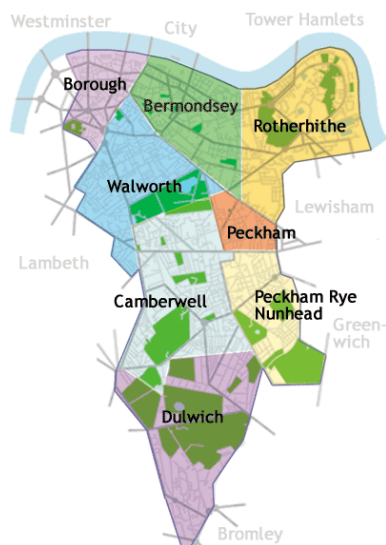


SOUTHWARK STANDING ADVISORY
COUNCIL
For
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Southwark SACRE)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/12



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Southwark SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACREs



Foreword by the Chair of SACRE

It is with great pride that I write the forward to Southwark SACRE's annual report. The content of this report, so comprehensively written by Southwark SACRE's adviser, Penny Smith-Orr, shows the number and scope of our activities during the past year. The committee is now a cohesive group and as it has been mentioned all of our meetings were quorate. A tremendous thank you to all of my fellow members, whose dedication to Southwark RE is exemplary.

At the end of the year we said goodbye to our deputy chair, Christine McInnes, who is no longer with Southwark Education Children's Services. She carries with her all good wishes from our committee.

It is my sincere wish that this line of communication between Southwark Senior Officers and SACRE will continue as before thereby guaranteeing ultimate cohesion and the best possible provision for our schools.

Dr Sonny Sharma
CHAIR OF SOUTHWARK SACRE

Overview

Meetings

In the academic year 2011 – 2012 Southwark SACRE met on the following occasions.

- ▶ 1st December 2011 at Southwark Council Offices, Tooley Stree
- ▶ 14th March 2012 at The South London Synagogue
- ▶ 14th June 2012 at The House of Praise, Camberwell road

Membership

This year all meetings have been quorate. Appendix A shows a breakdown of membership.

The clerk to SACRE, both for administration and minute taker at meetings, was Mr Steve Cleary up to the end of 2011 and Ms Pam Rayment throughout 2012. The RE consultant was Mrs Penny Smith-Orr.

Annual Reporting and Self Evaluation of SACRE

The numbered headings below refer to the will follow the SACRE Self Evaluation tool of October 2011 produced by NASACRE. This is reviewed at the Autumn term meeting.

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

1a How effectively does the SACRE gain information about RE provision in schools and put in place strategies to support the delivery of pupil entitlement?

It is increasingly difficult for SACREs to monitor provision in schools as RE is no longer mentioned in OFSTED reports. The Consultant held three meetings with RE coordinators, both primary and secondary during the year with different schools hosting due to the loss of the centre where these were held previously. The teachers that attend those meetings are all very committed to the providing the highest standard of RE. A member of SACRE goes into Southwark schools on a regular basis and is able to report on provision in those schools. The teacher group on SACRE can also give information on RE within their own schools.

1b. Standards of achievement and public examination entries

Data on the public exam results for Southwark schools are provided by Southwark Council
GCSE Results: Summer 2012

At the time of writing this report all local and national data for 2012 is still provisional

Full Course summary for Southwark schools and academies over 5 years

	2012	2011	2010	2009*	2008
% A*-C		69%	73%	69%	71.0%
National % A*-C		73.2%	73.1%	73.4 %	72.5%
Number A*-C		671	732	690	733
%A*-G		98%	90%	98%	96.6%
Number A*-G		954	994	985	999
Number entered		968	1004	1002	1026
National Number entered		199752	188704	182288	179139

*2009 data does not include information for Globe Academy and Harris Academy at Peckham, therefore not directly comparable to previous years

Short Course summary for Southwark schools and academies over 4 years

	2011	2011	2010	2009*	2008
% A*-C		53%	61%	64%	47%
National %A*-C				38.3	53.7%
Number A*-C		325	365	395	493
%A*-G		94%	96%	95%	94.3%
Number A*-G		573	539	584	764
Number entered		600	601	613	820
National Number entered		233998	293756	296941	293756

*2009 data does not include information for Globe Academy and Harris Academy at Peckham, therefore not directly comparable to previous years

Further data for individual schools and for AS and A levels can be found in Appendix E

1c Quality of learning and teaching.

1d Quality of leadership and management, including the provision and management of resources

1e. Recruitment and retention of skilled specialist RE staff.

SACRE has little knowledge of these areas apart from that gained at the Coordinators meetings. The RE adviser is able to contact schools via email to inform them of relevant courses and national events. Through email access with the coordinators the consultant had many requests for help throughout the year. The most common request was for units of the Syllabus and so this was put onto the MLE Fronter system for Coordinators to access. Other requests are for places of worship to visit and other aspects of how to manage provision of high quality religious education. The SACRE Fronter page has been loaded with a number of documents to help teachers and a list of volunteers, trained by the Consultant, who are able to go into schools to speak on various subjects.

The Lewisham resource centre resources are still based in a number of schools but will be based in new premises next year and Southwark teachers will have access to these. There is also a resource centre in one of the colleges which some schools pay into. The recruitment of specialist RE teachers continues to be difficult. Some Primary schools are using assistants to teach RE during PPA time. The level of specialist RE teachers in secondary schools is variable,

1f. Relations with academies and other non-LA maintained schools

Some of the heads of department from academies have attended the coordinator meetings.

Section 2: The effectiveness of the locally agreed syllabus

2a – The review process

2b – The quality of the local Agreed Syllabus

The Southwark Agreed Syllabus has been in use since September 2005. It is currently recommended that 5% of time is spent on RE in schools either as weekly lessons or blocks of time during a term. This year the SACRE reviewed the document and teacher's opinions were sought as to the usefulness of the syllabus. The teachers suggested that they needed some new resource ideas to assist them. They felt that on the whole they

liked the Syllabus and that it was still a useful document. The SACRE committee decided that, in light of the national curriculum review and changes to different parts of the education system currently being carried out by the Government, that the Agreed RE syllabus should be left in place as it is until other changes have taken place. It was agreed that the Consultant would look at finding and suggesting some further resources for teachers to use.

No formal complaints about religious education were received this year.

Section 3. Collective worship

How effectively does the SACRE fulfil its responsibilities for the provision and practice of collective worship?

'Maintained schools are required to provide a daily act of collective worship for every pupil. In community schools not having a religious foundation, the acts of collective worship should be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character", without being distinctive of any particular denomination. Part of a SACRE's role is to support the effective provision of collective worship in community schools and to advise the LA on issues related to provision and quality. It must also consider applications from head teachers in community schools that the requirement for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character be disapplied for some or all of the pupils in that school. SACRE 'determines' the appropriateness of that application and grants a 'determination' to those schools where the application is judged to be in the best interests of the pupils. All pupils in schools with determinations continue to have an entitlement to daily collective worship. Collective worship can be a rich and rewarding element of the curriculum as a whole. SACREs have the opportunity to enhance the quality of collective worship by appropriate guidance and support.'

3a Supporting pupil entitlement and 3b – Enhancing the quality of provision of collective worship

There is guidance on the SACRE website regarding collective worship. SACRE is not able to monitor the provision of Collective worship apart from anecdotal evidence from teachers and Head Teachers. There is guidance on the SACRE website on ensuring that collective worship is of the highest quality. Some schools use outside agencies to provide some of their worship requirements and there is a list of volunteer speakers from other faiths on the website.

3c – Responding to requests for determinations

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 4: Management of SACRE and Partnership with the LA and other key stakeholders.

'The relationship between a Local Authority and its SACRE is essentially one of partnership and collaboration, with mutual obligations and responsibilities. So that a SACRE can advise and act effectively for the LA in the field of Religious Education and collective worship, the LA must ensure not only that there is a local SACRE, but also that it is able to fulfil its functions. The extent, to which a SACRE is supported, by funding and personnel, will determine how well individuals and committees can work together. Where a SACRE is valued by the Local Authority, it is more likely that the members of the SACRE will be able to contribute both to the SACRE's work and to the LA's wider strategic objectives.'

4a – SACRE meetings, 4b – Membership and training, 4c – Improvement/development planning, 4d – Professional and financial support, : 4e - Information and advice, 4f - Partnerships with key stakeholders

The meetings are reasonably well attended and the four committees are usually well represented. There have been a few vacancies this year, some of which have been filled although we are waiting to replace the member from the secondary head teachers association and a Sikh representative; there is a co-opted Humanist representative. Speakers are often invited to attend, this year SACRE has heard from the London Region Campaigns manager of the Crimestoppers Trust and has welcomed observers from the Caribbean Hindu Cultural society and a Pentecostal church. Meetings this year took place in the Southwark Council offices, the South London Synagogue and The house of Praise in Camberwell

There is a development plan in place for the SACRE which is reviewed in the Autumn term meeting. The local authority representative left in July 2011 and it was suggested that an AST would replace her. The RE Consultant to SACRE also had her employment cut from 25 days per year to 10. The Chair and two members of the committee met with the new deputy director of children's services, Merrill Haeusler in January to express their concerns and the RE Consultant also met with her separately. It was agreed that the deputy director would attend SACRE meetings to maintain a link with the local authority and that the RE Consultant would work for 12 days per year with a further 5 days available for a syllabus review/revision if necessary. SACRE were assured that the local authority had put aside a sum of money for the continued use of SACRE.

Southwark SACRE is represented AREIAC (Association of RE inspectors, advisers and consultants) meetings, the London SACREs meeting and at Nasacre meetings, Bruce Gill current chair of NASACRE is a member of Southwark SACRE, and information is passed to members from these. The NASACRE AGM in May was attended by 2 members and a report on it was given to SACRE. The annual conference for London SACREs at a Hindu temple in Lewisham was also attended by members and reported on.

Other items that SACRE discussed were the formation of the All Party Parliamentary group for Religious Education, the proposed RE Quality Mark for schools, how to promote SACRE to schools and school Governors and how some feedback from pupils might be organised. It was also suggested that an evening event may be arranged.

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

5a – SACRE's membership, 5b -SACRE's understanding of the local area, 5c-SACRE's engagement with the community cohesion agenda,

The SACRE committee is widely representative of the many faith groups in the local community and the councillor representatives have met with the Chair to discuss various issues. The teacher reps are also very engaged and active.

The RE consultant is also a member of the Southwark Diocese Interfaith group and also attends the Southwark Cathedral Education Committee meetings. The South London Interfaith walk this year took place in all of the South London Boroughs and members were given information on the walks taking place in Lewisham and Southwark. It has also been suggested that the consultant can talk to the head teacher's executive meeting about the work of SACRE.

As a result of the teachers request for up to date resources it was agreed that the faith representatives would be active in providing resource ideas from their own faith and the Buddhist representative has provided a number of links for schools to contact.

Appendix A MEMBERSHIP OF SOUTHWARK SACRE: as per the constitution

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

African-Caribbean Churches	1 Representative
Baptist Churches	1 Representative
Baha'i	1 Representative
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
British Humanist Association	1 Co-opted (non-voting)
Rastafarian	1 Co-opted (non-voting)
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

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

Committee D Local Authority Councillors

Elected Members	4 representatives
LA	2 representatives

Co-opted Members

British Humanist Association	1 Co-opted (non-voting)
Rastafarian	1 Co-opted (non-voting)

Consultant Adviser to SACRE (non-voting)

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

The Clerk to SACRE

Pam Rayment E-mail pam.rayment@southwark.gov.uk

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

South London Multifaith and Multicultural Resources Centre

Qualification and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA)

National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Southwark Multi Faith Forum

Appendix C Self Evaluation November 2012 NASACRE Tool Kit

Key area number	Key area	Developing	Established	Advanced
1a	RE provision across the LA.		X	
1b	Standards of achievement and public examination entries		X	
1c	Quality of learning and teaching.		X	
1d	Quality of leadership and management, including the provision and management of resources.	X		
1e	Recruitment and retention of skilled specialist RE staff.	X		
1f	Relations with academies and other non-LA maintained schools.	X		
2a	The review process			X
2b	The quality of the local Agreed Syllabus		X	
2c	Launching and implementing the Agreed Syllabus			
2d	Membership and training of the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC)			
2e	Developing the revised		X	

Key area number	Key area	Developing	Established	Advanced
3b	Enhancing the quality of provision of collective worship	X		
3c	Responding to requests for determinations			X
4b	Membership and training		X	
4c	Improvement/development planning			X
4d	Professional and financial support			X
4e	Information and advice		x	
4f	Relations with the Academies sector			
5a	SACRE's membership		X	
5b	SACRE's understanding of the local area		X	
5c	SACRE's engagement with the community cohesion agenda		x	
5d	SACRE's role within wider LA initiatives on community cohesion	X		

Appendix D

Southwark SACRE Development Plan 2011-2012

Objective	Action	Responsibility	Date	Costs	Success criteria	Progress at November 2012
1. Monitor the standards and quality of RE and CW in Southwark schools	<p>a)Setting up procedures for standards and quality to be monitored</p> <p>b)SACRE Visits to schools</p> <p>c)Data team to provide results in Autumn for the annual report Adviser to analyse</p>	<p>SACRE</p> <p>RE Consultant Members time and time of LEA SIPs and SIOs Adviser</p> <p>Data Team</p>	<p>Continuous through year</p>	<p>RE Consultant and members of committee to visit one school per term. <i>Half a day per term</i></p>	<p>a/b)Monitoring visits by SACRE members for more effective understanding of religious education and collective worship,</p> <p>c)Members have a secure grasp of standards and quality and exam results Data analysis in annual report</p>	<p>One visit arranged to be discussed at Autumn meeting</p>
2. Have contact with RE coordinators in Southwark schools.	<p>Hold 3 network meetings for primary coordinators per year</p> <p>Maintain contact through Fronter</p>	<p>RE Consultant</p>	<p>Termly</p>	<p>Venue; school 3 days of Consultant time per year Preparation/ meeting/ follow up</p>	<p>Teachers ability to assess and teach RE in Southwark improved</p>	<p>At time of writing The Consultant has been unable to get these results</p> <p>Meetings held termly in different schools. Also regular email contact with coordinators</p>
MEETINGS 3. To liaise with clerk to prepare agenda, respond to any action from previous meetings and plan ongoing programme for SACRE committee meetings.	<p>Attend 3 meetings per year</p> <p>Write papers and reports for the meeting to LA timetable</p>	<p>Clerk / RE consultant</p> <p>RE Consultant</p>	<p>Termly meetings</p> <p>Including SACRE meetings – 3 days</p>	<p>Cost of Clerking Services Cost of venue and refreshments- by LA</p>	<p>Effective meetings with Action points carried out by Members and RE consultant between the meetings.</p>	<p>Acheived</p>
4.. Evaluate SACRE	<p>Continuous self evaluation process</p>	<p>RE consultant</p>	<p>Termly update of self evaluation</p>		<p>Identify further areas for development</p>	<p>Consultant reviews this termly</p>

work and establish priorities	using the new NASACRE document	All SACRE members to discuss.	(Adviser) Summer review to Sacre (Adviser) Report – Autumn 2012		towards an advanced SACRE – to be incorporated as appropriate into future development plans. Results to be incorporated into the annual report.	Would like members to take some responsibility for self evaluation
5. Training of committee members	Attendance at 3 meetings per year Short training during meetings using NAACRE material	All Members RE Consultant and members of SACRE	At meetings as required	RE consultant to plan and provide training materials and disseminate any results	Further understanding of members of the role of SACRE and the teaching methods to be used in schools To be a more effective SACRE	Due to outside Speakers there Has not always Been time for a Training section.
6 Monitor National RE reports from OFSTED Ensure schools are aware of the statutory nature of RE	Request LA to write to schools on statutory nature of RE	School Improvement Service: head of Learning	Termly summary of any relevant Ofsted outcomes to Sacre	Items 3.4.5.6 Including SACRE meetings and visits 6 days of Adviser time	All schools following the agreed syllabus	
To report annually on the work of Southwark SACRE	Prepare and write the Southwark SACRE Annual report Collate information from minutes and national events each year. Request exam data and analyse	RE Consultant Discussed and approved by members at Autumn meeting	During the Autumn term Report sent out by end of December	3 days of Consultant time in the Autumn term	Completed on time and copies provided for SACRE members, Director, Assistant Director, CYP portfolio holder, libraries, schools and their governing bodies	In process of writing annual report
						Discussions on the syllabus held with RE coordinators and

SYLLABUS REVIEW To comply with the statutory requirement to implement a 5 year review of the current syllabus. Draw up a costed plan for the preparatory work in convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference and associated work in drafting the new syllabus Discussion with coordinators/ working party	Research, draft and cost plan with timescales.	RE Consultant, Teachers, SACRE members, LA	By March 2012 for LA budgetary approval.	1 day	SACRE's legal requirement to review the syllabus fulfilled.	some secondary HODs. Request for resource ideas being addressed by Consultant. SACRE advised by Chair of NASACRE to delay a revision of the syllabus until the national Curriculum review has taken place.
	Present to SACRE and LA for budgetary consideration					
	Send out survey to all schools and analyse results	RE consultant and schools	By March 2012	1 day including sending/ reminders and analysing answers		
	Hold meetings with Primary and Secondary RE leaders Present to Agreed syllabus conference Produce an updated syllabus on cd	RE consultant	Autumn 2012	3 days (possibly extra days needed, agreed with LA)	CD with syllabus and model lessons, resources and guidance documents produced and sent to schools.	Delayed for the present.

Abbreviations:

SACRE	Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education	CW	Collective Worship
NASACRE	National association of SACREs	SIP	School Improvement Partner
SIO	School Improvement Officer	RE	Religious Education
DFE	Department for Education		

