

SOUTHWARK STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL

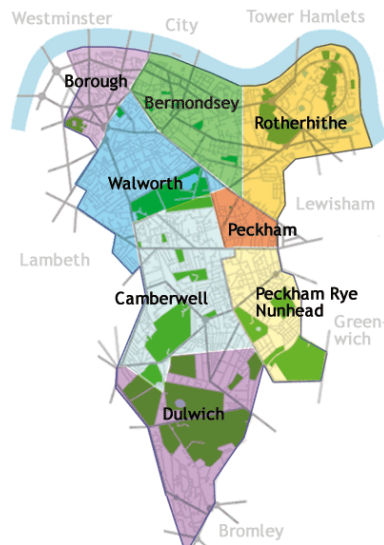
on

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Southwark SACRE)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014



MEMBERSHIP OF SOUTHWARK SACRE: as per the constitution 2014

Committee A Other Christian denominations and other faiths represented in the LA

African-Caribbean Churches	1 Representative vacancy
Baptist Churches	1 Representative
Baha'i	1 Representative vacancy
Buddhism	1 Representative
Hinduism	1 Representative
Islam	2 Representatives
Judaism	1 Representative
Methodist Church	1 Representative
Roman Catholicism	1 Representative
Sikhism	1 Representative vacancy
United Reformed Church	1 Representative
Salvation Army	1 Representative vacancy
British Humanist Association	1 Co-opted
Rastafarian	1 Co-opted (non-voting) vacancy
Greek orthodox	1 Representative vacancy

Committee B The Church of England

Southwark Diocese	3 representatives, 1 vacancy
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Committee C Teachers' Professional Associations, some vacancies

NAHT	1 representative
NASUWT	1 representative,
NUT	2 representatives
SHA	1 representative

Committee D Local Authority Councillors

Elected Members	4 representatives
LA	2 representatives

Consultant Adviser to SACRE (non-voting)

Penny Smith-Orr. (penny.smith-orr@southwark.gov.uk)

The Clerk to SACRE

Benjamin Washington (benjamin.washington@southwark.gov.uk)

Overview

Meetings

In the academic year 2013-2014 Southwark SACRE meetings were arranged for the following occasions;

16th October 2013 Learning and Business Centre Cator Street

28th November 2013 Learning and Business Centre Cator Street

10th March 2014 St Philips Church Hall Avondale Square

30 June 2014 Beormund Primary School

This year two out of four meetings have been quorate. The Clerk to SACRE continues to be Mr Benjamin Washington

Section 1: Standards and Quality of Provision of Religious Education:

Monitoring the teaching of Religious education and of collective Worship in Southwark schools is almost impossible due to the number of Consultant days available. Teachers on the SACRE group report on their own compliance and occasional contact with other schools leads to an impression that RE is being taught in Southwark schools. The Consultant has visited two schools to assist new coordinators to organise their work plan. One RE Coordinators meeting was held during the year with a speaker from the Southwark Artefacts centre and it is clear that many schools are using this service.

The RE Consultant did a presentation at a curriculum conference for Southwark head Teachers in the Autumn term which was well received and resulted in several head teachers corresponding with her asking for further information.

Locally Agreed Syllabus

The Southwark Agreed Syllabus has been in use since September 2005. It was reviewed in 2012 and it was decided that it was fit for purpose. It may be found on the Southwark SACRE Fronter pages and is now on the Southwark Head teacher's website along with a number of resources for teaching religious education.

It is generally recommended that 5% of time is spent on RE in schools either as weekly lessons or blocks of time during a term. Southwark SACRE has little knowledge of levels of compliance regarding the time RE is allocated in schools

Assessment Guidance

Assessment guidance is comprehensively detailed in the current syllabus and stands until such time as there are national changes to the assessment of RE and other curriculum subjects.

Monitoring Standards

GCSE Results: Summer 2014

At the time of writing this report all local and national data for 2014 is still provisional. This year 15 schools entered pupils for the full course GCSE. Southwark pupils continue to achieve well compared to the national figures. A very small number of children were entered by one school for the AS level exam. A larger number of schools entered the A2 part and 100% of students achieved a pass.

Full Course GCSE summary for Southwark Schools and Academies over 4 years

	2014	2013	2012	2011
% A*-C	73%	72.4%	72.2%	69
National % A*-C	71%	73.5	74%	73.2
Number A*-C	1059	-	686	671
%A*-G	98.5%	98.7%	98.3%	98
Number A*-G	1424	-	929	954
Number entered	1446	1455	945	968
National Number entered	282,009	228824	210200	199752

Summary of the AS and A level results for Southwark schools and Academies

<i>AS Level</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>A2 level</i>	<i>2014</i>
<i>Number A*-C</i>	5 (27%)		52 (87%)
<i>%A*-E</i>	94%		100%
<i>%National A*-E</i>	86%		99%
<i>Number entered</i>	18		60

Section 2; Management of SACRE and Partnership with the LA and other key stakeholders.

If a meeting is not quorate then the members have agreed to continue with business which is then ratified at the following quorate meeting. Following on from the previous year there was a further meeting of SACRE where the constitution was discussed again and the question of a Humanist vice Chair was debated, it was decided at the following meeting by the chairman that a Councillor would be better placed to be the vice chair. The local authority was not represented at meetings during this year although SACRE is assured that the RE consultant will continue in place for 12 days per year and that there will be suitable clerking service provided by them. Members were informed about the RE review and responded to it and the All Party parliamentary Group on RE, information on duties of governors regarding RE were sent to all Chairs of Governors. We also had reports from the NASACRE AGM which addressed some ideas for SACREs to implement. At one meeting a short training session took place in the form of a discussion on what outstanding Re would look like in OFSTED terms led by the RE Consultant and Mrs L Mannus a C of E representative and deputy head teacher.

Once again a SACRE event was discussed but was unable to be carried out due to budgetary constraints.

Section 3. The Locally Agreed Syllabus

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Recruitment and Retention

With the increased number of, mainly Secondary, Academies it is difficult to ascertain the level of specialist RE teachers in Southwark schools.

Some Primary co-ordinators have been in post for some time and are very experienced and committed. Most of the Primary co-ordinators are not RE specialists. More and more Primary schools are using classroom assistants to teach RE during PPA time. The only way of monitoring this is through the coordinator meetings.

Methods of teaching, the choice of teaching materials and teacher training:

The RE Consultant was only able to have one coordinator meeting for RE Coordinators to meet each other and to discuss aspects of RE and the local and National picture in the summer term. At the meeting a speaker came from the Southwark Costume and Artefacts Service and it is clear that many schools are using this service. It is hoped that Coordinator meetings will be held more regularly in future once a venue has been found. The RE Consultant visited two schools to discuss the work of the new RE Coordinators.

A course on the RE Quality mark was presented in autumn 2013 and some schools showed interest in applying.

No formal complaints about religious education were received this year.

Section 4. Collective worship

It is almost impossible to monitor the provision of collective worship in Southwark schools. Again the coordinator meetings give some information although the RE coordinators are not usually also the organisers of collective worship. It is known that some schools use outside agencies to provide some of their worship requirements and it is SACRE's hope that the schools are making use of the trained speakers that are listed on the Fronter pages, and the advice and suggestions on collective worship also in these pages.

The SACRE's Determinations procedure is available on the SACRE website. There have been no applications for a determination this year. There have also been no complaints concerning Collective Worship referred to SACRE during this academic year.

Section 5: Contribution of SACRE to promoting cohesion across the community

The SACRE committee is representative of the many faith groups in the local community but has some vacancies and would like to address these. There is no link between the Council equalities department and SACRE.

The RE consultant is a member of the Southwark Diocese Interfaith group and also continues to attend the Southwark Cathedral Education Committee meetings when possible and a comprehensive document outlining the links between the Cathedral trails and the Southwark syllabus is on the website for teachers to access.

Appendix B Circulation List

SACRE members

Diocesan authorities

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Free Church Education Committee

Jamyang Buddhist Centre

Strategic Director of Children's Services

Deputy Director of Children's Services

Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance

Libraries

Southwark Schools

Councillors

National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Southwark Multi Faith Forum

**Southwark SACRE Self Evaluation Autumn 2013 results
Undertaken by RE Consultant**

Key Area Number	Key Area	Developing	Established	Advanced
1A	Compliance and time allocation for RE	x		
1B	Standards and achievement		x	
1C	Quality of teaching and leadership and management	x		
1D	Recruitment and retention issues. Level of specialist provision	x		
1E	Resources		x	
2A	SACRE meetings		x	
2B	Membership and training		x	
2C	Improvement and development planning		x	
2D	Professional and financial support		x	
2E	Information and advice		x	
2F	Partnership with our key stakeholders	x		
3A	Review of Agreed Syllabus		x	
3B	Using the non-statutory National Framework for RE	x		
3C	Developing the revised Agreed Syllabus		x	
3D	Consultation/launch/implementation of the Agreed syllabus	x		
3E	Additional guidance/ monitoring and evaluating the Agreed syllabus	x		
4A	Practice and provision for collective worship	x		
4B	Monitoring collective worship/ tackling issues of non-compliance	x		
5A	Representative nature of SACRE		x	
5B	Knowledge and understanding of the local religious, cultural, ethnic community	x		
5C	Understanding the intrinsic contribution RE can make to social and racial harmony		x	
5D	Links to the LA initiatives promoting social and racial harmony	x		