

# Annual Report 2020-2021

## Sutton Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Sutton SACRE.



## **Chairs Introduction**

Last year's introduction mentioned the difficult period we had gone through. One difference this year is my privilege to be chairing Sutton SACRE at this exciting time.

We are grateful to all concerned for their continued work and commitment. The light of Religious Education may have been dimmed by events, but it has not been extinguished. Its profile is being raised and it is now glowing a little brighter as it moves into the light.

While we have continued to meet virtually, we have made plans. What is exciting is having plans ready to pick up and walk, jog, or run with. We continue to look for new ideas.

My sincere thanks to all members of Sutton SACRE, those who've left and those remaining for your continued service and commitment.

## **Veronica Stone (Chair)**

Sutton SACRE met on three occasions all meetings were held virtually on Google Meet on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

## **Overview of SACRE Meetings**

At the first meeting in November 2020 the Chair, Rev Dave Smith from group A, was re-elected for a further year but told us that he was retiring in July 2021 and would step down. At the meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> a new Chair was elected, Miss Veronica Stone from the Teachers group.

There are several standing items on the Sutton SACRE agenda and monitoring RE is one of them, further details below. We had got a set of pupils trained as Faith Ambassadors and able to go to schools to talk to them about their own faith practices. When Covid19 caused school lockdowns this was unable to continue but during the year the teacher in charge was able to keep interest going by getting the pupils to make presentations within the school.

The NASACRE report on SACRE spending was read and discussed, this has led to a question in the Council meeting and an invitation to come and discuss the budget going forward. There was a report of the NASACRE AGM from the members who had attended it, in the summer term.

The Faith and Belief forum in Sutton is discussed at each meeting with updates from members who belong to both groups.

The RE Consultant reported at each meeting on the networks and courses run and on anything else that has come up. At the November meeting, Bandon Hill Primary school had sent in evidence for the WIRE award from Sutton SACRE, this was judged to be good, and discussions were had as to how to present them with a certificate. Due to the second lockdown the certificate had to be posted along with a letter from the Chair of SACRE.

The OFSTED research review was discussed at the summer meeting and members given a document with the main findings.

At every meeting the SACRE Development plan is updated and checked for progress. See below for a copy of the plan with progress updated. Sutton SACRE has used the self-evaluation tool in the previous year, and this informs the development plan.

During the year the Agreed Syllabus Conference finished working on an updated Sutton Agreed syllabus which had the addition of assessment advice, and this was signed off by SACRE and has been put onto the Sutton Council website.

### **Religious Education (RE)**

Monitoring RE and Collective Worship is discussed at each meeting. The SACRE had spent time checking all the websites of Sutton schools, looking for information on these two items. Any school with no mention of Religious Education on their website is being written to. Very few schools had no mention of RE, the majority of Primary schools are using the Sutton Agreed Syllabus while 3 use Discovery and 2 use Cornerstones. Only two secondary schools do not mention RE.

Three RE Coordinator networks were held virtually during the year. The attendance was good, and teachers were able to talk to each other in a breakout room section of the meetings. A survey done at the Spring meeting on how teachers had managed through the previous year was very positive. Teachers had been working very hard with online and face-to-face lessons. If pupils didn't have access to IT, the teachers were taking papers round to their houses. Where a pupil came from a very faith-based family it seemed more difficult for them to work on other faiths. It was clear that parents had got involved in some of the work set and it was also reported that teachers were asking the coordinators for more activities and artefacts so they could keep RE going in their classes.

Teachers discussed the Ofsted research review and felt that the Sutton Agreed Syllabus was fit for purpose.

The WIRE award for Sutton schools had been launched in Autumn 2019 and schools had been given a year to gather evidence, this was extended due to lockdown and the first school was awarded a certificate at the Autumn meeting. Other schools had been in touch as to how to manage the visits and virtual visits were suggested to them. No school has applied for the REQM award; however, it is recommended that teachers look at the website for examples of good practice.

### **Collective Worship (CW)**

In the monitoring of school websites, it was noticed that not many schools mention CW. This is going to be addressed in the next year by writing to schools and possibly running a course. There is a Guidance on Collective Worship and good practice on the Sutton Council website.

There have been no applications for a Determination. If schools have pupils withdrawn, they usually seek support from the RE Consultant.

## Links to Other Bodies and SACRE involvement Locally

Sutton SACRE is a member of NASACRE. One of our members is linked with the local Faith and Belief forum and reports on this at each meeting. One member of Group B works for the Southwark Board of Education and the RE consultant is a member of that Board and the Board schools committee.

Advice is given at RE Coordinator meetings on forthcoming festivals and arrangements to be made for Ramadan.

**SACRE Arrangements** Sutton Council has arranged for an RE Consultant for 15 days a year and pays a clerk to attend meetings. The Councillors on group D are very active in asking questions and reporting to the Council. Prior to covid we would meet in the Council offices.

## Membership

<b>GROUP A: Faiths and other beliefs other than C of E</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>GROUP B: Church of England</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Rev D Smith      Christian	3	Mr L Morrell	1
Mrs R Johnson      Christian	3	vacancy	
Mr L Bracken      Humanist	2	vacancy	
Mr P Solomon      Jewish	2		
Mrs Usma Hussein      Muslim	1	<b>GROUP D: LA</b>	Attendance
Mr Mukesh Rao      Hindu	2	Mrs A Huneke	3
		Cllr N Patel	3
		Cllr C Williams	2
		Cllr M Gonzales	0
<b>GROUP C: Teachers</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Others</b>	
Miss V Stone	3	Mrs Penny Smith-Orr RE consultant	3
Mrs M Cockram	3	Mrs Penny Garry Clerk	3
Ms R Bishop	1		
Mrs J Speck	2		
Mr S Ellingham	2		
Mrs Uzma Mobin	2		

The meetings in the Spring and Summer Term were not quorate because of a lack of Group B members. We have successfully recruited a Muslim rep in Group A, we had contacted a Buddhist, but he has had to resign. The finance of Sutton SACRE is currently under review. Training on aspects of RE and CW is occasionally given during meetings.

## Appendices

There is no information on public examination results.

Three Network meetings were held during the year for teachers.

The results of the self-evaluation of Sutton SACRE done in March 2019 are below.

The development Plan is below, this covers January- December 2021. It has been decided that going forward the plan will cover the Academic Year.

The circulation of this document is; All SACRE Members, Council Members, Sutton Council Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education, Head Teacher / Chair of Governors all schools in Sutton, The Department of Education and NASACRE

Key Area	Key Area	Developing	Established	Advanced
1a	RE provision across the LA		x	
1b	Standards of achievement	x		
1c	Quality of teaching and learning		x	
1d	Quality of leadership and management and resourcing	x		
1e	Recruitment and retention	x		
1f	Relations with academies and free schools		x	
2a	Review process of syllabus			x
2b	Quality of the syllabus			x
2c	Launching and implementing			N/A
2d	membership of ASC			N/A
2e	Developing revised syllabus			N/A
2f	Use of national Guidance		x	
3a	Support entitlement to CW		x	
3b	Enhance quality of provision of CW		x	
3c	Respond to determinations		x	
4a	SACRE meetings		x	
4b	Membership and training	x	x	
4c	Improvement/development planning		x	
4d	Professional and financial support		x	
4e	Information and advice	x		
4f	Partnership with key stakeholders		x	
4g	Relations with academies	x		
5a	SACRE membership		x	
5b	SACRE understanding of the local area	x		
5c	SACRE engagement with community cohesion	x	x	
5d	SACRE role within LA initiatives on CC	x	x	

### Self-evaluation of Sutton SACRE March 2019

**Sutton SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – January – December 2021**

**All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 15**

Objective	Action	Responsibility	By Date	Costs	Success criteria	<b>Progress against Action</b>
<p>1. Evaluate SACRE work and establish priorities.</p> <p>1a. Hold final Agreed Conference to review the additions to update the current syllabus</p> <p>1b Attend NASACRE AGM</p>	<p>Continuous self-evaluation process using the NASACRE self-evaluation document and Development Plan</p> <p>Agree the new section 6</p> <p>Decide if anything else needs updating</p> <p>A member to attend and feedback to Sutton SACRE</p>	<p>RE Consultant</p> <p>All SACRE members to discuss.</p> <p>All</p>	<p>Send out new sections by Easter 2021</p> <p>May 2021</p>	<p>During one meeting</p> <p>Unknown until decision made</p>	<p>Further areas for development towards an advanced SACRE are identified and incorporated as appropriate into future development plans.</p> <p>Results to be incorporated into the annual report.</p> <p>SACRE knowledge of national initiatives</p>	<p>Priorities reviewed and agreed in Autumn 20 meeting.</p> <p>ASC held summer 20 and finalised in Autumn 20. Syllabus uploaded to SACRE page in March 21 and RE Co-ordinators will be notified.</p> <p>SACRE members to express interest to PS-O. AGM will be virtual.</p>

<b>Sutton SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – January – December 2021</b>						
<b>All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 15</b>						
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>Progress against Action</b>
2. Effective SACRE Meetings are held three times a year	<p>To prepare agendas for each SACRE Meeting, respond to any actions from previous meetings and plan ongoing programme for SACRE committee meetings.</p> <p>Write papers and reports for the meeting to LA timetable</p>	<p>Clerk, Chairman, RE consultant</p> <p>RE Consultant</p>	Termly	Consultant time 3 days	Effective meetings with action points carried out by Members between meetings. Members have a working knowledge of, and an understanding of, the responsibilities of SACRE	Spring 21 meeting has taken place. Action points have been delayed in some cases due to Covid.
3. To report annually on the work of SACRE.	<p>Collect information on exam data if available and SACRE work</p> <p>RE Consultant to write an annual report by December on the previous academic year.</p>	RE Consultant to write, Chairman to read, Clerk to circulate.	Deadline end December 2021	RE Consultant time 2 days	Completed on time and copies provided for SACRE members, Director Assistant Director, schools and governing bodies. NASACRE and the secretary of State for Education	

**Sutton SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – January – December 2021**

**All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 15**

Objective	Action	Responsibility	By Date	Costs	Success criteria	<b>Progress against Action</b>
<p>4. To monitor standards of RE and CW in Sutton Schools.</p>	<p>Write to schools regarding the website check results</p> <p>Consider other ways of monitoring</p> <p>Provide data for members on RE examination results in Secondary Schools.</p> <p>WIRE award</p>	<p>RE Consultant and SACRE members</p> <p>SACRE Committee</p> <p>Data team to provide</p> <p>RE Consultant with details</p> <p>RE Consultant/ SACRE Committee</p>	<p>During 2021</p>	<p>RE Consultant – to try to visit if invited</p> <p>Councillor members could report on schools visited</p>	<p>Visits and/ or reports Completed and discussed at SACRE meetings</p> <p>Evidence provided within WIRE Award application</p>	<p>No further work undertaken in Spring 21 due to Covid although feedback from RE Co-ordinators indicates that RE is being taught remotely and collective worship taking place. More activities will take place in Summer 21.</p> <p>One school achieved the award in Autumn 20 and certificate will be given Summer 21.</p>
<p>5. To reply to queries from schools regarding the syllabus and general support</p> <p>To inform Sutton teachers of resources website</p>	<p>Replying to telephone and email requests for resources and advice.</p> <p>Send information to all schools on link to website <a href="http://www.reconsultant.org.uk">www.reconsultant.org.uk</a> and consider provision of other guidance documents e.g. teaching</p>	<p>RE Consultant</p> <p>RE Consultant</p> <p>RE Consultant</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>Termly</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>Termly</p>	<p>RE Coordinators able to access resources</p> <p>RE Coordinators confident to deliver excellent RE</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>



<b>Sutton SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – January – December 2021</b>						
<b>All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 15</b>						
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>Progress against Action</b>
To run an RE Coordinators network	and learning, subject leader guidance, inclusivity and equalities  Either virtually or in person					The Spring and summer 21 virtual network meeting have taken place (see also item 4 above).
6 Faith Ambassadors to go into Sutton Primary schools (or virtually)	Further meetings with HoD in KS3/4 schools. Selection by teachers and training of pupils once by RE Consultant.  Discuss at SACRE  Advertise to all schools also through Sutton Schools work	RE Consultant  School improvement  KS3/4 schools	During the year	RE Consultant 2 days  Teacher input  Faith Members of SACRE	System of Faith Ambassadors in place and used by schools.	Spring 21 – on hold due to Covid.
7. To contact the Academies in Sutton and ask which syllabus they are using	Ask which syllabus they are using  Engage with the RE Leaders in school  Invite a representative to join SACRE.	RE Consultant	During the year 2021	unknown	Engagement with the Academy schools in Sutton	Spring 21 – on hold due to Covid.

<b>Sutton SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – January – December 2021</b>						
<b>All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 15</b>						
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>By Date</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>Progress against Action</b>
8. Identify key stakeholders from the faith communities	Continue to partner with Sutton Interfaith Forum.  Invite members of 'missing faiths' to join SACRE	Chair and Vice Chair of SACRE	Attend meeting	Meeting time	Sutton SACRE to have full complement of faiths represented as per the constitution	Various new members in 2020. On hold currently due to Covid.
9. To encourage schools to enter THE WIRE award to schools in Sutton	Talk to teachers at Coordinator meetings send out emails to teachers  Put THE WIRE on the Sutton Council website  Sutton Schools work to advertise	RE Adviser Sutton Schoolswork Clerk  Members to present awards	Some applications to be judged during 2021	Judging to be done at SACRE meetings	Schools doing more obvious RE and celebrating the subject	WIRE Award publicised by email and on SACRE webpage. One school gained the WIRE Award in 2020 – certificate to be awarded in person when Covid restrictions lift. Other schools have been given more time in order to present their evidence.