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## Agenda

Name of meeting STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS

**EDUCATION** 

Date MONDAY 16 OCTOBER 2023

Time **4.00 PM** 

Venue COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT,

**ISLE OF WIGHT** 

Members of the committee

Committee A

Sister Kelly, Alison Burt, Lionel Alexander, Anne Sechari, Simon Bligh, Norma Corney, Ebrahim Jeewa Nick Wilde,

Muhammed Bahar, Sylvia Clare

**Committee B** 

Harry Kirby, Beryl Miller, Janice Willmott, Sue Rogers

**Committee C** 

Beth Feltham, Kirstie Thomas, Clare Slade-Carter,

Rebecca Lennon

**Committee D** 

D Cllr Andre (Chairman), Cllr Critchison, Stuart Brenchley

Democratic Services Officer: Marie Bartlett

democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

#### 1. Reflection

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.





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#### 3. Declarations of Interest

To invite Members to declare any interest they might have in the matters on the agenda.

#### 4. **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 12)

- 1. To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2023.
- 2. To discuss any actions from the minutes

#### 5. Membership Update

To receive a verbal update on membership.

#### 6. **Monitoring Report** (Pages 13 - 14)

To receive a report from the Monitoring group.

#### 7. National and Local Matters (Pages 15 - 18)

To consider key national and local RE developments, including an update on the school Governor training that took place in July 2023.

#### 8. **Draft Annual Report** (Pages 19 - 36)

To receive the draft Annual report 2022-23.

#### 9. **Review of the Constitution** (Pages 37 - 42)

To discuss the review of the SACRE Constitution and consider the amendments put forward by the Constitution Review Group for implementation.

Members to vote if they accept the new version of the SACRE constitution, subject to final approval by Legal Services.

#### 10. Brief updates or notifications of items to be brought to future meetings

To receive updates and notification of future agenda items.

CHRISTOPHER POTTER Monitoring Officer Friday, 6 October 2023

#### Interests

If there is a matter on this agenda which may relate to an interest you or your partner or spouse has or one you have disclosed in your register of interests, you must declare your interest before the matter is discussed or when your interest becomes apparent. If the matter relates to an interest in your register of pecuniary interests then you must take no part in its consideration and you must leave the room for that item. Should you wish to participate as a member of the public to express your views where public speaking is allowed under the Council's normal procedures, then you will need to seek a dispensation to do so. Dispensations are considered by the Monitoring Officer following the submission of a written request. Dispensations may take up to 2 weeks to be granted.

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## Minutes

Name of meeting STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS

**EDUCATION** 

Date and Time MONDAY 26 JUNE 2023 COMMENCING AT 4.00 PM

Venue MEDINA HOUSE SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE, NEWPORT

**PO30 2HS** 

Present Committee A

Members representing the Roman Catholic Church

Members representing non-Christian faiths

Dr Lionel Alexander Mrs Alison Burt Ms Anne Sechari Ms Norma Corney

Ms S Clare Sister Kelly

Committee B

Members representing the Church of England

Mr Harry Kirby

Committee C

Members representing the teachers of the Isle of Wight

Ms Clare Slade-Carter Ms Rebecca Lennon

Committee D

Members representing the Local Authority

Cllr Debbie Andre (Chairman)

Cllr Claire Critchison

Also Present Justine Ball and Sarah Philipsborn

Apologies M Bahar, S Bligh, S Brenchley, B Feltham, S Rogers,

N Wilde and J Willmott

#### 12. Reflection

A reflection was given by Cllr Debbie Andre

#### 13. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were given by Muhammed Bahar, Stuart Brenchley, Simon Bligh, Beth Feltham, Sue Rogers, Nick Wilde and Janice Willmott

#### 14. Declarations of Interest

None were received.

#### 15. Minutes

**RESOLVED:** 

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2023 be approved.

ACTIONS arising from the minutes:

It was reported that Chris May was unable to attend this SACRE meeting but would be invited to the 16 October 2023 meeting. It was planned to also invite all the RE Leaders to this meeting.

The Governor Training that had been scheduled for the 11 July 2023 was going ahead but this meeting was now going to be on-line as it was advised that by holding the meeting virtually, there was the potential of more governors attending.

#### 16. Membership Update

It was stated that a lot of work had been undertaken in trying to replace members who had resigned, and that the membership of the SACRE was in a much healthier place.

Links were being made with the Sikh and Hindu Communities in Portsmouth with the hope that this would lead to an Isle of wight SACRE member from these faiths.

Rebecca Lennon stated that she would provide the clerk with a contact who had expressed interest in joining the SACRE from the Hindu faith.

Clare Slade Carter was leaving her current position and therefore could no longer be the Special School representative on Committee C. The SACRE thanked Clare for all her hard work on this committee.

#### 17. Local and National Updates

#### 17a A written report to be presented by the Special Advisor to the SACRE

The Adviser to the SACRE updated the committee on sources of funding that could be of interest to the SACRE. The largest grant providers were mentioned as the Culham St Gabriel's trust.

It was brought to the committee's attention that there was an online workshop on the 28 June 2023 at 7pm to showcase all those who had received a grant. It was felt beneficial for SACRE members to attend so they could generate ideas for the Isle of Wight SACRE with regards to future applications for funding.

The Adviser to the SACRE gave an update regarding the RE Hubs and how the website for this had just been launched. The project was still in its infancy but with the potential that a wide range of resources would be uploaded to the hub website which teachers and the SACRE would be able to access and use.

It was brought to the members attention that the Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education AULRE were working to promote recruitment of RE teachers and had been involved in running a second webinar on this subject.

Grants from Westhill were stated as being geared to areas concerning the voice of the child.

If any member was interested in training linked to faith, place of worship and presenting in schools, they were asked to let the special Adviser know and she would send them the form to join the hub meetings. One of next topics to be discussed on the hub was Jainism.

Discussion then took place on Jainism.

#### RESOLVED:

THAT the local and national updates be noted

#### 17b A verbal update to be given on the NASACRE AGM and Conference

Cllr Debbie Andre and Harry Kirby gave an update about their attendance at the NASACRE AGM in London in May, and the topics discussed at the conference that followed.

Discussion took place on the role of the SACRE in having the potential to draw faiths together and how SACRE could be a lever in interfaith understanding.

#### 18. **Monitoring Report**

The Adviser to the SACRE reported on the findings and discussions of the Monitoring Group which included Harry Kirby, Beth Feltham and Cllr Debbie Andre.

The Monitoring Group had undertaken a visit to special school and the visit had focused on how the RE curriculum and collective worship was designed and adapted so to make the subject engaging and meaningful to all children.

It was reported that the HIAS primary and secondary RE Network meetings were taking place throughout the summer term, though whilst primary meetings were being held face to face, secondary meetings were being held virtually. SACRE

members were asked if they would like to offer any input on their religion or belief to contact the Adviser.

The secondary network group had met to discuss moving forward with the Youth Voice to SACRE and the SACRE was asked to consider how this would evolve. It was hoped that Year 9 would be the target group as this would perhaps inspire more pupils to do RE as a GCSE. Christ the King had offered to host the event and it was hoped that the event would take place in either the autumn or spring of the next academic year. The SACRE members were asked if they would offer input into the event.

Discussion took place on the Youth UN format as a template for the Youth Voice in SACRE.

#### RESOLVED:

THAT the SACRE agreed to the initial format put forward by RE Leaders regarding the Youth Voice.

THAT the SACRE would offer their support to such an event.

#### 19. Review of the SACRE Constitution

The Adviser to the SACRE explained that there had been some progress with the review of the Constitution and that she had attended a meeting along with Cllr Andre and the Isle of Wight Council Legal Team.

The Legal Team were looking at the points raised by the SACRE for possible amendment, though these were very few and were mainly concentrated around the clauses which mentioned the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair. It was hoped that they would be able to bring a completed review back to the SACRE by the October meeting.

#### RESOLVED:

That the progress of the SACRE constitution review be noted.

#### 20. Brief updates or notifications of items to be brought to future meetings

Chris May and RE Leaders to be invited to the next SACRE meeting in October.

Members were reminded to get in touch with the clerk should they be interested in attending the Youth Voice event, though there was no date, time or venue confirmed, as yet, to be able to share with members.

#### 21. Date and Venue of next meeting

Monday 16 October 2023 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Newport at 4pm.

#### CHAIRMAN





Purpose: For Decision

### Committee Report

Committee ISLE OF WIGHT MONITORING GROUP FOR THE SACRE

Date **16 OCTOBER 2023** 

Title MONITORING GROUP REPORT

Report of PROFESSIONAL ADVISER TO THE SACRE

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### 1. Purpose of report:

The purpose of this report is to inform SACRE of the findings and discussions that took place during the meeting of the SACRE monitoring sub-group on 25 September 2023. SACRE has a statutory responsibility to monitor the effectiveness of the agreed syllabus and this group meets before each full SACRE meeting in order to support SACRE in fulfilling this responsibility.

2. Those present at the meeting were: Justine Ball (Sacre Professional Adviser), Harry Kirby, Beth Feltham and Cllr Debbie Andre.

The group received updates on professional RE education, monitoring the effectiveness of RE and visits to schools. It also discussed youth voice to SACRE and governor training during the meeting.

#### Recommendation:

That SACRE notes the findings of the monitoring group meeting.

#### 3. Inspector/Adviser Updates:

HIAS RE Network meetings have taken place on the Island for primary and secondary teachers in the Summer and Autumn terms. The primary meetings were a mixture of face to face and virtual and the secondary meetings were held virtually. The primary emphasis was on CPD on Dharmic religions and transition to secondary school, following requests from RE leaders for a focus on these areas. The secondary network group looked at planning their event on Youth Voice for later in the year and monitoring KS4 RE provision across all schools, which is mixed across schools in terms of hours and delivery. It was agreed that the group would look at ways to monitor this in the year ahead, including visits to secondary schools.

Network meetings show that the Living Difference IV golden threads are now embedded

in schools and the overview studies are going well. The focus with schools is now on teaching the vocabulary of golden threads and showing progression in different types of knowledge. Very few schools are doing the optional pondering time, so the group discussed producing some resources to help with this during this academic year.

An online training session for Island governors on RE and Collective Worship was held on 11 July 2023, with input from one of the SACRE representatives on SEND. This was a result of the SACRE looking at different ways to raise the profile of RE in schools and to provide expertise to schools on this. Several of the SACRE attended this with a wide range of governors and the session will be repeated in March 2024.

#### 4. Other sources of evidence of effectiveness of RE:

The Inspector/adviser reported that 5 Ofsted reports for the Island specifically mentioned RE in both primary and secondary schools and all were positive. Reports commented upon teaching well about a wide range of religious festivals and helping children develop a genuine interest in different faiths.

#### 5. School visits:

There had been no further primary visits undertaken for RE in this period, but a secondary visit is planned in this term.

#### 6. GCSE Preliminary Results:

More detail will be provided to the SACRE on GCSE results in the next meeting. Early analysis shows that the percentage uptake for GCSE RS on the island was very low at 10.7% compared to 25.7% nationally. The monitoring group were concerned about this and discussed possible reasons for this, including the shortage of specialist RS teachers in England. At the previous meeting, the monitoring group looked at ways to raise the profile of the subject with young people and with a wider audience, including governors and senior leaders and plans for this have already been put in place. Case studies of excellent practice and learning journeys to raise standards will be discussed further at the full SACRE meeting, including work undertaken to raise standards by Beth Feltham, member of the SACRE and other schools. These will be shared with other teachers to promote best practice.

### Agenda Item 7



Purpose: For Decision

### Committee Report

Committee ISLE OF WIGHT SACRE

Date MONDAY 16 OCTOBER 2023

Title NATIONAL AND LOCAL RE MATTERS REPORT

Report of PROFESSIONAL ADVISER TO THE SACRE

#### 1. Purpose of report:

The purpose of this report is to enable SACRE to consider key national and local RE developments.

#### 2. Recommendations:

That SACRE notes the report.

#### 3. Executive Summary:

This report seeks to update and inform SACRE of key national developments, for example the work of the Religious Education Council (REC) and NASACRE as well as the Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education (AULRE) and initiatives being led by the Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

#### 4. Culham St Gabriel's Trust initiatives:

Culham St Gabriel's Trust continues to be involved in a number of initiatives and is the largest grant giving body supporting religious education <a href="Homepage-Culham St Gabriel">Homepage - Culham St Gabriel</a>'s (cstg.org.uk).

#### These include:

Providing a range of virtual RE courses that are free to all on different aspects of RE. These are especially useful to new teachers, those teaching with no background in RE and those simply wishing to know more about the current world of RE. They include new 'Primary Beginning Teacher' courses. These can be found here:

#### E Learning - Culham St Gabriel's (cstg.org.uk)

CTeach course – providing the opportunity for RE teachers to study a module on general educational research from the Chartered College of Teaching and apply it to their own RE teaching. The closing date for this is the end of November 2023 and the course is funded by Culham St Gabriels Trust:

#### CTeach Scholarship Programme - Culham St Gabriel's (cstg.org.uk)

5. RE Hubs – This project was introduced to the SACRE last year. The South East section includes the a range of speakers and places of worship, including a link to the Portsmouth Directory of Places of Worship. The range of resources on the website continues to expand, which will be of real interest and use to the SACRE and to Island teachers, including information on further places of worship, speakers and training and CPD that are available for all. As noted in the previous National and Local Matters report, there is a need for more RE Hub accredited speakers in our area and speakers are accredited after completing the initial training. They can then advertise on the website. Further information can be found here:

#### Explore RE in your Region (re-hubs.uk)

6. Sacred Texts British Library

Resources created by the British Library were reported at the previous meeting and are a useful resource available online free of charge for all KS2 teachers on a range of different religions. They can be accessed here:

#### Discovering Sacred Texts: Key Stage 2 teaching resources | The British Library (bl.uk)

- 7. National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). NASACRE is the national body representing and leading on SACREs interests. A regular newsletter is circulated to SACRE members through their SACRE. In addition, a series of training sessions are offered for SACRE members to attend. The training program for 2023-4 is available on the NASACRE website here: <a href="Virtual-training-programme-23-24.pdf">Virtual-training-programme-23-24.pdf</a> (nasacre.org.uk)
- 8. An open letter was sent to the Education Secretary Gillian Keegan in September and published in the Telegraph. This was signed by a group of cross-party peers and MP's. Of particular note is the claim that RE provision is "a postcode lottery", in which some children are receiving a comprehensive and well-taught education, while others receive "either tokenist RE or none at all" with 51% of children being taught be teachers without a specialism in RE. It also highlights that only 44% of the recruitment target for RE teachers will be met. The letter calls for teacher training bursaries for RE and a request for the government to set out what it is doing to improve RE teacher recruitment. Pupils receive a tokenistic religious education, cross-party MPs and peers tell Gillian Keegan (telegraph.co.uk)
- NATRE, represented by Deborah Weston, also represented RE at an Education Select Committee hearing on recruitment and retention on 12<sup>th</sup> September where RE was formally described as a shortage subject by the committee. The transcript can be found here: 12 September 2023 - Teacher recruitment, training and retention - Oral evidence - Committees - UK Parliament
- 10. The Jewish Museum has produced a range of clips and resources for teaching inclusive Judaism. It aims to promote an authentic representation of Judaism in the classroom and make sure that the Jewish community is presented as a diverse living tradition. <a href="Inclusive Judaism">Inclusive Judaism</a> The Jewish Museum London
- 11. There is a new Humanist film aimed at KS2 which looks at the scientific origins of life which will be very useful for teachers when teaching and debating with children about different beliefs about how the world came to be. The film can be found here: <a href="Wheredowecome from?">Wheredowecome from?</a> » Understanding Humanism

12. On Friday 29 September, the RE Council of England and Wales published their non statutory proposal for a National Content Standard for RE, drawing on their project about Religion and Worldviews in the Classroom. It's aim is to suggest a benchmark for high quality RE that syllabus writers can refer to in future when reviewing their syllabus, but it is important to remember that this is a suggestion to help with planning and writing high quality RE syllabi rather than a compulsory requirement. The document can be found here:

National Content Standard for RE Released – REC (religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk)



# ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL AUTHORITY

The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
Annual Report

**SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023** 

## SACRE ANNUAL REPORT Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education Annual Report 2022/2023

#### **CONTENTS**

- 1. Chair's Introduction and overview
- 2. Standards and quality of provision for Religious Education
- 3. Complaints about Religious Education
- 4. Standards and quality of provision for Collective Worship
- 5. Complaints about Collective Worship
- 6. Determinations
- 7. SACRE links with other bodies
- 8. SACRE contribution to supporting schools through events and training
- 9. SACRE's own arrangements

#### **Appendices**

- 1. SACRE membership
- 2. List of organisations receiving Annual Report

#### CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

It has been my great privilege to represent the IOW Council on the Isle of Wight SACRE for a number of years now and, having been the Vice-Chair of the Isle of Wight SACRE for two years, I was delighted to step up and take on the Chair's role. The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) supports the effective provision of religious and collective worship in schools. SACRE also advises the Local Authority on its provision of religious education.

The Isle of Wight SACRE membership draws from different faith and belief systems and I am proud of the diversity and inclusion that makes up our dynamic group who all have a passion for and dedication to Religious Education. SACRE seeks to ensure all our schools offer the highest provision to enable our children and young people to explore their own spirituality and develop their own thinking in a contextualised way that is relevant to them. We fully support the adoption of the "Living Difference IV" syllabus to provide an excellent framework for schools to use and adapt.

This year we have continued the important work of representing the Island both on a local level, being members of the South Central Hub of SACREs, and also nationally with attendance at the National Association of SACRE conference in London, where it was a great opportunity to network with other SACRE members from across the country. We have met regularly in 2022-2023, and I am grateful for the support that we have received from the IOW Council Democratic Services Team who make all of the necessary arrangements when we go "on the road" for our SACRE meetings in various locations around the island. Our termly monitoring group, of which I am a member, meets to evaluate the provision for Religious Education in our schools in more detail and helps to shape the agenda and action plan for the SACRE meetings.

We promote the sharing of good practice through our teacher networks and also support professional development for island teachers in both Primary and Secondary settings and keep them up to date with Religious Education matters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Isle of Wight SACRE for their continued enthusiasm and commitment to our children and young people. It really is a genuine privilege to work alongside so many passionate people who give up their valuable time to support the continued development of the subject in order to enable our children and young people to experience religious education in a way which has meaning for them and that they can carry forward into their adult lives.

Finally, none of this would be possible without the support of Justine Ball, our County Inspector for RE from the Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service, whose dedication to us as a SACRE, our schools and our island children and young people goes above and beyond.

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Debbie Andre

Chair of SACRE

#### **Information about SACRE**

#### 1.1 Duty to establish a SACRE

Since the Education Reform Act of 1988, all Local Education Authorities (LAs) have been required by law to constitute a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) within their local area.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1.2 What does a SACRE do?

SACRE is a unique body; it is set up by the LA but is independent of it, with the role to give advice to that LA. The law states that Religious Education must be taught in all maintained schools<sup>2</sup> and a SACRE's role is to advise what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area.

The main purpose of the annual report is to hold the LA to account, by informing the Secretary of State and key partners what advice SACRE gave the LA during the year and how the LA responded to that advice. This includes advice on Religious Education and Collective Worship in those schools for which the LA has responsibility.

#### 1.3 Composition of SACRE

There are four groups or committees, as below:

A: The Christian denominations and other religious denominations, reflecting the principal religious traditions of the area.

B: The Church of England

C: Teacher and head teacher associations

D: The Local Authority

#### 1.4 Membership of SACRE

The names of the SACRE members and the religious denominations for each group can be found at Appendix A.

#### 1.5 SACRE Functions

- To advise the LA on collective worship and the Religious Education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus including methods of teaching, advice on materials and the provision of training for teachers
- To consider whether to recommend to the LA that its current agreed syllabus should be reviewed by convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- To consider whether the requirement that religious worship in a county school should be 'broadly Christian in nature' should be varied (determinations).
- To report to the LA and the Department for Education (DfE) on its activities on an annual basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Education Act 1996 Section 390:1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> School and Standards Framework Act 1998 Section 69

#### Census data on the Isle of Wight 2021 shows that:

43.9% had no religion
47.7% are Christian
0.4% are Buddhist
0.2% are Hindu
0.1% are Jewish
0.4% are Muslim
0.0% are Sikh
0.8% are any other religion

#### 2. Standards and Quality of Provision for Religious Education

Within the Isle of Wight, advice is available to schools about RE in many different ways:

- The Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton Agreed Syllabus, Living Difference IV
- The Hampshire RE Moodle, which contains the syllabus, advice and both long term and medium term planning for all teachers who use the syllabus
- The SACRE RE Advisor and the Hampshire Secondary RE Teaching and Learning Adviser, who run training with teachers and are available for advice
- Regular CPD opportunities for RE, including Isle of Wight networks for both primary and secondary teachers
- The RE Curriculum site in addition to the RE Moodle, which Isle of Wight teachers
  are also able to use. The Curriculum site has further planning and resources which
  are all helpful to teachers in planning their curriculum.
- Primary RE News on-line publication, produced by Hampshire Inspectors is also available for Isle of Wight schools to subscribe to.
- Other published resources available to support the teaching of Living Difference IV
  through the Hampshire RE Centre in Winchester, such as primary teaching packs on
  a large range of different units. Isle of Wight teachers can purchase these packs at a
  reduced price throughout the year.

The Locally Agreed Syllabus emphasises the importance of high-quality Religious Education provision for all young people throughout their school life, including non examination, core Religious Education for KS4.

A survey on withdrawals from RE and Collective Worship was sent to Isle of Wight Headteachers in this reporting period. Of these schools, the SACRE noted that very low numbers of children were partially withdrawn from RE and Collective Worship. The schools all knew the reasons for withdrawal and the reasons were varied but often due to the religious belief of the family. Schools were very positive about the support they received for RE and Collective Worship.

#### GCSE Religious Studies examination results 2022 and 2023: overall findings

The SACRE noted that only a small number of secondary schools had entries for GCSE Religious Studies in this reporting period, which was a drop in numbers compared to previous years. The results were below national and significantly below national at 1, 5 and

7+ indicators. The SACRE highlighted that teacher recruitment in general was problematic both nationally and on the Island, and that Religious Studies teacher recruitment was even more of a difficulty. The national campaigns for recruiting more Religious Education teachers have been discussed at SACRE meetings and members informed about any initiatives that highlight the value of the subject in schools. During the year, the SACRE has discussed ways to increase awareness of the value of the subject for schools through briefings for senior leaders and governors. It was agreed that the SACRE would run training for governors on Religious Education during this year and this was done in July 2023 with governors attending from a wide range of schools..

The SACRE also discussed the possibility of bringing a youth voice to SACRE and how this was important in helping to raise the profile of Religious Studies as a GCSE option, as well as widening the discussion about the importance of the teaching of Religious Studies to a younger audience.

SACRE remains concerned about the low numbers of young people on the Isle of Wight who are entered for the full course RS GCSE and therefore are concerned to ensure through all means possible that young people are able to access their entitlement for religious education at Key Stage 4.

#### **Training for SACRE members:**

Training is offered regularly to SACRE members by SACRE officers when there are enough new members to require this. SACRE members are regularly updated through NASACRE information, advice and training and the training programme for SACRE members is shared with members each term.

#### a) The Quality of Religious Education provision in Isle of Wight Schools

Religious Education network meetings and attendance at Inspector/Adviser courses indicates that most schools are developing their curriculum to ensure compliance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus, Living Difference IV. Time allocation for Religious Education in the primary phase is usually good. The syllabus recommends that teachers teach the subject and that it is blocked for effective teaching. This is checked on visits and on training or subject meetings with schools. In the secondary phase time allocation for all pupils in KS3 is generally good and is discussed at network meetings with advice provided. SACRE has continued to monitor the teaching of core Religious Education and public examination Religious Education at KS4 through network meetings and has offered advice and support on this to schools. It will continue to be a focus going forward. More monitoring visits and subject meetings to monitor this are planned this next academic year.

#### 3. Complaints about Religious Education

No complaints have been received about Religious Education during the period of this report.

#### 4. Standards and Quality of Provision for Collective Worship

Within the Isle of Wight advice is available to schools around Collective Worship in three ways:

- Hampshire's published advice on Collective Worship in schools (available from the Hampshire RE centre)
- The SACRE RE consultant and
- An annual collective worship course run by Hampshire CC

Monitoring Collective Worship is a focus area for the SACRE and during the period of this report it was decided to look at Collective Worship as well as RE on school visits. During this period, the SACRE also asked for training on Collective Worship to be available to schools in 2022-23 in person on the Island and this ran in the Spring term for all schools with a good attendance.

An action point to support and monitor Collective Worship across schools has been included in the SACRE's 3 year Action plan.

#### **5.Complaints regarding Collective Worship**

There have been no complaints received regarding Collective Worship this academic year.

#### 6.Determinations

There have been no applications for Determinations in Collective Worship during this past year.

#### 7.SACRE Links with other bodies

The Island SACRE is a member of NASACRE and has access to the support offered by NASACRE in its annual programme of training.

The SACRE has close links with Portsmouth and Winchester Church of England Diocese and the local faith groups on the Island. For example, several members attended the Visit my Mosque initiative on the Island held in 2022.

The Island SACRE always attends the termly meeting of the South Central SACRE hub which has members from many of the South Coast's SACREs who meet together and share best practice.

The professional adviser has held the position of co-chair of the Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC) during the period of this report, as well as the post of South East for the RE Hubs project. This ensures that SACRE matters and Religious Education locally are part of national discussions about the subject.

#### 8. SACRE contribution to supporting schools through events and training

During this period there have been many professional development opportunities available to provide high quality advice to support schools in their consistent implementation of the syllabus.

- The professional adviser and the HIAS County Inspector/Adviser for Secondary Religious Education have continued to run termly secondary and primary networks through this period. The network meetings have provided advice and support for the implementation of Living Difference IV and on managing and leading RE, assessment in RE and subject specific CPD. Secondary networks have been held virtually and the primary have been a mix of virtual and face to face meetings.
- SACRE members have conducted some face to face visits to primary and special schools during this period. This has been done with the professional adviser and reports are made to the monitoring group.
- The professional adviser has written a Religious Education newsletter to primary schools to help support them with implementing the new Locally Agreed Syllabus and has offered time to schools who need further help with the syllabus through email contact or virtual one to one short meetings.
- All Island schools have been able to access the Hampshire RE and Collective Worship courses that are available to support all RE subject leaders. Many of these are online and after school which has helped attendance at these.
- A face to face Collective Worship course was held on the Island for all schools and there was good attendance at this.
- During the summer term, an Island Governor briefing was held on RE and Collective Worship to raise the profile of the subject and to inform them about the work of the SACRE. This was well attended and it is intended to hold this again in the Spring term 2023.

#### 9.SACRE's Own arrangements

SACRE has been supported by a LA clerk since the summer of 2021. In addition, SACRE is supported by a Professional Adviser for its activities and monitoring of the syllabus. Standards and quality of provision for Religious Education in Isle of Wight Schools are regularly reviewed by the SACRE monitoring subgroup which meets each term with the Professional Adviser. During 2022/2023, findings have been regularly submitted to the full SACRE at the termly meetings.

#### Attendance at SACRE by Committee 2022-2023

#### Group A:

Faiths represented:

Church of England, Methodist, Free Church, Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Humanist, Bahai, Quaker, Muslim.

**Group B:** Church of England

**Group C:** Teachers Liaison Panel

**Group D:** County Councillors

#### **Attendance**

#### **Autumn - October 2022**

Group A = 80%	8/10
Group B = 50%	2/4
Group C = 75%	3/4
Group D = 67%	2/3

#### Spring - March 2023

Group A = 40%	4/10
Group B = 50%	2/4
Group C = 25%	1/4
Group D = 33%	1/3

#### Summer - June 2023

Group A = 60%	6/10
Group B = 25%	1/4
Group C = 50%	2/4
Group D = 67%	2/4

During this year the Sacre has worked hard to find representatives for some of its vacancies. In particular, all four of the Church of England representatives have now been filled. The primary school Headteacher representative post has also now been filled There have been resignations from some group A representatives during the period of this report, which will need to be filled in the next academic year. SACRE is still seeking a Hindu representative and is seeking a Sikh representative. During this year the SACRE has been without a deputy Chair and the SACRE are looking at this in the review of the SACRE constitution going forward.

#### Summary

As last year, through continued links with Hampshire, SACRE has benefited from the support of the two Hampshire RE inspector/Advisers; one of whom is designated as the Professional Adviser to SACRE. Their expertise and advice continue to be invaluable in supporting SACRE fulfil its statutory duties.

The Clerk continues to act as a link between SACRE and schools and representatives of different faiths. SACRE members are engaged with visiting schools as well as supporting training for teachers. Church of England Diocesan networks also run on the Isle of Wight for subject leaders in Church Schools. Some of these teachers also attend the LA network meetings. All schools are teaching the Locally Agreed Syllabus Living Difference IV.

The Isle of Wight SACRE continues to have a strong sense of team spirit, commitment and cooperation. Meetings are held in an open, frank, manner. The four groups of SACRE ensure SACRE is able to meet its statutory responsibilities.



#### Annexe 1

#### **SACRE Membership**

#### **SACRE Membership 2022-2023**

#### **Committee A**

Members representing the "Free Churches"

Rev. Mike Hackleton (Methodist)

Two members representing the Roman Catholic Church

Sister Stella Kelly Mrs Alison Burt

#### Members representing non-Christian faiths

Dr. Lionel Alexander
Mrs Anne Sechiari
Sylvia Clare
Mr Simon Bligh
Mrs Norma Corney
Mr Ebrahim Jeewa/ Mr. Abdul Basith
Mr Noel Wilde
(Jewish faith)
(Buddhist)
(Humanist)
(Humanist)
(Maha'i)
(Muslim)
(Quaker)

#### **Committee B (4 members in total)**

Representing the Church of England

Mr Harry Kirby Mrs Beryl Miller Mrs Janice Wilmott Mrs Sue Rogers

#### Committee C (4 members in total)

Representing the teachers of the Isle of Wight. Nominated by appropriate groups.

Secondary Miss Beth Feltham The Bay CE School

Primary Mrs Rebecca Lennon Brighstone CE Primary School

Mrs Claire Carter St George's school

#### Committee D (4 members in total)

Representing the Local Authority. Two elected Members. Two nominated by the Director of Education

Cllr Debbie Andre Cllr Claire Critchison

Mr. Stuart Brenchley Christ the King College

#### In attendance

Sarah Philipsborn Clerk
Justine Ball RE Inspector (Primary) Adviser



No.	Actions	Who	Target completion date	Intended outcomes	Status and RAG rating	
1.	Maintaining SACRE Effectiveness and Leadership					
1.1	SACRE to meet once each term and be quorate	SACRE Professional Adviser and SACRE Clerk	Once each term	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Green	
1.2	Representative appointments to all four groups of SACRE to be in place	SACRE Professional Adviser and SACRE Clerk	When necessary	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Amber	
1.3	Introductory training offered to new SACRE members	SACRE Professional Adviser	When necessary	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Amber	
1.4	Regular training offered to all SACRE members regarding new national initiatives relevant to RE	SACRE Professional Adviser	When necessary	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Green	
1.5	SACRE Members appointed to attend South Central SACRE RE Hub once each term and NASACRE AGM and other events as deemed fitting by SACRE	SACRE Professional Adviser SACRE Chair and Vice Chair and SACRE Clerk	Various	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective and take active part in NASACRE and SACRE events in the region	Green	
1.6	SACRE engage in monitoring Collective Worship across the county and identify examples of best practice in secondary, primary and special schools	Monitoring Group with SACRE Professional Adviser & SACRE Chair and Vice Chair	Monitoring Group report to SACRE meetings	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Amber	
1.7	SACRE monitor withdrawal from RE and Collective		Monitoring Group	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be		

	Worship and develop guidance for loW schools	Monitoring Group with SACRE Professional Adviser & SACRE Chair and Vice Chair	report to SACRE meetings	effective	Green
1.8	Introducing new SACRE clerk to the SACRE and induction training developed for the role.	Professional Adviser and Chair and Vice Chair.	Reviewed once each term	For Clerk to feel supported by SACRE and to identify and meet any gaps in provision.	Amber
1.9	SACRE Self Evaluation	SACRE	Reviewed once each year	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Amber



	Actions	Who	Target completion date	Intended outcomes	Status and RAG rating	
2.	Implementation and monitoring the effectiveness of the Agreed Syllabus : Living Difference IV					
2.1	Monitoring Group to meet once each term and report to each following SACRE meeting	SACRE Clerk and SACRE Professional Adviser with SACRE Monitoring Group	Once each term	For Isle of Wight SACRE to be effective	Green	
2.2	Monitoring visits to take place in schools	SACRE Clerk and SACRE Professional Adviser with SACRE Monitoring Group	Once each term	This and other data (e.g. annual ascertain provision of RE in Isle of Wight Schools & overall findings presented to SACRE	Green	
2.3	Monitoring and reporting of GCSE results	SACRE Monitoring Group and SACRE Professional Adviser	Once each year	Verified results to have been considered by Monitoring group once each year and findings presented to SACRE	Green	
2.4	Monitoring in-service Professional Educational opportunities attended by teachers:  (i) Feedback from teachers on need  (ii) Uptake of IoW RE Networks and other Hampshire courses (primary and secondary and special)	SACRE Monitoring Group and SACRE Professional Adviser	Once each term	Analysis of data including feedback from teachers on courses undertaken by inspector/Advisers	Green	
2.5	Monitoring group reporting on Ofsted Visits to Isle of Wight Schools mentioning or inferring messages about religious education	SACRE Monitoring Group and SACRE Professional Adviser	Once each term	Analysis of information from Ofsted inspections of Isle of Wight Schools	Green	
2.6	Monitoring group reporting on other HIAS visits made to schools revealing information about RE	SACRE Monitoring Group and SACRE Professional Adviser	Once each term	Analysis of information from HIAS school visits to Isle of Wight Schools	Green	
2.7	Monitoring withdrawal from RE and Collective Worship through annual questionnaire – ensuring that this is received in schools by the right person to	SACRE Clerk and SACRE Professional Adviser with SACRE Monitoring Group	Once each year	Analysis of questionnaire reported to SACRE	Green	

	complete				
No.	Actions	Who	Target completion date	Intended outcomes	Status and RAG rating
3.	Meeting training	needs of Isle of Wigh	t teachers and s	chool leaders	
3.1	Review professional education offer through a questionnaire to teachers	Isle of Wight Inspector/Advisers	Spring term 2022	Identify and meet any gaps in current professional education provision	Amber
3.2	Be aware of professional education offer across partner and neighbouring SACREs	Isle of Wight Inspector/Advisers	ongoing	Identify and meet any gaps in current professional education provision	Green
3.3	Support on-going development of an annual pattern of professional education for:  (i) New RE leaders in primary schools (ii) Experienced RE leaders in primary schools (iii) NQT, HoD and other specialist courses (iv) Courses for non-specialist secondary teachers of RE (v) special education teachers (vi) Subject booster opportunities available (vii) Governor training	Isle of Wight Inspector/Advisers	ongoing	ensure pattern of professional education is relevant and well timed	Green
3.4	Ensure a rolling programme of briefing for head teachers and separately for governors regarding Living Difference IV across the Isle of Wight	Isle of Wight Inspector/Advisers	ongoing	For Isle of Wight teachers at all stages of their careers to have access to high quality appropriate professional education opportunities	Working through HIAS School Improveme nt Partner for the loW

No.	Actions	Who	Target date	Intended outcomes	Status and RAG rating
4.		Resourcing Living Difference IV			
4.1	Ensure teachers in primary, secondary and special schools have access to resources to support the teaching of Living Difference IV	Isle of Wight RE Inspectors/Advisers, Isle of Wight Curriculum RE Centre manager and SACRE members and teachers		Relevant publications available for teachers at all key stages to enhance the teaching of RE with Living  Difference III	Green
4.4	Review KS4 provision in secondary schools especially non examination courses in light of developments with GCSE	Isle of Wight County RE Inspector/Adviser	Monitoring	Ensure all young people have access to Good Quality RE at KS 4 and able to receive their entitlement for RE.	Amber
5.		SACRE Youth V	oice		
	Development of SACRE Youth Voice	Inspector/Advisers, SACRE Chair and members	Ongoing through the period of this development plan		Amber
5.1	Summer SACRE Youth Voice conference to take place	Inspector/Advisers, SACRE Chair and members	Ξ.		

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## ISLE OF WIGHT STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

('SACRE')

DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR CONSIDERATION

## ISLE OF WIGHT STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ('SACRE') CONSTITUTION

The SACRE has been established under the provisions of Section 390 – 397 of the 1996 Education Act.

#### 1. **COMPOSITION OF SACRE**

1.1 SACRE shall consist of representative members appointed to the four committees of the SACRE by the Local Authority of the Isle of Wight ('the LA') as follows:

#### 1.1.1 Committee A

The members of Committee A shall be representatives of such Christian and other religious denominations which reflect the principal traditions in the Isle of Wight, not including the Church of England, and shall consist of 10 members as follows:

Two persons who are representative of the Roman Catholic Church, nominated by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.

Eight members that are representatives of other Faiths as agreed by the LA. (See note 2).

#### 1.1.2 **Committee B** (4 members in total)

The members of Committee B shall be representative of the Church of England and shall consist of:

Four persons nominated by the Portsmouth Diocesan Board of Education

#### 1.1.3 **Committee C** (4 members in total)

The members of Committee C shall be representatives of the Isle of Wight Teachers and shall consist of:

One Headteacher nominated by Primary Heads One teacher from each of the primary, secondary and special schools.

#### 1.1.4 **Committee D** (4 members in total)

The members of Committee D shall be representative of the Local authority and shall consist of:

Two elected members and up to two further representatives nominated by the

LA.

The four Committees A-D shall constitute the SACRE.

1.2 In appointing representatives to SACRE the LA must take all reasonable steps to satisfy that the persons so appointed are representatives of the denominations or associations as required in this paragraph

#### 2. **CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVE**

SACRE shall have the power to co-opt voting representatives to the Committees.

#### 3. OFFICER REPRESENTATIVES

- 3.1 The Director of Education, currently the director of Childrens Services, shall appoint an officer to attend SACRE meetings as an observer or in an advisory capacity only but not to vote.
- 3.2 The Officer shall be responsible for setting the Agenda for SACRE meetings in consultation with the Chair and Clerk to the SACRE
- 3.3 A Clerk to the SACRE will be appointed by the LA and shall be responsible for taking Minutes of all SACRE meetings and distributing the same within a reasonable time thereafter.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Two students to be nominated from high school sixth forms to attend but not to vote.

#### 4. CHAIR

- 4.1 Each Committee of the SACRE shall nominate a spokesperson on an annual basis.
- 4.2 SACRE shall have a Chairman and vice chairman who shall be appointed for a period of 4 years. The Chairman and vice chairman of SACRE shall be held on rotation by the Chair of Committees A-D unless otherwise agreed by SACRE.

The elected Chairmen and vice chairman shall remain in office until the election of their successors, they become disqualified, resign or the council or committee votes their removal. In the latter two cases, an election for their successor should be held as soon as possible. If neither the chairman or vice chairman is present or able to preside, the committee shall elect another member to preside for that meeting or item.

#### 5. TERM OF OFFICE

5.1 Members of the Committees shall serve on the Committees for a period of four years until the election of their successors, they become disqualified, are no longer representative of the religion, denomination or associations for which they were appointed to represent, resign or the council or committee votes their removal. A member may be further nominated for a further 4 year term by the group they represent and reappointed by the Local Authority.

#### 6. **MEETINGS AND VOTING**

6.1.1 Decisions at each Committee meeting as to how to vote at a meeting of SACRE shall be determined by the majority of the members present and voting on the question provided that in the case of equality of votes the Chair of the committee meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

- 6.2.1 The quorum at a meeting of SACRE shall be 4 so long as it includes at least one representative present from each of the Committees A-D.
- 6.2.2 Each Committee shall have one vote at a meeting of SACRE in relation to any statutory issues such as The Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- 6.2.3 At a meeting of SACRE every matter, apart from items referred to in 6.2.2, shall be determined by a simple majority of those present and voting on the question provided that in the case of equality of votes the Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

6.3

- 6.3.1 SACRE will meet 3 times in each year at such time and such place, as SACRE shall determine, usually termly. Such places to include places of worship, schools and County Hall on a rotation basis.
- 6.3.2 Any working group set up by SACRE in accordance with paragraph 9 hereof shall meet as and when required.
- 6.4 Committee A-C shall be entitled to vote on and require SACRE to carry out a review of the LA's Religious Education Syllabus ('the Agreed Syllabus'). Each Committee shall have one vote on the question of whether to require such a review.

6.5

- 6.5.1 The meetings of SACRE shall be open to members of the public including duly accredited representatives of news media although the public may be excluded from a meeting during an item of business whenever it is likely that, if members of the public were present, confidential information would be disclosed.
- 6.6 For the purpose of suppressing or preventing disorderly conduct or other misbehaviour at a meeting the conference or the council shall have power to exclude any person from a meeting by simple majority vote.
- 6.6.1 Public notice of the time and place of any meeting of SACRE shall be given by posting it at the offices of the LA 5 clear working days before the meeting.
- 6.6.2 Copies of agendas and reports if appropriate of SACRE meetings shall be available for inspection by members of the public at least 5 clear days before the meeting.
- 6.6.3 Copies of agendas, reports and minutes shall be available for inspection by members of the public after a meeting of SACRE until the expiration of 6 years beginning with the date of the meeting. They will also be available on the LA's website.
- 6.6.4 If the chairman of the conference or of the council (as the case may be) thinks fit, there may be excluded from the copies of reports made available in pursuance of the above the whole of any report which, or any part of which, relates only to items during which, in his opinion, the meeting is likely not to be open to the public; and, accordingly, where the whole or any part of a report is not to be available for inspection, every copy of the report (or of the part) shall be marked "Not for publication"
- 6.6.5 Information regarding meetings, agendas and reports to be put on the local Authority's website.

**PROVIDED ALWAYS** that the SACRE shall not be authorised or required to disclose to the public confidential information as defined by paragraph 9 of the Religious Education (Meetings of Local Conferences and Councils) Regulations 1994.

#### 7. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 7.1 The SACRE shall comply with all its obligations contained or referred to in Part V Chapter 111 and Schedule 31 to the Education Act 1996 and in particular shall:
- 7.1.1 Advise the LA on Religious Education and collective worship in LA schools within the Isle of Wight.
- 7.1.2 Decide on applications for determinations of cases in which requirements for Christian collective worship is not to apply as and when required.
- 7.1.3 Require the LA to review its Agreed Syllabus.
- 7.1.4 Publish an annual report of its works specifying any advice given, its nature and reasons for giving it, to the LA.
- 7.1.5 For the avoidance of doubt the obligation on SACRE in accordance with paragraph 7.1.1 shall include methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.

#### 8. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 8.1 SACRE is responsible for the provision of advice to help the LA and Governing bodies ensure that:
- 8.1.1 All pupils in attendance at an LA school shall on each school day take part in an act of collective worship and that this shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- 8.1.2 Every LA school provides a basic curriculum which includes provision for Religious Education for all registered pupils at the school alongside the National Curriculum.

Religious Education is in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus and that the Agreed Syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. VA schools follow Diocesan guidelines for Religious Education.

#### 8.1.3 WORKING GROUPS

SACRE shall as and when required appoint Working Groups to advise and report back to SACRE on any issue within the terms of reference specified in paragraph 7 hereof and shall meet as and when required.

#### 9. **RECORDS**

Copies of the minutes prepared by the Clerk will be held in the LA's offices for a period of 6 years and will be made available to the public on request.

#### 10. CONSULTATION PROCESS

10.1 The Committees are required to consult with the groups that they represent on a regular basis.

From time to time SACRE may, as and when appropriate, consult with parents and governing bodies of LA schools and shall make contact with the parents and governing bodies via the school.

#### 11. REMOVAL OF REPRESENTATIVES

11.1 A member of the SACRE may be removed from membership if the member ceases to be representative of the religion, denomination or associations, which he or she was appointed to represent or he or she ceases to be representative of the LA.

#### 12. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any proposal to alter the Constitution of SACRE shall be made at a meeting of SACRE and shall be approved only by a unanimous vote at the meeting. The proposal will be considered for adoption by the LA.

**THIS CONSTITUTION** was proposed to the LA for adoption as the Constitution of the Isle of Wight Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education at a meeting duly convened at:

On:	
	 Chair
	Vice Chair