

Wolverhampton SACRE Annual Report 2021-2022



Report produced by Laura Jude

1.0 Introduction

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1.2 Words from the Chair of SACRE

In the last academic year we have focussed particularly on support for teachers. Notable among this work is the review and launch of our highly successful scheme of work which was a valued addition to our last Locally Agreed Syllabus (LAS). A further success in this area is that in the 2021-2022 academic year SACRE, in partnership with City of Wolverhampton Council provided more training and development opportunities than ever before for our schools, supporting them as they continue to implement our current LAS.

We have also launched our successful '*Multifaith approaches to diversity and racial equality*' project which has been funded by a grant from Westhill. Our first conference in May 2022 saw pupils from secondary schools across the city come together to create resources and consider the importance of equality and diversity in both religious life and wider society. We look forward to both continuing and extending this work in 2022-2023.

1.3 Overview of SACRE activity for 2021-2022

Membership of Wolverhampton SACRE

PANEL A

Body

Baptist Representative
Methodist Representative
Roman Catholic Representative
Buddhist Representative
United Reformed Representative
Pentecostal Representative
Hindi Representative
Sikh Representative
Jewish Representative
Islam Representative

Nominee

VACANCY
VACANCY
VACANCY
Ven Bante Tejwant
Rebecca Wood
VACANCY
VACANCY
Jaswinder Singh Chaggar
Martin Gomberg (Chair)
Akeel Ahmed

Panel B

Body

Church of England Representative
Church of England Representative
Church of England Representative

Nominee

VACANCY
Alison Smith
Janine Wright

Panel C

Body

NEU
NEU
NAHT
NASUWT
Teachers' Professional Association

Nominee

Kay Cresswell-Green
VACANCY
VACANCY
VACANCY
Tanya Athwal

Panel D

Body

Wolverhampton City Council

Elected member

Nominee

Laura Jude
Cllr Chris Burden,
Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Co-options

Representing:

Uplands Junior School

Nominee

Ourmala Devi

Clerk:

Shelley Humphries

(Democratic Services – Non-member)

SACRE met twice in the 2021-2022 academic year. Details of the priorities worked on during the year can be found in Appendix 1, a review of our 2021-2022 action plan.

Appendix 2 demonstrates how new and continued priorities will be moved forward for the 2022-2023 academic year.

1.4 Executive summary

SACRE's foci for 2021-2022 have centred around supporting schools and RE teachers to implement the LAS as effectively as possible. This has been achieved through a growing CPD and training offer for schools.

2022-2023's work will build on previous successes around teaching training and support for teachers. Continuing foci, such as recruiting to SACRE membership, will be prioritised.

2.0 Statutory RE in Wolverhampton

2.1 The Wolverhampton Locally Agreed Syllabus in schools

The initial implementation phase for the new LAS (one year) ended in September 2021. During this time SACRE, working with the LA provided two launch events for schools. The first focussed on the intent of the LAS and the second focussed on implementation of the LAS. Both were well received by schools of all types and phases.

In addition, SACRE funded further training for schools by type and phase (primary, secondary and special school) to strengthen support for teachers in delivering the LAS effectively.

The following mechanisms have been introduced to improve communication and support for RE teachers:

- A termly RE update in the City of Wolverhampton Council Education Provider Bulletin. This update is sent to all education settings in the city
- An RE teacher mailing list
- A new to RE package (launched October 2022)
- Termly community of practice meetings (launched October 2022)

Academies have been actively encouraged to engage with training and to utilise the LAS. Both have been accessible to academies through public access to our LAS and funded teacher training. In addition, our optional scheme of work has also been made available to academies.

Wolverhampton SACRE have continued to work to support secondary schools to provide high quality RE which facilitates into examined RE such as GCSE pathways. To support our secondary schools SACRE have funded the creation of new units of work for Key Stage 3 which, alongside the LAS support schools in providing a solid foundation for GCSE study. These new units have been

received positively by schools and are currently being used by both maintained schools and academies.

2.2 Monitoring the Locally Agreed Syllabus

Predominantly, the LAS has been monitored through communication with and training for schools. In 2021-2022 new mechanisms were put in place to collect this information on a continuous cycle. For example by:

- Seeking feedback through surveys
- Seeking verbal feedback at training events
- Discussions with individual schools

2.3 Standards and monitoring of RE in schools

RE in schools is monitored through the following mechanisms

- Feedback from the RE network
- Regular self-report surveys by schools
- Updates to SACRE about recent Ofsted, SIAMS and Section 48 inspections
- Headline findings from LA school reviews where relevant to RE

In 2022 there were 864 entries for GCSE RE across the LA. 70.8% of pupils entered achieved a grade between 9 and 4. 56.9% of pupils entered achieved a grade between 9 and 5. In the same year there were 50 entries for A Level RE. 72% of those entered achieved a grade C or above with 26% achieving a grade A* or A¹.

2.4 RE Quality Mark (REQM) awards

There have been no applications for REQM awards and none have been received during this time period.

2.5 Teacher training and advice for schools

SACRE support a range of training opportunities for schools, as detailed below:

- Teachers of RE in Wolverhampton have access to a termly RE network. This is a forum for sharing good practice, discussing any challenges in implementing the locally agreed syllabus and seek advice from RE specialists. The network is organised by City of Wolverhampton Council and facilitation by an RE consultant is funded by SACRE
- Working party groups
- Presentations to senior leaders

Advice is available to schools through:

- Online drop-in sessions run by LA advisors

¹ Figures published here are provisional.

- Consultancy time funded by SACRE. For example, at the end of RE network sessions
- LA school reviews
- By email to/from the LA officer for SACRE

2.6 Withdrawals and complaints

There have been no withdrawals or complaints within this period.

2.7 Advice to the LA

There has been no advice to the LA issued by SACRE during this period.

3.0 Collective Worship

3.1 Monitoring

Collective worship is monitored in the following ways:

- Presentation of Ofsted, SIAMS and Section 48 findings for Wolverhampton schools at every SACRE meeting
- Feedback from LA School Improvement reviews where relevant.

3.2 Determinations

There have been no applications for determination within this period.

4.0 Additional information

4.1 List of groups and agencies this report has been presented to:

- Wolverhampton SACRE
- Department for Education
- NASACRE
- City of Wolverhampton Council Education Leadership Team
- A copy of this report and associated action plan for 2022-2023 will be made public on the [Wolverhampton SACRE mod.gov webpage](#)

4.2 List of acronyms and abbreviations

CPD – Continuing Professional Development

LA – Local Authority

LAS – Locally Agreed Syllabus

NASACRE – National Association of SACREs

RE – Religious Education

REQM – Religious Education Quality Mark

SACRE – Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

4.3 List of appendices

Appendix 1: Review of Wolverhampton SACRE 2021-2022 Action Plan

Appendix 2: Wolverhampton SACRE 2022-2023 Action Plan