

Kirklees Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Annual Report 2015 - 2016



Contents

Part 1	The work of SACRE
Part 2	Provision of Religious Education
Part 3	Collective Worship
Part 4	Summary of achievements and priorities

Appendices

Appendix 1	Minutes of SACRE meetings
Appendix 2	SACRE membership and attendance
Appendix 3	Examination results
Appendix 4	Professional Development Opportunities

This annual report is prepared for Kirklees Standing Advisory Council on RE (SACRE) as part of its statutory responsibility. It may only be reproduced with permission from SACRE. For further information on the report or on RE and Collective Worship in Kirklees, please contact Ian Ross at ian.ross@kirklees.gov.uk.

Foreword by Chair of SACRE

I am pleased to present the Kirklees SACRE report for 2015- 2016.

SACRE members continue to give their time to meet to monitor RE and Collective Worship in the area and discuss current issues within education. We welcome new and diverse members to the Council and would encourage anyone who understands the value and importance of Religious Education in the school curriculum to think about joining us.

As part of our constant striving to keep up with National trends in RE we have also begun to work with other SACREs in the area.

Following the successful and useful collaboration with Calderdale and the then Wakefield Diocese for the revision of the Syllabus, Kirklees SACRE decided to continue to build bridges with Calderdale and any other interested SACREs with a view to more fruitful partnership work. We had a joint meeting in Halifax to consider Charles Clarke's report on RE. This was a really useful exchange of views, which was enjoyed by the participants and helped us to reflect on the future of RE. We hope to continue working in this way, sharing good practice with other SACREs, which will benefit all participating Advisory Councils and so lead to even better quality RE in our authorities.

Since then, further and wider collaboration has been planned with SACREs from other Yorkshire Authorities.

There have been times throughout the year when the place of RE has seemed in jeopardy. However, we are passionate about RE and its contribution to Community Cohesion and the wider educational context. RE is unique in being able to provide a safe space for children and young people to consider challenging questions and break down barriers to understanding.

There are some concerning statistics in this report showing that the once popular Short Course GCSE is no longer in favour. The impact of the English Baccalaureate is taking its toll as is the necessity for schools to pursue league tables. Thankfully, we are supported by Kirklees and excellent officers who continue to provide training for teachers in the widely welcomed Syllabus as well as British Values and SMSC.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all SACRE members, Alastair Ross and Ian Ross for their steadfast support. With their help, we may be able to ensure RE is given the prominence in the Curriculum it warrants.

Carol Waters Chair of SACRE

Part 1: The Work of Kirklees SACRE

The Annual Report and SACRE's responsibilities

SACRE is required to produce an annual report as one of its statutory responsibilities. The main purpose of the annual report is to inform the Secretary of State and key partners about RE and collective worship in schools, together with any advice SACRE has given to the local authority during the year and the response to such advice.

SACRE has responsibility for advising a Local Authority (LA) on its schools:

- For Religious Education (RE), SACRE advises community, voluntary controlled and Trust and Foundation schools without a religious designation.
- For Collective Worship SACRE advises the LA on community, Trust and Foundation schools without a religious designation.

Although not part of its compulsory statutory role, Kirklees SACRE also seeks to serve and support all schools and academies within the area and makes its agreed RE syllabus freely available to all.

SACRE can report with insight and authority on the matters included in this report but does not have the resources to comment in detail on every aspect of the detailed provision of RE or collective worship in every school. However, through offering training and monitoring visits the RE Consultant is able to gain insight into many aspects of the provision of RE and collective worship in Kirklees. This knowledge has been included in this report. Detailed analysis of public examination results is also included.

Meetings of SACRE

There were four meetings of SACRE during the year 2015-2016. The meetings were held on the following dates and the minutes are included in Appendix 1: 17th September 2015, 18th November 2015, 16th March 2016 and 23rd June 2016. A full programme has been arranged for 2016-2017 with meetings scheduled for 11th October 2016, 14th December 2016, 23rd March 2017 and 4th July 2017. Venues will be published once these have been confirmed. Any subcommittee or working group arrangements will be published as appropriate.

In addition, a joint SACRE conference with Calderdale and Leeds has been arranged for 26 September 2016. This will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Boar Lane, in the centre of Leeds from 6.00 until 8.00 pm. Members of Bradford SACRE have also been invited. It is intended that this meeting may help to develop further partnership in West Yorkshire.

Membership

SACRE membership includes representatives from all four constituent committees.

Committee A	Faiths and denominations except Anglicans
Committee B	The Church of England
Committee C	Teachers and schools
Committee D	Kirklees Council

A full list of members is included in Appendix 2.

Events and Developments

During 2015-2016 the principle goal of SACRE has been to continue to embed the revised syllabus and non-statutory units of work. This has also included a revision of the units of work in line with the new GCSE specifications and editing assessment opportunities in line with life without levels. SACRE does not provide other training but recognises and encourages the comprehensive provision of training and support through Kirklees Learning Services. It has also funded and supported specific events from time to time. Details of the provision for training and support are in Appendix 4.

Kirklees Learning Service also provides separate network meetings for teachers of RE at primary and secondary level. These are held each term and are part of the Kirklees Network Package.

Some priorities for 2015-2016 included:

- Editing and revising the units of work to provide for effective RE planning at all key stages.
- Developing partnership working with Calderdale and other neighbouring SACREs

A more detailed explanation of the work carried out this year is included later on in the report.

Financial support

Kirklees SACRE has a budget of £15,000 a year provided by Kirklees Council as part of its statutory duties. Most of this budget funds RE training and consultancy and other statutory roles. As part of the local agreed syllabus the sale of the units of work has increased the budget that SACRE can use to support RE. This will be discussed as part of the work plan for SACRE in 2016 -17. The budget for 2015-2016 remains as £15000 for the fifth successive year, though SACRE will share additional income from schools' subscriptions to the units of work.

During 2015 -16 the RE advisors, Alastair Ross and Ian Ross, are contracted to support SACRE and are funded by Kirklees Council. They are also contracted to deliver training in RE and other areas through Kirklees Learning Services. The total amount of time allocated for SACRE and other related areas of RE is 40 days a year.

Partners, Support and advice

SACRE is grateful for the expertise of its members. Teacher and governor representatives continue to advise on the needs and progress of schools.

SACRE receives advice and information from a number of sources including: Kirklees MBC. NATRE (National Association of Teachers of RE), NASACRE (National Association of SACREs), The RE Council of England and Wales, Culham St Gabriel's.

There were no formal complaints registered to SACRE throughout the academic year.

The future of SACREs

The future of SACREs is under serious question. The HMI for RE and the Director of Culham St Gabriel's have together argued for the removal of the SACRE system. They have called for their replacement by a new national structure. This is an important debate though any substitute for SACREs would need to be carefully thought through.

In the summer of 2015, a pamphlet was produced by Charles Clarke, former Secretary of State and Linda Woodhead, Professor of Sociology of Religion at the University of Lancaster. The pamphlet, *A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools* arose from research and debate carried out by the Westminster Faith Debates (founded by Mr Clarke and Professor Woodhead) and the Religion and Society Research programme which gave rise to them. Both were supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, and Lancaster University.

The pamphlet has no formal authority but will be influential as a call for changes in the direction of RE.

Its principle recommendations are:

- An end to compulsory collective worship;
- A new national RE syllabus determined by the Secretary of State;
- The government should consider making this syllabus compulsory for all schools;
- SACREs' role to be limited to participation in consultation and support for implementation
- A more robust system of inspecting RE;
- Continuation of faith schools but modifications to admissions and possible removal of separate inspection regime

SACRE discussed the implications of this report in terms of the future of RE, collective worship and the role of SACRE. A joint meeting was held with Calderdale SACRE and a response to the recommendations was made to the report. This was forwarded to NATRE and the RE Council for consideration in the consultation process.

Part 2: Provision of Religious Education

The Local RE syllabus

The Agreed Syllabus for Kirklees was revised during 2013 - 14 with an entirely new syllabus created to reflect national priorities and local needs. It was jointly produced and funded with Calderdale and also the Anglican Diocese of Wakefield. A joint steering group helped to guide this process. A scheme of work with over 50 units has been written to support the delivery of the syllabus and approximately 90% of schools now have access to these across Kirklees.

To achieve a broad and balanced curriculum, the syllabus is built around three aims. RE should ensure that all pupils:

- A. Investigate the beliefs and practices of religions and other world views (Religious Studies);
- B. Investigate how religions and other world views address questions of meaning, purpose and value (Philosophy);
- C. Investigate how religions and other world views influence morality, identity and diversity (Ethics and Community Cohesion).

To fulfil these aims, teaching and learning should be focused around rigorous investigation of key questions, an 'enquiry model'. Questions for enquiry should be contemporary, relevant and engaging. Study of religious and non-religious approaches to life can help to equip young people to explore personal questions of meaning and to engage with profound issues and contemporary questions that face our communities now and in the future.

The law requires all schools to teach about Christianity and another five world faiths: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. However, there is enormous diversity within these traditions and this should be recognised in curriculum planning. The syllabus also encourages schools to study faiths and traditions not included in the six world religions defined in guidance. Schools have discretion in this and should reflect the community and context within which they work.

Teaching should explicitly include study of both religious and other world views at every key stage. This recognises that one of RE's most important contributions to education is enabling all learners to explore questions of meaning, purpose and value. This is important from a perspective of faith or non-religious understanding and recognises that most people do not adhere to formal religious structures.

Resources

The syllabus is supported by an extensive range of units of work for use by teachers. These are housed in the West Yorkshire RE Resources Hub shared by Leeds, Kirklees and Calderdale.

The Hub also contains a range of other support materials including:

- Anthology of religious stories
- Faiths background information
- Governors' guidance
- Ofsted guidance
- RE Council national framework
- RE policy template

The units of work are non-statutory and schools are free to use, adapt or change these in line with their local needs and the requirements of the syllabus. Indeed, schools are encouraged to devise their own curriculum reflecting their circumstances, resources and priorities. About 400 schools in West Yorkshire and beyond now subscribe to the Hub.

During the year members of SACRE quality assured a selection of the primary units and found them to be of good quality, with one exception that has now been revised.

All units at KS1-2 have also been revised with information about learning outside the classroom and to include new assessment criteria that does not depend on level descriptors.

In the last few years a number of factors have put pressure on RE at KS3. These include a substantial number of schools implementing a two-year KS3 and a new GCSE specification making it important to prepare students with knowledge and skills in a different way.

In the light of these changes new exemplar units have been prepared for schools and the resources offer an alternative pathway for schools to follow at KS3. These units of work have been prepared by teachers in Leeds, Kirklees and Calderdale and supervised by the RE consultant. The new units of work are:

- 7.6 How do the Five Pillars guide Muslims?
- 8.6 Was the universe created by God?
- 8.7 How do beliefs grapple with evil and suffering?
- 9.6 Can religion cause or cure extremism?
- 9.7 How do beliefs make a difference to caring for the environment?

The new units offer an alternative pathway using these units of study. This does not change the statutory requirements of the syllabus; it is simply an alternative way of fulfilling the requirements while also recognising the different scenarios faced by schools. This pathway enables schools to fulfil the requirements by focusing on Religious Studies in Y7, Philosophy in Y8 and Ethics and Community in Y9. In reality, because the units do not purely cover one of these areas, students study Religion, Philosophy and Ethics throughout KS3, but the focus and emphasis is different in each year group. It also means that where schools start GCSE in Y9, they can cover the ethical issues within the GCSE, though in this case, schools must take care to ensure robust coverage of community cohesion and tolerance of diversity.

Visits and visitors

As an integral part of learning, pupils should be given the opportunity to engage with people and communities of faith within school or through visits outside school. This is often a difficult practical issue for schools. To assist, a directory of contacts was prepared and issued during the year. This list is provided to help schools to make contact with faith communities and so enrich students' religious education and, more widely, enhance awareness, understanding and tolerance of religious diversity in our region.

It includes individuals who are willing to come into schools to support RE and to bring some direct engagement with faith communities. It also includes some general information about places and organisations. The list covers Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds. The list can only be as good as the information offered and received. Additions and suggestions are welcomed from schools, faith communities and individuals.

It is clear that the purpose of visits is to support the education of young people, not in any way to persuade or proselytise. However, direct engagement with people of faith will enliven and inspire pupils' thinking so they can make their own judgments and develop their own understanding. Useful guidance has been published by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE), 'Religious Believers Visiting Schools: guide and code of conduct' (2013).

Although due care was taken to check that individuals and organisations are appropriate and bona fide, it is neither apt nor possible for SACRE or the Council to conduct safeguarding or quality assurance checks in a comprehensive way. It is the responsibility of individual schools to undertake normal safeguarding and quality assurance procedures for themselves.

RE Quality Mark

This report also notes continuing positive developments in RE. The RE Quality Mark (REQM) has been developed to celebrate high quality religious education, providing community schools, church schools and academies with a framework to capture good practice. It encourages the development and celebration of school wide commitment to excellent teaching and learning in religious education. There are three award levels: bronze, silver and gold. After applying for the REQM an assessor will visit the school, interview learners and meet the subject leader and a member of the senior leadership team. SACRE wishes to encourage schools to enter for the REQM and wants to make the achievement of the REQM in schools a priority for the next year. Kirklees SACRE would like to congratulate Lindley CE Infant School, Spring Grove Junior Infant and Nursery School, Norristhorpe Junior and Infant School and Newsome High School for their achievement and attainment of the RE Quality Mark.

Public examination results

The National Picture

The number of pupils in England and Wales taking the GCSE Religious Studies full course is at its highest since 2002. There were 284,057 entries, up 0.1% on figures for 2015. This increase is particularly impressive given an overall fall in full course GCSE entries across all subjects of 0.5%. Overall 47% of Y11 students in 2016 took GCSE RS Full Course.

The increase in entries for Religious Studies has been achieved despite the subject having been excluded from the EBacc performance measure. This means that the increase in entries has been due to the popularity of the subject with pupils and the desirability of the qualification, rather than as the response to incentives created by government policy.

The increase in entries for the full course GCSE parallels the increase in A level entries, released recently, which are up by 6.8% this year compared with 2015.

However, there has been a drop in the number of entries for the short course GCSE in Religious Studies. There were 22.9% fewer entries in England for the short course GCSE in RS than there were in 2015. This represents a continuation of a steep decline in entries for the short course, down from 254,698 in 2010 to just 53,093 in 2016. This drop is due to Department for Education performance tables, which no longer take account of results in short courses. The short course is delivered at GCSE standard but covers half the content of a full course and is therefore worth half a GCSE. Changes in entries for short courses have a disproportionately significant impact on RS than on other subjects: almost two thirds of all short course GCSEs taken in England and Wales are in RS.

The key outcomes for Religious Education in England and Wales at KS4 in 2016 are as follows:

There were 284,057 entries for the full course in GCSE RS, a rise of 0.1% from 2015 (283,756)

There were 71,299 entries for the short course in GCSE RS, a decline of 17.7% from 2015 (86,679)

There were 355,356 entries for GCSE RS (combined short and full courses), a decline of 4.1% from 2015 (370,435)

In 2014 there were 1,197 schools making no entries for any RS qualification; a rise from 268 in 2010. This echoes research by NATRE (published in January 2016) that found that 30% of community schools and 40% of academies without a religious character are still failing to meet their legal or contractual agreements to provide religious education for this key age group.

29.2% of entries for the full course in GCSE RS were awarded an A or an A*

19.2% of entries for the short course in GCSE RS were awarded an A or an A*

Comment from Rudolf Elliott Lockhart, Chief Executive, Religious Education Council of England and Wales (REC):

“While it is fantastic to see increasing numbers of students opting to take the full course GCSE in Religious Studies, a reflection of the attraction of an academically rigorous subject that helps prepare students to understand an increasingly diverse modern world, we should not ignore the troubling news that declining entries for the short course mean that more than 100,000 fewer young people have studied the subject at GCSE level this year than in 2010. It is dangerous for there to be increasing numbers of young people missing the opportunity to develop their understanding of the full diversity of faiths and beliefs. More than ever, as our society becomes increasingly multicultural and religious extremism continues to dominate the news agenda, we need young people to be religiously literate. We need them to become skilled intercultural navigators, and good Religious Education is a key part of that.”

There was no local data to analyse at the time of this report being finalised. The data in appendix 3 is historical data.

Fundamental British Values Health Checks

As part of the contracted services of Pennine Learning within Kirklees Learning Services, schools were offered a half day visit to carry out a health check in how they are promoting fundamental British Values. This half day visit included a review of the RE Curriculum, including examining the long term plans for RE, the patterns of collective worship in school, an interview with children regarding what they understood about the fundamental values and a discussion with senior members of staff.

Staff training has been offered on SMSC and fundamental British values and has been delivered to well over 1000 staff and governors in Kirklees and Calderdale.

Overall the questions in the review include:

- Is your curriculum broad and balanced? Does it include teaching about democratic values?
- How do you promote knowledge, understanding and tolerance of different faiths and cultures?
- How effectively do you challenge prejudice and promote equality and respect?
- What are your school's values and ethos? How do you communicate and nurture these?
- Are governors, school leaders and staff trained in and fully committed to SMSC and the promotion of democratic values?
- How well do you safeguard pupils from extremism and radicalisation?

The review emphasised the key role of RE in promoting understanding of faiths and tolerance of diversity. Some schools did this admirably; others needed to ensure the provision was robust.

Conclusion

Although we continue to face uncertainty, there is reason for optimism about the importance and role of RE in Kirklees. The rich diversity of culture, tradition and faith in our communities is an asset to be celebrated and only emphasises the need for imaginative and

constructive religious education. But there is no room for complacency. The commitment of schools to support and encourage RE is critical to nurturing a generation of young people who know, understand and respect diversity and can explore the meaning, purpose and value of their own lives. Kirklees SACRE, supported by the local authority, will do all it can to help teachers, governors and students in this task.

Part 3: Collective worship

The Law and Guidance

During the year updated and clarified guidance on collective worship was drafted and will be approved by SACRE in 2016 -17 .This guidance is provided to support schools in fulfilling statutory obligations and promoting good SMSC development. It applies to maintained schools within Kirklees. It does not apply to schools with a religious character which may have guidance from dioceses or other bodies. It does not apply to academies or free schools, where arrangements are governed by the trust deed or funding agreement. However, the basic legal requirements apply to all schools and this guidance may be useful in conjunction with any issued by other authorities.

The current law is determined by the Education Reform Act 1988, with some requirements deriving from the Education Regulations 1981. In summary the law says this:

- All pupils must attend a daily act of collective worship, except for sixth formers who are allowed to decide for themselves whether to attend;
- The legal framework outlined here applies to maintained LA schools. In schools with a religious character collective worship is governed by the trust deed. Arrangements in free schools and academies is determined by the funding agreement.
- There is no need for an act of collective worship to include the whole school all at once. It may be through year groups, classes, key stages or in any combination.
- It may take place at any time during the school day and should normally be on school premises.
- It must be appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of pupils.
- Responsibility lies with the head and governors, though the precise duties may vary according to the type of school.
- Details of arrangements for collective worship, including the policy, must be documented and available to the public.

The 1988 Education Act required collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. This allows schools to focus on some broad, universal and important themes, common to world faiths and non-religious world views: compassion, forgiveness, generosity. It also allows schools to remember specific festivals or stories from Christianity and all world faiths, as well as secular perspectives.

Determinations

A determination may be authorised by SACRE to maintained schools which have a distinctive non-Christian religious make up. These schools must make provision for any minorities but a determination should not mean that there are separate acts of collective worship. This would negate the description 'collective'. A determination should be renewed every five years. Free schools and academies need to apply to the Education Funding Agency rather than to SACRE. During the year the RE Consultant has visited all schools with a determination in Kirklees. All but one school have decided not to renew their determinations, and this school have agreed to an annual monitoring visit.

The purpose and nature of collective worship

During the year, SACRE discussed the purpose and nature of collective worship. At national level, recent reports have suggested that compulsory collective worship should be abolished. Kirklees SACRE believes that collective worship is an important part of every day school life and that their response to the 'New Settlement' report included the statement – 'Collective worship in variety of formats can be a valuable experience and any legislation abolishing requirement would undermine its continuation.'

Support and Monitoring

During the year schools were offered a visit to support collective worship through a visit to an assembly and a review of school policy and practice. It was offered to all schools in Kirklees (including academies and free schools) and was available for up to ten schools. The RE Consultant visited all schools with a determination, though no other schools requested collective worship monitoring as part of the offer.

Complaints

There were no complaints made during the year to SACRE about Collective Worship.

Part 4: Summary of achievements and priorities

Achievements and good practice during 2015 - 16

These include:

To support the professional development of RE teachers in Kirklees.

- Sensitivity to faith guidance written entitled 'Flourishing together in Kirklees' and rolled out to all schools.
- Network meetings held each term for both primary and secondary teachers, RE Coordinators course in Oct 15, RE Teaching and Learning Course Nov 15
- Assessment course June 2016
- Two RE/SMSC days for teacher trainees on SCITT
- Workshop on faith sensitivity complete and delivered in a couple of schools and to all careers staff in Kirklees and Calderdale.
- Teach Meet started but lacking impetus at the moment

To review and revise resources on RE Hub.

- New units for KS3 written to tie in with GCSE specifications.
- Primary units have a learning outside the classroom update.
- Amended all the primary units to look at assessment without levels

To monitor and support RE in Kirklees.

- Staff training on SMSC and British Values in approx 20 schools and also a half day course covering at least 400 staff.
- Briefings to heads and senior leaders.
- Health check developed and carried out in 10 Kirklees schools.
- Updated SMSC and British Values audits and made available to all schools.

To support the professional development of SACRE members.

- Training on SMSC and Fundamental British Values

- Standing item on SACRE agenda for training and understanding the work of various faith centres/ beliefs of members.
- Joint SACRE meeting with Calderdale once a year and a meeting of West Yorkshire SACREs once a year.

Priorities for 2016 -17

To support the professional development of RE teachers in Kirklees.

- Termly networks for primary and Secondary, Primary coordinator course, Teaching and learning strategies and subject knowledge through British Values.
- Developing the West Yorkshire RE Hub (WYRE) for nurturing the skills and knowledge of subject leaders. Since the period of this report, Culham St Gabriel's have given a grant of £2000 to this project which also involves Bradford, Leeds and Calderdale.
- Supporting hub bid to develop leading teachers and coordinators of RE.

To support the development of collective worship within schools

- Write and agree guidance for all schools. Provide a training session on planning inclusive collective worship

To support the professional development of SACRE members

- Continue to meet in a variety of faith centres to develop understanding of the faith and activities in localities.
- PREVENT strategy training
- Agreeing code of conduct for SACRE members.

To monitor and support RE in Kirklees

- Through Kirklees Learning Services making available reviews of RE and fundamental values in up to ten primary schools.

To develop collaboration between SACREs in West Yorkshire

Appendix 1 – Minutes of Meetings

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES OF SACRE MEETING

Held at new The Al Hikmah Centre, Track Road, Batley 17th September 2015, beginning at 5:30pm

Minutes taken by Ian Ross

Status Agreed

Members

Committee A

Representing Other Denominations and Faith Groups

Suzanne Bridges (Methodist)
Christine Deihim (Baha'is)
Ayub Bismillah (Muslim)
Fatima Mamaniyat (Muslim)
Afzal Valimilla (Muslim)
Lukman Patel (Mulsim)

Committee B

Representing the Church of England

Fiona Beevers (Observing)
Gill Johnson
Emma Stone

Committee C

Representing teachers

Helen Boutle (chair)
Mehrun Mohamed
Douglas Rice-Bowen
Janice Leam

Committee D

Representing Kirklees Council

Andrew Marchington

In attendance

Alastair Ross
Emma Salter

	Action
<p>Apologies and Welcome HB chaired the meeting and round of introductions were made. A welcome was extended to Afzal and Douglas who are new to SACRE. In attendance also was Fiona Beevers from the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales. Apologies were received from David Amdurer, Councillor Dad, Councillor Simon Alvy, Carol Waters and Anita Raggett.</p>	A review of membership is due at the next meeting
<p>Minutes of the previous meeting – SACRE AGM 8th June 2015 These were agreed as a true record by Helen Boutle and Emma Salter.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising and AOB Emma Stone requested that members of SACRE find out what is happening with faith visits through KFF. Some schools have tried to book visits and couldn't apply and some had been cancelled.</p>	AR and AM to investigate.
<p>A presentation on the work of the Al Hikmah Centre and Hajj AB presented to SACRE the work of IMWS at the Al Hikmah Centre. He then went on with a presentation about Hajj and Eid ul Adha. Members were encouraged to ask questions throughout and AB was thanked for the presentation.</p>	
<p>The SACRE work plan AR presented an update on the work plan. Emma Salter explained that Culham St Gabriel's are supporting Masters level training with Huddersfield University on the 3forRE scheme. AR asked SACRE for ideas for collaborative working across SACREs in West Yorkshire. Members suggested a number of ideas including a conference for teachers and a teach meet type event learning from each other.</p>	AR and IR to discuss with other SACREs how to proceed with this.
<p>A 'New Settlement' Report IR introduced some of the recommendations of the report previously sent to members. A discussion was held amongst members about responding to this report. Members were encouraged to either respond individually through NATRE and NASACRE or they could attend a meeting hosted by Calderdale SACRE on the 12th October 6pm at the Shay Stadium.</p>	IR to send invites to members,
<p>Draft Annual Report IR explained that he had started the draft annual report and once the data for GCSE and A Levels has been analysed the final draft would be presented at the November meeting.</p>	
<p>Supporting RE in Kirklees AR led the meeting through some ideas for continuing to support good quality RE in Kirklees through REQM and a teachers' conference.</p>	
<p>The Publicity Group This group has not met since the last meeting. IR explained that this group might</p>	

wish to work with Calderdale SACRE in developing a website of student you tube clips explaining their own faith. This project could be useful for a KS5 media studies unit.	
Dates of next meetings 18 th November (17:30) Guru Nanak Gurdwara 15 th March (17:30) Possible joint meeting with Calderdale 23 rd June (17:30) Quaker Meeting House	IR to confirm IR to confirm AR to confirm

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES OF SACRE MEETING

Held at new North Road Baptist Church, Huddersfield on Wednesday 18th November starting at
5:30pm

Minutes taken by Ian Ross

Status Agreed

Members**Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations and Faith Groups Suzanne Bridges (Methodist)
Christine Deihim (Baha'is)
Wayne Clarke (Baptist)

Committee B

Representing the Church of England Fiona Beevers (Substitute for G Johnson)

Committee C

Representing teachers Janice Leam
Carol Waters

Committee D

Representing Kirklees Council Andrew Marchington
Simon Alvy

In attendance Alastair Ross
Emma Salter

	Action
<p>Apologies and Welcome CW welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from David Amdurer, Councillor Dad, Mehrun Mohamed, Luqman Patel, Gill Johnson, Fatima Mamaniyat, Emma Stone, Anita Raggett, Helen Boutle, Afzal Valimilla, Ayub Bismillah and Doug Rice-Bowen</p>	
<p>Minutes of the previous meeting – 17th September 2015 These were agreed as a true record by Christine Deihim and Emma Salter.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising and AOB AR drew members' attention to the minute about Kirklees Faith Forum and school visits. There is still a mixed picture coming from schools, where some schools have been able to book visits and others have had to either cancel or not received any call back. It was decided that SACRE might need to investigate this further as we believe that faith visits and faith visitors adds to high quality RE provision in schools. Agreed that next steps should be: CW to contact other members of the KFF board to discuss what is happening IR/AR to invite Bishop Jonathan (Bishop of Huddersfield) and Kim Strickman (Communities Division) to the next SACRE meeting to have a round table discussion about faith visits.</p>	<p>CW to contact KFF board members</p> <p>IR/AR to invite guests to round table discussion</p>
<p>A presentation on the work of New North Road Baptist Church WC took members on a tour of the church and presented key features of a Baptist Church including the baptistery. Members asked questions about the congregation and outreach work of the church.</p>	
<p>SACRE Membership and Safeguarding IR presented the details of which members of SACRE had not attended for at least three consecutive meetings. As part of the constitution of SACRE an individual shall also cease to be a member after three consecutive absences without an acceptable reason or if their actions indicate that they no longer subscribe to the view that RE and collective worship are important to the life of the school. It was agreed that IR will write to the members concerned explaining that they have been removed from the SACRE list and request other representation from organisations. AR explained that there had been a safeguarding issue with a member of another SACRE and although SACRE cannot insist on a DBS check for members' nominations from organisations should also contain a 'reference' to ensure they are an appropriate representative A policy statement on the role of members in collective worship monitoring etc. should be prepared and used as part of induction and reviewed annually.</p>	<p>IR to write to non-attending members</p> <p>AR /IR to write to organisations seeking new representation including a declaration of interest.</p> <p>IR/AR to write policy statement</p>

<p>On a related note AR asked SACRE if they would like a briefing about PREVENT and how this relates to RE. JL proposed and SB seconded that AR present to the next meeting on the role of RE in developing community cohesion and how this relates to the Prevent strategy.</p>	<p>AR to present at next meeting</p>
<p>The SACRE work plan AR presented an update on the work plan. Key developments since the last meeting include the commissioning of new units of RE that could be used for special needs students/ schools. There will also be new units of work commissioned to support community cohesion for KS2 and KS3. We will need to review the KS3 units in light of the new GCSE specifications as some schools start GCSE in Y9.</p> <p>As part of the British Values Health check offered to schools this year AR has been able to visit 4 secondary schools and 1 primary school. Part of this health check is to examine the provision for RE in school. The biggest issue for secondary schools is the time allocated for RE at KS3 and 4 as the new GCSE specifications require about 2 hours of RE a week to cover all the requirements. There will be a meeting of the chairs of Leeds, Calderdale and Kirklees SACREs to plan for professional development across the local authorities, both for teachers and SACRE members.</p>	
<p>Draft Annual Report The draft annual report was presented to members. Unfortunately there have been changes in how data for GCSE and A Level is analysed by local authorities, this means that the analysis of results has not been started. If the data management system is not in place before the final publication of the report, we will need to explain why that has not been completed.</p> <p>AM and SA suggested that the report is presented to Cllr Pandor as Education portfolio holder.</p>	<p>IR to continue to pursue the data from the local authority.</p>
<p>GCSE Entries AR has gathered some information about the provision for RE GCSE through informal discussions. Although the picture is varied, it appears more schools are entering students for full course GCSE this year. This is in line with the national picture of 44% of students being entered for GCSE. This appears to be on an upward trend.</p>	
<p>The Publicity Group This group has not met since the last meeting.</p>	
<p>Dates of next meetings 15th March (17:30) Possible joint meeting with Calderdale 23rd June (17:30) Quaker Meeting House</p>	<p>IR to confirm AR to confirm</p>
<p>The meeting closed at 7:15pm CW thanked Wayne for hosting us and for the interesting tour of the church.</p>	

CALDERDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL AND KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CALDERDALE & KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Minutes of SACRE Meeting

Tuesday 16 March 2016, 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm at Rastrick High School

Calderdale Members in attendance:

Committee A

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Dr John Hargreaves (JAH) Dr Fiaz Farooq (FF) Mr Richard Constantine (RC)
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Committee B

Representing the Church of England	Rev John Hellewell (JH) Rev Gill Johnson (GJ)
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Committee C

Secondary Teachers/Unions	Mr Mark Stephenson (MS) Ms Shelagh Hirst (SH)
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Committee D

Representing Calderdale Council	Cllr Peter Caffrey (PC) (Late)
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In attendance

Mrs Debby Simpson – Clerk for Calderdale(DS)
Mr Ian Ross – Clerk for Kirklees (IR)
Mr Alastair Ross (AR)
Bishop Jonathan Gibbs (JG)

Quorum for the meeting is 1 representative from each of the 4 Committees

Kirklees Members in attendance:

Committee A

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Christine Deihim (Baha'is) (CD) Ayub Bismillah (Muslim) (AB)
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Committee B

Representing the Church of England	Rev Gill Johnson (GJ)
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Committee C

Teachers

Janice Leam (JL)
 Mehrun Mohamed (MM)
 Helen Boutle (HB)
 Carol Waters (CW)

Committee D

Representing Kirklees Council

In attendance

Dr Emma Salter
 Mr Ian Ross –
 Mr Alastair Ross (AR)

1. Apologies and Welcome

It was agreed that JH would Chair the joint meeting. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Calderdale Apologies: Rachel Amdurer, John Butterfield,, Anne Linehan, Dot Foster, Dermot Bolton

Kirklees Apologies: Simon Alvy, Wayne Clarke, Suzanne Bridges, Anita Raggett, Fatima Mamaniyat,

2. Minutes of Calderdale Meeting (23/11/15) and Matters Arising and Minutes of Kirklees Meeting (18/11/15) and Matters Arising

Calderdale: Due to no Council representation the meeting wasn't quorate at this point and it was agreed that the minutes be taken to the next meeting being held in June 2016.

Kirklees: Agreed as a true record by C Deihim and J Leam. Matters arising will be discussed under the agreed agenda.

3 Discussion and agreement of a determination for Kirklees SACRE

Pentland Infant and Nursery School would like to renew their determination for collective worship. MM asked why a school would need a determination nowadays in light of most schools having inclusive assemblies for all. AR explained the background to the application. A discussion was held.

CW proposed that the determination be agreed. JL seconded. All agreed.

IR/ AR will write to the school to explain next steps including regular monitoring.

4. **Update on Syllabus and Units of Work**

The syllabus was now 2 years old and was now in need of revision, especially in light of the new KS3 curriculum work that needed to dovetail with the new syllabus. Calderdale and Kirklees had done the syllabus together, however, Leeds City Council's syllabus was also in line with the Calderdale and Kirklees Syllabus and it was thought that they would be able to input into any updates.

The Special Needs Units for special schools were due to go on-line onto the hub in September 2016.

Although there were slight amendments to the assessment part of the units in order to fit into the life without levels descriptors, these were minimal due to this already being considered when the Units were first produced. The Units now needed to broaden, deepen and widen the curriculum for age related expectation before a pupil can move onto the next year group.

IR gave members a sample of the work and said that there was currently a working party looking at this consisting of teachers from 3 Kirklees schools and 1 from Calderdale. They were hoping to finish by September.

Councillor Caffrey from Calderdale arrived for the meeting at this point.

5. **Enhancing RE through Faith Visits and Visitors – A Discussion with Bishop Jonathan**

Bishop Jonathan (JG) introduced himself and gave a brief description of his role and position within Education.

He informed members that the Faith Forum in Kirklees was already looking at visits to places of worship, however, this needed enhancing throughout Calderdale and Kirklees. He felt that the work SACRE does at the moment was more important than it had ever been.

JH said that links with other bodies and the LA's was very important and both SACRE's were now looking at ways to encourage fruitful relationships with all parties concerned.

Members discussed their various experiences of visits that had already taken place. Some of the main points that arose were:-

- There was a lot of power in visiting different establishments.
- Engaging with people and place focus was always good.
- In order to progress community cohesion and religious literacy was needed.
- It was felt that in a place of worship there were trained people on hand who could speak about what they were doing.
- Links needed to be made with places of worship that wasn't just a tourist thing but an engagement.

- The Interfaith Council in Calderdale was not the same as the Faith Forum in Kirklees and members had a good working relationship with the Interfaith Council but did not have the crossover as there was an issue of personnel.
- Members of Kirklees SACRE were meeting with their LA next week to discuss some of these issues.
- The barriers to the success of this were money, transport, trained personnel, schools' not knowing where to go.
- School staff needed confidence in anyone they were inviting into their school.
- Could possibly look at being more creative with visits, looking at cross curricular activities in a place of worship. For example a visit to a place of worship could look at history (within the building), geography (the geographical area of the building), Art etc.
- There is potential educational richness in educational visits.
- Possibly looking at the working party that was looking at Unit of Works input into developing something for one day.
- It was a big ask for places of worship to be asked to open their buildings for a day and could incur cost, however, the Halifax Minster and Cathedrals do have broader roles to play in this.
- Can a platform be created to adapt and share resources.
- The issue of whole class/school involvement needs to be looked at, as not all pupils are always allowed to go. Suggestions to overcome this issue were, presentations of successful journeys where schools had overcome this, inviting parents in to look at what you are doing regarding this.
- AR will be attending a meeting next week to look at the current list of people who can go into schools in order to look at the protocol for this.

The following actions were agreed:

Lists of visitors be created – cross border.

JG to give a brief across all schools.

Better links to be created within Calderdale and Kirklees Council as well as the Interfaith Council in Calderdale and Faith Forum in Kirklees. JH to contact Rev Hilary Barber from the Halifax Minster.

Question and Answers be created both locally and Nationally – AR to speak to Mark Chater with regard to the videos from Culham St Gabriels and West Hill.

6. Joint RE Conference and Training for SACRE Members

This was explained as a joint conference and training opportunity for SACRE members.

It was hoped that this would be held on 26 September 2016 from 6.00 pm – 9.00 and include members from Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds SACRE.

Discussion took place on what the outcome of this would be. It was agreed that this would be enriching RE in our schools and would be aimed at SACRE members. A development plan would need to be produced in order to provide quality RE. It would be a mix with both local and regional expertise.

It was noted that boundary changes need to be taken into consideration for any plans made.

The next steps were for AR to contact a Key Note speaker – possible the Regional Commissioner or Professor Linda Woodhead and Charles Clarke the authors of A New Development.

Look at inviting Bradford SACRE to join in with the conference.

DAS will contact a suitable venue to look at cost etc.

Date of Next Meeting

Calderdale: 22 June 2016 –

Kirklees: 23rd June 2016 – Quaker Meeting House, Paddock

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATIONMINUTES OF SACRE AGM MEETING 23rd June 2016

Held at new Quaker Meeting House, Church Street, Paddock starting at 5:30pm

Minutes taken by Ian Ross

Status Draft

Members**Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations and Faith Groups

Suzanne Bridges (Methodist)
Christine Deihim (Baha'is)
Fatima Mamaniyat (Islam)

Committee B

Representing the Church of England

Anita Raggett
Emma Stone

Committee C

Representing teachers

Janice Leam
Carol Waters
Helen Boutle

Committee D

Representing Kirklees Council

Andrew Marchington

In attendance

Alastair Ross
Emma Salter

Formal AGM Business	Action
<p>Apologies and Welcome AR welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mehrun Mohamed, Helen Boutle, Afzal Valimilla, Ayub Bismillah, Wayne Clarke and Doug Rice-Bowen</p>	
<p>Appointment of Chair Nomination received for Carol Waters Emma Salter proposed, Emma Stone seconded. Carol Waters duly elected as chair of SACRE for 2016 – 17.</p>	
<p>Organisation of Membership It was agreed that if chairs of sub committees are needed they will be appointed at that meeting.</p>	
<p>Election of Vice Chair Nomination for Emma Stone Proposed by Emma Salter, Seconded by Helen Boutle. Emma Stone duly elected as vice chair of SACRE.</p>	
<p>Minutes of the previous meeting – Tuesday 16th March 2016 These were agreed as a true record by and Emma Salter and Christine Deihim.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising Following on from discussions about a joint SACRE / training session for Kirklees, Calderdale and Leeds it was agreed that it could take place in Holy Trinity Church in Leeds as this was very near to the station and easy for all three SACREs to travel to. The meeting will take place on 26th September. AR asked for a steer from SACRE as what they would like to cover in this session. Suggestions included the use of P4C in collective worship, the use of visits and visitors to enhance RE and the future of RE/ SACREs from a national perspective.</p>	AR/ IR will plan the evening after a steer from the 3 chairs.
<p>Report on the work of SACRE 15-16/ Future priorities 2016-17 CW explained that she was filled with excitement re The New Settlement report in September 2015 and that RE was being talked about seriously again. The follow up joint meeting with Calderdale SACRE had been informative and that the New Settlement report should be a focus for our next joint meeting in September 2016. CW led SACRE through the evaluation of the work plan document prepared by AR. A number of training sessions were held including networks for primary staff and secondary subject leaders, Teaching and Learning in RE, being an effective coordinator, assessment in RE. The RE Hub is expanding and new units of work for KS3 have been written and will be online in July 2016. The assessment strategies for all the primary units have also been modified and these will also be online for July. Although no schools have requested support in monitoring of RE, there has been opportunities to visit schools for a British Values Health check which includes a detailed discussion about RE in school. A series of collective worship monitoring has taken place in schools with determinations and one school has applied for a renewal of its determination. Other schools have let this lapse and now provide inclusive collective worship based on Christian values.</p>	AR/ IR to draft a new work plan for 2016 -17 including training opportunities and Hub development.

<p>SACRE training was also discussed and how fundamental British Values are taught in school and the use of the PREVENT strategy.</p> <p>Continuing priorities for the work plan next year will include SACRE members training including PREVENT and Fundamental British Values.</p> <p>Future meetings of SACRE will also include a new standing item on the work of Kirklees Faiths Forum</p>	IR to action new agenda item
<p>Report form the Communication and Publicity Group</p> <p>This group has not met since the last meeting</p>	
<p>Report from NASACRE</p> <p>AR gave a brief report on the last NASACRE meeting in May 2016. A range of discussions were held including the New Settlement Report and the future of SACREs. AR may use this information to present to the 3 SACRE meeting in September where RE is heading towards.</p>	AR to collate discussions to present to 3 SACRE meeting
<p>A briefing on the work of the Quaker Meeting House.</p> <p>AR took SACRE on a walk around the meeting house and answered questions on worship and the beliefs of the Society of Friends.</p>	
<p>Visits and Visitors</p> <p>AR circulated a current list of volunteers and places of worship. This will be sent to schools by the end of June 2016 and requests were made for anybody else who can be added to the list. This will be a point of reference for schools to make own bookings etc and will be updated regularly with responses from schools.</p>	IR to circulate list to schools
<p>Editing the RE Syllabus</p> <p>Minor alterations are needed in the syllabus to ensure non-religious world views are included in KS4 in light of the recent High Court Ruling. AR has already written to schools explaining what needs to take place in KS4.</p> <p>The assessment guidance in the syllabus also needs amending with the new versions of simplified language and widening and deepening learning rather than next year group targets.</p>	AR / IR to make changes and report back to SACRE at next meeting.
<p>Dates of next meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 11th October 5:30pm Lockside Building, Huddersfield University (agenda to include the RE Hub)</p> <p>Wednesday 14th December 5:30pm Diamond Wood Academy, Ravensthorpe (agenda to include the draft annual report and PREVENT training)</p> <p>Thursday 23rd March 5:30pm Dalton St Paul's Church</p> <p>Tuesday 4th July 5:30pm Venue to be confirmed but could be a Masjid or Madrassah in Batley. (AGM and work plan setting)</p>	E Salter to confirm E Stone to confirm S Bridges to confirm F Mamaniyat to confirm
<p>AOB</p> <p>Emma Salter publicised an event being held at the university on a discussion forum regarding Fundamental British Values and exploring practices (13th July)</p> <p>Emma Salter was duly elected to serve as a coopted member of SACRE. This was proposed by Andrew Marchington and seconded by Emma Stone.</p> <p>CW thanked Alastair and the Meeting House for hosting us.</p>	

Appendix 2 - SACRE membership 2015-2016

	No		Exp	Attendance
GROUP A – ALL FAITH GROUPS EXCEPT ANGLICANS				
Roman Catholic Church	1	VACANCY		
Baptist	1	The Rev Wayne Clark	Jun 17	25%
Methodist	1	Suzanne Bridges	Sep 17	75%
United Reformed Church	1	VACANCY		
Baha'i	1	Christine Deihim	Sep-17	100%
Islamic representatives nominated by mosques	4	Afzal Valimilla	Sep 17	25%
		Hashim Sacha	Jul 16	0%
		Lukman Patel	Jul 16	25%
		Ayub Bismillah	Mar-18	50%
Evangelical Churches in Kirklees	1	VACANCY		
Buddhist rep	1	VACANCY		
Hindu rep	1	VACANCY		
Jewish rep	1	• David Amdurer	Jul 16	0%
Sikh rep	1			
Humanist rep	1	Amy Donovan	Mar 17	0%
GROUP B – C OF E				
Church of England (lay & clergy)	5	VACANCY		
		The Rev Gill Johnson	Jun 17	75%
		The Rev Anita Raggett	Mar 17	25%
		Emma Stone	Feb 18	50%
GROUP C – SCHOOLS				
Primary School Head Teacher	1	VACANCY		
Secondary School Head Teacher	1	VACANCY		
Primary Teachers	3	Mehrun Mohammed	Nov 17	50%
		• Helen Boutle	Nov 17	75%
		Fatima Mamaniyat	Mar18	50%
ATL	1	Janice Leam	Jun 17	100%
NUT	1	Carol Walters	Sep 17	75%
Secondary School Teacher	1	Douglas Rice-Bowen	Sep 17	25%
GROUP D – COUNCIL MEMBERS				
Elected Members of Kirklees Council	4	ClIr Nosheen Dad	2015-16	0%
		ClIr Andrew Marchington	2015-16	75%
		ClIr Andrew Palfreeman	2015 -16	0%
		ClIr Simon Alvy	2015-16	25%
CO-OPTED MEMBERS				
Not to exceed 1/4 of members appointed to Group A	4	Dr Emma Salter (Hudds Univ)	2015-16	100%
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS				
		Alastair Ross		100%

- Resigned or retired during the year

Appendix 3 – Examination results

Kirklees Summative Data 13- 15

	National Average	Kirklees Average
2013 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - C	74%	56.6%
2013 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - G	98%	96.4%
2014 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - C	69.6%	64.9%
2014 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - G	97.8%	98.1%
2015 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - C	71.8%	67.9%
2015 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - G	97.9%	98.0%

The reporting on grades at GCSE has now changed to first entry rather than best so there may be a slight decline in the percentage pass rates.

RS GCSE Full Course Gender Comparisons (Kirklees)

	NOE Boys	NOE Girls	A*-C Average Boys	A* - C Average Girls
2011	806	891	62.76%	77.34%
2012	1132	1180	64.32%	72.13%
2013	1279	1276	46.39%	66.61%
2014	1090	1283	56.2%	72.2%
2015	1022	1265	59.4%	74.9%

A level Grades 2015 Kirklees vs National

A Level Grades	A*	A	B	C	D	E	A*-A	A*-C	A*-E
National	5.5%	18.9%	30.1%	25.4%	13.8%	5.1%	24.4%	79.9%	98.9%
Kirklees	1.6%	6.5%	22.6%	32.3%	24.2%	12.9%	8.1%	62.9%	100.0%

RS GCE A Level Gender Comparisons (Kirklees)

	NOE Boys	NOE Girls	A* - B Average Boys	A* - B Average Girls
2011	9	47	66.67%	50%

2012	9	53	65%	53.66%
2013	10	44	30%	31.8%
2014	8	55	12.5%	40.0%
2015	13	49	38.5%	28.5%

Appendix 4

Professional development and consultancy provided by Kirklees Learning Services

Courses during 2015-2016

<u>Training</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
RE Secondary Network	22-Sep-2015	9
RE Primary Network	29-Sep-2015	36
Promoting 'British Values' in your School	08-Oct-2015	17
Don't Panic! How to Lead RE in an Effective and Practical Way	03-Nov-2015	14
Teaching and Learning with the local RE Syllabus Including 20 Practical Activities for Use in the Classroom	20-Nov-2015	15
SMSC & British Values	24-Nov-2015	9
Assessment Beyond Levels for RE How to Plan for Progress using Assessment without Levels	29-Jan-2016	18
RE Primary Network	09-Feb-2016	30
SMSC & British Values	11-Apr-2016	16
RE Primary Network	24-May-2016	25
Religious Education Secondary Network	13-Jun-2016	9
Assessment beyond levels for RE How to plan for progress using assessment without levels	17-Jun-2016	12
How to embed fundamental (British) values in the life and learning of your school	01-Jul-2016	10

Schools were visited by Kirklees Learning Partners for a range of purposes including SMSC training, RE syllabus training. Further training on RE was also provided for ITE trainees on both the primary and secondary SCITT programme.