

# **Kirklees Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

## **Annual Report 2018 - 2019**





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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](mailto:ian.ross@kirklees.gov.uk).

## **Part 1: The Work of Kirklees SACRE**

### **The Annual Report and SACRE's responsibilities**

SACRE is required to produce an annual report as one 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/ five meetings of SACRE during the year 2018-2019. The meetings were held on the following dates and the minutes are included in Appendix 1: 27<sup>th</sup> June 18, 11<sup>th</sup> October 18, 4<sup>th</sup> December 18, 12<sup>th</sup> March 19, 26<sup>th</sup> June19. A full programme has been arranged for 2019-2020 with meetings scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Venues will be published once these have been confirmed. Any subcommittee or working group arrangements will be published as appropriate.

In addition, there will be a meeting in March 2020 which will be a joint meeting with Calderdale, Leeds and Bradford SACREs.

### **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 and their attendance record is included in Appendix 2.

### **Joint working and West Yorkshire SACREs**

During the year there has been a commitment to work together among SACREs in West Yorkshire. This has developed through the implementation of a joint syllabus in Leeds, Calderdale and Kirklees. Though not sharing this syllabus, Bradford has also been involved in this inter-SACRE collaboration. Chairs and vice-chairs will be meeting in Autumn 2019 to plan for the March 2020 meeting.

The commitment to joint working will be developed in the year ahead. Ideas discussed included:

- Exploring new cross curricular units of work with PSHE and citizenship
- Creating video material on faith perspectives
- Instituting a West Yorkshire RE Award aligned to the REQM
- Consistent advice and support across West Yorkshire in handling requests for withdrawal from RE.

### **Events and Developments**

During the past year, the main responsibility for SACRE has been the production of a revised agreed syllabus for RE which has been undertaken jointly with Calderdale and Leeds. Details of this are outlined below. In addition, items discussed at SACRE included:

- Inconsistency in provision of RE at KS3 and KS4;
- National Report from the Commission on RE;
- Supporting schools in developing understanding of different faiths;
- GCSE results and provision;
- Training provision for schools and teachers, especially relating to the revised RE syllabus.

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.

## **Priorities**

The priorities for 2018-2019 were included in last year's report. Progress on these is briefly outlined here:

1. Production of a revised joint RE syllabus.

*This has been successfully completed and disseminated to schools.*

2. Additional resources for teaching on Christianity and World faiths available through the West Yorkshire RE Hub.

*Additional resources have been produced including a comprehensive suite of units of work for Christianity and widened coverage of other world faiths. The RE Hub has been relocated and a new subscription service established for the next five years.*

3. Continued development of quality training and support for schools.

*A programme of training has been delivered for the new syllabus. Further training for teachers and schools on RE and collective worship has been planned for 2019-20.*

4. Considering the long-term structure for supporting RE in Kirklees and how this can be developed collaboratively with neighbouring areas.

*In 2019-20 work will be shared between two consultants and they will continue to work in partnership with Calderdale and Leeds.*

Further details on all these areas of work are provided elsewhere in this report.

Priorities for 2019-20 will include:

- Embedding the new RE syllabus and providing further appropriate support;
- Planning an appropriate RE training programme for primary schools;
- Encouraging and supporting RE provision in KS3 and KS4;
- Investigating how SACRE (and joint West Yorkshire SACREs) can be more effective.

## **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 2019 -20.

During 2018 -19 the RE Consultant, Ian Ross, was contracted to support SACRE and was funded by Kirklees Council. The RE Consultant is 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 faith 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, The Anglican Diocese of Leeds.

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

The following advice has been given by SACRE and the RE Consultant to the local authority over the past year:

- To revise the local agreed RE syllabus, following due consultation, and in partnership with local authorities in Calderdale and Leeds. *The syllabus has been revised, published and circulated alongside other resources and training which is detailed elsewhere in this report;*
- To provide a programme of training and support for teachers and schools, especially related to the new RE syllabus. *This has been planned and provided with financial support from the local authority;*
- To be alert to the growing inconsistency in provision of RE at secondary level and the potential effects, offering schools advice and support on how to remedy this lack of compliance. *This has been considered and discussed by the local authority's officers. Advice has been given to head teachers. A further offer of direct consultancy and support to a limited number of schools will be made at the beginning of autumn 2019. This is an area that needs continued vigilance and proactive intervention;*

- To provide guidance on specific issues of importance to schools such as collective worship, RE provision, developing tolerance and arranging visits.

*This has been done and circulated with support from the local authority.*

The consultants have continued to work with faith communities in Kirklees and beyond, offering training and support for school visits. Guidance for schools is available on all relevant issues.

## Part 2: Provision of Religious Education

### The Local RE syllabus

A revised RE syllabus for Kirklees along with Calderdale and Leeds was produced and published in 2019. This has been made available free to all schools and is the authorised curriculum for maintained schools and any others who have the option to adopt it. The syllabus was commended to the three Councils at three simultaneous local agreed syllabus conferences held in Dewsbury on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The syllabus is entitled, 'Believing and Belonging'. First, it is about beliefs and values. It aims to develop pupils' understanding of world faiths and other beliefs, exploring their commonality and diversity. A good curriculum will ensure that there is both depth of study (some areas investigated in detail) and breadth (an overall general understanding of the faiths and related philosophical and ethical questions). Secondly, it is about 'belonging'. It aims to nurture pupils' awareness of the treasury of diversity as well as sensitivity to the questions and challenges that different views and cultures can present. Ultimately, we all share a common humanity and we share this patch of the Earth.

This syllabus is the statutory curriculum for all maintained schools in Kirklees. Other academies and free schools must teach RE according to the requirements of their trust deed or funding agreement. Although SACREs and local authorities do not have any responsibility or authority for their curriculum, it welcomes use of these resources by all local schools. The syllabus reflects both national priorities and local needs.

Consultation and feedback strongly indicated that schools felt the 2014 syllabus had been a major improvement and no huge changes were needed. The new syllabus reflects this and consolidates rather than remoulds the existing curriculum. These developments include:

- A comprehensive knowledge provision entitlement for six world faiths plus non-religious beliefs;
- Embedding new assessment arrangements (age-related expectations);

- Providing more opportunities for learning outside the classroom;
- More robust guidance for KS3 and KS4.

To support the syllabus, a comprehensive range of units of work have been produced, building on the previous RE Hub. These units have been written by consultants, local teachers and some commissioned from RE Today Services Ltd. These are not statutory but, taken together, they will fulfil syllabus requirements. Units are sometimes accompanied by other resources for teaching and learning. However, schools are encouraged to develop their own curriculum based on the statutory requirements and other guidance in this syllabus. The exemplar units of work may be used, adapted or supplemented as appropriate. Many new units have been added in 2019 including a comprehensive set for Christianity offering progression through each year group. Resources for other world faiths have also been revised and strengthened. The Hub also includes national and local guidance and further resources such as an anthology of stories.

Schools can subscribe to the Hub with online access to all the units of work and resources. The Hub is managed by Kirklees on behalf of all three SACREs and the modest subscription charged has funded the current syllabus, as well as supporting other aspects of RE. Schools are of course also free to use other resources which support or enhance the teaching of RE with this syllabus, such as the 'Understanding Christianity' units and other resources produced by RE Today Services Ltd.

### **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 support schools and faith communities a directory of possible visits and visitors. 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 school and bring some direct engagement with faith communities. It also includes some general information about places and organisations. Generally speaking the list covers Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds. It is revised regularly and does not of course supplant good local relationships and opportunities.



During the year a further initiative has been started to support faith communities, called 'Schools Welcome' The Schools welcome badge recognises and affirms the commitment of a faith community or individual to work in partnership with schools to deliver an effective and appropriate contribution to education. To achieve this, volunteers or employed staff will have received training about safeguarding, RE and appropriate learning strategies. The organisation will have safeguarding policies and protocols in place. The badge is not a replacement for due diligence and schools remain responsible for their own safeguarding. However, it should give confidence to organisers of visits about the integrity of the education offered.

A training package has been developed and has been delivered on three occasions during the year, involving about 40 people from different faiths across Leeds and the Dewsbury area. This project will be funded in the first two years by Kirklees Learning Services and will be managed by Pennine Learning Associates.

### **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. SACRE has developed an RE Award as an opportunity to review the quality and provision religious education in schools and to discover their strengths and priorities for future improvement. It can be used as an internal self-assessment tool or it can be the focus for a review with the RE Consultant, leading to recognition by a badge and award.



Like the Kirklees RE Agreed Syllabus, the criteria emphasise the importance of RE in community cohesion, SMSC and the fundamental values that we seek to encourage among young people as citizens of Kirklees, Yorkshire and the UK.

The award has also been designed to dovetail with the national RE Quality Mark and it can act as a stepping stone towards achievement of that national recognition. The five strands mirror the five areas of assessment in the REQM Bronze award but we have tailored these to the local syllabus priorities and to local schools. The award will itself be evidence that can be used towards gaining the REQM.

As part of supporting RE, all primary schools will be offered the opportunity of a half day review of RE, free of charge. Ten places will be allocated.

The aims of the reviews will be to:

- Offer the opportunity to support your self-evaluation in this important area;
- Recognise and celebrate good practice in RE and community cohesion;
- Identify future priorities for improvement;

- Act as a springboard for schools which may wish to gain the national RE Quality Mark.

As part of a trial of the Kirklees SACRE RE Award we would like to thank and congratulate Honley CE Junior and Infant School on achieving the RE Award for Kirklees.

### **Public examination results**

Exam entries for GCSE full course have continued to decrease this year compared to 2018. This year 1082 students were entered compared with 1122 students being entered in 2018. From the data available at the time of this report being prepared it appears that eight secondary schools did not enter any students for full course GCSE. They may however have entered students for short course, though this data was not available at this time. Of the other eighteen schools that entered students this equates to 23% of their Yr11 cohort. This figure is well below the national percentage for entries for full course. As the short course option is not as valued as before due to Progress 8 and the EBACC, the number of entries for any examination at GCSE has dropped drastically. SACRE is once again concerned that it appears students are not offered entry for RS GCSE and would like to investigate what provision is in place for RE at Key Stage 4 for these students. We have written to all schools asking for details of provision at KS4 and provided all schools with information on the agreed syllabus and units of work. With the changes to the Ofsted inspection framework it is expected that schools might look more favourably on including Religious Education within their broad and balanced curriculum. Further in this section are extracts from a report prepared by NATRE (National Association of Teachers of RE) highlighting the national picture of RE at KS4.

Only four schools in Kirklees entered more than half of their cohort for RS GCSE Full course. SACRE is naturally concerned that the low entry for GCSE in Kirklees is a reflection on how RE is valued in Kirklees schools.

SACRE would like to congratulate the students who achieved so well in their examinations this year 69.9% of students entered for GCSE Religious Studies attained grades 9 -4 this year. This figure is below the national figure of 72.4% .

More girls were entered for GCSE than boys locally and the girls scored higher grades. 78.2% of girls entered scored Grades 9 -4 compared to boys in Kirklees who scored 56.1%.

Five schools entered students for A Level Religious Studies with 43 entries at this level. This number is lower than the number of entries in previous years. There is no national comparative data for A Level and AS Level when this report was being prepared. Overall students in Kirklees achieved 76.74% at A – C grades. Girls did better than boys in A Level this year with 79.4% attaining A -C compared with 66.7% for boys, though it is worth noting that the statistical set size for boys is very small.

From all of the analysis, SACRE has many questions for schools regarding how RE is valued and will be pressing the local authority to investigate further.

These are the questions SACRE would like to investigate:

1. What provision is in place for statutory RE for students at KS4 who do not take a Full Course GCSE in RS? This equates to at least 77% of students in the local authority.
2. What timetable allocation is offered to teachers of RS as the GCSE specifications require a longer teaching time? We are aware that some schools start GCSE in Year 9 to fulfil the specifications brief, this then has an effect on how much RE is taught from Year 9 as well as in Key stage 4.

NATRE carries out a survey of teachers on the impact of government policy on student opportunity to study GCSE RS each year. Below are some of the findings of this eighth survey published in July 2019. The survey is framed around a series of questions and the responses collated. Some of the findings of the NATRE survey seem to also resonate with data available for Kirklees schools.

## Question 2 Are legal requirements with regard to RE provision for all being met?

School Type	KS3				KS4			
	Yes	%*	No	%*	Yes	%*	No	%*
Community School	108	83.1%	22	16.9%	77	59.7%	52	40.3%
Voluntary Aided (RC)	42	91.3%	4	8.7%	43	93.5%	3	6.5%
Voluntary Aided (CE)	24	92.3%	2	7.7%	23	88.5%	3	11.5%
Voluntary Aided (other)	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	5	100.0%	0	0.0%
Voluntary Controlled	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	5	83.3%	1	16.7%
Academy with a religious character	51	100.0%	0	0.0%	46	90.2%	5	9.8%
Academy without a religious character	229	86.1%	37	13.9%	134	50.0%	134	50.0%
Grammar school	38	92.7%	3	7.3%	33	76.7%	10	23.3%
Independent school	44	91.7%	4	8.3%	34	69.4%	15	30.6%
Free school	7	87.5%	1	12.5%	5	62.5%	3	37.5%
Other (please specify)								
<b>Table 2</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>91.2%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>70.6%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>29.4%</b>

\*NOTE: Percentage is the % of that school type and NOT % of all schools. Where the number of responses from a school type is small, these figures have been greyed to indicate that this should not be taken as indicative of the situation in schools of that type.

Table 2 above shows that:

At Key Stage 3 (11-13 year olds)

- almost 17% (over 1 in 6) community schools are failing to meet legal requirements
- almost 14% of academy schools without a religious character are failing in this regard
- in schools and academies with a religious character, compliance with legal requirements at Key Stage 3 was over 90%.

A key stage 4 (14-16 year olds)

- more than 40% of community schools were failing to meet legal requirements at Key Stage 4. This is a rise from just over 34% in 2015-6.
- 50% of respondents in academy schools without a religious character do not meet their legal requirements at key stage 4 (14-16-year olds). This figure has not improved from a similar figure in 2015-16

## Question 3. Has there been an increase or decrease in the amount of RE that will be taught in 2018/2019 compared to 2017/2018?

Report (all school types)	Count	% of total
Decrease	139	24%
Increase	106	18%
No change	343	58%

School Type	Increase		No change		Decrease	
	Qty	%*	Qty	%*	Qty	%*
Community School	26	20.8%	64	51.2%	35	28.0%
Voluntary Aided (RC)	5	4.0%	35	28.0%	4	3.2%
Voluntary Aided (CofE)	6	4.8%	17	13.6%	3	2.4%
Voluntary Aided (other)	1	0.8%	1	0.8%	2	1.6%
Voluntary Controlled	0	0.0%	4	3.2%	1	0.8%
Academy with a religious character	12	9.6%	35	28.0%	3	2.4%
Academy without a religious character	43	34.4%	142	113.6%	76	60.8%
Grammar school	4	3.2%	28	22.4%	9	7.2%
Independent school	10	8.0%	30	24.0%	6	4.8%
Free school	3	2.4%	2	1.6%	2	1.6%
Other (please specify)	6	4.8%	17	13.6%	10	8.0%
*NOTE: Percentage is the % of that school type and NOT % of all schools						

Table 3(a) above and 3(b) right

This data suggests that the past 12 months has been a rapid period of change for RE in schools without a religious character. It is pleasing that almost 21% respondents reported an increase in the level of provision but 28% reported a decrease. Most worryingly however, **almost 61% of respondents in academies without a religious character reported a decline in provision**, repeating the pattern reported in previous surveys and evidence that the funding agreement in academies is commonly breached.

## Part 3: Collective worship

### The Law and Guidance

During the last year updated and clarified guidance on collective worship was drafted and approved by SACRE. 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. In Kirklees there is only one school that has a determination for collective worship and this school has agreed to annual monitoring visit from the RE consultant.

## **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. During the year 2018 – 19 there were no requests for a support/ monitoring visit from schools in Kirklees.

## **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 2018 -19

These include:

#### To support the professional development of RE teachers in Kirklees.

- Termly networks for primary and Secondary teachers, 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.
- Supporting the hub bid to develop leading teachers and coordinators of RE through the West Yorkshire RE project in conjunction with Huddersfield University.

#### To support the development of collective worship within schools

- Provided a training session on planning inclusive collective worship, though only 3 schools booked on this.

#### 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.
- Visiting speakers with a regional and national perspective e.g. Dr Joyce Miller on the CoRE report and implications for SACRE.

#### To monitor and support RE in Kirklees

- Through Kirklees Learning Services preparing an RE Award scheme.
- To re-write the agreed syllabus for RE and edit units of work.

#### To develop collaboration between SACREs in West Yorkshire

- See notes above on how this has developed.

## **Priorities for 2019 -20**

### **To support the professional development of RE teachers in Kirklees**

- Termly networks for primary and Secondary, Primary coordinator course, Teaching and learning course and subject knowledge of three faiths.
- Continue to support schools in applying for REQM through the Kirklees SACRE RE Award.

### **To support the development of collective worship within schools**

- Provide a training session on planning inclusive collective worship this could be funded through Learning Services
- Offer a follow up visit from the training to support collective worship in a selection of schools

### **To support the professional development of SACRE members**

- Annual West Yorkshire meeting of SACREs to agree actions and developments across authorities.
- Continue to meet in a variety of faith centres to develop understanding of the faith and activities in localities.

### **To monitor and support RE in Kirklees**

- Visit 10 primary schools to support the development of quality RE
- Continue to embed the RE Syllabus (Believing and Belonging) and provide training in schools for quality RE teaching.
- To prepare advice for schools on handling requests for withdrawal from RE and how this is linked to PSHE and RSE.

## **APPENDIX 1 Minutes of Meetings**

### **KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Minutes of SACRE AGM and Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
Held at Hudawi Community Centre at 5.30 pm**

#### **Members in attendance:**

#### **Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Suzanne Bridges (SB) Eileen Webb (EW)
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#### **Committee B**

Representing the Church of England	Janet Tringham
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#### **Committee C**

Teachers/Unions	Carol Waters (CS) - Chair Janice Leam (JL) Anna Twist (AT)
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#### **Committee D**

Representing Kirklees Council	No Representation
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#### **In attendance**

Ian Ross (IR)

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

## **Apologies and Welcome**

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions were made.

Apologies were received from:

Emma Salter

### **1 Election of Chair**

Carol Waters has intimated that she wishes to resign from SACRE this year. Proposed that Carol is appointed as chair for this meeting and to seek nominations from other members from the next meeting in October.

### **2 Election of Vice Chair**

Ayub was absent from the meeting as he has been unwell. The election of vice chair will be carried out at the next meeting and nominations would be sought from other members.

### **3 Election of Group Chairs**

It was explained that this would be carried out if necessary when needing a vote from each committee e.g. at the Local Agreed Syllabus Conference.

### **4 Membership review**

Representation is still needed from the Church of England, both laity and clergy. IR had written to the committees of the local gurdwaras for Sikh representation. Members present were asked to consider who they could invite to join SACRE. The appointments panel of the council has nominated two members to represent the council. CW had written back to the appointments panel explaining that neither councillor had attended any SACRE meetings for the last 2 years. IR and CW have put a plan into place to investigate this further and approach a number of different party leaders.

### **5 Minutes of the last SACRE meetings December 17 and March 18.**

The minutes of both meetings were agreed as true records. Proposed by Eileen Webb and Seconded by Janice Leam.

### **6 Matters Arising from Minutes**

IR explained that Yorkshire Spirit (a not for profit Community Interest Company) has been set up and is able to access charity funding and to receive funding

from the assets of Kirklees Faiths Forum. Three strands of work have been allocated to this from Kirklees Learning. The three strands are about community cohesion and enhancing RE through pupil conferences and faith visits and visitors. The funding from Kirklees Learning will be for 2 years as a start up grant for the CIC to continue this work in 2020. One of the strands will be the training and accreditation of faith centres and visitors with a Schools Welcome badge and so enhance RE in schools.

## **7. Work Plan and Budget 2018 -19**

A discussion was held around the work plan and budget. The majority of the additional work for 2018 will be the review of the syllabus. The work plan for 2018 will also include:

- A review of RE in secondary schools including time allocations and numbers of students accessing GCSE.
- Providing ten free visits to primary schools for RE Reviews and a Kirklees RE award.
- Continuing the professional development of SACRE members and a focus on different denominations in Christianity for teachers.

## **8. Reports from outside agencies**

The NASACRE membership has been renewed and it will be possible for 1 member of SACRE to attend the national conference next year. The CoRE report next steps will be shared at a conference in Autumn. The date for this will be shared via email.

## **9. Review of the Local Agreed Syllabus**

Consultation with schools and teachers through a questionnaire, meetings and networks has taken place. The results of this consultation were shared with members. The key priorities will be for a progression chart to be included and then new units of work written in Autumn. The steering group will maintain communication with SACRE on progress of the syllabus. CW was confirmed as a member of the steering group and AT volunteered to attend too. The first meeting of the steering group will be on 4<sup>th</sup> September at Dewsbury Town Hall.

## **10. Dates of meetings 2018 -1 9**

- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October- Church of Jesus Christ and Latter Day Saints (EW to confirm)
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Dewsbury Town Hall (IR to book)
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Joint SACRE meeting (This could change to be April and include the LASC)

- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Huddersfield University or Hudawi Centre

The meeting closed at 7:30pm

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
**KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS  
 EDUCATION**

**Minutes of SACRE Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
 Held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 5.30 pm**

**Members in attendance:**

**Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Suzanne Bridges (SB) Eileen Webb (EW)
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**Committee B**

Representing the Church of England	No representation
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**Committee C**

Teachers/Unions	Carol Waters (CW) - Chair Janice Leam (JL) Anna Twist (AT)
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**Committee D**

Representing Kirklees Council	No Representation
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**In attendance**

Ian Ross (IR)

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

### **Apologies and Welcome**

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions were made.

Apologies were received from:

Ayub Bismillah (The chair will be sending a get well card to Ayub), Janet Tringham and Mary Whalley.

**EW led the meeting in a CPD session on the beliefs and practices of The Church. CW thanked EW for this session and for hosting us this meeting.**

### **Approval of Chair and Vice Chair**

As this meeting was not quorate we could not approve the appointment of CW as chair. It was agreed she would chair this meeting, but succession planning is needed to be considered for the December meeting including appointing a vice chair who could take over next year.

### **Minutes of previous meeting 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

These were agreed as a true record. Proposed by AT and seconded by CW.

### **Matters Arising**

There has been no response from the clerk to council appointments. If councillors do not turn up for meetings then SACRE will not be quorate and therefore could not hold a LASC (Local Agreed Syllabus Conference). This is vital especially this year with the new syllabus to be implemented. IR will ask his line manager what the next steps should be and who to contact from Learning Services and the Kirklees Council.

## **Membership Update**

Letters have been written and contact has been made with the two Gurdwaras, the Board of Deputies and clergy from the C of E. Teachers and headteachers have been encouraged to attend SACRE through the newsletter and training sessions such as networks. It is important that members of SACRE actively search for other members through their own networks.

## **Update on Review of Syllabus**

CW and AT gave an update on the progress of the new syllabus. The first meeting of the steering group made up of representation from the three SACREs has met. Some of the decisions taken were:

- To use the present Leeds syllabus as a model and import changes made since publication in 2015 including assessment models, refining the aims and enquiry cycle.
- Include in the syllabus suggestions how VC and Foundation schools can adapt long term plans to include two thirds Christianity. (Diocese advisors to write)
- Agreed a series of progression maps of content for religions studied including Christianity, Sikhism and Judaism. These provision maps can be used to check coverage in the units of work and decide on new units to be written.
- Agreed that we will keep the religions studied at KS2 the same, but include advice on how Hinduism, Buddhism and other faiths can be celebrated and included in within thematic studies. The in depth study of Hinduism and Buddhism will happen in KS3.
- The LASC will take place at the Joint SACRE meeting in March.

Since the steering group meeting IR has written a draft syllabus, standardised the progression maps, identified new units to be written and organised a team of writers to be doing the writing/ editing of the units of work. The draft syllabus and new list of units will be discussed at the next steering group in November.

CW thanks IR and the team for all the hard work they have put into this so far.

## **Report on Commission for RE: Final Report**

Members have read the CoRE report and the 11 recommendations for RE. This will be discussed further at the joint SACRE meeting in March including a response to the commission and suggestions of ways forward.

## **School visits to Places of Worship**

The Schools Welcome programme has begun in Kirklees and a number of places of worship have now been accredited as providing quality school visits. Places of

worship have to take part in a half day training and demonstrate good safeguarding processes and interactive activities. This is checked by a follow up visit with a school. A recent school has written to IR explaining they carry out a visit each year to different centres and IR shared that this is becoming common practice in most schools that attend the primary RE network.

### **Letter to headteachers**

IR has prepared a letter to go out to all headteachers both in response to the CoRE report and the State of the Nation report published last year. This letter offers schools consultancy in helping to design their curriculum and also urges them to include RE in all key stages. IR will take the letter to the SLT of the Learning Services before sending out to all headteachers.

### **AOB**

No other business noted

### **Dates of future meetings 2018 -1 9**

- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Dewsbury Town Hall (IR to book)
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Joint SACRE meeting (This could change to be April and include the LASC)
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Huddersfield University or Hudawi Centre

The meeting closed at 7:30pm

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
**KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS  
 EDUCATION**

**Minutes of SACRE Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
 Held at Dewsbury Town Hall at 5.30 pm**

**Members in attendance:**

**Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Mary Whalley (MW) Eileen Webb (EW)
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**Committee B**

Representing the Church of England	Janet Tringham (JT)
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**Committee C**

Teachers/Unions	Carol Waters (CW) - Chair Janice Leam (JL) Mehrun Mohamed (MM) Lukman Patel (LP)
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**Committee D**

Representing Kirklees Council	No Representation
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**In attendance**

Ian Ross (IR)

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

## **Apologies and Welcome**

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions were made.

Apologies were received from:

Ayub Bismillah, Emma Salter, Anna Twist, Elizabeth Wakefield, Suzanne Bridges.

## **Minutes of previous meeting 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

These were agreed as a true record. Proposed by EW and seconded by JL.

## **Matters Arising**

Letter to all headteachers about RE has been sent to all schools through Heads Up! Which is an electronic mail system shared across the LA. The contents of the letter were discussed by the senior school effectiveness partners and could use questions about a broad and balanced curriculum as part of monitoring visits.

## **Membership Update**

IR will contact the councillors directly to ascertain whether they wish to remain on SACRE. He will also re contact the clerk to the appointments board to review further membership and investigate how the senior Kirklees Learning Partners are processing this further. It is critical we have a full quorate of members at the Local Agreed Syllabus Conference in March 2019 to accept and agree the Revised Syllabus.

IR will contact a new nominee for Church of England representation (Julie Anderson) who is the vicar at Newsome Parish.

## **Update on Review of Syllabus**

CW gave an update on the progress of the new syllabus. The last meeting of the steering group was on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. Members advised on changes they would like made to the draft including clearer advice on church schools. This has

been added to the draft which all SACRE members have now received. The content progression maps for all six main faiths and for humanism have been completed and checked by relevant organisations. AR and IR are moving sections around so that it flows better with clarity of statutory and advisory notes.

A review of the units of work that support the syllabus has begun and IR has commissioned a team of teachers and RE Today to write some new units especially around Christianity and diversity/ interfaith. There will be 4 new Christianity units at Primary and three at Secondary. The pattern of units will for most phases include at least one Christianity unit, a religious studies unit of other world faiths and at least one thematic study either philosophy or ethics based.

CW thanked IR and the team for all the hard work they have put into this so far.

### **Draft Annual SACRE Report**

Members had already had a copy of the draft annual report. This is a report that is sent to NASACRE and to the Secretary of State. In most local authorities the councillor representatives share this report within the council through scrutiny panels.

CW asked members to note the data analysis section of the report which highlights the decline in uptake of GCSE Full Course entries. Although this is a national issue, SACRE would like to understand what schools are doing to support RE at Key Stage 4.

JT and MW said they found the report really useful and it might be a good idea for new members to receive a copy of the report as part of induction. CW thanked IR for preparing the report and explained to other members that she would write the introduction before the 21<sup>st</sup> December so that the report could be finalised.

### **Working Together with Calderdale SACRE**

As the new syllabus will be joint one with Calderdale and Leeds IR proposed that it might be worth working together for more meetings with Calderdale SACRE. The decisions taken would still need to be ratified by a quorate of members for each SACRE, but discussions would enable a wider field of views and representation. This was discussed, and CW asked for an indication of whether this would be something Kirklees SACRE would like to investigate. This was agreed by a majority and CW would approach the chair of Calderdale SACRE of ways to work closer together in the future.

### **AOB**

No other business noted

## Dates of future meetings 2018 -1 9

- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Joint SACRE meeting (This could change to be April and include the LASC)
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Huddersfield University or Hudawi Centre

The meeting closed at 7:00pm

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
**KIRKLEES LOCAL AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE**

**Minutes of SACRE/ LASC Meeting**  
**Tuesday 12 March 2019**  
**6.00 pm – 8.00 pm**  
**Dewsbury Town Hall**

### Members in attendance:

#### Committee A

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths	Mehrun Mohamed Suzanne Bridges Eileen Webb
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#### Committee B

Representing the Church of England	Janet Tringham
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#### Committee C

Teachers/Unions	Janice Leam Carol Waters (Chair) Anna Twist Emma Salter
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#### Committee D

Representing Kirklees Council

Cllr D O'Donovan

**In attendance**  
Partner)

Val Flintoff (Kirklees Learning

Ian Ross  
Alastair Ross

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

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

This was a one Agenda item meeting being held as part of a joint SACRE meeting attended by Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Bradford. Each LA split to agree or disagree the new syllabus.

Apologies had been received from Mary Whalley, Ayub Bismillah , Kausher Tai, Elizabeth Wakefield, Julie Anderson.

Introductions were made due to not all members having met each other.

### 2. Local Agreed Syllabus Conference

The syllabus had been received by all members and discussed briefly. The motion to approve this as the local agreed syllabus for Kirklees was proposed by Janice Leam and Seconded by Eileen Webb. All present were in favour.

**It was agreed that the conference authorises and commends that the local agreed syllabus, Believing and Belonging, for teaching in schools from September 2019.**

The chair asked that the minutes formally recorded SACRE's thanks to Ian, Alastair and the team of writers for all their hard work in preparing the syllabus and units of work that will support excellent teaching of RE in Kirklees schools.

### 3. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26 June 2019 5:30pm – Hudawi Centre

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
**KIRKLEES STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS  
 EDUCATION**

**Minutes of SACRE AGM 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019  
 Held at Dalton St Paul's Methodist Church at 5.30 pm**

**Members in attendance:**

**Committee A**

Representing Other Denominations & Faiths

Eileen Webb (EW)  
 Suzanne Bridges (SB)

**Committee B**

Representing the Church of England

Rupert Madley (RM)

**Committee C**

Teachers/Unions

Carol Waters (CW) - Chair  
 Janice Leam (JL)  
 Mehrun Mohamed (MM)  
 Anna Twist (AT)

**Committee D**

Representing Kirklees Council

No Representation

**In attendance**

Ian Ross (IR)

Quorum for the meeting is 1 representative from each of the 4 Committees. This meeting was not quorate.

### **Formal AGM business**

a. Apologies and Welcome

CW welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions were made. Apologies were received from: Emma Salter and Cllr O Donovan.

b. Election of Chair

Nominations were received from the meeting for Carol Waters to be chair. Proposed by MM and seconded by AT

c. Election of Vice Chair

Nominations were received from the meeting for Anna Twist to be vice chair. Proposed by SB and seconded by MM.

d. Election of Group Chairs and Vice Chairs for groups A, B, C and D if these are thought to be necessary.

This was deferred for a decision as and when required.

e. Membership review. Could members please actively seek nominations from a variety of faith groups e.g. Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Evangelical Church. AT proposed that we meet in faith centres not represented on SACRE to encourage faith communities to engage with us.

f. Minutes of the last SACRE meetings - December 2018 and March 2019

These were approved as a true record. Proposed by JL and seconded by EW.

g. Matters Arising

Matters arising will be discussed further in the meeting.

### **General SACRE business**

1. Work Plan and Budget 2019-20 and discussions on SACRE roles and responsibilities.

A discussion was held over the work plan for 2019 – 20. Some elements of this will be continuation of the statutory responsibilities e.g. training and support for RE. It was proposed that we also look at how we support lone RE teachers in secondary schools

and how this could link to developing subject knowledge and pedagogy for trainees. A key element of encouraging effective RE in primary schools will be the launch of the Kirklees SACRE RE Award. Ten schools will receive a free half day visit as part of the statutory support for RE.

Key work plan for SACRE as a body will be discussed further in the October meeting including supporting collective worship and supporting schools with advice.

## 2. Consultant's report on 2018 - 19 (verbal)

The key work of the consultant this year has been the renewal of the local agreed syllabus, editing the units of work and coordinating the writing of new units. Three courses have been taught this year including the new to coordinators course and coordinators plus course. The primary and secondary networks continue to run with around 35 attendees at the primary network.

## 3. Discussion with Val Flintoff re the new PSHE curriculum

VF led the meeting through a discussion on the new PSHE curriculum and focussed around 4 key questions.

a) What are some of the main opportunities and challenges presented by the new guidance for Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education (RSHE) for effective teaching in Kirklees?

b) Ref p12 para 20. How can schools ensure that they take the religious background of all pupils into account when planning RSHE whilst also reflecting the law (Equality Act 2010). How can schools manage to juggle these sometimes-conflicting interests e.g. protected characteristics of religion or belief and sexual orientation or gender reassignment?

c) How can schools consult (have conversation with) ALL parents regarding the new guidance? And share good practice.

d) The guidance allows for parents to request their child is excused from sex education but not relationship education (p17). How can schools best manage this process with parents?

## 4. Report from NASACRE and any other outside agencies

There are no reports from NASACRE, however IR has been in touch re the new syllabus and how other authorities could ask for support in the writing their own syllabus

## 5. Dates of Meetings 2019 - 2020 and Venues

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October (Huddersfield – Gurdwara)  
 Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December (Huddersfield Holocaust Centre)  
 March joint meeting of WYSACRE will be discussed by the chairs.  
 Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June

## 6. AOB

No other business . The meeting closed at 7:45pm

## Appendix 2 - SACRE membership and attendance 2018 - 2019

	No		Exp	Attendance
<b>GROUP A – ALL FAITH GROUPS EXCEPT ANGLICANS</b>				
Roman Catholic Church	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Baptist	1	Mary Whalley	Sep 19	25%
Methodist	1	Suzanne Bridges	Sep 19	100%
United Reformed Church	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Baha'i	1	VACANCY		
Islamic representatives nominated by mosques	4	<b>VACANCY</b>		
		Kaushar Tai	Mar 20	0%
		Lukman Patel	Sep 19	25%
		Ayub Bismillah	Sep 19	0%
Evangelical Churches in Kirklees	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Buddhist rep	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Hindu rep	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Jewish rep	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Sikh rep	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Humanist rep	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- Day Saints	1	Eileen Webb	Mar19	100%
<b>GROUP B – C OF E</b>				
Church of England (lay & clergy)	5	Janet Tringham/ Rupert Madley	May 20	75%
		Pamela Kent	Mar19	0%
		Julie Anderson	Mar20	0%
		Elizabeth Wakefield	Mar 20	0%
<b>GROUP C – SCHOOLS</b>				
Primary School Head Teacher	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Secondary School Head Teacher	1	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Primary Teachers	3	Mehrun Mohammed	Nov 20	75%
ATL/ NEU	1	Janice Leam	Jun 19	100%
NUT/ NEU	1	Carol Walters	Sep 19	100%
Secondary School Teacher	1	Anna Twist	Sep 19	100%
<b>GROUP D – COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>				
Elected Members of Kirklees Council	4	Cllr Nosheen Dad	18- 19	0%
		Cllr O Donavan	18 - 19	25%
<b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b>				
Not to exceed 1/4 of members appointed to Group A	4	Dr Emma Salter (Hudds Univ)	18 - 19	25%
		Mashuda Shaikh (Communities)	19-20	0%
<b>EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS</b>				
		Alastair Ross/ Ian Ross		100%

SACRE is looking for new members to join from any faith or education background especially in the areas with a vacancy.

### Appendix 3 – Examination results

#### Kirklees Summative Data 14- 19

	National Average	Kirklees Average
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%
2016 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - C	71.5%	63.7%
2016 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - G	97.8%	97.4%
2017 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - C	71.2%	62.6%
2017 Religious Studies GCSE Grade A* - G	97.9%	97.5%
2018 Religious Studies GCSE Grade 9 -4	72%	71.1%
2018 Religious Studies GCSE Grade 9- 1	98%	98.8%
2019 Religious Studies GCSE Grade 9 -4	72.4%	69.9%
2019 Religious Studies GCSE Grades 9-1	98%	99.3%

#### RS GCSE Full Course Gender Comparisons (Kirklees)

	NOE Boys	NOE Girls	A*-C Average Boys	A*- C Average Girls
<b>2014</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>1283</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>72.2%</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>1022</b>	<b>1265</b>	<b>59.4%</b>	<b>74.9%</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>53.5%</b>	<b>71.4%</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>54.2%</b>	<b>68.7%</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>62.9%</b>	<b>75.7%</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>56.1%</b>	<b>78.2%</b>

### A level Grades 2019 Kirklees

A Level Grades	A	B	C	D	E	A - C	A - E
Kirklees	11.6%	25.6%	39.5%	6.9%	13.9%	76.7%	97.7%

### RS GCE A Level Gender Comparisons (Kirklees)

	NOE Boys	NOE Girls	A- B Average Boys	A - B Average Girls
2014	8	55	12.5%	40.0%
2015	13	49	38.5%	28.5%
2016	12	38	41.6%	34.2%
2017	11	35	36.4%	28.6%
2018	7	48	14.2%	27%
2019	9	34	44.4%	35.3%

## Appendix 4

### Professional development and consultancy provided by Kirklees Learning Services

#### Courses during 2018 - 2019

<u>Training</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
RE Secondary Network	One meeting per term	5
RE Primary Network	One meeting per term	40
Don't Panic! Leading RE in an Effective and Practical Way	19 Oct 2018	10
SMSC, British Values and Equality Network	One meeting per term	6
RE, SMSC and Equality Training for NQTs	25 January 19	6
SMSC and British Values for Governors	15 January 19	10
RE Coordinators Plus Course	22 March 19	12
Launch and Training for the Agreed Syllabus	20 May 19	100

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.