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## **BlackpoolCouncil**

**Date Not Specified** 

To: All Members of the SACRE

The above members are requested to attend the:

## STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Wednesday, 7 March 2018 at 6.00 pm in Committee Room B, Town Hall, Blackpool, FY1 1AD

#### AGENDA

#### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Committee are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

- (1) the type of interest concerned; and
- (2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

#### 2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2017

(Pages 1 - 4)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 8 November 2017 as a true and correct record.

#### 3 ROLE OF SACRE

A presentation from Helen Sage, Primary School Coordinator, Blackburn Church of England Diocese, on the role and importance of SACRE and the Committee to discuss the content a recent communication received from Deborah Weston, NATRE Research Officer regarding the status of religious education in Blackpool.

#### 4 JUDAISM PRESENTATION

Ms Sheila Gewolb, Vice President, Board of Deputies of British Jews Community and

Education Division to provide a presentation to the Committee on contemporary Judaism.

#### 5 KIDSMEET PROPOSAL UPDATE

(Pages 5 - 8)

To note any developments in relation to the proposal to form a Kidsmeet first put forward at the 17 May 2017 meeting.

#### 6 NASACRE CONFERENCE 2018

(Pages 9 - 12)

To discuss the arrangements for the National Association of SACRE's Annual Conference 2018.

#### 7 BLACKPOOL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

(Pages 13 - 34)

To consider the content of the draft SACRE Annual Report 2016/2017.

#### 8 MEMBERS NEWS

To receive verbal updates from Members of the SACRE as to any projects or issues within their area.

#### 9 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

20 June 2018 (provisional venue St Stephens on the Cliffs)

The Committee to agree meeting dates for the remainder of the 2018/2019 cycle.

#### **General information:**

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Chris Williams, Democratic Governance Adviser, Tel: (01253) 477153, e-mail: <a href="mailto:chris.williams@blackpool.gov.uk">chris.williams@blackpool.gov.uk</a>

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at <a href="https://www.blackpool.gov.uk">www.blackpool.gov.uk</a>.

## Agenda Item 2

## MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2017

#### **Present:**

Tim Cox, Blackburn Church of England Diocese, Church of England Group (in the Chair)
Councillor O'Hara
Helen Sage, Blackburn Church of England Diocese, Church of England Group
Tammy Hackney, St George's Church of England Academy
Iman Ashfaq Patel, Islamic Representative
Sharon Barnett, on behalf of Margaret Wright, Roman Catholic Group

#### In Attendance:

Chris Williams, Democratic Governance Adviser

#### **Apologies:**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Simon Blackburn, Margaret White, Jo Snape and Paul Harrison.

#### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

#### 2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2017

The Committee considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

#### **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **3 MEMBERS NEWS**

- 1. Tim Cox invited Sheila Gewolb, Vice President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews to attend a future SACRE meeting following her expression of interest in the work of the Committee.
- 2. Imam Patel reported that Islamophobia Awareness Week would begin on Monday 13 November 2017 and offered to circulate teaching materials for members of the Committee to share. In addition, religious teaching on Islam had been offered to SACRE and schools throughout the diocese from respected teacher, Imran Kotwal of the Muslim Learner Services organisation.
- 3. Helen Sage reported on changes to the GCSE syllabus specification for Religious Education. Also, it was reported that a new curriculum for Church of England voluntary aided schools would be launched by Blackburn Diocese in the coming months.

## MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2017

#### **4 UPDATE ON KIDSMEET PROPOSAL**

The Committee had no new information to discuss in relation to the proposal to form a Kidsmeet first put forward at the previous meeting.

#### **Resolved:**

In the absence of any significant developments, it was agreed that a more detailed report would be brought to the 7 March 2018 meeting.

## 5 COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INTERIM REPORT AND CONSULTATION EXERCISE

Members noted the contents of the report and the subsequent consultation exercise that had been undertaken.

In terms of relevant actions for the Committee emerging from the interim report, the Chairman highlighted elements of the Executive Summary and the need to ensure that, based on the changing global political landscape and changing social demographics, there continued to be a need for Religious Education and added that it should remain current and relevant. Members discussed in particular the four key areas of recommendations, namely: a national entitlement for RE, holding schools to account for their provision and quality of RE, a National Plan to improve teaching and learning in RE and a renewed and expanded role for SACRE's.

#### **Resolved:**

The Committee noted the report.

#### 6 JOINT NASACRE/AREIAC EVENT ON THE COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Committee considered arrangements for the Joint NACARE/AREIAC event on the Commission on RE's interim report to be held on Friday 24 November 2017 in Birmingham.

#### **Resolved:**

Members wishing to volunteer to attend the Joint NASACRE/AREIAC event as a delegate to notify the Clerk or Chairman at their earliest convenience.

#### **7 UPDATE ON SYLLABUSES**

Following a review of the current RE syllabuses used by Primary schools across Blackpool, Sharon Barnett reported that all catholic primaries used the Lancaster Diocese Syllabus with slight variations between some that had chosen to adapt the materials.

It was noted that Academy schools were free to choose which syllabus they employed to teach RE in their individual settings. The Chairman reminded members that schools seeking to purchase new syllabus materials would be entitled to a discounted price when

## MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2017

purchased through SACRE.

#### **Resolved:**

- 1. To list all catholic primaries in the Local Authority area as using the Lancaster Diocesan RE syllabus.
- 2. To write to all Secondary Schools in the Local Authority area to establish which RE syllabuses they currently used.
- 3. To write to all schools using the Lancashire syllabus to ensure they were accessing the most recent 2016 materials and not the previous 2011 scheme.

#### **8 INTERFAITH WEEK**

The Chairman reminded members of the importance of Interfaith Week due to take place between Sunday 12 and Sunday 19 November 2017. He added that it represented an opportunity to promote greater awareness and interaction between people from different communities and with different religious and non-religious beliefs and would also be a celebration of diversity.

Imam Patel described a series of planned visits he would be undertaking to Primary Schools during interfaith week in addition to visits to the Mosque by other schools.

The work of the Faith Forum was discussed and members expressed a desire to learn of any planned interfaith week events that the group was aware of.

#### **Resolved:**

Members not present at the meeting to inform the Chairman or the Clerk of any undertakings from the perspective of their organisations in support of Interfaith Week.

#### 9 ANNUAL REPORT

The draft annual report was considered and a number of amendments were suggested to the final document before publication.

#### **Resolved:**

- 1. To amend the membership section of Appendix 3 on page 17 of the draft report for greater accuracy.
- 2. To amend the graph on page 10 of the draft report to include a separate column for 'Blackpool (church-schools)'.
- 3. To amend the graph on page 10 of the draft report to include data from the previous year and from three years previously to aid comparison.
- 4. Once action points 1, 2 and 3 complete, the final draft report to be brought to the 7 March 2018 meeting for endorsement prior to publication.

## MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 10 FORWARD PLAN OF AGENDA ITEMS AND TRAINING NEEDS

#### **Resolved:**

To add the following to the Forward Plan of Items /training requirements for the next meeting:

- 1. Final Annual Report 2015/2016
- 2. Draft Final Report 2016/2017
- 3. Update on RE Syllabuses
- 4. Refresher training session for SACRE members.

#### 11 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the next meeting would be held at 6pm on Wednesday 7 March 2018 at Blackpool Mosque, 2 Revoe St, Blackpool FY1 5HN.

#### Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.24 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact: Chris Williams, Democratic Governance Adviser

Tel: (01253) 477153

E-mail: chris.williams@blackpool.gov.uk

## Agenda Item 5

| Report to:        | SACRE  |
|-------------------|--|
| Relevant Officer: | Amanda Whitehead, Head of Schools, Standards and |
|                   | Effectiveness                                    |
| Date of Meeting:  | 7 March 2018                                     |

#### KIDSMEET PROPOSAL UPDATE

#### **1.0** Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 Further to previous meeting to receive a verbal update on the proposal presented at the last meeting regarding a project to develop a Kidsmeet.
- 2.0 Recommendation(s):
- 2.1 To note the update.
- 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):
- 3.1 To ensure progress is made towards the project previously agreed by the SACRE.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?

No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget?

Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

#### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

| 5.0  | Background Information   |  |
|------|--|--|
| 5.1  | Members will recall that at the previous meetings, it was agreed in principal to create a project to hold a Kidsmeet with the broad principal as agreed as a Question Time exercise with Faith Leaders. The Committee appointed Tammy Hackney, Councillor Kirkland, Imam Patel and Paul Harrison as a sub-group to develop the project and to report back at the next meeting. |  |
| 5.2  | At the last meeting Members were informed that had a meeting had been planned for Thursday 16th November 2017 at Bispham Endowed Church of England Primary School to begin at 3.30 pm. An update on that meeting and any follow up will be presented by the sub-group  |  |
| 5.3  | Does the information submitted include any exempt information?  No   |  |
| 5.4  | List of Appendices:  |  |
|      | None.  |  |
| 6.0  | Legal considerations:  |  |
| 6.1  | None.  |  |
| 7.0  | Human Resources considerations:  |  |
| 7.1  | None.  |  |
| 8.0  | Equalities considerations:   |  |
| 8.1  | None.  |  |
| 9.0  | Financial considerations:  |  |
| 9.1  | None.  |  |
| 10.0 | Risk management considerations:  |  |
| 10.1 | None.  |  |
| 11.0 | Ethical considerations:  |  |

11.1

None.

- 12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:
- 12.1 None.
- 13.0 Background papers:
- 13.1 None.



No

| Report to:        | SACRE                                   |
|-------------------|---|
| Relevant Officer: | Jean Martin, School Improvement Advisor |
| Date of Meeting:  | 7 March 2018                            |

#### **NASACRE CONFERENCE 2018**

#### **1.0** Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the arrangements for the National Association of SACRE's Annual Conference.
- 2.0 Recommendation(s):
- 2.1 To note the date of the National Association of SACRE's Annual Conference.
- 2.2 To consider if the SACRE wishes to send a delegate to the NASACRE Conference
- 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):
- 3.1 To further progress the annual report of the SACRE.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved Yes budget?
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

#### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

5.1 The SACRE is a member of the National Association of Standing Advisory Committees of Religious Education (NASACRE). The body organises an annual conference, this year the event is to be held on the 24 May 2018 at Merchant Taylors Hall, City of London

#### 5.2 Theme: Stronger Together - Celebrating the power of Community

We are excited to announce that the 25th Annual General Meeting and Conference of NASACRE will be held **Thursday 24 May 2018** at **Merchant Taylors' Hall** in the City of London. The closest underground station is Bank and the closest railway stations are Cannon Street, Fenchurch Street and Liverpool Street.

Merchant Taylors' Company is one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies of the City of London; and today operates mainly as an educational charity. The Guild has been located at this site since 1327, though the Great Fire of London and the Blitz destroyed and damaged a great deal of the site. We look forward to welcoming you to this historic building to celebrate our 25th anniversary.

Full details of the Conference will be circulated nearer the time

- 5.3 Helen Sage attended the 2015 and 2016 NASACRE conference on behalf of the SACRE and will provide a brief verbal update on that conference for the SACRE to assist the decision making.
- 5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.5 **List of Appendices:** 

None

- 6.0 Legal considerations:
- 6.1 None
- 7.0 Human Resources considerations:
- 7.1 None
- 8.0 Equalities considerations:
- 8.1 None

| 3.0  | i manciai considerations.                   |
|------|---|
| 9.1  | None  |
| 10.0 | Risk management considerations:             |
| 10.1 | None  |
| 11.0 | Ethical considerations:                     |
| 11.1 | None  |
| 12.0 | Internal/ External Consultation undertaken: |
| 12.1 | None  |
| 13.0 | Background papers:                          |
| 13.1 | None  |



| Report to:        | SACRE  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Relevant Officer: | Amanda Whitehead, Head of School Improvement and |  |
|                   | Effectiveness                                    |  |
| Date of Meeting:  | 7 March 2018                                     |  |

#### **BLACKPOOL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT**

#### **1.0** Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider and approve the 2016/2017 draft annual report for the SACRE.
- 2.0 Recommendation(s):
- 2.1 To note the final 2015/2016 annual report for the SACRE (Attached at Appendix 7(a).
- 2.2 To use the 2015/2016 annual report as a basis for the 2016/2017 annual report
- 2.3 To agree any amendments or actions if necessary prior to submission of the 2016/2017 annual report to the Department for Education (DfE).
- 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):
- 3.1 To further progress the annual report of the SACRE.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved Yes budget?
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

#### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

| 5.0  | Background Information   |  |
|------|--|--|
| 5.1  | It is a requirement of best practice that SACRE's produce an annual report. In view of the lack of meetings and business of the SACRE over the last few years- this has not taken place.   |  |
| 5.2  | The annual report includes a number of key areas that are required: the Role of SACRE, Religious Education in schools and the Effectiveness and Delivery of the Agreed Syllabus. The Committee's views are requested on any additional information or work to be undertaken in completing the annual report. |  |
| 5.3  | The Committee is requested to agree a small sub-group to complete an update of the annual report for its submission to NASACRE and the Department for Education.   |  |
| 5.4  | Does the information submitted include any exempt information?  No   |  |
| 5.5  | List of Appendices:  |  |
|      | Appendix 7(a): 2015/2016 Annual Report   |  |
| 6.0  | Legal considerations:  |  |
| 6.1  | None.  |  |
| 7.0  | Human Resources considerations:  |  |
| 7.1  | None.  |  |
| 8.0  | Equalities considerations:   |  |
| 8.1  | None.  |  |
| 9.0  | Financial considerations:  |  |
| 9.1  | None.  |  |
| 10.0 | Risk management considerations:  |  |

10.1

None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:
11.1 None.
12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:
12.1 None.
13.0 Background papers:
13.1 None.



## The Annual Report of the Blackpool Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

2015 - 2016





Blackpool: A fair place where aspiration and ambition are encouraged

# 'To support pupils' personal search for meaning by engaging enquiry into the question

'What is it to be human?'

- exploring answers offered by religion and belief.'

Joint Lancashire and Blackpool Agreed Syllabus 2015 - 2016

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#### **Foreword**

The last years has been a period of immense change, both for Education and the Blackpool SACRE.

As we approach the time for review of the syllabus, we are also being asked to re-examine the strengths of local determination and the potential for collaboration with Lancashire SACRE.

Global and national events continue to influence our work, along with the pressures which central government apply to state education. It is therefore important that control to our role is making sense of what it is to be human, and sharing what it is we have in common, rather than what promotes division in Britain today.

Over the years SACRE Blackpool has been represented at the meetings with members from other SACREs in the northwest – this has proved to be a valuable exercise, which we hope can continue - providing ongoing support in enabling SACRE Blackpool to continue to function.

The liaison with Lancashire SACRE has meant that information and support is available to Blackpool schools and academies. The work of our teacher and headteacher members keeps us grounded in what actually works in the classroom. We acknowledge with grateful thanks also, the valuable contribution made by Helen Sage, who as chair, has stepped down after a number years on SACRE.

Whilst the meetings have been infrequent and a number of loyal and active members have retired, Blackpool SACRE continues to be representative of faith groups, schools and the local authority.

However, as we re-convene for a new academic year in 2016 - 17, with a new agreed syllabus, that we welcome new members. It is also only right that the work of the group as a whole is recognised. They continue to work hard to keep the work of SACRE visible and to spread best practice.

#### Role of SACRE

The role of the SACRE is:

To consider any requests from Head teachers to hold Collective Worship that is not of a broadly Christian character.

#### Advice

SACRE has not provided advice to the local authority on RE during the 2015/16 academic year.

SACRE has provided advice to schools through the officer to SACRE on a number of issues relating to the use of the Agreed Syllabus and their statutory duties in the teaching of RE. Schools have responded well to the advice provided.

SACRE has not given any advice to HM Government on RE during the past academic year.

#### **Determinations**

Determinations are made where a school, on behalf of a number of parents, requests Collective Worship other than that set down by statue. No such requests have been received by SACRE during the past year.

#### **Complaints**

SACRE has a role in investigating complaints against schools in relation to RE and Collective Worship. No such complaints were received in the past year.

#### **Support for SACRE**

NNW SACRE and NA SACRE continue to provide support to the Blackpool SACRE when requested and has provided valuable information back to SACRE meetings via the chair or other members.

#### Support for schools

The SACRE officer has linked with schools/academies through the local RE network and its chair.

RE network report as incorporated into this report.

#### **RE Quality Mark**

No school achieved this award in 2015/16.

#### **Collective Worship**

No issues surrounding Collective Worship have been submitted to SACRE.

#### Contribution to the wider diversity agendas

Prevent agenda incorporated in report.

SRE and D & A are delivered though an SOW organised by public health. Schools/ academies interpret the moral arguments to these through SMSC, RE and tutor sessions.

#### **Community Cohesion**

British Values is supported in schools through SMSC.

#### **LANCS SACRE**

During the year, Lancashire SACRE continued to host support and training to raise issues of common concern and share good practice and ways of working together.

#### SACRE Frequently Asked Questions\*

#### What is SACRE?

The acronym SACRE stands for the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

#### Why is there a SACRE?

Every local authority has to have a SACRE by law. In 1944, local education authorities (LEAs) were given the chance to set up a SACRE, if they so wished. In 1988, all LEAs were required to have a SACRE.

#### What does a SACRE do?

There is no other group anywhere else like the SACRE; it is unique. The law says that RE must be taught in all schools and a SACRE's role is to advise its local authority on what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area.

#### Who attends the SACRE meeting?

A SACRE is set up to represent a balance of all the interests of the local community. Blackpool's SACRE has elected councillors, representatives of local faith communities, teachers and head teachers, at its SACRE meetings.

#### What are a SACRE's duties?

The SACRE's main function is to advise the local authority on matters related to the religious education, which follows the locally agreed syllabus, and on collective worship in schools.

#### What is a locally agreed syllabus?

The locally agreed syllabus is the statutory document for RE in the local authority. It sets out what should be taught to pupils in all key stages and the standards expected of them at the end of each key stage. It was reviewed in 2011 and produced in partnership with Lancashire SACRE. It is presently being reviewed for 2016 for the next five years.

#### What else can a SACRE do?

A SACRE's broad role is to support good RE and collective worship within Blackpool's community schools.

#### How is this report compiled?

During the four full SACRE meetings held annually the SACRE receives reports regarding support and monitoring of RE and Collective Worship in Community and some Voluntary Controlled schools. The information from these reports, and exam and end of key stage data, is then used to create this report.

#### Can this report help support my CPD?

This report highlights the support available for training, individual school consultancies, Staff INSETs and the links to the faith communities in the area.

#### How can this report help my school move forward with SMSC?

Blackpool SACRE is committed to working with local faith groups to support local school as they help their children understand all members of our diverse community. SACRE Blackpool also upholds the attitudes found in their locally agreed syllabus of being open minded and having respect for all. At the heart of the New agreed Syllabus for RE is the quest for understanding; "What it is to be human". The work of the SACRE supports the Field of enquiry model which allows children to consider what is of worth and who they really are.

<sup>\*</sup>with thanks to NASACRE for the FAQS

#### Management of the SACRE and Partnership with the LA

The SACRE is advised and supported by professional and administrative staff of the Authority and its business is administered centrally through the Clerk to the SACRE.

The SACRE had a modest budget which is used to fund the following areas:

- Attendance at the NASACRE Annual Conference
- Annual subscription payment to NASACRE
- Advice and expertise from Consultants for RE

This needs to be considered in the light of local spending review and a small dedicated budget identified.

#### Other key stakeholders

#### **NASACRE**

The SACRE is affiliated to NASACRE. NASACRE support documents are circulated to new members and are used as the basis for training for members. Blackpool attends the NASACRE Annual Conference and the newsletter is circulated to SACRE members.

#### Lancashire LA

Blackpool have enjoyed a good working relationship with Lancashire, sharing best practice and most recently acting as partners to develop the new Agreed Syllabus.

#### **AREIAC**

The RE Consultant's membership of the AREIAC Trans Pennine Group provides good networking and practice sharing opportunities.

#### **School Report**

"I hear, I know. I see, I remember. I do, I understand" Confucius

Helping children not only to know a little about different faiths but to understand is a big challenge and we very much work on the principle above. So bearing that in mind, our Year 5 children learned a little more about Judaism – they heard the stories, they saw the photographs but they understood the significance of the Seder Meal when they experienced it for themselves.







#### **Standards in Religious Education**

The need for exemplification of attainment in Religious Education specific to the local Agreed Syllabus has been raised by both the Lancashire and Blackpool SACREs.

As a response to this the reviewed Agreed Syllabus contains two attainment targets based on those found in non-statutory guidance on RE (QCA 2000). This takes the format of:

Attainment target 1 - Learning about Religion and Human Experience Attainment target 2 - Learning from Religion and Human Experience.

Each attainment target has been sub-divided into the key areas of the Field of Enquiry identified within the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. These are then given exemplification from Christianity and one other faith required to be studied by the Agreed Syllabus.

#### **GCSE results for Blackpool Schools 2015**

#### **Religious Studies Full Course**

| Centre                                | Entries 2015 | %A*-C of entry |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| National                              | 295,730      | 72.7           |
| Blackpool (all schools)               |              |                |
| Blackpool (non-church schools)        |              |                |
| Aspire Academy                        |              |                |
| Highfield Academy                     | 116          | 46             |
| Montgomery Academy                    | 7            | 14             |
| South Shore Academy                   | 54           | 59             |
| Unity Academy                         | 9            | 55             |
| St.George's Church of England Academy | 179          | 61             |
| St.Mary's Catholic Academy            | 209          | 64             |

#### Commentary:

- Nationally GCSE RE results have improved in the number of entries and the improvement in performance (% A C) over the last two years (71.5% 2014). In Blackpool the figure is below the national average.
- In 2015 16 the total number of Year 10 students taking GCSE RE locally amounted to 841 out of a possible 1237 students (68%). The main exam board is Welsh Board with one academy using AQA and another using Edexcel.
- Some academies offer a short course in RE when appropriate.

#### A Level RE

There have been no results for A Level reported to SACRE

#### **Collective Worship**

The SACRE continues to emphasise its commitment to high quality Collective Worship. Guidance and advice with regard to Collective Worship is given in line with Circular 1/94

Section 394 (1) of the Education Act

The 1996 Education Act empowers a SACRE to grant the request of a Headteacher for alternative Collective Worship, where it is considered that the nature of a pupil population makes it inappropriate to be wholly or mainly Christian. Currently Blackpool has no schools with an active determination.

#### **Determinations**

In the year of this report, the SACRE has not received any request for any determinations.

#### **Complaints concerning Collective Worship**

The LEA has received no formal complaints about the content or organisation of Collective Worship during the period of this report.

#### **Complaints concerning Religious Education**

Blackpool Council had received no formal complaints about Religious Education, under the local statutory complaints procedure, during the reporting year.

#### Appendix 1

#### **Terms of Reference**

The functions of a SACRE are detailed in the Education Act 1996 (Section 391). They are as follows:

- To advise the local education authority upon such matters connected with religious worship and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the SACRE or as the SACRE may see fit.
  - The matters referred to above include, in particular, methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.
- To require the authority (on a vote of the representative groups of the Church of England, other denominations and teachers' associations) to review any agreed syllabus for the time being adopted by the authority by the convening of a statutory conference in accordance with the provision of Schedule 5 to the Education Act 1944 and subsequent amendments in the Education Acts 1993 and 1996.
- In each year, to publish a report as to the exercise of their functions and any action taken by representative groups during the preceding year. The report shall in particular:
  - Specify any matters in respect of which the SACRE has given advice to the Authority,
  - > Broadly describe the nature of the advice given, and
  - Where any such matter was not referred to the SACRE by the Authority, give the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on that matter.
- In accordance with Section 394 of the Education Act 1996, to consider applications made
  by headteachers of county schools (subsequently, community schools without a religious
  character; (School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Schedule 20) whether it is
  appropriate for the requirements for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of a
  particular school, or in the case of any class or description of pupils.

#### Appendix 2 Constitution of the Blackpool SACRE 2012

#### STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### 1. Construction

In this document, unless the context otherwise requires:-

"The Act" means the Education Act 1996;

"The Authority" means Blackpool Borough Council;

"SACRE" means the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education required to be established in accordance with Section 390 of the Education Act 1996;

"Representative Group" means one of the four statutory representatives groups required to be included on the SACRE by Section 390 of the Education Act 1996.

#### 2. Composition of SACRE

The SACRE shall include representatives of the following groups:-

#### A. Representative Groups

As required by Section 390 of the Act SACRE is to include four representative groups as follows:-

(i) Christian and other religious denominations which appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area

(ii) The Church of England 5 representatives

(iii) Associations representing teachers 5 representatives

(iv) The Authority 5 representatives

#### **B.** Academy School Representative

Where the Authority's agreed syllabus is in use in one or more Academy schools, the SACRE shall include a person appointed by the governing body/bodies of the schools concerned.

#### C. Co-opted Members

The representative groups on the SACRE may appoint a further four co-opted members.

The SACRE may make recommendations to the Authority in respect of its composition.

#### 3. Terms of Reference

The SACRE shall have the following functions:-

- a. To advise the Authority upon such matters connected with the religious worship in Community Schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the Authority may refer to the SACRE or as the SACRE may see fit.
- b. The matters referred to in 'a' above include in particular, methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.
- c. The SACRE shall each year publish a report with respect to the exercise of their functions. The report shall in particular:-
- (i) Specify any matters in respect of which the SACRE have given advice to the Authority:
- (ii) Broadly describe the nature of the advice given; and
- (iii) Where any such matter was not referred to the SACRE by the Authority, give the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on the matter.
- d. To require the Authority (on a vote of representative groups representing Christian denominations and other religions, the Church of England and teachers' associations) to review the agreed syllabus by convening a statutory conference in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 31 to the Education Act 1996.
- e. In accordance with Section 387 of the Act to consider applications made by the Headteachers of Community Schools after consultation with the governing body, whether it would be appropriate for the requirement for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of a particular school, or in case of any class or description of pupils at the school.

#### 4. Terms of Office

- a. Subject to sub-paragraph 'c' below, each member of the SACRE shall hold office for a term of four years.
- b. A member of SACRE shall be eligible to be re-appointed for a further term.
- c. The Authority may from time to time review the constitution and composition of the SACRE and any person appointed to the representative groups may be removed by the Authority.
- d. A person appointed to represent Academy Schools may be removed by the governing body or bodies which appointed that person.
- e. A person appointed as a co-opted member may be removed by the SACRE.
- f. A member of the SACRE may at any time resign his/her office.
- g. On resignation or removal by the Authority or Academy School(s), an appointed person shall be replaced by the Authority or Academy School(s) for the remainder of the term of office by another member.

#### 5. Chairmanship

The representative groups on the SACRE shall each year, normally at their annual meeting, elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from amongst the membership of the representative groups. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman will take the chair and in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman a Chairman will be elected for the meeting from amongst the members of the representative groups. The Chairman of the meeting shall not be entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.

#### 6. Meetings

The SACRE shall hold at least one meeting per year at which the annual report shall be agreed.

#### 7. Quorum

The quorum for meetings of the SACRE shall be six members.

#### 8. Voting

- a. Subject to paragraph 'b' below, on any question to be decided by the SACRE, only the representative groups shall have a single vote.
- b. For the purpose of voting, each representative group will elect a spokesperson at each meeting.
- c. In the event of a formal vote being taken, votes will be cast by the nominated spokesperson for each group to consider how its vote should be cast. The meeting shall, if necessary, agree a time limit for this purpose.
- d. The single vote of each representative group shall be cast on the basis of the simple majority view within each group. A tied vote shall be treated as an abstention by that group.

#### 9. Officers

- a. The Clerk to the SACRE shall be provided by the Chief Executive.
- b. The Director of Education shall be entitled to attend, or be represented by members of his staff at any meetings of the SACRE or any meeting of sub-groups or working parties established by the SACRE.

#### **Appendix 3** Summary

#### Blackpool SACRE - 2015-17

| GROUP A – Christian and<br>other religions not<br>including Church of<br>England |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Roman Catholic   | Mrs M Wright      |
| Islam  | Imam Ashraq Patel |
| Judaism  | Rabbi Guttenberg  |
| Buddhism   | Kelsang Pagma     |
| Hinduism   | Dr Vasudev        |
| Salvation Army   | Major Harris      |
| Methodist  | Mrs E Savage      |
| GROUP B - Church of England  |                   |
|  | Mrs H Sage        |
|  | Mr P Harrison     |
|  | Mr T Cox          |
|  | Mrs H Wilby       |
|  | Miss J Snape      |
| GROUP C – Teacher  |                   |
| Representations  |                   |
| 2 vacancies  |                   |
| NUT  | Tammy Hackney     |
| ASCL   | TBC               |
| NAHT   | TBC               |
| RE Network   | Rebecca Binns     |
| GROUP D – Members of the Authority   |                   |
|  | Cllr Blackburn    |
|  | Cllr Collett      |
|  | Cllr Jackson      |
|  | Cllr Cross        |
|  | Cllr Henderson    |

#### <u>Other</u>

Dave Brennand – Blackpool School Improvement Team Lennox Beattie - Executive and Regulatory Manager

#### **Appendix 4** Glossary

#### **Blackpool SACRE Acronyms**

AfL Assessment for Learning

AREIAC Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants

B & V Beliefs and Values [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]

CfSA Council for Subject Associations

CW Collective Worship
D & A Drug and Alcohol

DFE Department for Education

EOKS End of Key Stage

HMI Her Majesty's Inspectorate
ITT Initial Teacher Training

KS Key Stage

LAS Local Agreed Syllabus

LRT Living Religious Tradition [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]

NASACRE National Association of SACRES

NATRE National Association of Teachers of RE
[NS]NFWKRE Non statutory National Framework for RE

NSSWk Non Statutory Scheme of Work

OFQUAL Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation

Ofsted Office for Standards in Education
PSHE Personal, Social and Health Education

RE Religious Education

REC Religious Education Council

RS Religious Studies

SACRE Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
SHE Shared Human Experience [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]

SRE Sex & Relationships Education

SMSC Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

SOW Scheme of work

SPM Search for Personal Meaning [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]