

Swindon Borough Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Tuesday, 26 March 2019

Gorse Hill Baptist Church, Cricklade Road, Swindon SN2 1AA

At 6.00 p.m.

Group A: Christian Denominations and Other Religions or Religious Denominations	Malkit Babbra, Sikh Community Jo Backus, Buddhist Community David Burbidge, Baptist Church Clare-Marie Burchall, Roman Catholic Community Atiff Ghafar, Muslim Community Reverend David Howell, Swindon Evangelical Alliance Michelle Howard, United Reformed Church Dinesh Patel, Hindu Community
Group B: The Church of England	Reverend Clive Deverell Reverend Norma McKemey Ruth Williams
Group C: Teacher Associations	Tracy Mason, NUT Lottie O'Brien, NASUWT Mandy Sandleton, NASUWT Emma McCarthy, NUSUWT
Group D: The Local Authority	Councillor Matthew Courtliff Councillor Fay Howard Councillor Nick Martin Councillor Barbara Parry Councillor Roger Smith
Co-Opted:	Jo Garton, Swindon Humanists Fidelma Meehan, Baha'i Community
Support Officers:	Katy Staples, SACRE Advisor Peter Nathan, Head of Education Sarah Foulkes, Commissioner for Education

Committee Officer: Rita Glen Gallo, 07980 752051
email: rglen-galo@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street,
Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

AGENDA

1. **Welcome from the Chair**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Declarations of Interest**
Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.
4. **Public Question Time**
See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.
5. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2019.
6. **Minutes from the last agenda and matters arising not on the agenda**
7. **Annual Report and forthcoming actions from the Annual Report** (Pages 11 - 22)
8. **Website checking and subsequent impact** (Pages 23 - 26)
9. **Development Plan** (Pages 27 - 30)
10. **Feedback from the RE Conference, the Dillington SACRE conference and Hub meetings** (Pages 31 - 40)
11. **Date and Time of the Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the SACRE is on 23rd July 2019. Members of the SACRE are asked to suggest venues or indicate where this and future meetings of the Panel should be held.

Date of Despatch: 12 March 2019

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Committee Officer is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

Access Arrangements – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

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STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2018

Group A: Christian Denominations and Other Religions or Religious Denominations	Malkit Babbra (Sikh Community) David Burbidge (Baptist Church) Clare-Marie Burchall (Roman Catholic Community) Reverend David Howell (Swindon Evangelical Alliance) Dinesh Patel (Hindu Community)
Group B: Church of England	
Group C: Teacher Organisations	Lottie O'Brien (NASUWT) Emma McCarthy (NASUWT) Helen Redhead (School representative)
Group D: Councillors	Councillor Fay Howard, Councillor Nick Martin Councillor Barbara Parry Councillor Roger Smith

Also in attendance: Katy Staples (SACRE Advisor)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Matthew Courtliff and Jo Backus, Sarah Foulkes, Atiff Ghafar, Jo Garton, Reverend Clive Deverell, Michelle Howard, Reverend Norma McKemey, Tracy Mason, Fidelma Meehan and Ruth Williams.

15. Welcome from the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. In response to queries regarding the change of venue, she explained that due to unforeseen circumstances Tracy Mason was unable to host SACRE at Crowdy's School on this occasion.

16. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interest in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

Councillor Barbara Parry made a personal, non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of all Agenda items on the grounds of her employment by Ridgeway School.

17. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

18.

Membership

The Chair welcomed Malkit Babbra, representative from the Sikh Community. Katy Staples, SACRE Advisor, advised that following the resignation of Janet French, she wrote to the Anglican Community seeking representatives from that group. Additionally, as teachers were not widely represented on the SACRE, she had sought nominations from schools and she then introduced Helen Redhead, teacher at Millbrook School and Chair of Governors at King William Church of England School to the committee. The SACRE discussed renewal of membership. It was noted that members were expected to hold office for a period not exceeding 4 years unless successfully re-nominated to continue in post.

Resolved – That the Clerk informs members of their post expiration date.

19.

Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2018, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

20.

Website review

Katy Staples, SACRE Advisor, stated that following discussions with the Bristol School Advisor, it was agreed that letters issued to schools were to be supportive and guidance on the RE work to be undertaken in schools should be made available. She explained that the Red, Amber, Green (RAG) system was utilised to determine the amount of RE content on schools' website, with "Green" sites having comprehensive information. The SACRE Advisor thanked those SACRE members who reviewed schools' websites to determine RE content and asked for volunteers to review a further number of schools.

The SACRE discussed the content of the letters pertaining to each criteria as reviewed utilising the RAG system and agreed that they should be sent out to Headteachers with the Chair of Governors also being made aware of the review.

Resolved – (1) That the Chair and SACRE Advisor circulate the RAG rated letters to Swindon Schools.

(2) That the SACRE Advisor liaises with the Council's Governor Support Manager to include information regarding the Website review in the electronic briefing going out to all governors on 7th January 2019.

21.

CORE Report

Katy Staples (SACRE Advisor) presented a report from the Commission on Religions Education (CORE). She advised that this Commission had been set up by the Government and as part of its work completed the CORE report. This report identified work to be undertaken and included recommendations to improve the future of religious education in schools.

The Advisor explained that the CORE report reflected the state of RE in schools and the diversity of religions within schools. She referred to the Commission's finding that included:

- a) Pupils were encountering a growing diversity of religions and beliefs in their locality and in the media,
- b) There was a variable quality of RE experienced by pupils across the

country and

c) The legal arrangements around RE were no longer effective as more schools became academies.

To address this, it was recommended that:

- “Religious Education” would be rebranded to “Religion and Worldviews”,
- Teaching Religion and Worldviews would become statutory for all publically funded schools,
- non-statutory programmes of study for Key Stages 1 to 4 should be developed at a national level,
- SACRE would no longer review and create a locally agreed syllabus,
- GCSE and A-Level specifications would be reviewed in the light of the National Entitlement,
- Primary Initial Teacher Training would provide a minimum of 12 hours training on Religion and Worldviews,
- the Government should allocate funding for Continued Personal Development for Religion and Worldviews to support the delivery of the new non-statutory national programmes of study,
- SACRE to be re-named as Local Advisory Networks for Religion and Worldviews (LANRAW),
- Ofsted or Section 48 Inspectors to report if schools were meeting the National Entitlement,
- The Department for Education (DfE) to consider the impact of schools performance measures on the provision and quality of Religion and Worldviews,
- The DfE to review and provide clarification on the right of parents to withdraw selectively from parts of Religion and Worldview.

The SACRE debated the recommendations. They discussed the make-up of LANRAW and were concerned there would not be a statutory element to the group. Additionally, there would be no local authority Councillors on the group. The SACRE felt that without these two elements, local civic responsibility and accountability may be affected. The SACRE noted that a response from the Government regarding these recommendations was awaited and until then, SACRE would continue to review and support schools in their RE work.

Resolved – That the SACRE members may wish to write to their local Member of Parliament to express their views.

22.

The WIRE Award

Katy Stapes (SACRE Advisor) explained that this project was the idea of SACRE representatives from Bristol and South Gloucestershire. The idea was to promote the opportunity for more children to visit places of worship that were not Christian. The SACRE noted that the project sought to encourage and support good practice in Religious Education by rewarding:

- Schools taking students on visits to places of worship,
- where members of staff attend and benefit from further training through Religious Education CPD and
- Schools that go the extra mile in RE through entering a competition or putting on an RE related event during the school year

The Advisor explained that all these elements would have to take place within an academic year and that the award would be provided by SACRE. She elaborated on the range of opportunities available for schools to obtain this award and how they were to submit their application and evidence forms. The SACRE heard that 8 Bristol schools and 12 Gloucestershire schools were participating in this scheme. The SACRE discussed the issues that may arise from lack of parental agreement for this scheme.

Resolved – (1) That this award be introduced in Swindon Schools.

(2) That the SACRE Advisor be requested to promote this scheme in Swindon Schools.

(3) That the project be monitored and the SACRE Advisor be requested to update the SACRE at a future meeting.

23. Feedback from the Religious Education hub meetings

The SACRE received an update from Emma McCarthy, Hub Leader, about the recent RE Hub meeting held in September at the Commonweal School. The Hub Leader explained that both primary and secondary schools attended the meeting and Jo Garton spoke about Humanism. The session was interactive with discussions and activities being undertaken. Information provided at the Hub meeting was to be circulated to all head teachers after the meeting.

The SACRE members were also advised that the next Hub meeting would be held at the end of January and that Katherine Taylor would be conducting a reflective story telling session. Ms McCarthy reported that the RE GCSE results had been outstanding at Brandon Forest School and that at the next Hub meeting, a teacher from that school would share their strategies for attaining good results.

The Hub Leader further advised that she was working with Ferndale School to create a vision statement for their website.

24. Matters Arising

The SACRE Advisor referred to the positive impact that the Learn, Teach, Lead RE (LTLRE) programme was making to RE in Swindon. She added that the LTLRE programme had been recognised as a national leader in RE teacher-teacher support. The SACRE heard that to date, the programme had been financed by charitable giving, mainly from the Jerusalem Trust and the St Matthias Trust but that this charitable support was ending. It was noted that £3,500 would be needed to continue to support and train the hub leaders for the RE community across the geographical area (Somerset, North Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire and Swindon (North Wiltshire).

The SACRE Advisor explained that a contribution of £250 towards the £3500 shortfall was being sought from Swindon SACRE and this would help ensure the continuation of this service to RE in the Swindon area. After a debate, the SACRE agreed to the transfer of funding to the LTRE programme.

Resolved – That a transfer of £250 be undertaken from the SACRE Advisor's budget to the LTLRE programme.

25. Forthcoming CPD for teachers and SACRE members

The SACRE Advisor conformed that an annual Continuing Professional Development Conference for SACRE members was being held at Dillington House in Somerset on 4th March 2019. She confirmed that there would be funding for a member of SACRE to attend and subsequently update SACRE on the days' proceedings.

Resolved – (1)

(2) The SACRE Advisor informed members that if they wish to attend, she was happy to offer a lift from Bristol if people found it easier not to drive the whole way to Dillington House.

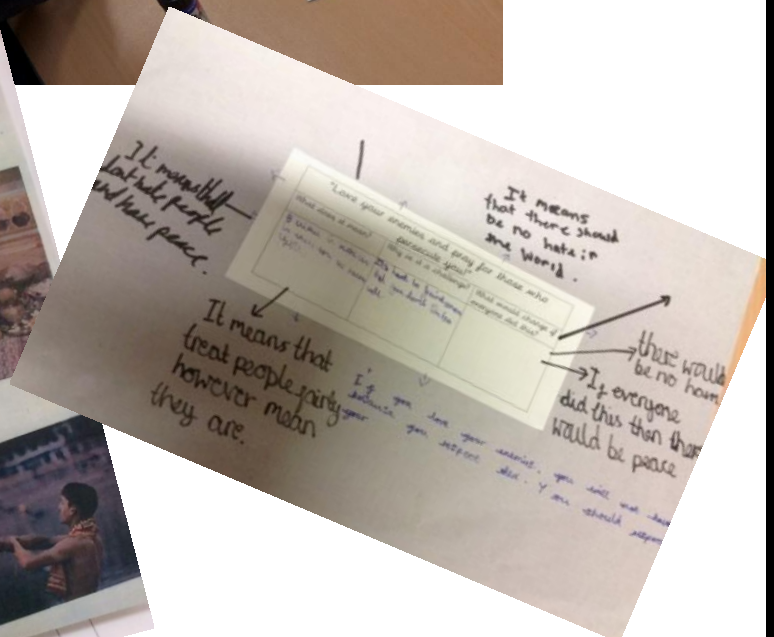
26. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 26th March 2019 at 6.00 p.m. at the Gorse Hill Baptist Church, Cricklade Road, Swindon SN2 1AA.

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Swindon SACRE Annual Report 2017 - 2018



**Pupil's Religious Education work
from
Even Primary School , Swindon**

Chair's Introduction

Welcome to our annual report 2017 -18

Swindon SACRE has continued to meet regularly and work enthusiastically to support RE in Swindon Schools

Supporting Good RE through CPD

Once again we were able to support schools through signposting excellent, well attended and evaluated conferences.

The Annual RE Conference organized jointly between Swindon, South Glos and Bristol SACREs was held on 26th January 2018 at Engineers House in Clifton, Bristol.

The theme was:

“Clearing the Fog” - Demystifying key beliefs of world faiths and the keynote speaker was **Helen Matters**. 12 Swindon teachers attended this event.

We were also able to signpost teachers to the LTLRE (Learn Teach Lead Religious Education) conference held on the 28th and 29th June at Bailbrook Hotel in Bath and 11 Swindon teachers attended.

The conference title was

“Different voices: engaging with similarity and diversity in RE” where the keynote speakers were **Sushma Sahajpal, Janet Orchard and Katie Freeman**

The Learn Teach Lead Initiative funded by the Jerusalem Trust and the St Matthias trust has also injected life into RE in the region by training and offering support to **Hub Leaders** Emma McCarthy from Orchid Vale Primary School has been the Primary Swindon RE Hub leader during this reporting period. Emma Ainsley-King from Commonweal Secondary School has been the Secondary Hub leader. Hub meetings are cross phase and have covered topics such as “Understanding Islam through Visiting a Mosque”, “Encountering Humanism in the classroom” and “Diversity within Hinduism through visiting a Hindu Temple”. Hub meetings are free and open to all schools and attract from between 8 to 35 attendees.

We have been able to continue to employ Katy Staples as the adviser to SACRE and, through her, individual bespoke support has been given to several schools. SACRE is grateful to Swindon Unitary Authority for its continuing support to Swindon SACRE through funding an adviser and ensuring timely and accurate clerking to the body.

Our thanks go to those who have served us in these roles this past year. Sadly Steph Munding, who had served as a member of the SACRE since June 2006 died on 19th February 2018. We started our following meeting with a candle of remembrance and members of the SACRE paid tribute to Steph for her passion and work with children. The SACRE heard that children at St Francis Church of England School would greatly miss her

commitment to their well-being. Steph was welcoming and generous to people, and with a strength of character, authenticity and commitment to the SACRE.

‘Meaningful relationships’

We have meaningful relationships with LA schools, academies, faith groups, and other local SACREs to ensure that we can offer our schools the best support possible. We continue to work closely with faith communities in Swindon and ensure that teachers can access faith speakers and people to help ensure visits to places of worship run well.

Our Collective Worship Guidance “Time to Breathe” was also reviewed and updated in this reporting year and can be accessed by e-mailing the adviser:

katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org

In July 2017 our Chair Sarah Lane Cawte stepped down as she moved to Essex after 3 years of service as Chair and 5 years of membership on Swindon SACRE. We are very grateful for her commitment and passion for Religious Education in the Authority. She has been a great advocate for good RE and SACRE is in the robust body it currently is, partly due to her generous commitment or time and interest.

I took on the mantle of Chair in December 2018 and look forward to serving this body and working to ensure the children and young people of Swindon gain access to a high quality of Religious Education to enable them to flourish and understand others more fully in our diverse and complex world.

Fay Howard

Councillor Fay Howard

Chair of Swindon SACRE.



What is SACRE?

SACRE is the abbreviation for the **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**. Its composition is specifically multi-faith and includes serving primary and secondary school teachers. There is also representation from the British Humanist Association.

It is a statutory requirement for every Local Authority to have a SACRE and to support its work. The purpose of SACRE is to advise on the effective provision of RE and Collective Worship.

Swindon SACRE believes that Religious Education is unique because it is the only subject where the curriculum is not prescribed nationally but agreed locally. This means that we can ensure that the syllabus we offer children and young people gives examples of belief lived and practiced by people who have lived and currently live in their locality.

SACRE takes an active part in the review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus every five years. This Academic year 2017-18 we continued to embed our positively reviewed new Agreed Syllabus which was adopted in 2018, written by RE Today Services. This agreed syllabus will be reviewed in 2021 and is available on request from Katy Staples :

katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org

How SACRE is funded and administered

SACRE receives funding of £5,000 per annum from Swindon Council. As a statutory board SACRE is clerked through the council's services.

All SACRE's members are volunteers who give up their time freely and enthusiastically to help SACRE with its work.

SACRE Adviser

The SACRE Adviser advises SACRE and enacts its decisions. Since 2009 Katy Staples (Bristol Diocese) has provided the advice and support for Swindon SACRE. She invoices the local authority three times a year and keeps within the budget set. This has provided SACRE with a dedicated and experienced resource. Katy also advises Bristol SACRE and has extensive expertise in education and working in schools. During this period, the Local Authority Elected Members, Sarah Foulkes, Commissioner for Education and Peter Nathan, Head of Education were unable to attend any meetings, but offered oversight.

SACRE works to the non-statutory guidance in the 1994 document: Circular 1/94. Parts of that document have been replaced with the guidance: 'Religious Education in English Schools: Non- statutory guidance 2010'.

Swindon Council has approved a constitution for SACRE. A copy of the constitution may be obtained from the Clerk to SACRE Rita Glen-Gallo RGlen-Gallo@swindon.gov.uk

The agreed syllabus for RE in Swindon

During 2016 a wholesale review was held of the agreed syllabus, as a result Swindon SACRE adopted an '*RE Today*' syllabus which was made bespoke for the authority. 2017-18 has seen a period of consolidation and embedding, where, through hub meetings and Conferences, teachers have been able to gain in confidence in their planning and delivery of exciting RE

Support for schools

In line with its key priority to raise attainment in RE through advising and training teachers, SACRE undertook the following work in 2017-18

Annual RE Conference

Teachers in Swindon were signposted to the Bristol and South Glos SACRE Annual RE conference held in Bristol. This year the Key Note speaker was Helen Matter from Suffolk SACRE. She spoke about "Clearing the Fog" in RE and helped teachers to gain confidence in their subject knowledge by explaining the key concepts in each of the major religions. There were excellent workshops including one led by Adam Robertson and Nassir Muhammed about teaching Islam for KS2. The day was extremely well evaluated and the Swindon teachers who attended spoke of using the ideas and strategies in their teaching and being able to communicate them to other teachers in their school.

Best Practice Forums and Learn, Teach, Lead RE Conference

A very exciting development in RE has been the *Learn, Teach, Lead RE (LTLRE)* project. This is a project that has run successfully in Devon and Cornwall, and has been extended to include Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire and Swindon. It has secured funding from the Jerusalem Trust and the St Matthias Trust with the aim of creating a network of RE 'hubs' that will train 'hub leaders' to offer support and training to all teachers, both primary and secondary to improve the teaching of RE.

The Best Practice Network meetings, run by SACRE for many years, have now been rebranded as the 'Swindon RE Hubs'. They meet 3 times per year and are free for all primary and secondary Swindon teachers and teaching assistants. Swindon SACRE has used some of its budget to support these hubs and is delighted that a member of SACRE and teacher at Orchid Vale Primary School, Emma McCarthy, has become an accredited hub leader for the Primary phase. Emma Ainsley-King, a Secondary RE teacher at Commonweal School, co-ordinates the secondary group. The SACRE adviser, Katy Staples, assists in training the hub leaders. The new hub met three times over 2017-18 an average of 8 -19 per session. Thanks go to both hub leaders for their drive and organisation!

Teachers in Swindon were also invited to attend the Learn Teach Lead RE Conference which was held for the second year running at Bailbrook Hotel in Bath. It was held June 28th - 29th and the theme was:

“Different voices: engaging with similarity and diversity in RE” .

The keynote speakers were **Sushma Sahajpal, Janet Orchard and Katie Freeman.**

Hub leaders led workshops: Emma McCarthy (Swindon Primary Hub leader) co-led a workshop about teaching festivals at KS2 and Emma Ainslie- King (Swindon Secondary Hub leader) co-led one about “Conflict Resolution : Learning lessons from Corymeela” for KS4. This gave both teachers the experience of leading training at a regional level and helped them to grow their expertise. Once again the conference was extremely well evaluated.

Support for schools through Governor training

As part of its role to offer advice on effective RE, SMSC and Collective Worship SACRE runs training for Governors who serve Swindon schools on an annual basis

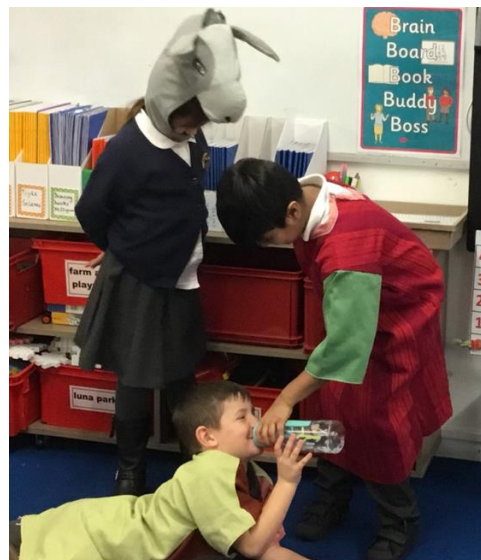
On February 26th 2018 Katy Staples led a Governor training evening , 15 delegates from 12 schools attended , the feedback was 100% Good or Outstanding.

Monitoring of RE provision in Swindon

A key task for SACRE is to monitor the overall provision of RE in Swindon schools. This is quite a difficult task, as it is some years since individual school Ofsted reports specifically commented on RE. The main evidence base that SACRE has to work from is the data from examinations. The data is presented and analysed below.



Making Chapattis in Early years RE



Re-enacting the Good Samaritan

**Religious Education at
Beechcroft Infant School**

Public Examination Results

Swindon Schools entered 735 Students for GCSE Religious Studies out of a possible 2,029 Key Stage 4 pupils (36.2%). The average % of entries in England is 38.5%. This is an improvement from the previous 2 years when only 23% and 31% of Swindon pupils were entered for a GCSE.

The average number of pupils being entered for Religious Studies is declining but in Swindon it is increasing (from a low base) but this is encouraging.

67.2% of these students gained a 9-4 grade which is slightly lower than last year's C grade or above achievements (68% of entries). This is slightly lower than the national average for the subject (70.5%)

It should be noted that performance measures for RE now only include full course results and not short course however we now do have data on the numbers entered for short courses, but not on the grades awarded.

Four schools enter the majority of their cohorts for a GCSE in Religious Studies : Warneford 143/173 St Joseph's 210/221, Lydiard Park 114/185 and Nova Hreod 129/134. Dorcan School enters 133/143 students for a short course in Religious Studies. The remaining five schools entered between 1- 60 students for some kind of public accreditation (short course or long course). .

GCSE Religious Studies at end of KS4

School/provider	Number of entries	Number of pupils	% entered	
Warneford	143	173	83%	
Nova Hreod	129	134	96%	
Lydiard Park	114	185	62%	
Abbey Park	30	187	16%	
Kingsdown	26	223	12%	Plus 6 pupils on short course
St Joseph's	210	221	95%	Plus 2 pupils on short course
Commonweal	60	232	26%	Plus 1 pupil on short course
Ridgeway	23	159	14%	
Swindon Academy	0	92	0%	Plus 1 pupil on short course
Dorcan	0	143	0%	Plus 133 pupils on short course

If not listed, a school had no entries in any Religious Studies or Religious Education qualification for which we receive data. UTC and Lawn Manor have no such entries

At A level, 60 students entered Religious Studies, of whom 98% gained A*- E and (28 %) students achieved A*- B. This compares poorly with the national average which is 55%

A-level Religious Studies (LA figures provisional only)				
Provider	Number of entries			
New College	39			
St Joseph's	5			
Swindon Academy	2			
Commonweal	8			
Ridgeway	6			
		A*-A	A*-B	A*-E
Swindon	60	8%	28%	100%
England	16490	24.3%	55.1%	98.7%

We are grateful to Hannah Twitchell Senior Performance Analyst (Education)

Data Intelligence Team Swindon Borough Council for this information

South West Regional SACRE conference

Two SACRE members Jo Garton (Humanist rep) and Katy Staples (adviser) attended the March 2016 conference of South West SACREs held in Dillington Somerset and reported back to the following SACRE meeting.

The keynote speaker was Stephen Pett from RE Today Services and Denise Cush from the Commission on Religious Education (CORE).

Statutory matters

SACRE has a statutory role to decide on any determinations. These are requests by schools to move away from the requirement for collective worship to be wholly, broadly or mainly of a Christian character. During the period of this report, there have been no requests for determinations.

Where a complaint has been made about the RE curriculum in a South Gloucestershire school, it should be referred to Swindon Council for it to deal with. Swindon Council has undertaken to seek SACRE's advice on any such complaint. There have been no formal complaints within this reporting period.

SACRE has a complaints procedure to deal with any complaints made against SACRE. There were no such complaints in the reporting period.

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Members of SACRE September 2017 - 2018

Committee A: Christian and
other religious denominations

9 Members

Mr David Burbidge (Baptist Church),

Reverend David Howell

(Swindon Evangelical Alliance),

Mr M S Khan (Muslim Community)

Mr Tony McAteer (Catholic Community)

Mr Dinesh Patel (Hindu)

Mr Gurchoran Singh Lyal, (Sikh)

Jo Backus (Buddhist)

Clare-Marie Burchall (Catholic Community)

Committee B – Church of
England –

Reverend Clive Deverell,

Miss Janet French

Ms Steph Mundin

Reverend Norma McKeeney

Ruth Williams

Committee C – teachers
nominated by the South
Gloucestershire TCC

Mrs Tracy Mason,
Mrs Lottie O'Brien,
Mrs Mandy Sandleton
Mrs Emma McCarthy

Committee D – Local Authority
representatives

Councillors
Roger Smith
Nick Martin
Alan Bishop
Fay Howard
Barbara Parry
Gary Sumner

Committee E – non voting Co-
opted

Fidelma Meehan (Baha'i Community)
Jo Garton (Humanist)

During the reporting period, SACRE was chaired by Fay Howard and the vice chair position was under discussion. At the June meeting Emma McCarthy agreed to be the vice chair. SACRE was supported by Katy Staples (SACRE Advisor), Peter Nathan (Head of Education), Sarah Foulkes (School Improvement Adviser)

Meetings were held at the following places on these dates:

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices, Euclid Street on December 5th 2017

Main agenda items were :

1. Interim CoRE Report and SACREs response
2. The Development Plan
3. Feedback from Hub meetings ,
4. National Developments

Gateway Church , Swindon, 28th March 2018

Main agenda items were :

1. A talk about the worship and work of Gateway Church
2. A remembrance of Steph Mundin (a valued member of SACRE)
3. The Annual Report
4. The Collective Worship Guidance Development
5. School website checking for evidence of RE
6. Feedback from Hub meetings

Al- Habib Islamic Centre, Swindon 26th June 2018

Main agenda items were:

1. A talk about the work and worship at the Islamic centre
2. Vice Chair legal developments - election of new vice chair
3. Feedback from Hub Meetings
4. Local Radio Coverage about RE and the work of SACRE
5. Website checking

All SACRE meetings are open to members of the public who should contact the Clerk for details of forthcoming meetings.

The Swindon SACRE can be contacted via its Clerk:

Rita Glen-Gallo RGlen-Gallo@swindon.gov.uk



Jo Garton speaking about
Humanism at the
Swindon LTLRE Hub
meeting

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Katy and I met just before Christmas. We checked school websites which had not been checked and sent out the letters as set out below.

For those school where no response received I emailed again in early January.

Katy also had a piece in the Governors newsletter.

Green Letters

Beechcroft
Bishopstone
Colebrook infant
Crowdys Hill
Hazelwood
Warneford
Holy Cross
Holy Rood
King William Street
Lethbridge
Nythe
Orchid Vale
Red Oaks
Rodbourne Cheney
St Catherines
St Francis
St Josephs
St Leonards
St Marys
Wroughton
Dorcan
Wanborough
Westlea

Amber Letters

Abbey Meads
Bridlewood
Brimble Hill
Catherine Wayte
Chiseldon
Lawn Manor
Covingham Park
East Wichel
Eldene
Even Swindon
Ferndale
Goddard Park
Gorse Hill
Grange Infant
Haydonleigh
Holy Family
Lainesmead
Lawn Primary
Liden
Mountford Manor
New College
Commonweal
Oakhurst

Oaktree
Peatmoor
Robert le Kyng
Ruskin
Sevenfields
Shaw Ridge
South Marston
St Lukes
Swindon College
Tadpole Farm
Commonweal
Ridgeway
Tregoze
Uplands

Red Letters

Brookfield
Colebrook Junior
Croft
Drove
Eastrop
Haydon Wick
Abbey Park
Kingsdown
Lydiard Park Academy
Moredon
Nova Hreod
Nyland
Southfield
Stratton Education Centre
Chalet
UTC Swindon

Responses received

R - Nova & Swindon Academy asked which school it related to.

A - Haydonleigh asked for criteria

R - Colebrook suggesting it was all there on the website

A - South Marston got Good in recent inspection by SIAMS -Anglican and Methodist schools inspectors so surprised at our letter as this wasn't raised by them.

A - Covingham Park we will look at training links and please tell us which schools are good so we can take a look.

R - Haydon Wick we are updating website, we will look at how we can celebrate and inform on our school values,

A - Wroughton - what are the specific issues, we believe everything is there, second email saying all clear on what's needed.

R - Southfield Junior - aggrieved at our email, is hardworking school. Offering us a visit would someone like to go?

G - Holyrood didn't get our original letter but read about it in governor news and wanted their letter.

A - Lainesmead Primary - have addressed the points and raised with website provider

R - Kingstown - acknowledging letter

G - Beechcroft lovely to have acknowledgement thank you, will look at WIRE award.

A - Chiseldon - acknowledging letter

A - Even Swindon - acknowledging letter asking for criteria (through a governor)

Bounced back from

A - Ridgeway
R - Westdrop
G - Oliver Tompkins
R - Eastdrop
R - Abbey Park
R - Millbrook
A - Grange Junior

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SACRE Development Plan Summary for 2019 -21

Goal for Development	Key Focus for 2019 - 21	Person(s) leading and responsible
1. Improve standards in RE		

Goal for Development	Key Focus for 2019 - 21	Person(s) leading and responsible
<p>2. Ensure the effective management of the SACRE and partnership with the LA and other key stakeholders.</p>		

Goal for Development	Key Focus for 2019 - 21	Person(s) leading and responsible
<p>3 .Monitor schools' provision for RE and Collective Worship as well as the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.</p>		

Goal for Development	Key Focus for 2019 - 21	Person(s) leading and responsible
<p>4.Encourage Schools, Academies and Colleges to celebrate the religious and cultural diversity found in Bristol</p>		



EVALUATIONS

Bristol and South Gloucestershire

SACRE Teachers Conference

25th January 2019

Telling Tales - 'how stories and narratives can inspire us'

Session 1 – “Telling Tales in RE: How does narrative inspire religion, and how can it inspire RE?” Lat Blaylock

- Brilliant. Helps children to understand concept at many levels and to identify with their own life and broaden understanding
- Very good. Liked the concept of explorative and outdoor learning and encouraging the children too challenge and consider their way of life
- Good ideas to improve narrative and develop storytelling
- Liked the idea to tell stories outside – forest school etc. Good to use across key stages
- Great session to get me thinking about importance of narrative to understand faith
- Using stories – pure and integral to everything we do
- Thank you for your engaging, inspiring message, will definitely use more narratives in my RE teaching
- Great way to start. I shall tell more stories
- Inspirational speaking. Would have appreciated a little longer to discuss thoughts with colleagues as we went along
- Totally hooked, Great enthusiasm, Very inspiring!
- Really enjoyed listening and feel inspired to broaden my horizon and
- Very thought provoking, thank you. Grateful to benefit from your learning and experience
- So much to take in! Encourage other teachers at school to use more creative/personal story telling
- Hidden messages in a story – as opposed to always talking about the ‘moral’. Religions of the world clips will be really helpful for introducing new religions
- Loved the forest school ideas. Lat is a very inspiring speaker. As I work in KS1 we often have story based lessons I liked the idea about not having a fixed moral for each story but to open it up to a hidden message – what is it?
- Use of stories to begin and end units with knowledge development/further exploration of themes in between
- Excellent, engaging, will definitely look at the 10 little clips
- Links to new Ofsted framework how all subject support reading
- Inspiring, gave lots of ideas to take to lessons
- Lots of good ideas! Great, engaging speaker!
- I loved the idea of linking it to an identity
- Brilliant. I will be using the Sikh story
- This was a great session, good ideas and suggestions about how to apply to classroom
- Extremely engaging! Lovely to see how to use such a easily accessible resource ‘our own voice’ to inspire learning and inspiring religion
- Use of stories – questions and videos. Excellent
- Highlighted the power of narrative and its potential for shape who we are/were/can be
- Idea of expanding horizons through narratives and linking own experiences/ Ideas for stories to use
- Very informative. Made me realise we are doing this more than I thought. Love the links to films such as Harry Potter, Aslan etc
- Inspiring! I’m on the hunt for amazing stories to use now
- Great examples! Helps to give strategies as how to introduce/discuss difficult concepts for children
- Absolutely inspiring on so many levels
- Really interesting. I like the idea of broadening children’s horizons. Also love the idea of outdoor RE
- Useful ideas
- Really interesting – stories told in a meaningful way. Stories to use in school – all relevant for myself and colleagues
- Reinforced how important story telling is for RE
- Interesting how to challenge the ideas of self and making it accessible to the children

Session 2 – Workshop 1

Talk to the animals Katy Staples

- Really useful
- Useful ideas that will inspire EYFS Team and will also work for all years
- Enjoyed developing narrative through puppets
- Great! Really useful to see how simple story telling can introduce many themes
- Lovely to learn new stories to use with early years children
- Useful storytelling ideas and techniques to use across the whole school
- Very inspiring. Loads of good ideas. Will definitely be using this technique for story telling.
- Liked the idea of using props, story sacks etc.
- Great resources suggested and would be good to use across whole school
- Good discussion
- Great story telling, inspired me to make story bags
- Practical and totally relevant
- Lovely ideas and great that we were advised that it had not taken hours to prepare the resources
- Loved the way stories can be used in EYFS and used cross curricular to deepen childrens understanding
- Very clear, practical, fun with great ideas for EY classroom and outdoor practice. Always informative
- Great ideas for using story sacks. Inspired to use our resources/particularly the dolls. Hoops and pictures for questions/answers
- A wonderful session. I have told a story through a persona doll and the children were so focussed and listened really well but I liked the extra props and the children thinking of questions and answers. I've done drama with Yr1 and 2 and they get very silly but I think this will be much more valuable
- Super practical ideas which would create excellent learning opportunities with low pre time
- Very useful and informative. Ideas on how to use stories in EYS and the discussions that can be encouraged and range of activities stemming from the initial story

Time to wonder Katherine Taylor

- Fantastic ideas especially using multi-faith stories
- Lovely ideas and very informative on how to set up and resource
- Great way to deliver a story! Seeing it in action was most helpful
- Very reflective and helpful session
- Enjoyable session, very good to see in action very calming
- Excellent ideas to take away for KS1/EYFS, especially as an introduction to RE
- Very effective and powerful to think about story to cause wonder – engaging in a very visual way
- Great to see this in practice, really inspired now to give it a go
- Really useful. I am looking forward to taking this back to school
- Mesmerising! Would love to try this with the children and encourage them to re-tell their own
- Lovely workshop. Great to see multi-faith stories told in such a calming inspiring way
- Great to meet Katherine and to unpack the possibilities of Godly Play with other faiths
- Use of stories to begin RE units (need to develop script, wonderings, resources and follow up)
- More CPD on this would be a great cluster event
- Interesting way to see stories being told Something worth looking into further
- Great resource for story telling
- Fantastic! Really accessible and could immediately see how these could be applied to my classroom
- Mesmerising, good ideas to develop within your own school
- Modelled examples of what reflective storytelling is. Great session!
- Very calming! Think in a busy world it would be great to give children this think ideas
- Really liked the change of pace. Will be using
- Good session, great concept. Would like to roll out idea across the school but support for staff would be needed. Resourcing would need to be considered.
- Lovely tie to reflect, allowing children to take time and ‘wonder’ about religion
- Practical resources – good ideas to enhance story telling
- Very useful. Lots of ideas to build into RE curriculum and spirituality
- Good ideas to improve storytelling in RE and how to make it more valued by the children
- Some lovely ideas. Can see the benefits across the school. Will link really well with our Talk4Writing
- Mesmerising – really want to give it a go myself now
- Fantastic! I will definitely be using this at school

Session 3 – Workshop 2 Lat Blaylock

Film in RE

- No comment
- Very keen to now use film in class
- Amazing ideas to develop RE through film – loved it!
- Really like the idea of using non religious films to draw out religious ideas as using religious ideas ones can sometimes be problematic in our community
- Great strategies that could be easily applicable to whole school assemblies as even a hook to RE/enrichment sessions for smaller groups
- Lots of stimulus/visual ideas to support learning and concepts. Really enjoyed it
- Really engaging, lots of fantastic clips and discussion points to use in class
- Some great ideas I can share with all your groups for them to use as they teach
- Useful ideas and handouts
- Definite food for thought, children will love seeing clips that they know and then to tie in the link – great idea. Loved the being naughty!
- Lots of interesting parallels. I like the idea of using a film clip for the main part of a lesson. Will definitely use rules for being naughty!
- Powerful way to instigate discussion/challenges to children's ideas
- Insightful! A fab starting point for so many religious concepts. So accessible to the children of 2019!
- Very thought provoking – interesting way to approach RE education – will try and weave film into the curriculum
- Great idea. Really useful and have got more ideas now, to add to your suggestions
- Again, another very helpful session – loved the 'naughtiness' way in teaching the 10 commandments
- Very enjoyable. Lots of great ideas how film can engage and inspire great RE lessons
- Examples of clips and how to use them. Can be used to engage children and make links between film and religious narrative
- Fascinating to look at how film could be used.
- Lots of great ideas to use
- Brilliant – real life examples that I can use straight in the classroom. Interesting and quick paced. Would recommend this.
- Lots of great ideas – going to go back to school and brainstorm with the stuff!
- Made me really want to put more thought as I'd think the children really enjoyed by film medium
- A really different idea of using film, challenging of children to pick up on the metaphor. Clips inspirational and easily adaptable to use – especially through writing
- Great and inspiring. Lovely to see relatable clips that allow children to think of RE in another context
- Great ideas – will definitely use these
- Lots of ideas of clips to use and how to find links between RE and films
- Loved it! Really made me think. I can see how using film clips will make some tricky concepts relatable for the children. Definitely considering 'discussing film club! Thank you
- Amazing! Leaving with many new ideas

Creating a safe class Mary Read

- Made you think and very engaging
- Great practical ideas to enhance practice
- Excellent activities
- Reminded of activities that I have not used in a long time and encouraged to use new ones
- Practical, interesting concepts, very discussion based
- Nice to know we are doing some of the things 'right' already
- Useful technique for classroom sharing
- Great ideas linked to leadership
- A great way to look at different ways to deliver questioning and understanding for children and adults in schools including parents
- Really great experience – led session by Mary, good to hear from Secondary colleagues and ideas to adapt for EY
- Ground rules and confidentiality establishing these rules and guidelines from the beginning. Private thinking/pairs and fours
- A very thought provoking session – some great interactive ideas
- Equipped me with new tools to work with difficult questions and news

General Organisation of The Day

- Info great, thanks to Ali
- Would prefer a venue with parking.
- Fabulous, great food
- Could workshop groups be smaller?
- Super organisation
- Easy to find
- First conference – very interesting and engaging. Will definitely return next year.
- Amazing! Such a treat
- Always enjoy these days – great venue and meal, inspirational talks and good networking
- Lovely food. Good venue. Good programme at activities. Lots to take away.
- Well organised, lovely food, clean, well resourced venue
- Well organised, great refreshments and venue. A warm welcome.
- Fantastic venue and refreshments – best I've ever been too!
- Great programme of speakers
- Well organised, useful and informative seminars
- Super refreshments and lunch
- Helpful and kind staff
- Always a treat to come to conference
- Great Food as ever was Fabulous!
- Inspires me to teach RE with continued creativity
- Absolutely fabulous
- People available to talk to
- Easy day to attend
- Gorgeous food, friendly staff and fab organisation!
- Great as always! Thank you
- Excellent communication beforehand. Perfectly planned programme. Wonderful refreshments and beautiful venue. What a treat!
- Lovely and luxurious venue, kind and helpful staff. An oasis of a day. Thank you very much
- All fab! I felt well-informed, well-fed and will be back! Thank you
- Lots of clear communication, wonderful refreshments
- Great organisation of day – the programme has been very interesting, interactive and relevant. Delicious lunch and refreshment
- Great venue and information beforehand. Timings worked well so nothing was rushed. Excellent food!
- Very good – many thanks!
- Great day all round
- Programme good, refreshments good, parking not good
- Food and venue fantastic. Great speakers, fantastic range. Parking could have been better.
- Fantastic as ever – great venue, food and speakers. Booking and information clear and easy.
- Good all round, Great notifications, programme, yummy food, lovely venue, fantastic speakers.
- Great lunch! Very well organised
- Excellent venue! Seamless organisation. Excellent!
- Outstanding
- Very well organised day. Very useful with pots of ideas to take back to school
- Superb as always. Huge thank you
- All good – even managed to get a parking space!
- Exceptional on all counts! Not easy to park though
- Very welcoming environment and informative day – thank you.

An indication of what you might like help with

- Story tellers visiting school
- Dates of further training
- Resources and course materials
- Where can I apply for the WIRE Award?
- Possible staff meeting workshops (planning a whole school Holy Week/other events)
- Storytelling resources, cluster events
- Links to faiths and visits
- Contact with multi-faith agencies
- Future training dates
- To help look at school mission statement for SIAMS visit
- Fitting RE opportunities in with our new curriculum
- How to ensure we're getting the most out of our scheme for RE

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