education in religion and worldviews

In summer 2021, Culham St Gabriel's Trust commissioned a survey to understand more about public perception of an education in religion and worldviews. The language used in the questions was chosen to try to avoid these misconceptions and to collect a more accurate set of data about what people thought about modern RE.

#### Some key findings:

Nearly two thirds (64%) of the UK adult population think that an education in religion and worldviews (or RE) is an important part of the school curriculum today, new research has revealed, with a further 65% agreeing that the subject has an impact on people's ability to understand each other in wider society.

Find out more here: [Research into public perception of an education in religion and worldviews \(natre.org.uk\)](https://natre.org.uk)

*How can SACRE capitalise on these findings to further improve RE provision in the LA?*

### Religious Studies: Public Examinations

#### Call for National Plan as Religious Studies GCSE entries fall

The number of pupils taking GCSE Religious Studies in England and Wales has fallen slightly in 2021, despite previously remaining stable since 2017. To safeguard the subject, the Religious Education Council of England and Wales and the National Association of Teachers of RE are calling for a National Plan, as recommended by the Commission on RE in 2018, to be funded by Government.

In England, RS GCSE entries for the full course fell by 2.4 percent to 221,419 compared with 226,767 in 2020. In Wales, entries rose by 3.6 percent from 9,997 in 2020 to 10,358 in 2021. Overall entries in England, including both full and short courses, fell by 3.4 percent to 237,091, compared with 245,544 in 2020. In Wales, combined entries fell by 5.4 percent from 15,436 in 2020 to 14,583 in 2021.

By comparison, GCSE entries to other humanities increased this year, with Geography entries up 4.1 percent to 274,715 and History up 0.8 percent to 286,706.

#### Hundreds more opt for Religious Studies at A-level in 2021

The number of Religious Studies A-level exam entries has increased 6.1 percent year on year. The subject outperformed other A-level subjects as a whole, which increased by 5.1 percent, with a greater increase than most other humanities subjects. Read NATRE's full press release here: [A Level results media release FINAL v2 10-08-21.pdf \(natre.org.uk\)](https://natre.org.uk)

*How do these figures compare with the picture in our LA?*

*What action (if any) should SACRE be taking?*

### Inter Faith Week 2021

Inter Faith Week 2021 takes place from **14-21 November** 2021, led by The Inter Faith Network for the UK (IFN). Inter Faith Week is important for promoting mutual understanding and respect between those of different faiths and beliefs.

This year Inter Faith Week starts on Remembrance Sunday and ends the following Sunday. For details about the week, the best place to look is the [Inter Faith Week website](https://www.interfaithweek.org) which contains a rich bank of resources for those wishing to hold events. A [new section](#) has been created for schools. It contains bespoke materials for both [Primary](#) and [Secondary](#) schools that are designed to support the delivery of a locally agreed syllabus. There is also a [Golden Rule](#) poster on eleven different faith traditions, to download for display in a classroom or meeting room. SACREs are asked to register any Interfaith Week events here: <https://www.interfaithweek.org/events/submit>. For event ideas or further information, please contact Dr David Hampshire, Assistant Director of the Inter Faith Network, at [david.hampshire@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:david.hampshire@interfaith.org.uk).

## Spirited Arts: NATRE's annual competition for creative RE

Once again, in their 17<sup>th</sup> year of its work, the Spirited Arts competition has had over 25 000 entries nationwide and some stunning winners are available to view on the NATRE web gallery where themes for the next competition are also announced. There are 5 themes:

- "We have more in common than that which divides us." (Jo Cox MP, in association with the Jo Cox Foundation)
- God's good earth? ("Beautiful World, wonderful God?") An environmental theme in RE
- Searching for God
- A view of the world. Connecting to current ideas about worldviews
- Celebrations: Big days and big ideas

How could we encourage our schools to take part in this?

NATRE are providing online recorded training about the competition and schemes of work for primary and secondary schools to use to engage with the opportunities. It runs for the full year till 31/7/22.

## Holocaust Memorial Day 2022

Holocaust Memorial Day is 27 January. SACREs, LAs and schools can find a wide variety of resources on the [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust \(HMDT\)](https://www.hmdt.org.uk/) website. The Trust is keen to encourage schools to mark HMD, especially at a time when hate crime, intolerant/extremist views, anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hate is increasing.

The Trust also commends **Generation to Generation (G2G)**, a charity that provides speakers to tell their family Holocaust stories online or face-to-face to a variety of audiences. Through these engaging and historically accurate presentations, integrating first-hand survivor testimony, **G2G** works to ensure the lessons of the Holocaust are learned, promoting tolerance of all groups in society.

To consider how **G2G** can support SACRE or your schools and to book a speaker, visit <https://www.generation2generation.org.uk> or book onto a free introductory event for educators: <https://www.generation2generation.org.uk/news/events/>

*How does SACRE support events such as Interfaith Week and Holocaust Memorial Day?  
Could we be doing more?*

## NEW2RE - A great opportunity for NEW Secondary RE teachers

Will you be a secondary Early Career Teacher in September 2021? If so NATRE's New2RE is the best support RE teachers can get.

For further information on the benefits of joining the programme as well as how to join click on this link: [NEW2RE - A great opportunity for NEW Secondary RE teachers \(natre.org.uk\)](https://www.natre.org.uk/new2re/)

*How can SACRE raise awareness and support teachers with access to CPD and networking opportunities?*

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

The Church of England Education Office (CEEO) has announced that SIAMS inspections will resume in the Autumn term 2021 (from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021). SIAMS inspections were paused in March 2020. A new national team has been appointed to manage the restart and schedule inspections in the future. More information, including a list of schools likely to be inspected in the academic year 2021-2022, can be found here: [SIAMS Inspections | The Church of England](https://www.cseo.org.uk/siams-inspections/) .



## NASACRE News

### NASACRE Annual AGM and Conference 2021 and 2022

2021 was NASACRE's first online conference with multiple speakers and 10 breakout rooms hosting over 200 delegates. The conference report can be found [here](#).

The 2022 AGM and Conference will be held at the **Macdonald Burlington Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday 23 May 2022**. Please put this in your diaries!

The theme is *Ambitious SACREs* and the NASACRE conference team is now beginning to pull the programme together. Thanks for all your suggestions about what you need from our training days to support your local work.

### Westhill Awards 2021-22 - the Winners

Over the last fifteen years, the Westhill/NASACRE Awards have successfully given SACREs opportunities to enhance their capacity to generate high quality experiences in RE (and collective worship) for their schools.

This year, NASACRE again encouraged and invited individual SACREs (or SACREs in partnership) to apply for an award of up to £4,000.

Here are brief outlines of the winning bids:

**Bromley SACRE** - Pupils being made ready to pose 'big questions' to SACRE members relating to their faith, at an interfaith dialogue event promoting the aims of the new RE Agreed Syllabus.

**Leeds SACRE in association with Calderdale and Kirklees SACREs** - Creating a high quality film of a local synagogue, to enable pupils to visit it virtually, with supporting materials and options for live online sessions with representatives from the community.

**Nottinghamshire SACRE** - Pupils in Years 5/6 discovering the impact faith can have through exploring adherents' involvement in social projects, and then creating resources for use across the county.

**Tameside SACRE** - Training and accrediting educators from faith communities, allied with support to schools and resource materials, thus promoting more effective visits to faith centres.

**Wolverhampton SACRE** - Mounting two day-conferences for Secondary pupils, to develop teaching resources for exploring faith perspectives on diversity and racial equality.

**NASACRE is running a free online session as part of their training programme on 6 December 2021, 7-8pm:** How to apply for a WESTHILL/NASACRE Award

*[How can SACRE engage with NASACRE in the coming academic year? Should we plan to apply for one of these awards next year?](#)*

## CPD and networking opportunities

### Strictly RE - save the date! 29 & 30 January 2022

Strictly RE is back! NATRE will be hosting its national annual conference online for your convenience and peace of mind while still giving you everything you love about Strictly RE without having to leave your home.

Keep your eyes peeled for Strictly RE updates on the NATRE website!

## BSA Socrel Chair's Response Day: Teaching Religion

This event will gather new ideas, experiences and critiques of the state of the teaching of religion in the UK today. It will take place on 12 November 2021 (10am–5:30pm) at University of Nottingham (on campus) Bookings are now open. Find out more here: [BSA SocRel Study Group Response Day - November 2021 \(britsoc.co.uk\)](https://britsoc.co.uk)

## #REChatUK twitter forum

**Occurs the first Monday of every month in term time.**

The next one is 4 October 2021: What do we mean by substantive and disciplinary knowledge in RE? Please save the date in your diary. You can view the timetable here: [#REchatUK \(natre.org.uk\)](https://natre.org.uk)

## Buddhist Resources: A request for help

Culham St Gabriels is asking for assistance from members of the Buddhist community with project to produce resources

Dr Kate Christopher writes:

"A former Teach:RE student who is a Buddhist is working on a website for teachers to access resources on Buddhism. She has given us this text and link to a survey.

*We are a group of teachers and Buddhists who wish to translate our knowledge and experience in teaching Buddhism to children and teenagers into useful resources for others. This [short survey](#) aims to find out what would be the most helpful. We are seeking to build a picture of the needs regarding Buddhism, of those working in the area of teaching religion and ethics in schools.*

*We are grateful for your input and ideas.  
All the best,  
Amalee Rycroft and colleagues*

## Resources

### What's Your Worldview?

Here is a video clip to help teachers and leaders of RE understand the concept of 'worldview': [WHAT'S YOUR WORLDVIEW? \(QUIZ\) - YouTube](#)

### Check out the REtoday Library website

This fantastic resource lets you explore all our REtoday magazine content on a searchable, indexed website.

There is no quicker way for you to find inspiring, practical RE lesson ideas and more.

NATRE members get **FREE** access to Professional REflection articles and can **SAVE £10** off the annual subscription.

[Home » REtoday Online Library \(retodaylibrary.org.uk\)](https://retodaylibrary.org.uk)

## Gender and Religion Today: School Resources

Woolf Institute has developed an online course Gender and Religion Today and related age-appropriate materials for teachers searching for new, accessible materials to support classroom teaching across UK national curriculum.

They centre on a new series of short videos, offering a fresh way to teach and consider religion through the lens of gender.

Find more details here: [https://www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/outreach/education/gender-and-religion-today-school-resources?utm\\_source=emailmarketing&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=professional\\_natre\\_members\\_newsletter\\_with\\_download\\_september\\_2021&utm\\_content=2021-09-22](https://www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/outreach/education/gender-and-religion-today-school-resources?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=professional_natre_members_newsletter_with_download_september_2021&utm_content=2021-09-22)

## Research for RE

RE:Online has had a bit of a refresh - check it out and access some of the latest research online.

Don't miss 'Research of the Month' featuring a different piece of research each month.

Visit the website: [Research of the Month - RE:ONLINE \(reonline.org.uk\)](https://reonline.org.uk)

## Visiting a Mosque: a free resource for teachers

Teachers can now access the free online resource pack, *Visiting a Mosque*, by following this link:

[www.visitmymosque.org/for-re-teachers](http://www.visitmymosque.org/for-re-teachers)

The pack is intended to support and empower RE teachers in organising and delivering school visits to places of worship, such as mosques. There are also signposts to “virtual” mosque tours included in this pack as an additional resource and to increase familiarity and confidence when organising in-person visits.

*How can SACRE ensure that teachers are aware of and have access to access to good quality teaching and learning resources to support RE in its schools?*

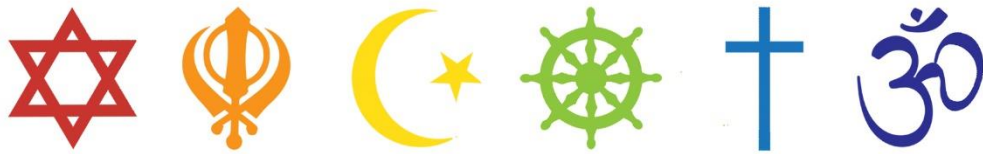
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**KEY: Red = incomplete/outstanding action, yellow = partially complete/ongoing action, green = completed action**

Objective	Key details	Delivery date	Milestones			Lead	Cost estimate
			Autumn	Spring	Summer		
<b>Increase membership and participation of SACRE</b>	1.Ensure That all vacancies are filled 2.Explore ways to make participation at SACRE meetings easier for members	April 2021	Union rep. vacancies filled  Virtual option to attend	Full membership		SACRE/CWC	Nil
<b>Continued development for SACRE members</b>	1.CPD audit 2.Robust CPD offer for SACRE	Ongoing	Completed CPD audit for SACRE members	CPD offer for 2020-2021 in place	CPD offer for 2021-2022 in place  CPD audit 2 evidences that more CPD has taken place	SACRE/CWC	TBC dependent on outcome of audit
<b>Publish the reviewed Local Agreed Syllabus (LAS)</b>	1.Complete the review of the LAS informed by consultation with schools	Spring/ Summer 2021	Draft of LAS presented to SACRE Online consultation	Face to face consultation with schools	LAS launch event LAS accessible via online platform	SACRE/CWC/ RE Today	TBC - Face to face or virtual launch dependent
<b>Begin the review of the Scheme of Work that accompanies the LAS</b>	1.Negotiate support required from external services 2. SACRE to agree extent of review (light touch or full)	Ongoing into 2021-2022			Online consultation with schools  Working party created	SACRE/CWC/ (RE Today/ other external support - TBC)	TBC dependent on service level agreements 2021-2022
<b>Improve CPD offer for teachers, particularly secondary practitioners and non-specialists</b>	1.Collect information about the profile of teachers of RE in the City 2. Undertake CPD audit (online) 3. Devise and launch offer	Ongoing	Information about teaching profile across city gathered	Completed CPD audit with analysis	CPD offer launched Take up and impact data collected	SACRE/CWC (RE Today/ other external support - TBC)	Within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2020-2021
<b>Kirpan policy for publication</b>	1.Draft policy to be sent to CWC Legal Team 2.Policy to be approved by Legal Team 3. Final policy to be agreed by SACRE	December 2020	Draft Kirpan Policy presented to CWC Legal Team for feedback	Approval of the Kirpan Policy by CWC Legal Team and SACRE		SACRE/CWC	Nil

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON



STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL  
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

# **WOLVERHAMPTON SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 2021**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. SACRE's role and function**
- 3. How Wolverhampton SACRE works**
- 4. Review of the academic year 2020-2021**
  - Review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus
  - Complaints
  - Links with other agencies
- 5. Monitoring**
  - Take-up of RE
  - GCSE and A Level RE
- 6. Local events and activities**
  - Review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus
  - RE Subject Leader Network
  - Launch of Wolverhampton SACRE's Kirpan Policy
  - Westhill NASACRE Award
- 7. Contribution of SACRE to wider Local Authority priorities**
- 8. SACRE action plan 2021-2022**
- 9. SACRE membership and meetings**
- 10. Further information**



## **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 This Annual Report of Wolverhampton SACRE covers the academic year 2020-2021. The report briefly records the work of the Advisory Council in that period and sets out the proposed priorities for the coming academic year, 2021-2022. This report is being sent to:

- National Standard Advisor Council for Religious Education
- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all Wolverhampton schools
- City Councillors
- Department for Education
- NASACRE
- Free Church Federal Council
- Inter-Faith Network, UK
- Local relevant voluntary and statutory organisations

An electronic version of this report will also be made available to parents, teachers and other interested individuals and organisations.

## **2.0 SACRE'S role and function**

2.1 The SACRE has a statutory duty:

- To advise the Local Authority on Religious Education and Collective Worship in community schools
- To advise the LA on methods of teaching, choice of materials, teacher training in Religious Education, and on Collective Worship
- To provide an Annual Report

In addition to the above the SACRE can:

- Require the LA to review its current agreed syllabus for Religious Education
- Consider applications made by a Headteacher to release some or all of the pupils in a particular school from the requirement for Collective Worship which may be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character

## **3.0 How Wolverhampton SACRE works**

3.1 Members of Wolverhampton SACRE are appointed by their parent body for a term of five years, and:

- The SACRE appoints a Chair from amongst its members
- The current Chair was elected in 2014-15 and has been annually re-elected since
- Any voting on the SACRE takes place by the panels, each of which has a single vote
- Up to four additional members may be co-opted by the SACRE depending on prospective members' particular expertise and possible contribution to the work of SACRE

- Meetings are held three times a year
- All meetings are open to the public
- Wolverhampton SACRE approved a new Constitution in 2020 which is publicly available online via the Wolverhampton SACRE webpage

3.2 The SACRE is composed of four panels as follows:

PANEL A: Christian denominations and other faiths active in Wolverhampton: ten members: Baptist, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, United Reformed, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh. In addition, Wolverhampton SACRE has a vacancy for a Humanist representative. Each member is nominated by his/her parent body.

PANEL B: The Church of England – five members: nominated by the Lichfield Diocese.

PANEL C: The Teachers' Professional Associations – five members: nominated by NEU, NASUWT and NAHT.

PANEL D: Local Authority – up to five members: nominated by City of Wolverhampton Council.

Details of the membership during the 2020 – 2021 academic year are shown in Section 8.

#### **4.0 A review of the academic year 2020-2021**

4.1 The Local Authority continue to provide facilitation for the City's SACRE without requiring a contribution from the SACRE budget. Wolverhampton SACRE benefits from strong ongoing support from across the Local Authority.

4.2 Determinations

During the 2020-2021 academic year SACRE received no applications from schools wanting to be completely or partially exempted from collective acts of worship which are wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

4.3 Complaints

As in the past, no formal complaints regarding the provision of collective worship in schools have been received by SACRE or the LA.

4.4 Links with Other Agencies

National Association of SACRES (NASACRE): Wolverhampton SACRE has been affiliated to the NASACRE since its inception and considers it to be an important and valuable link. It welcomes the significant role played by NASACRE in providing us with a national voice on issues impacting on the future developments of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools. Wolverhampton SACRE's membership of NASACRE has been

reinstated for the 2021-2022 academic year, after a lapse in membership in 2020-2021.

RE Today: Wolverhampton SACRE continue to work with RE Today. Consultancy services from RE Today in 2020-2021 have included; support with the review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus, CPD for teachers through the RE network and support, advice and information for SACRE including attendance at SACRE meetings.

## **5.0 Monitoring**

- 5.1 Take-up of RE and examination outcomes: Entries and results for GCSE and A Levels RE exams for Summer 2021 have not been published by the Department for Education due to the cancellation of public examinations as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Historically, Wolverhampton has had relatively low levels of GCSE and A Level entries for RE as compared to other Local Authorities nationally. As a result, it is a continued and ongoing priority for Wolverhampton SACRE to provide increased support to secondary schools to improve and extend the teaching of examined RE. More details of this support can be found in the action plan (appendix 1).

## **6.0 Local events and activities**

- 6.1 Review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus: Wolverhampton SACRE is undertaking a review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus. This review involved an in-depth consultation with schools over the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years. The consultation period has been extended as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- 6.2 Wolverhampton SACRE Kirpan Policy: A new Kirpan policy was written, approved and published for use by schools. This policy is available publicly, online.
- 6.3 RE Subject Leader Network: With the support of SACRE, the City of Wolverhampton Council continues to provide a service level agreement to schools for subject leaders in RE. This consists of termly CPD sessions open to all schools, facilitated by RE Today. During this academic year the RE network benefitted from CPD on a range of topics including writing in RE.
- 6.4 *Westhill NASACRE Award*: Wolverhampton SACRE applied for the 2021-2022 Westhill NASACRE Award and our project proposal and grant application were successful. The Project 'Multi-faith Approaches to Diversity and Racial Equality' will be a student led project which aims to develop pupil and teacher understanding of the approaches to diversity and racial equality across different religions and world views.

## 7.0 Contribution of SACRE to the wider Local Authority agenda:

Equalities: Wolverhampton SACRE have contributed to the Local Authorities' equality

Duties through the review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus, of which equalities has been a theme and through their CPD offer to schools.

In addition, the Westhill NASACRE Award project outlined above has an equalities focus.

## 8.0 SACRE Action Plan 2021-2022

8.1 Please refer to appendix 1 of this document, which contains the action plan. Wolverhampton SACRE has a number of key priorities for the 2021-2022 academic year which can be summarised briefly as follows:

- Increasing membership and participation in SACRE
- Continued development for SACRE members
- Undertake a review of the Scheme of Work which accompanies the Locally Agreed Syllabus
- Improve CPD offer for teachers, particularly secondary practitioners and non-specialists including the Westhill NASACRE project.

8.2 Please refer to appendix 2 of this document which contains a review of the 2020-2021 action plan. Briefly, the following objectives have been continued into the 2021-2022 academic year as they were not fully completed last year

- Increase membership and participation of SACRE
- Continued development for SACRE members – CPD audit

## 9.0 SACRE MEMBERSHIP 2019-2020

<b>PANEL A</b>	
<b>Body</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Baptist Representative	Vacant
Methodist Representative	Vacant
Roman Catholic Representative	Fr Craig Fullard
Buddhist Representative	Ven Bante Tejwant
United Reformed Representative	Rebecca Wood
Pentecostal Representative	Daniel Lee
Hindi Representative	Vacant
Humanist Representative	Vacant
Sikh Representative	Jaswinder Singh Chagger
Jewish Representative	Martin Gomberg (Chair)
Islam Representative	Akeel Ahmed

<b>Panel B</b>	
<b>Body</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Church of England Representative	Aman Rai
Church of England Representative	Alison Smith
Church of England Representative	Vacant
<b>Panel C</b>	
<b>Body</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
NEU	Kay Cresswell-Green
NEU	Vacant
NAHT	Vacant
NASUWT	Maggie Keeley
<b>Panel D</b>	
<b>Body</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Wolverhampton City Council	Laura Jude Shelley Humphries (Democratic Services)
Elected member	Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre
<b>Co-options</b>	
<b>Representing:</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Uplands Junior School	Ourmala Devi

9.2

Meetings for the 2021-2022 academic year have been agreed as follows:

- 07 October 2021
- 10 March 2022
- 19 May 2022

### 3.1 Further information

If you would like to receive further information regarding the work of the Wolverhampton SACRE please contact:

Laura Jude

Telephone: 07973715929

E-mail: [laura.jude@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:laura.jude@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

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**Appendix 1**

**Wolverhampton Sacre Action Plan 2021 - 2022**

Objective	Key details	Delivery date	Milestones			Lead	Cost estimate
			Autumn	Spring	Summer		
<b>Increase membership and participation of SACRE</b>	1.Ensure That all vacancies are filled 2.Explore ways to make participation at SACRE meetings easier for members as we return to face to face provision	Ongoing	Advertise vacancies for new academic year	85% membership	Full membership	SACRE/ CWC	Nil
<b>Continued development for SACRE members</b>	1.CPD audit 2.Robust and responsive CPD offer for SACRE members	Ongoing	Completed CPD audit for SACRE members	CPD offer for 2021-2022 in place	CPD audit 2 evidences that more CPD has taken place  CPD offer for 2022-2023 in place	SACRE/CWC	TBC dependent on outcome of audit
<b>Support and monitor the implementation of the new Locally Agreed Syllabus</b>	1.Provide support and CPD For schools as they implement The new Locally Agreed Syllabus 2.Provide regular opportunities for feedback from teachers	Ongoing	Implementation launch event  RE Network  Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the Bulletin	RE Network  Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the Bulletin	RE Network  Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the Bulletin	SACRE /CWC/ RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE And RE Today for 2021-2022
<b>Begin the review of the Scheme of Work that accompanies the LAS</b>	1.Revise scheme of work 2. Gather feedback from teachers to support revisions	Ongoing into 2021-2022	First draft revisions complete  Working party groups established - primary, secondary and SEND	Schemes revised following working party feedback	Implementation feedback from schools collected	SACRE/CWC/ RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE And RE Today for 2021-2022
<b>Improve CPD offer for teachers, particularly secondary practitioners and non-specialists</b>	1.Offer a broader range of CPD and training for teachers 2.Improve communication with teachers of RE	Ongoing	Working party groups RE Network Opportunities through Westhill project Termly SACRE update via Bulletin	RE Network Opportunities through Westhill project Termly SACRE update via Bulletin	Annual CPD evaluation and audit (online survey) Termly SACRE update via Bulletin	SACRE/CWC RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2021-2022

<b>Westhill Project</b>	1.Undertake the planned project with schools	October 2021 – December 2022	Planning phase complete	First impact report provided	Second impact report provided	SACRE/CWC	Nil – funded through grant
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