

Warwickshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

**Annual Report
2018-19**

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Introduction

This is the annual report of the Warwickshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for 2018/19 and is published in accordance with the requirements of section 391 (6) of the Education Act 1996. It provides an account of SACRE activities during this period.

Circulation of this report

This report will be circulated electronically to:

Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of Warwickshire schools
 Warwickshire County Councillors
 Department for Education
 Diocesan Board of Education (Coventry and Birmingham Church of England Diocese)
 Diocesan Education Service (Roman Catholic Archdiocese Birmingham)
 The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)
 Free Churches Group
 Warwick District Faiths Forum
 SACREs in neighbouring authorities

It will also be available to download at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacre

If you would like any of the text in this report to be translated please contact the Clerk to SACRE on 01926 742075, or email <mailto:sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk> and we will endeavour to meet your requirements.

The above sentence has been translated into four of the most widely spoken languages in Warwickshire, other than English: Polish, Panjabi, Gujarati and Portuguese.

Jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać przetłumaczoną kopię tekstu znajdującego się w raporcie, proszę skontaktować się z urzędnikiem SACRE, który postara się sprostać Państwa wymaganiom.

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਚ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਹਿੱਸਾ, ਆਪਣੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿਚ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਲੇਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ 'ਸੈਕਰੇ' (SACRE) ਸੰਸਥਾ ਦੇ/ਦੀ ਕਲਰਕ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਕੇ ਦੱਸ ਦਿਓ ਅਤੇ ਉਹ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਇਸ ਲੋੜ ਨੂੰ ਪੂਰਾ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਕੋਸ਼ਿਸ਼ ਕਰਨਗੇ।

જો આ રિપોર્ટના લખાણમાંથી કોઈ પણ વિસ્તારનો તમને તરજુમો કરાવવો હોય, તો સાકે (SACRE) ના ક્લાર્કનો સંપર્ક કરવા મહેરબાની કરશો, જે તમારી જરૂરિયાતોને પહોંચી વળવા કોશીશ કરશે.

Se quer que alguma parte deste relatório seja traduzida por favor contacte o funcionário de SACRE que fará os possíveis para corresponder ao seu pedido.

Message from the Co-Chairs of SACRE

This has been another very productive and exciting year for Warwickshire SACRE, and in many ways this Annual Report, although detailed and accurate, cannot fully reflect the buzz and community interaction that has happened over the year. We have been privileged to continue our unique partnership with Coventry SACRE, sharing experiences, ideas and support structures such as the SACRE website, joint meetings and Agreed Syllabus. This has only been possible because the two Local Authorities share the vision and commitment to work together on behalf of the schools and children in their area. The result is that we have been able to continue our combined efforts, resources and encouragement, leading to levels of service and support for schools that could only be dreamed of by the Local Authority acting alone. Primarily this is possible because of the work of our tremendous RE Facilitator, Jennifer Jenkins, who manages to inspire and guide both SACREs and schools on a remarkably small allocation of time. She is supported in this by Lucy Lambert and Juliet Silverton from Coventry LA, Jane Bennett and Sarah Tregaskis from Warwickshire LA and the Education Team from Coventry Cathedral. To all these people, Warwickshire SACRE extends its heartfelt thanks.

The result of this ongoing co-operation is that SACRE has not only been able to meet its statutory commitments but managed to work on producing resources for schools and support the events and initiatives of religious communities across the county. Examples include the CPD sessions to support the delivery of the Agreed Syllabus, the new Peace and Remembrance module and a session for newly qualified teachers; the regular RE Bulletin to schools, the films being made as a result of a successful grant application to the Westhill Trust, Warwick University Marketplace event for newly qualified teachers, school assemblies, monitoring and support visits to schools.. Further details of these events and initiatives are to be found within the Report, although the words on paper only faintly bear witness to the events themselves.

Finally, we thank all the members of SACRE for their attendance, ideas, support and forbearance as they represent their respective faiths and bodies, as we learn and journey together.



Miss Manjit Kaur



Mr Rocky Grove

1. SACREs role and function

SACRE has a statutory duty:

- To advise the Local Authority on collective worship and Religious Education in community schools and foundation schools which do not have a religious character. Religious Education in these schools must be delivered in accordance with an Agreed Syllabus.
- To advise the Local Authority on collective worship and methods of teaching, choice of materials and teacher training in Religious Education and collective worship.
- To provide an annual report.
- To require Warwickshire County Council to periodically review the locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (at least every 5 years).

In addition the SACRE can:

- Consider applications made by a Headteacher to release some or all of the pupils in a particular school from the requirement for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character (a Determination).

Membership of SACRE:

Warwickshire SACRE comprises four statutory groups:

- Group A – Christian Denominations and other religions that appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions of the area. Currently Warwickshire SACRE has provision for representatives from the following faiths – Baha'i, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity (Free Churches), Roman Catholicism, and Sikhism.
- Group B – Church of England (Christianity)
- Group C – Teacher Associations
- Group D – Warwickshire County Council (Elected members)

Additional members including people with particular expertise in areas of religious education or who represent perspectives not included in the statutory groups are co-opted by SACRE.

In 2018/19 Warwickshire SACRE had co-opted members representing:

- Humanists UK (previously British Humanist Association)
- The Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon)
- Polish Catholic Mission

Membership details are shown in Appendix A.

2. Advice provided by SACRE

a) Advice to Local Authority

SACRE continues to support the Local Authority.

Warwickshire SACRE also continued joint-working with Coventry through the merging of the two Chairs Groups.

b) Schools

Schools are updated with developments such as those made in the CORE Report and the New Ofsted Framework which will impact upon RE provision in schools.

The RE Facilitator produced termly RE bulletins which were sent to all schools. These provided updates on national RE developments such as those made in the CORE Report the New Ofsted Framework, new teaching resources and CPD opportunities.

SACRE supported schools requesting Hindu and Jewish visitors (SACRE members attended) and also created a wider document providing information and contacts for making visits and inviting visitors into school.

SACRE provided advice to a parent and school regarding access to a room for conducting prayer during the school day.

3. Standards and Quality of Provision of RE

a) Public examinations

Please note: The 2019 examination results are not yet available, they are due to be published at the end of January 2020. The data below is from examinations taken in summer 2018.

See Appendix B for exam results data.

b) Quality of RE provision in schools

Ofsted visits to Warwickshire schools in 2018-19 were as follows:

Nursery/Early Years 3 inspections
Primary Schools 53 inspections
Secondary schools 4 inspections
Special schools 3 inspections

Typically comments made about RE, SMSC and Collective Worship were very positive, with only two comments made in primary Ofsted reports indicating RE required some development. These have formed actions for SACRE in 2019-20.

Ofsted were pleased to see early years provision including celebrations and festivals. It was observed that most schools were promoting SMSC well through their curriculum and pupils' understanding of faith was being developed effectively through the RE curriculum as well as visits to places of worship, visits from members of faith communities, partnerships with other schools, assemblies and special weeks/projects. Pupils show enthusiasm regarding their RE knowledge, with one report commenting that pupils have a 'growing fascination with aspects of their learning'. Pupils in Warwickshire show respect and are cultivating an understanding of British Values, preparing them for life in modern Britain. They appreciate the differences between themselves and others and are equipped to express their learning in RE through writing and art.

For some examples of Ofsted's comments on RE see Appendix C.

c) Withdrawal

SACRE is not aware of any withdrawals from RE made during 2018-19.

d) Complaints

No formal complaints were received by SACRE regarding RE or collective worship in 2018-19.

4. Agreed Syllabus

- 1) An RE Subject Leader Twilight session was held on October 11th 2018 for Coventry and Warwickshire RE subject leaders on the theme of Peace and Remembrance to support schools in marking the centenary of the end of WW1. Links were made to Coventry Cathedral and the aspects of peace and reconciliation contained in the Agreed Syllabus for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3, encouraging a local flavour to RE.
- 2) RE Bulletins were sent out at the beginning of each term, informing teachers of local and national RE developments, new resources and CPD opportunities.

3) In February 2019 an RE Subject Leader Twilight was held focusing on assessment in RE, following on from requests made on evaluation forms from prior CPD sessions.

4) In May 2019 an RE Subject Leader Twilight was held on RE and the Arts, with a guest speaker from Coventry Cathedral explaining the spiritual significance of the architecture and art of the cathedral, again offering a local flavour to RE provision.

5) In June a debate and exhibition on the subject of Religion and Climate change was held at a Warwickshire school and supported by Rugby Inter Faith Forum. The work was structured around a deliberately-provocative statement which encouraged pupils to investigate faith perspectives and then engage in debate and discussion around whether or not they were in agreement, providing reasons. Resources were created and shared for all schools to use.



COVENTRY SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Warwickshire SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Rugby Inter Faith Forum, in conjunction with Coventry and Warwickshire SACREs and [redacted] presents:



An event to explore the role of religion and worldviews in addressing climate change and care for the environment

Pupils will prepare a faith perspective on the topic of climate change and care for the environment for an exhibition & take part in a debate around the statement:
"Religion is an essential factor in motivating individuals to protect the environment and address climate change"

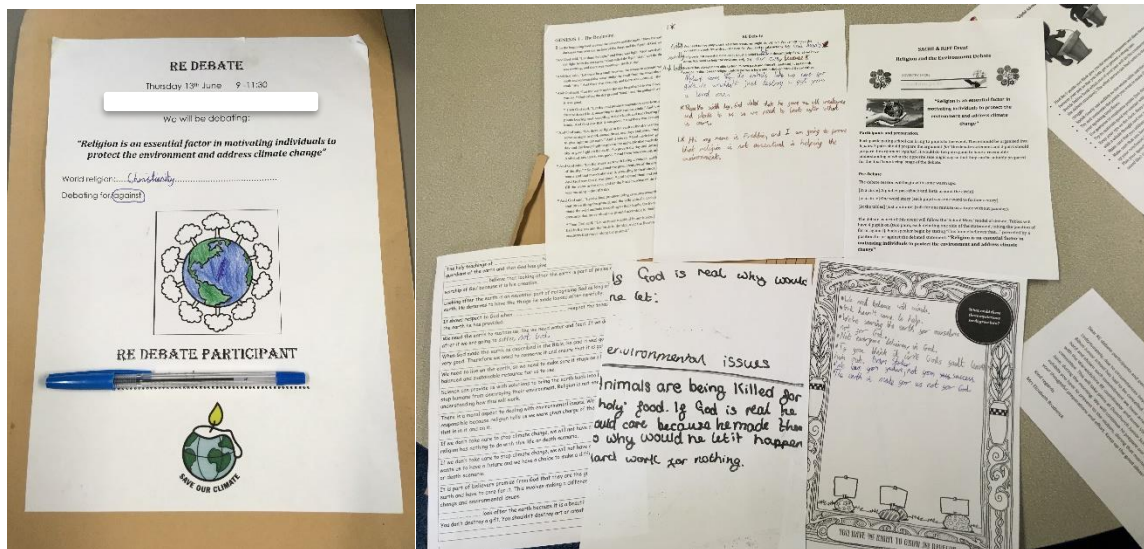
Thursday 13th June 9.30-11.30

at [redacted] **School.**

For more details and to take part email Jennifer Jenkins
(RE Facilitator for Warwickshire) on jenniferjenkins@warwickshire.gov.uk



Members of RIFF listening to pupils debating the impact of religion on motivation to tackle climate change.

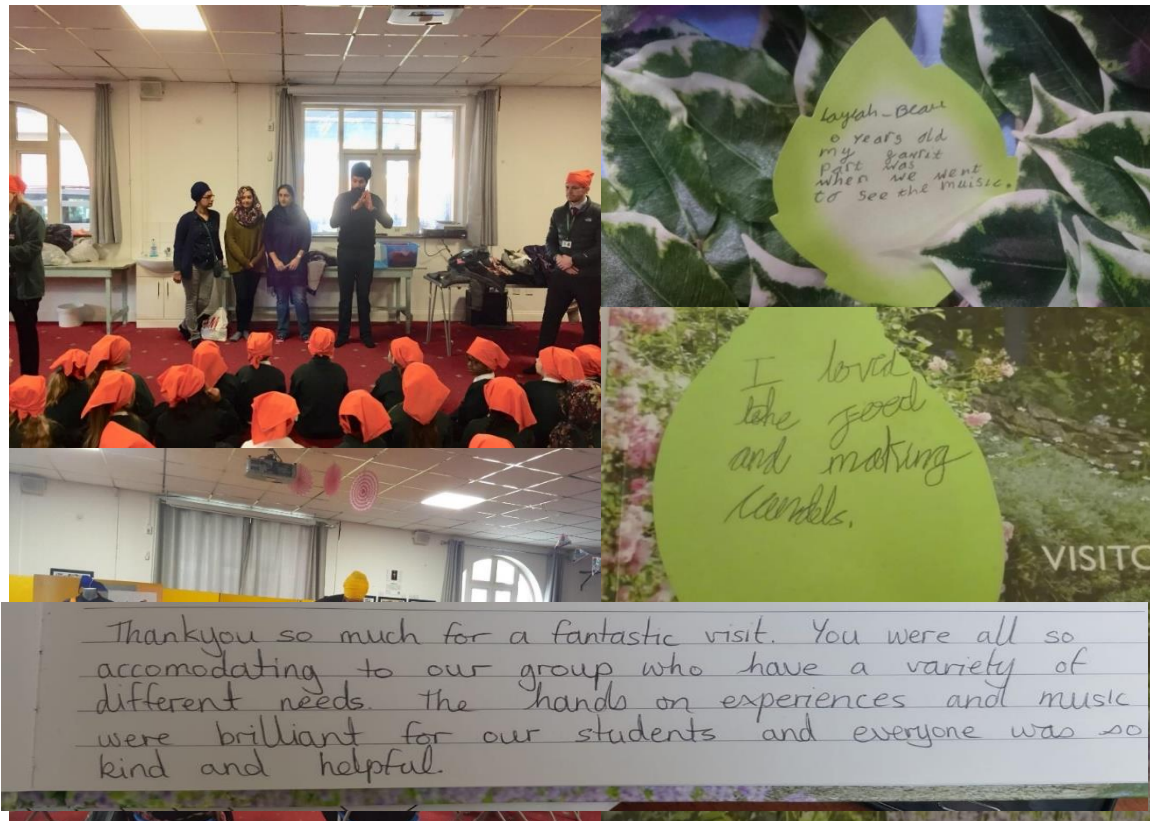


Y5/6 pupils engaged in excellent preparation for the event

6) In July 2019 an additional RE Subject Leader Twilight was held on 'New to RE Subject Leadership' in a bid to ready new RE subject leaders for the demands of leading the subject, particularly in light of new Ofsted requirements around foundation subjects, curriculum and leadership and the introduction of the 'Deep Dive', which places RE on a par with other subjects for focus during an inspection.

7) In April a Westhill Grant Application was made by Warwickshire on behalf of both Coventry and Warwickshire SACREs to run RE subject knowledge sessions led by SACRE members and held in places of worship. They will include a tour, talk and Q&A, with films and a resource document available digitally following each session for use by schools, therefore increasing the impact and distribution of the programme. In May 2019 SACRE learnt of its success in this endeavour. The sessions have been planned in response to requests made for subject knowledge support on evaluation forms and the emphasis on subject knowledge for all subject leaders and teachers of RE in the new Ofsted Framework. These sessions will run termly during next academic year (2019-20) and will initially focus on Sikhism, Islam and Judaism, with Coventry SACRE submitting a mirror-bid application in 2019-20 in order to complete the other 3 major faith traditions, plus Humanism.

8) During 2018-19 SACRE created a 'SACRE-suggested visits and visitors' document in response to requests made by schools. This document aims to support schools in developing 'encounter' and learning outside the classroom as part of their RE curriculum.



Pupils from Warwickshire have visited places of worship locally, including this gurdwara in Coventry.

9) The RE Facilitator attended the local NATRE group meeting (North Warwickshire) in order to offer further support to secondary RE teachers. This session was also attended by a member of the Schools Team from Coventry Cathedral and had a peace and reconciliation theme to it.

5. Collective Worship

There were no applications for determinations to alter the character of collective worship for all pupils in a particular school during 2018/19.

6. Management of SACRE

a) Attendance at SACRE Meetings

Warwickshire SACRE met on three occasions during the 2018/19 academic year.

Date	Venue	Numbers in attendance from each group				
		Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Co-opted Members
26/09/2018	Saltisford Office Park	7	2	0	2	0
28/01/2019	Southam College	5	3	0	2	2
12/06/2019	Baitul Ehsan Mosque	7	3	0	4	3

Membership Groups:

Group A – Christian and other religious denominations other than the Church of England (11 members)

Group B – Church of England (5 members)

Group C – Teacher Associations (6 members)

Group D – Warwickshire County Council (5 members)

SACRE has continued to select meeting in venues which reflect its three key partnerships; schools, faith groups and the Local Authority. Where a meeting is held in a school, there is usually an opportunity for SACRE members to have a look at the RE work on display and to learn about the delivery of the RE curriculum across the school. This is also the case with meetings held at places of worship, where members of the faith community will provide an insight into their particular faith or belief through a short presentation to members and/or tour of the building.

b) Membership and training

There were several vacancies in Group C. Renewing the constitution and membership will be a priority for SACRE in 2019/20.

Members of SACRE attended a session on the CORE Report led by Rudi Elliott Lockhart, CEO of Religious Education Council, in January 2019.

c) Professional and Financial Support

A budget is provided to SACRE by the County Council. SACRE has advised the local authority on priorities and how this funding should be spent. In 2018-19, this was used to fund the following:

- Supporting the delivery of the Agreed Syllabus including:
 - Monitoring delivery of the Agreed Syllabus in schools

- Training for local RE teachers, including venue, hospitality and printing costs
- Salary for RE Facilitator one day a week during term time, plus expenses (mileage and resources)
- Servicing of SACRE meetings – venues, refreshments
- NASACRE annual subscription / attendance at AGM
- NATRE annual subscription
- CPD for RE Facilitator

The local authority has continued to provide support to SACRE with LA Officer time, a clerk and other administrative staff in order to enable SACRE to fulfil its duties.

7. Contribution of SACRE to the wider Local Authority agenda

a) SACRE contributions to LA agenda and other agendas

1) Implementation of Agreed Syllabus

The main priority for SACRE in 2018/19 was to continue to support schools to implement the locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, providing CPD opportunities to support teachers in this endeavour.

2) Role of RE Facilitator

Warwickshire SACRE continue to support the local authority in seconding a RE Specialist Facilitator to provide support to Warwickshire schools and SACRE. This is a joint appointment with Coventry SACRE and has proved very successful, with evaluations of training sessions run in 2018-19 as follows:

Briefing Content: Excellent or Good 99%

Organisation: Excellent or Good 99%

Scheduling and Timing: Excellent or Good 91%

The RE Facilitator is in regular contact with Local Authority officers to ensure support offered to school is appropriate in terms of content and timing.

3) Joint working – Coventry and Warwickshire SACREs

Warwickshire SACRE has continued conversations with Coventry SACRE around joint and partnership working. In 2017/18 it was agreed to merge the two Chairs'

Consultative Groups and this continued in 2018/19. There continues to be overlap in the membership with the two SACREs, sharing a co-chair and a number of representatives in Group A and Group B partnership working continues on the joint agreed syllabus for both Coventry and Warwickshire schools and joint appointment of the RE Facilitator.

4) NASACRE AGM

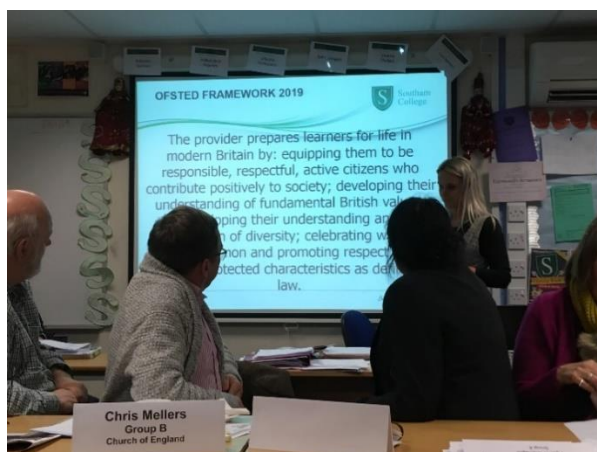
Coventry Co-Chair and RE Facilitator attended the NASACRE AGM in May 2019 in Manchester. A verbal report was shared with SACRE members at the June meeting, with future projects in light of what was shared at the NASACRE AGM scheduled for 2019-20.

b) SACRE support to schools (events and training)

In 2018-19 four RE Subject Leader Twilight Sessions were held on the following topics:

- Peace and Remembrance
- RE and Assessment
- RE and the Arts
- New to RE Subject Leadership

In January 2019 a joint Coventry and Warwickshire SACRE meeting was held at a local secondary school and SACRE members were able to hear a presentation about the RE department's excellent provision and exam results.



29th January 2019



SACRE supported a school which was encountering some parental resistance to a planned visit to a Mosque. The trip went ahead and the school has made further plans for ensuring different members of the school community have opportunity to

learn from each other. This school requested a RE monitoring visit, which is scheduled for 2019-20.

The SACRE Buddhist representative visited a primary school in October 2018. The children listened well and asked some good questions. At the end of the session one of the boys said: 'It's like you've opened a gate to show us that there's a different way to live'.

A joint mock monitoring visit was conducted at a Warwickshire school to ensure SACRE monitoring procedures are robust and supportive. This was supported by a Coventry SACRE member with a teaching background.



Schools were made aware of Inter Faith Week 2018 and were encouraged to design and register activities to promote this in schools. This was supported by a SACRE member and member of the local Inter Faith network.

In October 2018 Warwickshire's Buddhist Representative visited a local secondary school. There were around 10 pupils, who sat and meditated for a while by focussing on breathing and then developing loving-kindness. The Buddhist representative then delivered a short talk on why meditation is beneficial, and then students asked some questions.

A 'Market Place' event was held at the University of Warwick in July for all teacher trainees completing their ITT so they would be well-informed of local opportunities within religious education. This was supported by RE Today, Coventry DBE,

Coventry Cathedral and members of faith communities via SACRE. There are plans to repeat this during 2019-20.

COVENTRY SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Warwickshire SACRE
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

RE Today
Services

You are warmly invited to a 'market place' event where you can find out what opportunities there are for making RE visits to places of worship in Coventry and Warwickshire, who can support you with your RE teaching and make useful connections with the local RE and faith communities.

Thursday 4th July 2019
12.00-1.00pm Centre for Teacher Education Avon Building
University of Warwick Westwood Campus

Rugby Interfaith Forum (RIFF)

Warwick District
Faiths Forum

Coventry
Multi-Faith
Forum

Inter Faith
Week

c) Links to broader community initiatives

The Chair of SACRE and the RE Facilitator attended a meeting of the Rugby Inter Faith Forum at their request in order to support them with future projects involving young people in Rugby. It was this which led to SACRE and RIFF working together on a schools project with Rugby Schools based on belief and the environment.

In March 2018 the RE Facilitator attended the Mosque Open Day at Ahmadiyya Mosque in Leamington Spa and in June 2018 the Warwickshire SACRE meeting was held there. The Chair also visited to see the WW1 Exhibition.

During Eid, SACRE sent a letter of greetings and peace to local Muslim communities in Coventry and Warwickshire. A reply was received from the Islamic Chaplain at Coventry University Spirituality and Faith Centre, extending gratitude and appreciation to SACRE for this gesture. Similarly, a letter was also sent out at Diwali to local Hindu faith communities, the Baha'i community for Naw Ruz, the Buddhist community for Vesak, the Christian community for Easter and the Sikh community for Vaisakhi.

In August 2019 SACRE Chair attended the Hiroshima Peace Day event held at Coventry Cathedral on behalf of Warwickshire SACRE and met the Japanese Ambassador.



SACRE liaised with the Bishop of Warwick to ensure a peace poem competition, such as that which runs in Coventry, could be established and open for Warwickshire schools to apply.

Glossary of Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AREIAC	Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants
ASC	Agreed Syllabus Conference
C of E	Church of England
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
DfE	Department for Education
EBacc	English Baccalaureate
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ITT	Initial Teacher Training
INSET	In-Service Training Day
KS	Key Stage
LA	Local Authority
LOtC	Learning Outside the Classroom
NASACRE	National Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education
NATRE	National Association of Teachers of Religious Education
NQT	Newly Qualified Teacher
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education
PEBBLE	Public Body Liaison Committee for British Paganism
RE	Religious Education
REC	Religious Education Council
RS	Religious Studies
SACRE	Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
SIAMS	Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools
SMSCD	Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development
WCC	Warwickshire County Council

Appendix A

Group A – Christian and other religious denominations other than the Church of England (11 members)

Baha'i (1)	Rocky Grove (Co-Chair)
Buddhist (1)	Venerable Ajahn Manapo
Hindu (2)	Santosh Kundi, Ramesh Srivastava
Muslim (2)	Abeda Vorajee, Imam Saeed Jutt
Non-conformist (3)	Gill Kingston, Robert Maloney, <i>Vacancy</i>
Judaism (1)	<i>Vacancy</i>
Roman Catholicism (2)	<i>Vacancy x2</i>
Sikh (2)	Manjit Kaur (Co-Chair), Jatinder Birdi

Group B – Church of England (5 members)

Birmingham Diocese (1)	Jill Stolberg
Coventry Diocese (4)	Emma Griffiths, Lizzie McWhirter, Tracy Butcher, Father Mark Liddell

Group C – Teacher Associations (5 members)

ASCL	<i>Vacancy</i>
ATL	Aveninder Kaur
NAHT	<i>Vacancy</i>
NASUWT	<i>Vacancy</i>
NUT	Anneka Hurst
VOICE	Elizabeth Banyard

Group D – Warwickshire County Council (5 members)

Conservative	Cllr. Clare Golby
Liberal Democrat	Cllr. Sarah Boad
Labour	Cllr. Caroline Phillips
<i>Vacancy</i>	
<i>Vacancy</i>	

Co-opted Members (non-voting)

Humanists UK (formerly BHA)	Peter Lawley
The Church of the Latter Day Saints	Jonathan Pywell
Polish Catholic Mission	Stas Librowski

Others in attendance

Sarah Tregaskis

Ruth Waterman

Jennifer Jenkins

LA Officer

Clerk to SACRE

RE Facilitator

Appendix B

This section provides the confirmed data for Religious Studies exam results in Warwickshire in 2018.

Religious Education

Table 1 – Key Stage 4

YEAR	Numbers on Roll	GCSE Full Course Entries	GCSE Short Course Entries	Entry Level
2015-16	5584	3408	343	4
2016-17	5489	3607	119	4
2017-18	5466	2984	209	10

Source: All figures from NOVA

Full Course GCSE

Table 2: Results for all pupils and by gender in Warwickshire and nationally, 2017/18 (%)

	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	X
Boys	2	4	8	12	14	15	17	15	9	4	0
Girls	8	14	13	17	15	10	13	7	3	1	0
All	5	9	11	14	15	12	15	10	6	2	0
National	6	9	12	8	15	12	14	9	5	2	0

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools in England

Table 3: % of pupils entered achieving A*-C /9-4 grade in GCSE Full Course Subjects 2012-2018

	2016	2017	2018**
Warwickshire RS	68	69	66
National RS	70	70	71

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools in England. *English Language, **Standard Pass (Grades 9-4)

Short Course GCSE

Table 4: Results for all pupils and by gender in Warwickshire and nationally (%)

	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	X
Boys	0	0	0	0	7	7	36	29	14	7	0
Girls	17	23	24	18	3	6	2	3	5	0	0

All	14	19	20	15	4	6	8	8	6	1	0
National	3	6	9	13	12	12	19	13	8	4	1

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools in England

Table 5: % of pupils entered achieving A*-C/9-4 grade in GCSE Short Course Subjects 2012-2018

	2016	2017	2018*
Warwickshire RS	80	71	78
National RS	54	52	56
Warwickshire Citizenship Short Course	77	50	-

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools in England, *Standard Pass (Grades 9-4)

Key Stage 5

AS Religious Studies

Table 6: Number of entries for AS Religious Studies

	2016	2017*	2018
No of entries	325	117	150

Source: NOVA.

Table 7: % of pupils achieving A – C at AS Level

	2016	2017*	2018
Warwickshire RS	61	68	55
National RS	69	70	57

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools/colleges in England

2017 should not be compared to previous years due to the Post 16 qualification reforms introduced in 2015 resulting in changes to reporting in 2016 and 2017. Notable changes were that AS and A levels were decoupled – this means that AS results will no longer count towards an A level as they did previously.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/get-the-facts-gcse-and-a-level-reform/get-the-facts-as-and-a-level-reform>

A Level Religious Studies

Table 9: Number of entries for A- Level

	2016	2017	2018
No of entries	210	187	127

Source: NOVA.

Table 10: % of pupils achieving A* – C at A Level

	2016	2017	2018
Warwickshire RS	76	79	77
National RS	80	81	78

Source: NOVA. National figure relates to all state-funded schools/colleges in England

Appendix C

Here are some examples of RE comments made on Ofsted reports on Warwickshire schools in 2018-19:

Primary

Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well across the school. The school is proud of its Christian ethos. Pupils are very knowledgeable about a range of faiths and beliefs. Years 5 and 6 have visited a mosque and talk with great enthusiasm and respect about what they have learned. Leaders have formed a close partnership with a school in Birmingham, and pupils visit each other's schools to learn about different families and cultures. British values are embedded in the work of the school, and this means that pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

You and your staff have been successful in maintaining a stimulating curriculum that promotes British values of tolerance, respect and care. The school's inclusive values and its close partnership with the local church are having a positive impact on pupils' academic and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development...Special themes, projects and the celebration of traditional or religious festivals energise and motivate pupils. These and other rich and stimulating experiences are reflected in good-quality displays of art, writing and records of special visits to places of interest.

Pupils learn about different religions and cultures through the engaging curriculum, assemblies and trips. Major festivals are celebrated at school and leaders create a culture where all members of the school community feel involved and valued. For example, pupils enjoy contributing to the 'reverse' advent calendar which will be used to feed those who rely on the local food bank. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is effectively threaded across the whole curriculum.

Pupils do not have enough opportunities to learn about fundamental British values or how to protect themselves from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism. While pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is well supported, their understanding of different cultures, including other faiths, is limited. This does not prepare pupils well enough for life in modern Britain.

Pupils have a developing understanding of British values, particularly with reference to democracy, where they can give examples of when this has been demonstrated in school. However, they have a limited knowledge and understanding of other cultures, both in Britain and in the wider world.

Trips and visitors enrich pupils' learning and develop their confidence. Pupils talk enthusiastically about trips to places of interest, such as Coventry Cathedral.

The Christian values of the school are evident in pupils' behaviours. Pupils also have tolerant views of other faiths and cultures. You arranged for your school to be partnered with a Muslim faith school in Birmingham. The older pupils involved in this project really enjoyed it.

The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is a strength of the school. Pupils have a good knowledge of different religions, and they show respect when talking about different faiths. Good use is made of visitors to the school in order to promote respect and tolerance for people from different religious and cultural backgrounds.

Teaching in subjects such as science, PE, religious education, geography and history is frequent and effective. Books and teaching seen during this inspection revealed that the school provides a broad curriculum that is relevant and meaningful to pupils.

Secondary

The fostering of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and within this, the promotion of British values, is a strength of the school. A range of activities both within and beyond the curriculum supports this development. For example, a recent assembly on the contribution the local Muslim community makes to local charities helped to raise awareness of different faiths and cultures. In tutor time, pupils have the opportunity to explore important issues in depth, including radicalisation and the impact of the Holocaust.