STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)



WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2022

2.00 PM PRIORY, ROOM 2F CENTRE BLOCK, COUNTY HALL / MS TEAMS

MEMBERSHIP
Cllr Roy Galley
Cllr Colin Belsey
Cllr Trevor Webb
Cllr Tom Liddiard
Carrie Beech (LA)
Claire Ramalli (Adviser)
Claire Rivers (Primary)

Mr Peter White
Mrs Rosemary Roberts
Dr Brenda Vance
Dr Norman Williamson
Rev Jeremy Sykes
Mr Jon Gilbert
Ms Elizabeth Coleman

Ms Anna Flood Mr Barry Blakelock Mrs Laura Cooper Mr Tim Telford Mrs Pamela Hartog Julie Stevens (Clerk)

AGENDA

Annual General Meeting

- Declarations of any conflicts of interest Welcome & apologies – Cllr Galley
- 2. Review of Constitution Cllr Galley (Pages 3 12)
- 3. Budget update for 2021 2022 and outline budget plan for 2022 2023 Carrie Beech (Pages 13 16)
- 4. Development Plan Carrie Beech (Pages 17 22)
- 5. Annual Report Cllr Galley

Business Meeting

- 6. Minutes of meeting 23 November 2021 (Pages 23 26)
- 7. Agreed Syllabus update including guidance document and plans for launch and CPD Carrie Beech (Pages 27 34)
 Update on Core KS4 curriculum Claire Ramalli
- 8. Updates from Schools Working Group / Network meetings & CPD
 - Secondary Barry Blakelock / Claire Ramalli
 - Primary Claire Rivers
- 9. NASACRE Briefing Cllr Galley (Pages 35 46)
- 10. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (standing item)
 - Engagement of Special Schools with new Agreed Syllabus
- 11. Any other business

 Next meeting: Thursday 16 June 2022 at 2.00pm

PHILIP BAKER

Assistant Chief Executive County Hall, St Anne's Crescent LEWES BN7 1UE

8 March 2022

Contact Julie Stevens, , 01273 336672

Email: <u>Julie.Stevens@eastsussex.gov.uk</u>

Constitution of the East Sussex

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)



Revised March 2022

Introduction:

A SACRE is a statutory body which is established by the local authority to carry out a range of duties associated with Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools. The legislation that established the role and function of SACREs is laid out in the Education Act of 1996 (sections 390-397). SACRE reports annually to both children's services and the full council about its work and progress.

Composition:

SACRE shall have a maximum of 30 voting members and up to 3 non-voting co-opted members.

Clause 390(4) of the Education Act 1996 requires that the Local Authority appoints members representing the following groups to constitute the SACRE. The maximum number of members in each group is indicated below:

- Group A Such Christian and other religious denominations (other than the Church of England) as in the opinion of the Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area. 15 (11)
- Group B The Church of England 4 (4)
- Group C Such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the Authority ought, having regard to the circumstances of the area to be represented. **6 (5)**
- Group D The Authority (appointed in conformity with the political balance). 5 (5)

Total number of voting members 30

Non-voting co-opted members. Placed in Group A (to be discussed by SACRE) 3 (1)

Advisers to SACRE 2

Clerk 1

Chair and Vice Chair:

- A chairman and vice chair will be elected on an annual basis, usually at the AGM which will be in the autumn term usually following East Sussex County Council elections.
- The chairman will be an elected member of the County Council. The Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- The Chair and Vice-Chair person are elected for a period of 4 years and can be re-elected.
- Nominations for the position of chair and vice chair shall be submitted to the clerk 7 days in advance of the AGM.
- Representatives who continue to be members of SACRE are eligible to be elected as vice chair.
- In the event of an equal number of votes for the position of vice chair the chair of SACRE will have the deciding vote.
- The Chair will be responsible for convening and chairing the meetings in line with the constitution and any other appropriate guidance issued by the local authority.
- The Chair of East Sussex SACRE or his/her representative will represent East Sussex SACRE on any local or national bodies as appropriate.

Membership:

 SACRE meetings will be attended by the clerk, the RE adviser to SACRE and, from time to time, other East Sussex education advisers to promote effective communication with

- the School Improvement Service. SACRE meetings are open meetings, so that members of the public may also be present.
- The main Christian denominations and groups will be offered representation and other world faiths that are mentioned in the East Sussex Agreed Syllabus or found locally: Bahá'í faith, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism.
- All members, including the chairperson, will serve for up to 4 years, after which they may be re-elected by the nominating body for a further 4 year period(s).
- All members must be nominated by a representative body. This should be a local body, wherever possible. In exceptional circumstances this may be a national body. Members will normally be expected to live or work in East Sussex.
- Any member who does not attend 3 consecutive meetings without valid reason will be deemed to have resigned and the nominating body will be asked to name a new representative.
- Where a substitute is to be sent then the clerk needs to be notified in advance of the meeting. Only named substitutes may attend and vote on behalf of a representative group and they should be fully briefed by the member.
- SACRE members may suggest groups without representation on SACRE which they think should be included. Groups with an interest in the work of SACRE may themselves offer a representative. Decisions about allocation of places for co-opted members will be taken by the SACRE.
- The quorum will be an attendance from each representative group (A-D), as actually constituted, of one third of the members of that group (to the nearest whole number).
- Where the SACRE is not unanimous on a decision, a majority from a group vote will be taken with each of the 4 representative groups having a single vote, which vote need not represent a unanimous decision by that group. Dissenting views may be recorded. In the event of a casting vote being required, this will be given by the chairman.
- SACRE will seek to ensure that the membership of SACRE is as diverse as possible and representative of the spectrum of faiths and beliefs in East Sussex.

Duties:

- SACRE will advise the local authority on matters pertaining to the teaching of RE and
 collective worship as laid out in the statutory responsibilities for the teaching of RE and
 requirements for collective worship. The local authority may ask SACRE to report on
 particular aspects in general relating to these responsibilities.
- More specifically SACRE is responsible for:
 - developing the local agreed syllabus for the teaching of RE
 - aspects of continuing professional development and training relating to RE
 - teaching methods
 - matters relating to collective worship
- SACRE works with the local authority and its partners to monitor the implementation of the local agreed syllabus
- SACRE will review the local agreed syllabus at least every 5 years and will convene an Agreed Syllabus Conference for this purpose according to the statutory guidance.
- Have an agreed process for **Determinations** in relation to collective worship and
 undertake these as needed. This is the process where SACRE decides whether
 collective worship in a community or foundation school of a religious character needs to
 be of a 'wholly or mainly of a Christian character' and whether this applies to the school
 making the application. The East Sussex Determinations form shall be used for this
 purpose and any decision reviewed after five years.
- SACRE will produce an Annual Report relating to how it has carried out its duties and progress against the priorities and the development plan. NASACRE guidance will be used to inform the production of the Annual Report. Typically this will be completed by the 31 March each year.

- SACRE recognizes that academies may choose to follow the local agreed syllabus or one of their own choosing. Academies will be encouraged to follow the local agreed syllabus along with their community counterparts. Determinations for academies are not made by SACRE but are made directly to the Secretary of State.
- SACRE will be affiliated to the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education (NASACRE).
- Where possible the Adviser to SACRE will be a member of the Association of Religious Education Inspectors Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC).

Working Groups:

- SACRE may require the formation of working groups to undertake specific tasks on its behalf.
- The remit and tasks of any working groups shall be decided at SACRE.
- Working groups will be dissolved once their remit is complete.

Quorum and Voting:

- Quorum shall be agreed if there are at least 7 members present with at least one representative from each of the 4 groups. If the meeting is not quorate then business cannot proceed.
- Any questions requiring decisions by SACRE shall be made by all members with at least one member of each group present and each person shall have a vote. Co-opted members are not able to vote.
- Decisions are reached by a simple majority vote in which each member has a single vote.
- In the event of a tied decision the chair of SACRE shall have the casting vote.

Administration:

- The local authority makes the necessary arrangements for a Clerk to SACRE to support all administrative matters on behalf of the board.
- The Director of Children's Services is entitled to attend or a representative of the Director and shall be present throughout the meetings and able to offer support and guidance.
- SACRE shall meet at least three times a year and the agenda and papers will be circulated at least a week prior to the meeting.
- Other items may be added as they arise during the course of business or as AOBs.
- Minutes will be agreed by the Chair and circulated within 14 days of the meeting. They
 will be approved at the next SACRE meeting. The minutes will then be available on
 CZone and will be available to the public upon request.
- Meetings will be held in public unless statutory obligations deem otherwise.
- All meetings will be made as accessible as possible.

Visits:

On occasion SACRE members may have the opportunity to visit schools, this is a privilege and SACRE members are there as invited guests, not inspectors. When an invitation to visit a school is received by a SACRE member, they are asked to:

- Inform the clerk of the visit dates and arrangements
- Ensure that you are respectful of all faiths, religions and ethical beliefs
- Avoid being critical or imposing your own views

- Be encouraging and informed about the developments and priorities of the East Sussex SACRE
- Be supportive of the school and their endeavours to deliver high quality RE and comply with the statutory requirements around RE and collective worship
- Where any issues arise be sure to discuss these with the Chair of SACRE and the Adviser to SACRE so that they may be resolved

Accountability:

- East Sussex SACRE is fully accountable to East Sussex County Council.
- ESCC will provide such budget that will allow East Sussex SACRE to carry out its duties in full.



Code of Conduct Guidelines for attendance at meetings

- Respect the faith, belief and practice of those present
- Listen to what other people have to say; everyone's contribution is relevant
- Comments should be addressed through the chair
- Wait for someone to finish speaking before you begin and give people a chance to respond
- Be assertive but respectful of others
- Accept differences of opinion and respect each other's views
- Do not use abusive or discriminatory language or say things that could hurt others
- Try to encourage everyone in the group to participate fully by giving them a chance to speak and by making them to feel comfortable and supported
- Maintain confidentiality when requested so that people may speak openly
- Be clear when you speak, avoid using jargon if you can and be sure to explain any initials and terminology so that others feel included
- Aim to have a discussion, share ideas, ask question and follow on from what others are saying rather than making a speech
- Be aware of and be courteous to people around you
- Keep mobile phones on silent unless in an emergency
- Recognise that all present have a right to respect for their individual beliefs
- If anyone deliberately misrepresents or disparages other people's beliefs and practices they will be asked to leave the meeting
- Individual members not adhering to these guidelines may, at the discretion of the chair, be asked to leave the meeting
- A member of SACRE may be removed from office if it is the opinion of SACRE that the member has persistently breached the guidance
- If it is in the collective opinion of SACRE that a committee member does not adhere to the guidance for meetings SACRE will inform the nominating body and SACRE has the right to request a replacement representative member





Members of the East Sussex SACRE June 2021

Group A – Representatives of other Christian denominations and other Religions

Ms Anna Flood Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Dr Tariq Rajbee Hastings Islamic Representative

Ms Elizabeth Coleman Bahá'í Community
Dr Brenda Vance United Reformed Church

Mr Peter White (Vice-Chair) South Eastern Baptist Association

Dr Norman Williamson Unitarian Church
Mrs Pamela Hartog Jewish Community

Vacancy Orthodox Christian Church

Vacancy Hindu Community
Vacancy Salvation Army
Vacancy Methodist Church
Vacancy Sikh Community

Vacancy Religious Society of Friends

Vacancy New Churches

Vacancy Muslim Council for Religious and Racial Harmony UK

Vacancy Buddhist Community

Group B – Representatives of the Church of England

Mr Jon Gilbert

Mrs Rosemary Roberts Rev Jeremy Sykes

Group C – Representatives of the Teacher Associations

Mr Barry Blakelock Academy representative

Mr Tim Telford National Education Union (NEU)
Mrs Claire Ramalli National Education Union (NEU)

Mrs Laura Cooper National Association of Headteachers (NAHT)

Mrs Claire Rivers Teaching Schools representative

Group D - Representatives of the Local Authority - all to be confirmed

Councillor Roy Galley (Chairperson)

Councillor Colin Belsey Councillor Trevor Webb Councillor Tom Liddiard

Local Authority Adviser to SACRE

Claire Ramalli RE Consultant
Carrie Beech LA Advisor

Clerk to SACRE

Julie Stevens



Agenda Item 3

Report to:	East Sussex SACRE
Date of meeting:	16 March 2022
Ву:	Carrie Beech ESCC Adviser to SACRE
Title:	SACRE Budget 2021- 2022 and outline Budget Plan 2022 - 2023
Purpose:	To advise the East Sussex SACRE of the budget position for 2021- 2022 and and outline budget plan for 2022 - 2023

Recommendations:

- SACRE are asked to approve the budget spend for this year and the outline plan for next financial year.
- Agree to make a case for an ongoing budget share of £15,00 per annum going forward to support high quality RE in East Sussex.

1. Background

The annual budget allocation for SACRE in recent years has usually been between £7,000 to £10,000. This year and next financial year the allocation is agreed to be £15,000 to reflect that over the next two years there is funding and work required to support the revision of the Local Agreed Syllabus.

2. Budget plan for 2021 - 2022: £15,000

Area of work	Budget allocation
Specialist Advice to SACRE 8 days	£3,200
SLE support for engaging primary schools and primary networks 5 days	£1,750
Partnership with RE today to provide: • support for development of new Agreed Syllabus • licensing costs • CPD launch event • Development of KS4 core curriculum (Split total over two years so same amount to be paid in May 2022)	£8,171 (reduced from £9,250 as we don't pay VAT)
NASACRE annual subscription fee Annual NASACRE conference NASACRE on-line training	£105 £60 £50
SLE time to support curriculum development – 5 days at £350 a day	£1750
Total	£15,086

3. Funds Held by St Mark's Teaching School: £2000

Area of Work	Budget allocated
Primary CPD with RE Today June 2021	£450
Subsidise RE Today support for schools	£1550 (2022 – 2023 budget plan)
Total	£2000

4. Other contributions from SLES:

- Support for Secondary networks from Secondary Board
- Support for SLES representation on SACRE and support for Schools Working Group and raising profile and quality of RE Teaching
- Primary and Secondary Boards and Teaching Schools allocation for SLEs (Specialist Leaders in Education) for school-to-school support

6 Understanding Christianity subsidy explained:

With regards to Understanding Christianity under Syllabus model B, there is now a positive change around the interpretation of eligibility for the allocation of funding. We can now engage the following schools within the UC subsidy, Foundation, Academy and Free schools, this would be subject to an individual school check which we would carry out.

This makes a significant difference when engaging with Syllabus model B, as the original outline proposal was based on 44 community schools taking part with the UC training and receiving a 71% subsidy, this could be increased to 122 schools, which leaves the 44 Voluntary controlled and the 22 Voluntary aided schools outside of the subsidy. However, if these schools wished to engage with UC we would support them with a subsidy provided by RE Today.

6.1 Costs for Understanding Christianity:

- The funded schools would pay £60 towards the total cost of £210 for the training and their UC folder
- The unfunded schools would pay £60 towards the total cost of £210 for the training + £75, which is the cost of their folder, the remaining £75 would be subsidised by RE Today, making the total cost to each school £135.

7. Launch Event Options for purchasing the schemes of work (optional):

The schools will have the opportunity to purchase the scheme of work for the following:

- Primary schools Gross cost is £300 applied discount £140 = net cost of £160
- Secondary schools Gross cost £165 applied discount £77 = net cost of £88

7.1 Outline Budget Plan for April 2022 to March 2023

Area of work	Budget allocation
Specialist Advice to SACRE 8 days	£3,200
SLE support for engaging primary schools and primary networks 4 days	£1,400
Partnership with RE today to provide: • support for development of new Agreed Syllabus • licensing costs • CPD launch event • Development of KS4 core curriculum (Split total over two years so same second invoice due in May 2022)	£8,171 (reduced from £9,250 as we don't pay VAT)
NASACRE annual subscription fee	£105
CPD for schools and RE Today support package – reduced rate for 3 years Termly webinars 3 x Secondary and 3x Primary Annual conference 1 x Secondary 1 x Primary	£4,842 (per annum) To be offset by the Teaching School budget of £1,550) therby reducing to £3,292
Total	£16,168

8. Recommendations:

• SACRE are asked to approve the budget plan

<u>Contact</u>: Carrie Beech, Local Authority Adviser <u>Beech.Education@gmail.com</u>



Agenda Item 4

SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN September 2021 – July 2023

Updated March 2022

1	Monitor standards and provision of RE in East Sussex so	chools					
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	Α	G
1.1	 Through the network meetings for Primary and Secondary Schools develop a simple questionnaire (survey monkey or email) to use in school visits and network meetings to inform the judgement of provision in East Sussex and planning for support. Collate all contact details for RE leads in all schools Schools Group to devise the questionnaire Network meetings to issue and discuss questionnaire and collate responses 	RE lead / Clerk	Throughout the year linked to network meetings and visits	Schools are compliant in meeting statutory requirements for the teaching of RE. SACRE has an improved understanding of the provision for RE teaching in schools.			
1.2	Establish an accountability framework that allows for a review of outcomes as part of the process. Due to Covid19 there will be no local and national comparisons for student outcomes from the last two academic years.	RE advisor / Clerk	June 2022	Increasing numbers of entries for GCSE RE short and full courses in more schools. % achieving grades 4+ and 5+ are at least in line with national average for the year.			
1.3	School visits planned to share good practice and take feedback from schools to inform the work of SACRE. Widen the number of SACRE members who undertake school visits. This can include virtual visits and schools focus group opportunities.	RE lead / SACRE members	June 2022	Programme of visits/online meeting opportunities planned and agreed at SACRE board. Visit reports evaluated to identify support needs and actions for schools and SACRE			

1.4	Links to NASACRE and to SE SACRE Group to share and learn from practice in other authorities – RG on NASACRE and can feedback, CR engaging with SE SACRE Group as Adviser to SACRE and can feedback.	Chair of SACRE	Ongoing	Chair and SACRE Adviser reports back to SACRE 3 times a year. Learning identified and used to inform practice in East Sussex.		
1.5	Review a cross section of school websites to ensure that the RE curriculum is available and to identify any questions or concerns that SACRE might have. These may be passed to the Schools Group to follow up or for SACRE visits.	SACRE members, Chairman, RE Lead, Clerk	January to July 2022	Improved standards of RE and pupil progress in East Sussex schools. All schools meeting statutory requirements.		

2	Support the quality of RE teaching and learning in all schools								
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	Α	G		
2.1	Support the work of the RE Networks for Primary and Secondary Schools and the role of the Schools Working Group to work with schools to help improve the quality of teaching and learning in RE.	Barry Blakelock	ongoing	Effective school to school support established. Increased number of SLEs for RE.					
	Networks and Schools Group to report back on progress to SACRE.			Examples of improved quality of teaching and learning.					
2.2	Support the delivery of professional development for schools and governing bodies working in partnership with national organisations and experts:			60% of schools engage in the network meetings. 30% of schools attend the annual					
	Network meetings for RE subject leaders in primary and secondary schools	Claire Ramalli for Secondary Claire Rivers Primary	3 times a year	conferences. 100% of evaluations from CPD events are good and better.					

	b. Professional development programme planned	RE lead, Chair,	Annual	T. I (c CDD in
	according to identified support needs and to launch and support the new Agreed Syllabus	LA representative	programme	Take up for CPD increases.
	c. Conference for RE Subject leaders planned	and Clerk Claire Rivers		
	d. Secondary conference as part of network group	Claire Ramalli		
		Carrie		
	e. Training to be offered to governing bodies	Beech/Governor Services	Nov 21 and Feb 22	Governing Boards are aware of statutory position of RE and are able to challenge their schools where they have concerns.
2.3	Further develop resources to support high quality teaching and learning in RE.	RE lead and Schools Group	ongoing	Examples of good practice and a range of resource materials shared
	This will be through signposting national resources			with schools and feedback reported to SACRE.
	and websites and sharing good practice.			
				Profile of RE teaching and resources raised through social media platforms.
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3	Support the provision of collective worship and SMS0						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	Α	G
3.1	Monitor provision of collective worship through questionnaires and school visits	RE lead / SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools meeting statutory requirements for Collective Worship.			

3.2	Develop a local policy for determination in relation to acts of collective worship.	CRa and CB	June 22	Determination policy published and understood by schools.		
	 Review examples of other SACRE Determination policies 					
	 Develop and consult on an ES policy Publish the ES Determination Policy on the website 					

4	Improve effectiveness of role of SACRE						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	Α	G
4.1	Training and induction in place for SACRE members and annually reviewed.	SACRE support	Annually	All SACRE members fully aware of their roles and responsibilities			
4.2	Improve SACRE members' knowledge and understanding of the education context and the strengths and challenges facing East Sussex schools in relation to RE and collective worship.	RE lead, Chair of SACRE, LA Representative and Clerk	Annually	All SACRE members aware of the wider school context and specific performance in RE, Collective Worship and pupils' SMSC			
4.3	 Increase the profile of SACRE in the community: Attend governor forums Photos of SACRE members on website Regular newsletters/communication to schools Pupil conference and events promoted by SACRE 	All SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools and local and wider community aware of the role of SACRE			
4.4	Succession planning for SACRE – review membership and ensure full representation across all groups. Bring other members on board as identified to increase the expertise and support for the work of SACRE.	All SACRE members	Ongoing	SACRE skill set continues to develop and future members supported to engage with SACRE			

4.7	Annual report to Scrutiny Committee	RE lead / LA Representative, clerk and Chair of SACRE	ESCC fully aware of effectiveness of RE teaching and learning and responsibilities of SACRE		

5	Review East Sussex local agreed syllabus for RE						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	Α	G
5.1	 Review of Local Agreed Syllabus in the light of national developments and feedback from schools. SACRE to decide on the process for reviewing the syllabus Working group to look at the Agreed Syllabus and gain feedback from schools Agreed Syllabus Conference – to sign off the syllabus Plan launch event and ongoing support for the implementation of the new syllabus for all schools Promote engagement from all schools in the new syllabus 	RE lead, Schools Group and SACRE	Sept 2021 Feb 2021 Jan 2022 March 2022 onwards Jan 2022 onwards	Revised Agreed Syllabus published in autumn 2022 is fit for purpose and responds to national developments and guidance.			

5.2	Monitor national developments and changes which	RE lead and	Ongoing	SACRE is aware of changes which	
	will impact SACRE's views of syllabus development.	SACRE		are made at a national level.	
	For example, the National Council for RE Report 2018,				
	Theos Think Piece, research and literary reviews,			SACRE ensure that schools are fully	
	Ofsted inspection framework.			aware of National initiatives and	
	•			developments	
	Consider the place of world views in RE and ensure			·	
	that the new syllabus reflects and enables			SACRE ensures that funding is in	
	opportunities for discussion of world views.			place to support schools with any	
				key national initiatives	
	National changes to be brought to SACRE meetings				
	for discussion and agreement on actions				

East Sussex SACRE

Notes of the meeting

Date:Tuesday 23 November 2021Venue:Centre 2F / Microsoft Teams

Chairman: Councillor Roy Galley

Clerk: Julie Stevens

SACRE members Cllr Roy Galley, Cllr Colin Belsey, Peter White (PW), Rosemary Roberts (RR), Dr present: Norman Williamson (NW), Liz Coleman (EC), Jon Gilbert (JG), Anna Flood (AF),

Barry Blakelock (BB), Tim Telford, Laura Cooper (LC)

Also present: Julie Stevens (JS) (Clerk), Claire Ramalli (CRa), Claire Rivers (CRi)

Apologies: Cllr Liddiard, Pamela Hartog, Tariq Rajbee, Brenda Vance, Carrie Beech

Item	Title	Action
1	Welcome/ Introductions & Apologies	
1.1	Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present at the meeting.	
	Apologies were noted by the Clerk.	
1.2	There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.	
2	Minutes of meeting 22 June 2021	
2.1	The minutes of the last SACRE business meeting held on 22 June 2021 were agreed as accurate.	
2.2	Matters arising 2.1 The formal AGM will be held at the March meeting 2022. SACRE had already agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair would continue for a 4-year term.	
3	Updates from Schools Working Group/Network meetings & CPD	
3.1	BB advised that the action from the ASC on 21 September regarding speaking to parents and students re the new Syllabus has not yet been actioned. This will be completed in time for the ASC being held on 5 January 2022.	ВВ
3.2	CRa updated the meeting on the Secondary Hub. Rachel Jensen, Head of RE at Ratton is now leading the Secondary Hub. The hub met remotely in October. The hub was advised that we are going with the RE Today model for the new syllabus. Stephen Pett has emailed some titles of units to the hub members to help with planning for next term.	
3.3	CRa is in contact with Stephen Pett re the syllabus launch date of 29 March 2022, 09.15 – 15.30, this event will be held remotely to allow for more attendees. The plan is to run a primary and secondary session together in the morning and then separate primary and secondary groups in the afternoon.	

- 3.4 Cllr Galley asked if Stephen Pett could send the full content of the units to the hub members? This would give the opportunity for any comments. CRa confirmed she would contact Stephen.
- CRa
- PW asked for an update on the situation with the KS4 element of the syllabus. CRa advised that we will still encourage schools to opt for GCSE, and confirmed she is in dialogue with Stephen Pett to develop the KS4 unit alongside the Agreed Syllabus. The core curriculum will be ready for the launch.
- 3.6 CRi updated the meeting on the Primary Network meetings. A network meeting was held on 29 September with 37 attendees; Ruth Flanagan spoke on World Views and received very positive feedback. Ruth Flanagan will be attending a primary network meeting again on January 26 to lead on a session on RE and Research.
- CRi advised that she had been contacted by some maintained schools and academies to ask if they need to follow the agreed syllabus as they had signed up for Discovery RE; CRi has sent the legal requirements to the schools.

 CRi has also updated the Primary Board with regards to the Agreed Syllabus.

4 Feedback from World Views, NASACRE on-line training session

4.1 Cllr Galley led on this item. The NASACRE training sessions were working extremely well due to remote working.

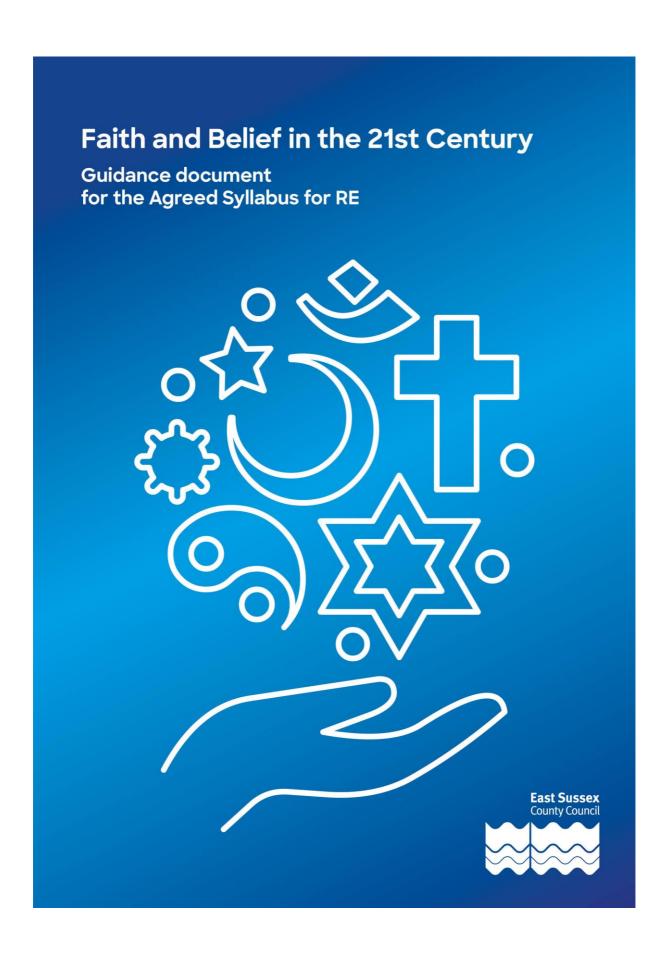
Ruth Flanagan had spoken at the NASACRE session on 10 November re World Views. Cllr Galley gave his opinion that World Views is a fascinating subject but is not convinced that this is RE and worries that the understanding of religion will be 'watered down'.

- **4.2** Discussion and debate amongst the group followed, the key points were:
 - (i) EC Perhaps we should have religion as the focus but embrace others that do not have a religion.
 - (ii) BB Worldviews allows children to understand the relevance of RE and has his support.
 - (iii) CRi Worldviews does not undermine faiths; it is very much centred around debate and discussion to make things relevant to students.
 - (iv) NW We need to be careful in limiting the teaching of religion to children; we must be open to other ideas and let people have the freedom to make their own minds up. All religions are inter-linked.
 - (v) RR We should be trying to help children understand what they believe; Worldviews seems a bit "woolly".
 - (vi) PW Finds the concept of Worldviews confusing. We need a much more informed decision.
 - (vii) Rev JS RE works best in a philosophical/ethical way, if Worldviews are also using deep questions then that is fine.
 - (viii) JG From a primary HT point of view, humanism is becoming more of a force.
 - (ix) AF In our catholic schools we have a very prescriptive curriculum and is currently being looked at the Bishop's conference to link with Worldviews.
- **4.3** Clerk will circulate the Ruth Flanagan presentation to SACRE.

IS

5	Development Plan	
5.1	Cllr Galley led on this item. The Development Plan had been circulated to the group prior to the meeting.	
5.2	Each item was discussed, and the RAG ratings will be amended by the clerk.	JS
6	Budget Plan	
6.1	Cllr Galley led on this item. A budget paper had been circulated to the group prior to the meeting.	
6.2	SACRE agreed the budget plan.	
6.3	SACRE agreed the ongoing support package from RE Today would be helpful from next financial year. CB to take forward.	СВ
7	Ofsted Research Report on RE	
7.1	CRa presented some slides to the meeting. The Clerk will circulate these to the group following the meeting.	JS
8	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (standing item)	
8.1	PW commented that the East Sussex SACRE is still not very representative of a wide range of religions.	
8.2	Cllr Galley suggested that Alistair Robertson, our previous observer from the humanist society be contacted to see if he is still interested in attending SACRE.	JS
9	AOB	
9.1	The next meeting of the Agreed Syllabus Conference is on 5 January 2022, this will be held via MS Teams only. BB will produce the agenda.	ВВ
	Date of the next business meeting: Wednesday 16 March 2022 @ 2.00pm	
	Venue: County Hall & MS Teams	





Faith and Belief in the 21st Century The new Agreed Syllabus for RE for East Sussex 2022-2027

Introduction:

Colleagues across East Sussex, led by SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) have been working over the last two years to plan for and review the Agreed Syllabus for RE. It is a statutory requirement that each local authority establishes an Agreed Syllabus Conference to lead the completion of the review process and to agree a new syllabus. In East Sussex we have consulted widely with schools, faith groups, parents and students before arriving at an agreement to work with a national organisation, RE Today, to support us in developing the new syllabus. The new syllabus has now been formally adopted and will be implemented from September 2022 for first teaching. The first year is always a transition year and schools may choose to work with a staged process for implementation in the first instance. We are very excited to have a new, relevant and up to date syllabus for all schools and academies in East Sussex that we believe is a significant step change from our current syllabus.

Not only do we have an exciting new syllabus, but we have a support package and additional materials that we are offering to schools. In this document you will find your quick guide to the new syllabus and to the key dates you need to note and book so that your school is fully prepared for teaching from September 2023.

Agreed Syllabus;

The new syllabus will be available from the launch event and will be issued to schools in electronic form and hard copy, one per school, for every school and academy. This gives the outline of the legal teaching requirements, suggested content, assessment and timings.

The 5-year licence for the syllabus has been paid in full for every school through the SACRE budget. This is a significant investment and one that we hope all schools and academies will take full advantage of to enable you to meet the legal requirements in a vibrant and engaging way for all pupils.

Schemes of Work:

To support the implementation of the syllabus detailed schemes of work are available for schools to purchase when they attend the launch event above. *Please note these are only available at a reduced rate where schools send a representative to the launch event.*

Primary Schemes of Work for KS1 and KS2: Full cost is £300 applied discount £140 = discounted cost for schools attending the launch of £160 Secondary Scheme of Work for KS3: Full cost £165 applied discount £77 = discounted cost for schools attending the launch of £88

The units of work offer substantial guidance on teaching and learning, with a range of thoughtful and creative activities you can use to plan your pupils' learning journey in response to the syllabus key questions. The units exemplify the syllabus planning approach so that you can create a coherent curriculum for your pupils.

Launch Event:

There will be a FREE launch event online at which we hope and expect all schools and academies to be represented:

Introducing the new East Sussex Agreed Syllabus 2022-2027
Faith and Belief in the 21st Century
Tuesday 29th March 2022
9.15-3.30 Online via Zoom

This conference will explore the new East Sussex Agreed Syllabus for RE. It will provide an opportunity to see the changes to the current syllabus and explore how it helps teachers in planning and delivering creative and effective RE, to inspire their pupils as well as meet the challenge of the new OFSTED Framework. Sessions will outline the wider context for RE and provide some inspiring and practical ideas for the classroom. There will be plenty of resources and ideas to take away and use in your classroom.

9.15-9.30 Welcome and Introduction to the day

9.30-11.00 Session 1: The intent of the new Agreed Syllabus: belief, impact, connections

This session will consider the place, purpose and value of RE for pupils, highlighting the developments and opportunities in the new syllabus. It will demonstrate how to use the syllabus to plan and teach engaging, thoughtful RE.

11.30-1.00 Session 2: Implementing the Agreed Syllabus

This session will offer examples of excellent teaching and learning ideas, based on the syllabus, with a focus on creative strategies that enable pupils to recall their learning.

2.00-3.30 Session 3: Impact: teaching and learning, achievement and assessment

This session will look at setting high standard with the new syllabus. It will explore more teaching and learning ideas, connecting them with methods of assessment, providing examples of ways to enable pupils to make good progress in RE.

Those attending the day will receive:

- Access to an electronic copy of the syllabus
- Additional materials and access to these online, including all materials used on the day
- The opportunity to purchase the detailed **schemes of work** at a substantially reduced rate

Who is it for?

The conference is aimed at teachers of RE from primary and secondary schools, including teachers, HLTAs, subject leaders and head teachers. It will also be valuable for governors to find out about and explore best practice in RE.

Aims:

• To introduce the new East Sussex Agreed Syllabus for RE, with its clarity, rigour, and inspiring support materials

- To provide practical support and guidance to schools in planning creative, challenging, thoughtful RE to increase pupils' knowledge and understanding, as well as their personal development
- To give teachers confidence when planning and delivering great RE, and in dealing with core concepts in religions, deepening subject knowledge and skills in RE
- To model examples of thoughtful RE, challenging all pupils and promoting deeper thinking

To book your places please use the link below:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMucOquqj0rGtUCHVok7f63AhosfBddF1K4

Please note, all teachers who are coming should complete the registration form, so that all attending teachers receive the link.

Network Meetings:

- Claire Rivers has been leading the Primary Network meetings and will
 continue to do so. These will take place in term 5, 1 and 3 over the next
 year. Dates for the Primary Network meetings can be found via the following
 link: <u>RE Network for All Primary Schools East Sussex Learning Collaborative
 Network (eslcn.org)</u> under the section News and Events. The next meeting is
 on 15 June.
- Claire Ramalli has been leading the Secondary Network meetings and they will continue over the coming year in term 5, 1 and 3. The next Secondary Network meetings are to be held on 23 February and 15 June.
- Note that these network meetings are provided free to schools, funded by SACRE

CPD linked to the implementation of the new Syllabus:

Twilight CPD:

The first sessions will take place online with targeted support for the implementation of the new Agreed Syllabus there will be one for primary and one for secondary in each of the terms 6, 2 and 4, over the coming year. These are again FREE to schools, being fully funded by SACRE. It will be especially effective CPD if more than one member of staff attends – why not use these as part of a school or department meeting?

• Primary:

Date: Tuesday 28 June

Time: 4.00-5.30

Focus: Implementing the agreed syllabus

Tutor: Fiona Moss National RE Adviser from RE Today

Secondary:

Date: Tuesday 5 July Time: 4.00-5.30

Focus: Implementing the agreed syllabus

Tutor: Stephen Pett National RE Adviser from RE Today

Understanding Christianity CPD:

The teaching of Christianity in the new syllabus is built around a resource called 'Understanding Christianity'. There are additional resource materials that schools

can access through CPD. Many of our Diocesan schools are familiar with this resource and already use this in school. For community schools and academies this is heavily subsidised by RE Today to support the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus.

Secondary Understanding Christianity CPD:

Date: 11 July 2022 full day

Location: Online Trainer: Stephen Pett

Cost: £210 for non-subsidised schools (subsidised cost is £60 for community

schools and academies)

(Discounts available for NATRE members! See website for details.)

BOOKING DEADLINE 4 JULY 2022

A day course introducing a substantial resource for teaching Christianity for 11-14s, laying the foundations for excellent learning at 14+/GCSE and A Level.

This day course will provide you with an overview of the Understanding Christianity approach, units of work strategies and activities, as well as specific classroom resources to support learning.

Join Stephen Pett for this virtual day course. Packed with the same knowledge and interactivity of a webinar, this training time gives more room for discussion, real-life examples with in-depth explanations and the usual wealth of expertise.

Teachers attending this course will:

- Be able to use this excellent and innovative resource package for a coherent curriculum teaching about Christianity 11-16
- Consider the place of concepts, creativity, theology and textual learning in RE through exploring inspiring examples of teaching and learning ideas, to help pupils learn in greater depth
- Develop their own skills as a teacher of RE by using this significant, fully resourced approach.

Book here:

www.natre.org.uk/courses-events/upcoming-courses-events/understanding-christianity-secondary-online-6/

Primary Understanding Christianity CPD:

The <u>Understanding Christianity</u> resource is a high quality, ambitious resource designed to offer pupils key concepts and **vocabulary**. The pedagogy builds on these concepts in each key stage. It is **carefully sequenced** to enable pupils to **progress** in their learning and **know more and remember more** about Christianity in a coherent and **systematic** way as they revisit material in **greater depth** each year.

How will it benefit schools in East Sussex?

The new East Sussex Agreed syllabus for RE is written with the Understanding Christianity units as an integral part of it. Accessing the training will mean:

- An introduction to the pedagogy, including visual resources that enable pupils to understand the key concepts in greater depth.
- Access to detailed lesson planning materials with a feast of creative teaching ideas
- Access to extensive classroom-ready photocopiable resources

Independent evaluation research has shown that teachers receiving the CPD have better subject knowledge, feel more confident and create better learning outcomes for pupils.

What is the CPD offer, and how much?

Independent research from the Centre for Education and Monitoring shows that the best CPD is sustained across several terms, with opportunities to try out materials and meet again within a community of practice to explore how things have gone well and steps for greater progress.

Thanks to grant funding we are offering East Sussex schools a subsidy on the cost of a training course if you are a community school or academy without a religious character.

For £60 (instead of the usual £210) you will have access to:

- 3 Half-day training sessions to build teachers subject knowledge and confidence
- The full resource hard copy and digital to enable it to be taught from EYFS to Year 6. The resource comes with classroom ready materials to stretch pupils.

Trainer:

The training is delivered by Adam Robertson, national adviser with RE Today. He was a primary teacher for 14 years, until summer 2021, and has used this resource in school with pupils since it was created.

What do teachers say about it?

"Fantastic. I have to say having received the training and resource pack there are so many ideas and so many materials that you can pick up and use - it has just been fantastic as a resource." (Teacher, Community Primary School) "Teachers who have embraced it and children who are doing it, absolutely love it." RE Subject Leader, School, Community Primary School

How do I book the training?

Training is being offered **online** on the following dates. Teachers will need to attend all the dates to fully access materials.

Session 1: Thursday 9th June 2022 1.00-4.30pm

Session 2: Wednesday 21st September 2022 1.00-4.30pm Session 3: Wednesday 23rd November 2022 1.00-4.30pm

Please book using the link below:

https://www.retoday.org.uk/school-support/professional-development-courses/understanding-christianity-east-sussex-primary-schools-cohort-1/

Free CPD	Additional training and resources for further support
Agreed Syllabus launch 29 March Includes full day of training, the syllabus and support resources	Scheme of work, supporting thematic units, and units on religions other than Christianity Primary £300 £160 at the launch Secondary: £165 £88 at the launch
Twilight network meetings • Primary 24 March; 15 June • Secondary 23 February; 15 June	Understanding Christianity training and resource, to support the units teaching Christianity in the syllabus Primary: starts 9 June, £210 for church
Twilight webinars	schools, £60 for community schools / academies Secondary: 11 July, £210 for church schools, £60 for community schools / academies



Latest news and updates from NASACRE

View this email in your browser



National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education

SACRE BRIEFING

Issue: 30

This issue includes:

- Welcome and Update from the Chair
- Sad news
- New website
- Conference 2022 Ambitious SACREs
- LAN (Local Area Network) report
- Clerks' and Chairs' contact details
- Jewish SACRE representatives
- SACRE Self-evaluation tool
- NASACRE's new online training programme
- FOI Project
- Westhill Awards
- Items for your next agenda

Welcome and Update from the Chair

Welcome to this edition of the NASACRE Briefing.

This term has been one of consolidation and renewal for NASACRE and for many of its member SACREs. Consolidation, as we have secured our CPD programme for members, re-established our thriving partnerships with other RE associations, and obtained helpful advice from the DfE. Renewal, as like so many other education networks we have taken inspiration from teachers and other professionals as they rose to the challenges of the new academic year in these tricky times.

The NASACRE report on SACRE funding remains a source of discussion locally, and at our executive committee meetings and in other RE networks. We're pleased that the report has enabled some SACREs to begin open discussions about funding within their groups, and with local authority representatives.

Similarly, the local area network report 'Still Standing' compiled by our executive committee member, Claire Clinton, and based on research by several SACREs, is promoting dialogue about best practice. It shows the impact that well-informed and highly motivated SACRE networks can have on the subject and its teachers. Both reports can be accessed here.

The editorial in this term's British Journal of Religious Education, written by assistant editor Dr David Lundie, brings together an overview of the challenges we all face. Noting the potential impact of research-informed resources on students David records that:

'Perhaps no other subject provokes such anxieties from teachers as teaching about religion. Understanding the motivations, worldviews, pressures and funds of knowledge of the fantastic professionals who make up the RE teaching world is essential....'

Sadly, as mentioned below in the next paragraph, we have to share news of the deaths of two friends and professionals who stood out in their communities. We will be joining in with other RE associations and networks to mark the lives and contributions of these colleagues when it is appropriate, and we offer condolences to their families and friends.

In the meantime, members of the executive wanted to note the major contributions Sharon Artley made to our own association, to RE, and to education in a much wider sense. She was passionate about the subject, and about teaching, a deep thinker and a very practical support in so many settings especially in the world of websites and IT. Her sense of humour, hospitality, honesty and kindness will be missed, and so will her wonderful wildlife photography.

NASACRE needs you to consider how members of SACREs might help the association in the future. Our executive committee still needs a Vice-Chair, who will then become Chair, and we will be actively and strategically advertising this vacancy between now and our AGM in May. We are a democratic organisation, and we rely on members to step forward to join us on the committee. Meetings are usually fun, focused and full of information and ideas useful to SACREs around the country – please do contact any one of the team if you would like to know more. We are aware that the programme of professional development is creating new links and contacts, and we hope some of you will feel inspired to join us to secure the association's future.

More information about the executive committee roles can be found here and I can promise you a warm welcome if you decide to stand for election!

And finally, please accept our best wishes to all for a joyful, peaceful and fulfilling festive season – thank you for your support to NASACRE, and may we all find a happy New Year.

Linda Rudge, Chair@nasacre.org.uk

Sad news

We are sorry to inform SACREs of the untimely deaths of Ted Cooke, Chair of Waltham Forest SACRE for many years and Sharon Artley, a former member of NASACRE Exec and an RE Consultant. Both will be sadly missed in the world of RE and SACREs.

New website

An overhaul of the NASACRE website is underway with the aim of bringing a fresh design and a more contemporary feel to it.

Content is being streamlined so it's easier to use, combining sections such as the SACRE Contacts Directory and Annual Reports, thereby reducing the number of clicks a user needs to make. Some older things will be archived, but still searchable, and there will be more resources available to subscribed member SACREs at the click of a 'Members' button.

We're also looking at bringing a more 'community' feel, by introducing a section for shared resources and links with NASACRE partners such as the REC.

The new site is due to go live soon, with the intention that webpages will continue to be developed thereafter. From the launch onwards, user feedback will be essential so that the website can continue to evolve.

Conference 2022 - Ambitious SACREs

Taking place in Birmingham on Monday 23 May, this conference will provide an opportunity for SACRE members to engage in discussion around issues of RE and Collective Worship. Keynote speakers will be Sarah Lane-Cawte (new Chair of the REC - Religious Education Council), HMI Richard Kueh (Ofsted) and David Hampshire, a previous chair of NASACRE, who will present the analysis of the most recent (2021) SACRE annual reports.

Additional sessions will look at the new SACRE audit tool, Westhill award winners, the LAN report (see briefing item below) and other topical issues of interest to SACREs.

Put the date in your diary now!

LAN (Local Area Network) report

Still Standing – the REC Local Area Network Report is now live here.

The report asks SACREs to consider the following points:

1. Reviewing SACRE membership in partnership with the LA to ensure that it is representative of the local community, and supports the religions and worldviews included in the Agreed Syllabus. Having a diverse range of voices with specific roles on SACRE is essential if an LA is to be able to discharge its legal responsibilities. SACREs can start the process of working with their LA to update membership now. This may require a change to the constitution or terms of reference; the

- LA legally approves your members and there is nothing in the present legislation that would hinder this.
- 2. Continue to build local partnerships with the LA to ensure necessary funding.
- 3. Within the present legislation regarding their ability to widen their membership, the CoRE report helpfully suggests SACREs think about adding to their membership if they haven't done so already education departments at museums and universities, local ITT providers, local RE CPD providers, training school hubs, parents, governors, pupil voice, academies and free schools, to name but a few possibilities. Widening representation and local buy-in strengthens the work of high quality RE in schools.

Claire Clinton, the report's author, believes that there are some useful documents developed by SACREs who participated in the project, for other SACREs to use in their work, including

- An audit tool for Agreed Syllabus reviews
- A simple participatory action research template
- A membership tool

NASACRE hopes that there will be an opportunity for SACREs to find out more about these tools and discuss the impact of the report at our (hopefully!) face-to-face May 2022 conference in Birmingham (see conference item above).

Clerks' and Chairs' contact details

Other national bodies e.g. faith bodies, the DfE and the REC, make use of NASACRE's list of SACRE contacts for getting in touch with you. As the first meetings of the calendar year often bring changes to personnel, please

ensure that the details NASACRE holds for your SACRE are up to date.

NASACRE needs to have contact details for clerks, advisers, LA officers and chairs to ensure that information gets to the right people.

Please contact admin@nasacre.org.uk to send your amendments for the site.

Jewish SACRE representatives

The Board of Deputies of British Jews is working to find a Jewish representative for every SACRE in England.

Please can your clerk let us know if this position is filled, and if so, it would be helpful to send their details to Sheila Gewolb. Please use the same contact details if you would like us to find you a suitable person.

Many thanks for your help.

SACRE Self-evaluation tool

The development group has worked hard on reviewing, updating, and improving the SACRE self-evaluation tool. This tool will enable you to consider your SACRE's effectiveness in all areas of its work in order to produce a targeted and costed Development Plan in partnership with your LA.

The SEF is available here for use at SACRE meetings.

There will be a workshop at our conference in May 2022 around how to use the tool to best effect.

NASACRE's new online Training programme

"It is excellent that NASACRE is doing these online sessions."

"Really clear and useful information and chances for thoughtful discussions."

Thank you."

"Such a great programme this year! so helpful."

These are just a few of the comments from the chat at the online training sessions that have already taken place.

You can access these recorded sessions here along with the Ppts and resources.

The programme for 2021-22 can be accessed here.

Our next training session will be on **18 January 2022 from 7-8pm**: *An introduction: How to be an effective SACRE Chair*

This session will help SACRE Chairs to reflect on their present practice and share with other Chairs around the country some top tips for effective chairing.

Sessions are free to SACREs who have paid the annual training subscription

fee of £50, but will otherwise cost £20 for each session for a subscribed SACRE and £30 for a non-subscribed SACRE.

FOI Project

If your SACRE has initiated any discussions with the Local Authority as a result of the data shared in the project, NASACRE would love to hear from you. What response did the LA give? Has your funding increased as a result? Your experience might be useful to other SACREs, and anonymity will be preserved.

Westhill Awards

Over the last sixteen years, the Westhill/NASACRE Awards have successfully given SACREs opportunities to enhance their capacity to generate high quality experiences in RE (or collective worship) for their schools.

NASACRE is now encouraging and inviting individual SACREs (or SACREs in partnership) to apply for a Westhill/NASACRE Award for 2022-23. Awards of up to £4,000 may be applied for via the application form on our website.

Projects should offer pupils the opportunity to engage in compelling learning experiences in RE (or collective worship), within the broad theme of "Education into Diversity", understood as diversity across the spectrum of faiths and worldviews.

Any SACRE wishing to submit an application is strongly advised to look at the <u>revised</u> <u>briefing notes</u> which accompany the online application form and the

materials shared in the December Training session.

For queries, advice or further information, please contact <u>Michael Metcalf</u>, the convenor of the Awards Panel.

Closing date: 31 March 2022

Items for your next agenda

- Book places for your SACRE members on relevant <u>online training</u>
 events
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2022
- Share the REC report *Still Standing* and consider and respond to the questions it raises for SACREs
- Consider applying for a <u>NASACRE/Westhill Award</u>
- Introduce the date of the <u>2022 NASACRE Conference</u> to SACRE members and decide who is going to represent your SACRE
- Check that we have your most recent contacts on our website.
- Send your SACRE <u>annual report</u> to NASACRE and to the DfE





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