

Rutland
Standing Advisory Council
For
Religious Education

Annual Report
2011 – 2012



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Introduction to The Report

Rutland SACRE is a statutory body which is central to the resourcing and monitoring of Religious Education in schools in our local area. Its main function as set out in the 1988 Education Act is to advise the Local Authority on matters connected with Collective Worship in community schools and the Religious Education to be given in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus. It also has the duty to require that the Agreed Syllabus be reviewed every five years to keep it relevant and appropriate, and to ensure that schools comply with the legislation.

The SACRE's Annual Report indicates how these functions have been discharged during the year. The report sets out to be a valuable source of wider information about the provision for RE and the standards that students are achieving, about the provision for Collective Worship and about SACRE's own activities. We hope that the report will inform developments in RE and Collective Worship and be an effective engine for school improvement.

Rev Philip Davies
Clerk to SACRE

1) **BACKGROUND**

1.1 The role of SACRE

The 1988 Education Reform Act established the statutory requirement for all LAs to establish a permanent body for Religious Education – The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). The Rutland SACRE is an independent body to advise the Local Education Authority (LA) on matters concerned with the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship.

1.2 The SACRE comprises of four groups:

Group One: Representatives of Christian denominations and other religions, reflecting the principal religious traditions of the county

Group Two: Church of England Representatives

Group Three: Teacher Representatives

Group Four: LA Representatives

Each group has equal status and voting rights.

1.3 The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools / academies/ community colleges through:

- Advice on methods of teaching the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education;
- Advising the LA on the provision of training for teachers;
- Monitoring inspection reports on Religious Education, Collective Worship and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development of pupils;
- Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of Religious Education and Collective Worship referred to SACRE by the LA;
- Asking the LA to review its Agreed Syllabus.
- Contributing to community cohesion.

1.4 The Rutland SACRE meets at least three times each year at different venues within and outside the county. SACRE meetings are open to the general public, who may attend as observers.

2) **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

There is a legislative requirement that an LA should undertake a review of its Agreed Syllabus every 5 years. Since 1997 when Rutland became a unitary authority, Rutland has adopted the Northamptonshire Agreed Syllabus. This is now called "Growing Together" and Rutland County Council agreed to adopt this Syllabus in February 2011.

3) **OfSTED INSPECTION REPORTS 2011-2012**

One Secondary Academy and four Primary Schools in Rutland were inspected by OFSTED during the year 2011-2012. Two of these (English Martyrs` Catholic VA and Oakham CE VC) received a separate inspection for outcomes in relation to their distinctiveness and effectiveness as church schools.

(The quotations below are from each of the schools` OFSTED reports, mainly from the main findings section of the report, and from "The effectiveness of leadership and management" and "Outcomes for individuals and groups of pupils".)

3.1 **Catmose College**

The college received **Outstanding** judgements in all areas. There is no explicit reference in the report to RE. Reference is made in the Leadership and Management section to assemblies and to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education.

"The college provides extensive provision for spiritual, moral, social, cultural and spiritual development. This is reflected in and out of lessons equally. There is a strong sense of a cohesive and caring society which recognises its responsibilities to those in the college and wider communities. Assemblies, tutor groups and all other interaction promote the benefits of reflection and understanding."

3.2 **Oakham CE VC Primary School**

The school received an overall judgement of **Good**.

There is no explicit reference in the report to RE.

Reference is made to the particularly strong social and cultural development of pupils.

"During the assembly an excellent inspection featured a very professional presentation by one of the designated classes that showed the challenging outdoor activities that they had enjoyed during a recent residential school journey. Pupils develop a good understanding of other cultures and customs and the school is a harmonious and cohesive community."

3.3 **English Martyrs Catholic Primary School**

The school received an overall judgement of **Good**.

There is no explicit reference in the report to RE. The report states that

"Pupils` good spiritual, moral, social and cultural contributes to their willingness to appreciate diversity and show tolerance to others."

3.4 Edith Weston Primary School

The school received an overall judgement of **Satisfactory**.

In relation to RE the report states

“Teachers help pupils to learn about other faiths and cultures and this promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.”

The report also mentions how the links with a school in China promote successfully the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

3.5 Cottesmore Primary School

The school received an overall judgement of **Satisfactory**.

A key finding of the report, states that the curriculum successfully promotes pupils` spiritual, social, moral and cultural development and that pupils develop good social skills and keenly take on responsibilities. The report states that in particular pupils` cultural awareness has improved significantly.

“Throughout the school teaching successfully promotes pupils` spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Teachers encourage pupils to cooperate through group work and they ensure that they develop a strong knowledge of different faiths and traditions through topics such as the current ones on India and Europe.”

4) SUMMARY

4.1 Teaching about cultural development increasingly makes a significant contribution to the strengthening of pupils` understanding of other cultures and of world faiths and contributes to their willingness to embrace diversity.

4.2 Insufficient data was available within the normal OFSTED framework, for SACRE to effectively monitor the provision and standards in Religious Education or to monitor provision for Collective Worship.

4.3 A number of schools are making global links to widen pupils` understanding of human development and the expression of faith.

5) **GCSE RESULTS 2008-2012**

5.1 . Thanks to the Heads of RE at the 3 Academies for sending these results.

5.2 (Full Course Results are the top line in bold. Short Course Results are below in brackets).

5.3 In 2012 we note a significant increase in Short Course entries, with UCC also entering a large number of students.

Yr	Number attempting	A* - C Passes	A* - G Passes
2008	48 (180)	92% (74%)	100% (100%)
2009	51 (175)	100% (54%)	100% (100%)
2010	80 (206)	93% (67%)	99% (100%)
2011	36 (169)	83% (72%)	100% (100%)
2012	42 (331)	83% (68%)	98% (98%)

6) **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

6.1 Standards at all key stages are regularly reported to parents in the annual report of each pupil's work at the end of the summer term and during the year at parents' evenings.

7) **LINKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY PRIORITIES.**

7.1 The inspection reports for both S5 and S48 present a sound baseline for the monitoring of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education in Rutland schools and colleges.

7.2 SACRE can respond to the proposed priorities of the LA "Children and Young Peoples Plan". For example, the extent to which the RE Syllabus meets the needs of the community.

7.3 SACRE requested colleges to send in information about teacher assessment of levels at the end of Key Stage Three RE.

8) **COMPLAINTS ABOUT COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

There have been no complaints about Collective Worship made to SACRE by parents.

9) **SACRE MATTERS**

- 9.1 The composition of SACRE remains the same. During the year the Reverend Philip Davies undertook the liaison role with Peterborough Diocese, being clerk and professional RE adviser to SACRE. Mr Don Amphlett was nominated as Chair of SACRE and Mrs Eileen Ray as Vice-Chair. (Gale Waller chaired our Spring meeting). Katherine Towns supported SACRE as LA link officer in the autumn and spring terms. We welcomed Jen Hazell as link officer in the summer term.
- 9.2 SACRE is regularly updated on Rutland's development as a Fair Trade authority and how schools and colleges are working with this initiative.
- 9.3 The Chair wrote a letter on our behalf to the Principals, Chairs of Governors and Heads of RE recommending the NASACRE guidance for Academies reminding them of their statutory requirement to provide RE and recommending the use of "Growing Together", our Locally Agreed Syllabus.
- 9.4 SACRE requested that the LA provide training for all schools and colleges in relation to "Growing Together" and Katherine Towns was able to report on the success of this training at our Spring meeting.

10) **LINKS WITH OTHER BODIES**

- 10.1 Rutland SACRE is actively involved in the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) and has been represented at its meetings and conferences. Philip Davies is a member of the NASACRE Executive Committee.
www.nasacre.org.uk
- 10.2 Rutland LA works closely with both the Anglican and Roman Catholic Diocese and with Northamptonshire's Religious Education Advisory Team in the support of Religious Education teaching in its Church of England, Community and Foundation schools.

11) **SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2013**

SACRE has produced a Development Plan that is the focus of its work for 2010 – 2013. The Development Plan aims to address the following issues over the next three years:

- Identifying common strengths and areas for development in RE.
- Identifying the required professional development for raising standards in RE and providing quality Collective worship.
- Contributing to the priorities of the Local Authority strategic partnership in relation to community cohesion.

12) **RE TRAINING PROGRAMME**

SACRE recommended a programme of training for RE in line with the Locally Agreed Syllabus and led by Lesley Pollard, Northamptonshire RE Adviser; the sessions were extremely well received. Lesley welcomes new RE co-ordinators to join the annual 2 day training programme for new co-ordinators. Philip Davies was chair of the most recent Agreed Syllabus Conference which reviewed the Northamptonshire Syllabus in 2010-11.

SACRE has considered the recommendations of the 2010 OFSTED Report "Transforming RE" and particularly noted the recommendations that local authorities in partnership with their SACREs should

1. Ensure that the work of SACRE and the Agreed Syllabus Conference has good access to subject expertise to enable them to support schools effectively in promoting high quality RE.
2. Ensure that high quality professional development in RE is available to their schools and encourage them to make the most of these opportunities to improve the quality of RE teaching.
3. Ensure that agreed syllabuses and related advice, offer guidance about the systematic use of enquiry skills in RE to enable schools to plan the subject in a more coherent and rigorous way, provide greater clarity about the use of key concepts and the definition of progression in RE, and include guidance to schools about incorporating RE within more innovative and creative approaches to curriculum planning.

13) **SACRE Budget**

SACRE has a small agreed budget. This is allocated for clerking of meetings, the taking up of SACRE business by the clerk, including the production of the annual report and taking forward special projects and to maintain the links with and the support of NASACRE, including sending a delegate to the Annual Conference.

Appendix

SACRE MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE 2011-2012

SACRE has met on the following occasions:
15th November 2011 Brooke Hill Primary School
12th March 2012 Oakham CE VC Primary School
28th June 2012 The Quaker Meeting House Oakham

GROUP ONE – Representatives of other Churches and Faiths			
Name	Representing	Actual attendance	Eligible attendance
Vacancy	The United Reform Church	0	3
Vacancy	The Baptist Church	0	3
Vacancy	Other Faiths	0	3
Mrs E Keogh	The Roman Catholic Church	1	3
Vacancy	The Congregational Fed	0	3
Mrs E Ray	The Methodist Church	1	3
Mr D Amphlett	The Quakers	2	3
GROUP TWO – Church of England Representatives			
Reverend J Saunders	Rutland Deanery	1	3
Reverend P Davies	Peterborough Diocese	3	3
Mrs J Vecqueray	Rutland Deanery	1	3
Rev`d J Widdows	Rutland Deanery	3	3
GROUP THREE – Teacher Representatives			
Mrs A Rogers	Head Teachers Forum	0	3
Vacancy	ATL		
Vacancy	Secondary Consortium		
Vacancy	NUT	0	3
Mrs S Reseigh	Co-opt Learning Assistant	0	3
Vacancy	NAHT	0	3
Mrs S McGrath	NASWT	1	3
Mrs J Gibson	Co-opt Primary Head	1	3
Mrs J South	Co-opt Primary RE	1	3
GROUP FOUR – Local Education Authority Representative			
Mr Nick Wainwright	Rutland County Council	1	3
Miss Gale Waller	Rutland County Council	2	3

Co-opted to SACRE (Representative of British Humanist Association)

Mr Kevan Fryett from June 2012

Rutland LA Officer serving SACRE

Katherine Towns until 1st April 2011 and then Jen Hazell

Clerk and RE Professional Adviser To SACRE

Reverend Philip Davies Peterborough Diocesan Schools Development Officer

