



**Children and Young People’s Service**

**Agenda**

**Notice of a public meeting of North Yorkshire Standing  
Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

**Date: Tuesday, 13th December, 2022**  
**Time: 4.00 pm**  
**Venue: Meeting Room 3, County Hall, Northallerton**

**Business**

1. **Welcome and Announcements**
2. **Chair and Vice-Chair of SACRE**  
To report that Councillor Annabel Wilkinson has indicated that she will step down as Chair, following today’s meeting. The Vice-Chair, Councillor Alyson Baker, will become Chair, with Sarah Beveridge becoming Vice-Chair.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th September 2022 and any matters arising** (Pages 5 - 12)
4. **Apologies for Absence**
5. **Declarations of Interest**
6. **Exclusion of the public from the meeting during consideration of the Item of business listed in Column 1 of the following table on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph number specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006:-**

Item number on the Agenda	Paragraph Number
Item 9	3

7. **Member presentation - Mohinder Singh Chana**

8. **Annual Report 2021/2022 - Adrian Clarke, Principal Education Adviser (Support)** (Pages 13 - 28)
9. **Agreed Syllabus Review: Options Paper - Olivia Seymour, Professional Religious Education Adviser** (Pages 29 - 36)  
3
10. **Agreed Syllabus Review: Timeline - Olivia Seymour, Professional Religious Education Adviser** (Pages 37 - 40)
11. **Agreed Syllabus Review: Teacher Consultation - Olivia Seymour, Professional Religious Education Adviser** (Pages 41 - 44)
12. **School Workforce Date - Olivia Seymour, Professional Religious Education Adviser** (Pages 45 - 48)
13. **Update by the Professional Religious Adviser - Olivia Seymour** (Pages 49 - 58)
14. **Update by the Local Authority - Adrian Clarke, Principal Education Adviser (Support)** (Pages 59 - 60)
15. **Development Plan 2022/2024 - Adrian Clarke, Principal Education Adviser (Support)** (Pages 61 - 66)
16. **Work Programme - Patrick Duffy, Clerk to SACRE** (Pages 67 - 70)
17. **Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 28th March 2023**
18. **Any other business which the Chair consider to be urgent**

**Contact Details:**

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Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall  
Northallerton

Monday, 5 December 2022

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

<b>Group A: Faith Groups</b>	
Professor John Adams	Humanist
Brian Berry	Jewish
Sarah Beveridge	Society of Friends
Tom Clayton	Methodist
Chris Devanny	Catholic
David Haddock	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Nasr Moussa Emam	Muslim
Mohinder Singh Chana	Sikhism
Vacancy	Baptist
Vacancy	Hindu
Vacancy	Salvationists
Vacancy	Buddhist
<b>Group B: Church of England</b>	
Reverend Simone Bennett	
Philippa Smith	
Gill Simpson	
Vacancy	
<b>Group C: Teaching Associations</b>	
Tara Askew	
Jo Colledge	
Sarah Hodgson	
Vacancy	
Vacancy	
<b>Group D: Local Authority:</b>	
County Councillor Alyson Baker	
County Councillor Robert Heseltine	
County Councillor George Jabbour	
County Councillor Annabel Wilkinson	
<b>Co-opted Member: Academic Expertise in Religious Education</b>	
Vacancy	

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## North Yorkshire County Council

### North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 4.00 p.m.

Group A: Christian Denominations and such other religious denominations as, in the Authority's opinion, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area: Professor John Adams (Humanist), Sarah Beveridge (Society of Friends), Tom Clayton (Methodist), Chris Devanny (Catholic), David Haddock (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) and Nasr Moussa Emam (Muslim).

Group B: Church of England: Reverend Simone Bennett and Gill Simpson (Diocese of Leeds) and Philippa Smith (Diocese of York)

Group C: Teachers Associations: Tara Askew and Sarah Hodgson

Group D: Local Authority: County Councillors Annabel Wilkinson (Chair) Alyson Baker and George Jabbour

Officers present: Daniel Harry (Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager), Adrian Clarke (Principal Education Adviser - Support), Patrick Duffy (Principal Democratic Services Scrutiny Officer), Heather Russell (Senior Education Adviser) and Olivia Seymour (Professional Religious Education Adviser)

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**Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book**

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#### **13 Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second**

Councillor Annabel Wilkinson asked Members to join her in one minute's silence in memory of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth.

#### **14. Chair of SACRE**

Councillor Annabel Wilkinson confirmed that, as stated on the Agenda, no nominations had been received for the role of Chair. Therefore, as per guidance in the NASACRE Handbook, the Local Authority had exercised its right to appoint the Chair and she has been appointed.

The Chair added that she has been a Member of SACRE for several years and looks forward to working with the Committee.

She stated that she does not intend to be the Chair for the whole of the 2022/2023 School Year, and would say more about this under the next Item on the Agenda.

She was aware that Chris Devanny, who had kindly agreed to Chair the last meeting, had thanked the previous Chair, Helen Sellers, for all that she had done. She echoed those thanks.

Councillor Annabel Wilkinson in the Chair.

## 15. Election of Vice-Chair

The Chair reported that, as there had not been any nominations for the role of Vice-Chair either, the Local Authority had also exercised its right to appoint a Vice-Chair and that will be Councillor Alyson Baker.

The Chair reminded Members that it is more than a year since SACRE has had a Vice-Chair and having this role filled will assist her, as Chair, and gives the Committee the advantage of having someone ready to step in, should she be unable to attend a meeting.

The Chair considered that it is important to build capacity. Therefore, Councillor Baker will shadow her, with a view to her talking over the Chair from next March. The hope then would be that a SACRE Member – other than a Local Authority Member – will step forward to be the Vice-Chair.

## 16. Welcome and Announcements

The Chair welcomed people to the meeting.

For the benefit of newly appointed Members, she advised that the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education is a Statutory Committee, established by the Local Authority. Its main function is to advise and support the Local Authority on matters related to Religious Education, which follows the Locally Agreed Syllabus, and on Collective Worship in Schools.

SACRE comprises representatives from four groups:-

- Group A – Christian Denominations and such other religious denominations that reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- Group B – The Church of England
- Group C – Teacher Associations
- Group D – The Local Authority

The Membership of the Committee is on the back of the Agenda for today's meeting and the papers for this meeting have been published in advance on the County Council's website.

She welcomed new Members - Sarah Hodgson and David Haddock. Sarah had been appointed to the Committee as a Teacher Representative. David has replaced Bill Kimberling as a Faith Group Representative - the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Sarah informed the Committee that she is a Primary School Teacher and Religious Education Lead at Boroughbridge School. David advised that he is a Functional Skills Teacher and has been involved in education and learning.

The Clerk advised that Stuart Anslow, a Teacher Representative, had resigned from SACRE

## 17. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:-

- County Councillor Robert Heseltine
- Mohinder Singh Chana

## **18. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **19. Minutes of the last meeting**

### **Resolved –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

There were no matters arising.

## **20. Draft Annual Report 2021/2022**

### **Considered –**

The afore-mentioned document.

The Principal Education Adviser, Adrian Clarke, took Members through the Annual Report, highlighting the following points, in particular:-

- The document is still very much in draft form and will need to be tidied/formatted.
- More crucially, the examination data from this summer's results is not yet available, but will be for the final version.
- The Annual Report is based on the template agreed by NASACRE (the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education) and the Department for Education and is, therefore, one that needs to be closely adhered to.
- It will be difficult to have the document finalised for December, but that is what officers are working towards.
- Included in the final Annual Report, will be the Questionnaires sent to Schools for the Annual Survey on Religious Education and Collective Worship. The response rate improved significantly this year, which is a real positive, as it helps to provide a better picture. He and the Professional Religious Education Adviser will present an analysis of the responses for the Committee at its next meeting.
- The number of Schools in North Yorkshire fluctuates – with the move to Academy status and the formation of Free Schools.
- A number of resources are available to Schools, the majority of which are password protected for Schools/Academies who have signed up.
- The 2020/2022 Development Plan is appended to the report.

In response to a question about how Schools will be supported, who identified in the Questionnaire that they require improvement, the Professional Religious Education Adviser said that there will be a focus on support through Senior Education Advisers and signposting to the range of training that has been put on this year.

Professor John Adams felt that the draft is very fair and reasonable. It has been another difficult year but it sums up where we are. Professor Adams also

commented that the increase in the number of questionnaires returned is modest. The Principal Education Adviser advised that the response rates for other Surveys are similar. Therefore, the completion rate for the Annual Report is not an outlier. Further thought will be given as to how this can be increased and how the Questionnaire can be built into conversations between Senior Education Advisers and Head Teachers.

Sarah Hodgson enquired whether the Questionnaires are sent to the Head Teacher or the Religious Education Lead. If it is the former, they might not filter down to the appropriate person in the School.

The Professional Religious Education Adviser echoed this point – it is not always known who the Religious Education Leads are.

Councillor George Jabbour asked if it is possible to ascertain the level of interactiveness by knowing the number of Schools who opened and read the emails. The Principal Education Adviser confirmed this is information that the Local Authority is aware of and he related the figures to the Committee.

Councillor Jabbour also wondered whether alternative approaches – such as a phone call – might yield a better result.

In response to a question from Councillor Alyson Baker, the Principal Education Adviser reiterated that Surveys the School Improvement Service send out in other areas receive a similar level of response. His Service will, therefore, aim to email Religious Education Leads in Schools directly, so that conversations can take place with Senior Education Advisers.

The Chair wondered if the Questionnaires might be being received in Schools at a particularly busy time.

Reverend Simone Bennett acknowledged that it was right to push engagement with Schools, but partners have done an extraordinary job in recent times and the system is creaking. It could be a timing issue.

The point was also made that it can be difficult for Schools to respond, due to the calls on their time.

#### **Resolved –**

- a) That the draft Annual Report be noted, together with the fact that a finalised draft will be presented to SACRE at its next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) That it also be noted that the School Improvement Service will examine ways in which the response rate for School Questionnaires might be improved.

## **21. Member Presentation**

#### **Considered –**

A presentation by Sarah Beveridge.

By way of background, the Committee's Development Plan for 2022/2024 contains the action: Implement a programme of Member presentations at each SACRE meeting with a focus on Member work/community involvement and how it links into SACRE. This presentation was the first of these.

Sarah advised that, although she is a Faith Group Representative from the Society of Friends, her presentation is primarily from a Teacher perspective. She is the Head



Teacher at Leyburn Primary School. Teachers need to be aware of diversity and remember why they are here. When it is done well, Religious Education gives great benefit.

Sarah talked the Committee through a PowerPoint presentation that she had prepared entitled *The quality of education*. She highlighted the following:-

- The most crucial component is the quality of education.
- Outcomes are key - what do we really want the children to know – essentially: how can children know more, do more and remember more?
- Curriculum knowledge is multi-faceted. For example: content and concepts; ways of knowing (asking questions; observing practices); personal knowledge; reading (are pupils exposed to the wide range of texts?) and so forth.
- The School is developing its own School Religious Education Curriculum, within the boundaries of the Locally Agreed Syllabus.
- The content has been reduced to focus on the key issues – as stated above, such as what is it that we really want children to know? An example of this has been teaching the children about the Hindu Faith, which has progressed their knowledge of this religion.
- Areas for Development are to:-
  - strengthen the teaching of Hinduism in Years 3 and 4;
  - ensure that end points identify key understanding; and
  - plan to teach through stories and then review these during assemblies

Sarah concluded by saying that Members would be welcome to come to Leyburn Primary School to see the Religious Education work that is undertaken there.

The Chair thanked Sarah for her informative presentation.

## **22. Update by the Professional Religious Education Adviser**

### **Considered –**

A report by the Professional Religious Education Adviser, Olivia Seymour, informing Members of work undertaken since the last meeting.

The report provided details on the following issues:-

- Training
- SACRE Newsletter
- Religion RE Hub Lead for Religious Education – Yorkshire and Humber
- Still Standing: The future of SACREs Report

The Professional Religious Education Adviser highlighted that training will take the principal religions from the Agreed Syllabus; look at the key concepts; and signpost Schools to further information and resources.

She would appreciate it if any Member who would be interesting in being spotlighted in a future edition of the Newsletter could contact her.

Members are encouraged to peruse the Still Standing Report. This is an analysis of a joint Religious Education Council/NASACRE Project, which ran from May 2020 to June 2021. The 'LAN Project' aimed to test out the recommendations of the

Commission on Religious Education regarding SACREs. A link to this report was included in her report.

In response to a question from the Chair as to membership of SACRE, the Professional Religious Education Adviser said that the Clerk is in contact with Faith Groups and she has been encouraging teachers to consider joining.

In response to a point from Councillor George Jabbour, the Professional Religious Education Adviser confirmed that presentations from SACRE and other organisations is an action within the Development Plan.

NOTED.

## **23. Timetable for Agreed Syllabus Review**

### **Considered –**

A report by the Professional Religious Education Adviser, which outlined four options for the production of the Agreed Syllabus, together with time implications; costs and a commentary as to what this would involve in each case.

The options suggested were as follows:--

Option A: SACRE renews the licence with RE Today, which includes an updating of the 2019-2024 folder

Option B: SACRE could adopt RE Today's more recent Syllabus, Model B

Option C: SACRE could adopt a Syllabus from another Local Authority

Option D: SACRE could commission a bespoke new Syllabus

The Professional Religious Education Adviser stressed that consultation and discussion on options will include a detailed paper outlining the four options available to the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC). These will be presented fully for consultation in the SACRE meeting later in the Autumn Term and through the set up of an ASC. They were presented in this paper, in brief, for information only, to inform the timeline included in the paper.

The starting point will be liaison with Schools, SACRE and interested groups to ascertain views on the syllabus – what works; what does not. etc. This will then be analysed and reported to SACRE in December, as a starting point to help determine the direction of travel.

Professor John Adams applauded the fact that the work on this matter was commencing in good time. He felt that financial arrangements would be important because, if the exercise is dominated by budgetary considerations, options will be apparent rather than real. The Principal Education Adviser stated that he will be discussing this further next week to establish parameters and bring these back to the next meeting.

In response to a question from Councillor George Jabbour as to how the decision had been determined previously, the Professional Religious Education Adviser confirmed that there will be a Session in December for SACRE to understand the merits and demerits of each option.

She stressed that the Agreed Syllabus Conference is the body that will take the decision. This could include reviewing a number of Agreed Syllabuses to ensure that the one chosen is appropriate for this SACRE.

NOTED.

## **24. National Response to 'A' Level and GCSE Religious Education Results**

### **Considered –**

A report by the Professional Religious Education Adviser, which outlined the national response to A Level and GCSE Religious Education Results.

The Professional Religious Education Adviser confirmed that, by the time of the next meeting, data will be available in respect of this year's examinations, which will enable comparisons, locally and nationally. This will highlight if there are any particular issues that need to be addressed.

Tara Askew advised that her School did not have a Religious Education Class in Year 13, as the numbers were too small. This year, too, there will not be a Class, as the School is favouring other subjects. The Professional Religious Education Adviser said she was aware that this is occurring elsewhere at some other Schools. OFSTED will be picking up Schools who do not teach Religious Education and she is hopeful this will have a positive impact.

Professor John Adams mentioned that in Wales they have moved towards the teaching of religious values and ethics in the hope that this will be a more relevant curriculum.

NOTED.

## **25. Update by the Local Authority**

### **Considered –**

A report by the Principal Education Adviser (Support) which updated Members on developments on the following:-

- Communication and resourcing
- Support for Senior Leaders and Governors
- Ofsted Inspections

Feedback from OFSTED on Religious Education aspects of teaching is generally positive, although there have been some recent comments about pupils having a limited knowledge of different religions and faiths. The School Improvement Service will liaise with the Schools concerned.

Councillor George Jabbour advised the Committee that he had attended a training course run by NASACRE "So you've joined your local SACRE". He had found it beneficial and encouraged other Members to take advantage of the training provided by NASACRE.

The Clerk, Patrick Duffy, echoed this and advised Members that there is no charge to them, as the Local Authority has bought into the Training Package. Here is the NASACRE [training page](#) for ease of reference.

NOTED.

**26. Rolling Work Programme**

**Considered –**

The latest rolling Work Programme.

The Clerk advised that the document is a guide and can be amended, as circumstances change.

He stressed that the Work Programme is owned by the Committee; it is their Work Programme. Therefore, either now, or at any stage between meetings, Members are welcome to let him know if they have any suggestions for Items to be added to it.

In response to a comment from Professor John Adams, it was confirmed that key deadlines in relation to the Agreed Syllabus will be built into the Work Programme.

NOTED.

**27. Next Meeting – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 4.00 p.m.**

The Clerk confirmed that this will be a hybrid meeting.

It will be held in person at County Hall, Northallerton for those Members who would like to attend in person and who are able to do so.

There will also be the facility for Members who cannot attend in person to join remotely. This might be due to the distance involved and the time spent travelling, for example.

This reflected the feedback from Members when their opinions had been canvassed – some Members clearly wanted to meet in person whereas, for others, attending remotely was preferred. It was acknowledged that, sometimes, the facility to attend remotely can be the difference between being able to be a part of the meeting and not being a part of it.

**28. Any other business, which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered as a matter of urgency**

There was no urgent business, as such, but the Chair congratulated the Professional Religious Education Adviser on being appointed Regional RE Hub Lead for North Yorkshire.

The Chair thanked people for attending and declared the meeting closed.

The meeting concluded at 5.30 p.m.

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**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
SACRE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2021-2022**

**Contents**

Introduction from the Local Authority.....	2
1.Introduction .....	4
.....	4
2. RE Statutory responsibilities .....	5
Standards and monitoring of RE.....	5
3. Collective Worship .....	7
4. Links with other bodies.....	8
5. SACRE involvement locally.....	8
6. SACREs own arrangements.....	8
Finance.....	8
Officers and support .....	9
Membership.....	9
Membership of each of the four Groups which constitute the North Yorkshire SACRE in the academic year 2021-2022 was:.....	9
Circulation.....	10

## Introduction from the Local Authority

Welcome to the Annual Report for North Yorkshire SACRE, covering the School Year 2021/2022.

I am writing this foreword because Helen Sellers stood down as Chair, part way through the year, for personal reasons.

Helen was an active Chair during her time in the role and helped drive forward the work of SACRE. We are grateful to her for her contribution to its work, both as Chair and, prior to that, as a Member.

After Helen stepped down, Chris Devanny kindly agreed to take the Chair for the remaining meeting, in June 2022. The position of Vice-Chair has been unfilled all year. A new Chair and Vice-Chair will be in place for 2022/2023.

Once again, the school year saw some disruption, due to the various restrictions necessary to deal with the Covid-19 Pandemic and, once again, all those involved in education across North Yorkshire showed tremendous dedication to enable an excellent educational experience for all our children and young people. This year, saw a return to Religious Education Examinations in person. SACRE will look forward to an analysis of these results during 2022/2023.

SACRE met four times during the year, with each meeting being held remotely. It is likely that in 2022/2023 hybrid meetings will be held ie some Members attending in person and others joining remotely. This would reflect the wishes of those Members who wish to continue to meet remotely and those who wish to physically be in attendance to meet and catch up with other Members and officers in person.

The professional support to SACRE has remained unchanged throughout the year. In addition to myself, this has comprised Olivia Seymour, Professional RE Adviser; Heather Russell, Senior Education Adviser and Daniel Harry and Patrick Duffy from Democratic Services.

There have been a number of changes to Membership, which I am setting out below.

In Group A, in addition to the departure of Helen Sellers:-

- Brian Berry joined as the Jewish Representative
- Tom Clayton joined as the Methodist Representative, replacing Sian Henderson
- Sarah Beveridge joined as the Society of Friends Representative. It was good to welcome back Sarah, who had previously been a Teacher Representative
- Dave Haddock joined as Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Representative, replacing Bill Kimberling
- Sarah Leach, the Buddhist Representative, is no longer a Member.

The Membership of Group B remained the same.

In Group C, Stuart Anslow joined. However, there are still a number of vacancies in this Group, which it is hoped will be able to be filled in 2022/2023.

In Group D, following the Council elections in May 2022, the Council appointed Councillors Alyson Baker and George Jabbour to join Councillors Annabel Wilkinson and Robert Heseltine. The Council has decided to just have four representatives - rather than the previous five. We said goodbye to Councillors Janet Jefferson, Andrew Lee and Patrick Mulligan.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of all of the outgoing Members and wish them well. Overall, the departures do leave SACRE with a less experienced Membership than previously. Therefore, the development of Members is something that SACRE may need to consider going forward

A key element has been the development of a new Development Plan for 2022/2024, which was approved at the June 2022 meeting. The previous Development Plan, which ended this School Year, is appended to this report. Good progress has been made against the priorities identified and officers will, with the support of Members, aim to ensure that the new Plan sees similar progress.

SACRE Members received training on the NASACRE Self-Assessment Tool. This was particularly useful and opportune in relation to the afore-mentioned Development Plan.

With meetings having been held remotely, it is important that SACRE hears about some of the good work going on in the community and in its Schools. To this end, SACRE considered interesting presentations on Craven Education Development Centre; Jamyang Buddhist Centre in Leeds; and the Welcome School Accreditation Scheme. Tara Askew, a Teacher Representative, kindly updated Members on the Religious Education undertaken at her School, Tadcaster Grammar.

I am very grateful to Members for their commitment to SACRE and the support that they give to me and my colleagues.

Adrian Clarke

Principal Education Adviser (Support)

## 1.Introduction

SACRE met four times in the academic year 2021/2022.

The attendance, by Committee, is set out below:-

Committee	20 Oct 2021	7 Dec 2021	1 Feb 2022	21 June 2022	Possible maximum attendances at each meeting
Committee A	5	4	5	6	12 (includes 4 vacancies)
Committee B	2	3	3	1	4 (includes one vacancy)
Committee C	2	2	1	1	5 (includes 3 vacancies)
Committee D	3	4	3	3	5 (except for June meeting as representation decreased to 4 from May 2022)
Total members	12	13	12	11	26

Professional RE Adviser	1	1	1	1	1
Local Authority Officers	2	2	1	2	2

**NOTE:** The attendance should be taken in the context of the number of vacancies. For example, whilst there are 12 Members of Committee A, to compare the attendance to that figure of 12 makes the attendance appear worse than it is. This is because there have been a number of vacancies throughout the year.

Each meeting contains updates from Local Authority Officers and the Professional Religious Education Adviser. Through the latter's reports, the Committee has been appraised of various national updates. The Committee has also received updates on (not an exhaustive list):-

- British public values an understanding of worldviews and role of RE
- Inter Faith Week 2021
- Holocaust Memorial Day
- Training
- Religion and Worldviews Project
- White Paper on Education and Religious Education
- RETHinkRE Media Release and Report Card on Religious Education
- NATRE (National Association of Teachers for Religious Education) Report on Religious Education in Secondary Religious
- NASACRE Annual Conference

Meetings have continued to be held remotely. In 2022/2023 it is likely that meetings will be hybrid in nature.



## 2. RE Statutory responsibilities

### The Local Agreed Syllabus

The number of schools within North Yorkshire is as follows

	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Pupil Referral Service	Total
Academy		105	27	3	1	136
UTC			1			1
Community	3	91	15	7	4	120
Foundation		1				1
Free		2				2
Voluntary Controlled		81				81
Voluntary Aided		22				22
Total	3	302	43	10	5	363

There are 23 primary academies, 6 secondary academies, 2 special academies and 1 foundation school who have adopted the North Yorkshire Locally Agreed Syllabus.

Separate regulations covering maintained special schools require them to ensure that, as far as practicable, a pupil receives opportunities to explore RE. Most Special Schools use the North Yorkshire Locally Agreed Syllabus, at least partially, and adapt it to meet the needs of the pupils. Some Special Schools use the 'Equals' curriculum package, which is designed specifically for RE in special schools.

### Standards and monitoring of RE

SACRE has been limited in its ability to actively monitor the agreed syllabus across the schools in North Yorkshire for the academic year 2021-2022. This has been due to the Covid 19 pandemic. However, SACRE has monitored the agreed syllabus and RE in schools through monitoring of: teacher voice at termly professional practice groups, teacher representation of SACRE Group C and the new annual school questionnaire.

The questionnaire was developed by the Professional RE adviser in consultation with SACRE Group C and approved by SACRE in January 2021. This is the second year the questionnaire has been used as a mechanism to monitor RE in NYCC schools. 59 primary schools and 15 secondary schools completed the questionnaire and it is a useful mechanism to support SACRE's responsibilities in monitoring RE in our schools.

## **An overview of questionnaire data**

- 58% of Primary RE subject leads who responded have been in role for less than 3 years
- 50% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded have been in role for less than 3 years
- 89% of Primary RE subject leads who responded reported that their school curriculum meets the expectations of the NYCC Agreed Syllabus
- 47% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded reported that their school curriculum meets the expectations of the NYCC Agreed Syllabus
- 75% Primary RE subject leads who responded reported that the resources available are sufficient to support their RE delivery
- 87% Secondary RE subject leads who responded reported that the resources available are sufficient to support their RE delivery
- 9% of Primary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as outstanding
- 0% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as outstanding
- 76% of Primary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as good
- 80% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as good
- 15% of Primary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as requires improvement
- 20% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as requires improvement
- 0% of Primary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as inadequate
- 0% of Secondary RE subject leads who responded graded the quality of RE provision (including quality and standards achieved by pupils) in their school as inadequate

A fuller analysis of the questionnaire is presented to SACRE Members. Responses received enable SACRE to direct advice and support as appropriate and identify possible areas for improvement.

Following bespoke training for Senior Education Advisers (SEAs) in Spring 2022 and discussion in the June 2022 SACRE meeting, a wider programme of monitoring has been agreed by SACRE and will be built in to the 2022-24 Development Plan.

## **KS4 and KS5 results**

### **Data to be compared with previous data – data will be released in October**

In 2020 and 2021 national exams were cancelled and the DFE have not released the pupil or school level dataset. In 2020 exams were cancelled in the light of school and college closures for most students and uncertainty over whether exams could take place safely. In 2021 the government concluded that it would not be fair for exams to go ahead as planned once schools and colleges closed to the majority of students again in January 2021.

Therefore, SACRE has not used external data to support its monitoring for 2020-21. In 2020-2021 the new Professional RE Adviser, in partnership with the Local Authority, set up termly professional practice groups (PPG) for primary and secondary school subject leaders.

This training has included a focus on developing an effective curriculum using the North Yorkshire County Council Agreed Syllabus, subject knowledge and engaging with the recent Ofsted research review in religious education. A leadership course for new subject leaders was held in spring 2021. All these events were delivered through on-line systems.

Resources to support the Religious Education are accessible at <https://secure2.sla-online.co.uk/v3/Resources/Page/14145> once logged into <https://www.nyeducationsservices.co.uk>

North Yorkshire schools also have had access to a range of regional training events coordinated by the NATRE Regional Ambassador for RE. A programme of visits and visitors, particularly in more rural parts of the county, continues to be a challenge. SACRE has therefore continued to signpost schools to local resources and opportunities through the professional practice groups and the newsletter.

In 2020-2021 SACRE introduced a termly newsletter, accessible to all schools, providing resources, local and national updates, and information about the work of SACRE.

SACRE has received no formal complaints regarding RE provision or quality this year.

The Professional RE Adviser has supported North Yorkshire schools through communications of advice and support where requested.

### 3. Collective Worship

SACRE encourages all schools to comply with their legal duty to provide a daily act of Collective Worship for their pupils. This may take place at any time of day and in class, year group, or whole school settings. North Yorkshire SACRE believes that acts of collective worship or spiritual reflection should be meaningful and relevant to all those present. In order for this to be the case, SACRE has identified six principles which schools should apply with regard to daily collective worship. Collective worship should:

1. Promote a sense of community;
2. Be educational;
3. Promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development;
4. Be a special time;
5. Enable participants to be actively involved;
6. Be of high quality.

Further information on this is available in the document, "Guidance to schools on Collective Worship", which may be accessed by schools via <https://nyes.info/religiouseducation>

Schools may apply to SACRE for a determination in order to provide Collective Worship of a non-Christian or other form. No schools have done so during this academic year.

There were no complaints registered with the local authority or SACRE in 2021/2022 in respect of collective worship. As in previous years, no determinations were requested by schools.

Updating guidance on Collective Worship and providing training for schools has been identified as a development point for SACRE.

#### **4. Links with other bodies**

North Yorkshire SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). Through the year, SACRE members were informed of developments in RE from NASACRE, The National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) and The Religious Education Council of England and Wales (REC), through the Professional RE Adviser, report to SACRE.

The Professional RE Adviser attended the Summer 2022 NASACRE Conference and reported back to members.

#### **5. SACRE involvement locally**

North Yorkshire SACRE provided advice to the Local Authority on Ramadan in schools.

A Newsletter is published and circulated termly to schools.

The Professional RE Adviser met School Improvement Advisers in the Local Authority on two occasions to provide briefings on the role of SACRE, the Agreed Syllabus and the role of RE and Collective Worship in schools.

#### **6. SACREs own arrangements**

##### **Finance**

During the school year 2021-2022 the Local Authority has financially supported SACRE through the allocation of officers and other resources.

Staffing costs have been covered to provide officers from Democratic Services to fulfil the administrative preparation and clerking of SACRE meetings. Additional officer and technology resource has also been allocated to ensure that SACRE meetings could be held via video conference and live streamed, as required under Council's meeting arrangements.

Staffing costs have also been covered to ensure that two officers from the School Improvement Service have been able to attend SACRE, SACRE Core Groups, other meetings and developmental work.

The costs of the Professional RE Adviser, an external consultant, are met through Local Authority funds.

## Officers and support

An officer in the Local Authority's Democratic Services Section acts as Clerk to SACRE; advising on governance matters and acting as a link between the Local Authority and SACRE. The officer facilitates the SACRE Core Group, which comprises the Chair, Vice-Chair, the Professional Religious Education Adviser and officers from the Local Authority. The Core Group discusses the content of the agenda for SACRE and related issues.

In addition, the Democratic Services Team Manager provides professional support and advice to SACRE, principally on matters of governance and matters relating to the work of the Council and its Committees. The Democratic Services Team Manager also attends Core Group meetings.

## Membership

Membership of each of the four Groups which constitute the North Yorkshire SACRE in the academic year 2021-2022 was:

### Group A – Faith Group Representatives (12)

Professor John Adams, Humanist  
Sarah Beveridge, Society of Friends (joined June 2022)  
Sarah Leach, Buddhist (left February 2022)  
Chris Devanny, Catholic  
Sian Henderson, Methodist (left February 2022)  
Tom Clayton, Methodist (joined February 2022)  
Bill Kimberling, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (left June 2022)  
Dave Haddock, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (joined June 2022)  
Nasr Moussa Emam, Muslim  
Helen Sellers, Baptist (left April 2022)  
Mohinder Singh Chana, Sikh  
Vacancy Baptist  
Vacancy Buddhist  
Vacancy Hindu  
Vacancy Salvationist

### Group B – Church of England Representatives (4 - two each nominated by the Anglican Diocese of Leeds and the Diocese of York)

Reverend Simone Bennett, Diocese of Leeds  
Gill Simpson, Diocese of Leeds  
Philippa Smith, Diocese of York  
Vacancy Diocese of York

### Group C - Teachers of Religious Education (5)

Tara Askew  
Stuart Anslow  
Vacancies (3)

Group D – Local Authority (5) - elected Members of the County Council

County Councillor Robert Heseltine

County Councillor Janet Jefferson (no longer a Member from May 2022)

County Councillor Andrew Lee (no longer a Member from May 2022)

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan (no longer a Member from May 2022)

County Councillor Annabel Wilkinson

County Councillor Alyson Baker (joined May 2022)

County Councillor George Jabbour (joined May 2022)

**NOTE:** For most of the period in question there were five Local Authority Representatives. This was reduced to four, following the Council Elections in May 2022,

Co-opted Member: Academic Expertise in Religious Education

Vacancy

A number of vacancies in Group A were filled but others have arisen during the course of the year. Groups B and D have operated at, close to, full complement. The main area of challenge this year has been recruiting to vacancies for Group C.

All meetings have been quorate and generally well attended.

Training for Members was provided online, by the Professional Adviser for Religious Education in February 2022 around the NASACRE/DfE Self-Assessment Tool.

## **Circulation**

This report is circulated to:

- NASACRE
- Department for Education
- North Yorkshire County Council, Children and Young People Overview Scrutiny Committee
- North Yorkshire County Council, Children and Young People's Leadership Team
- North Yorkshire schools
- SACRE members representative bodies

## NORTH YORKSHIRE SACRE: DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020 – 2022

Priority 1: Implementation of the Locally Agreed Syllabus					
Target: RE teachers throughout the LA are confident in their delivery of the syllabus; good RE is taught and learned throughout the LA					
Intended Impact: Schools understand the value of good RE in the personal development of their pupils and their understanding of society					
Action	Timescale	People involved	Costs	Monitoring and Evaluation	Progress made September 2022
Support is put in place to ensure full implementation of the Agreed Syllabus throughout the LA	2020 -2021	Local Authority Officer  Teachers' networks  Members of SACRE	Cost of providing training	Schools will have implemented the new syllabus by September 2020; and in 2021 it will be developing within classrooms and good practice will be shared	Training through networks is ongoing each term, plus additional leadership course – on line
Monitor the effective teaching of RE throughout the LA and explore ways to model best practice in RE	2020-2022	Local Authority Officers  Members of SACRE have opportunities to visit examples of best practice	Costs of visits to schools and of providing training	Monitoring of RE is built into LA systems and processes  SACRE will have clear and up-to-date information on how RE is taught in schools and academies	Professional RE Adviser supported SEAs in how to monitor and evaluate RE curriculum in schools - with supportive resources

<b>Priority 1 Continued</b>					
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>People involved</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	<b>Progress made September 2022</b>
Scrutinise relevant OFSTED reports and data	2020-2022	Local Authority Officer  Members of SACRE		SACRE members will be more aware of how schools in the LA are improving	Ofsted regularly discussed- North Yorkshire School Ofsted – Primary and Secondary lessons learned
Receive teacher feedback on areas to improve for the next syllabus update	2021-2022	Local Authority Officer  Members of SACRE  Teachers of RE	Teacher travel expenses for attending SACRE meetings	Teachers to be invited to bring reports to SACRE meetings in person or through electronic means, enabling greater awareness of their views in preparation for the next syllabus	Teacher representative has given overview of learning in schools - this is an ongoing agenda item
Pupil feedback on RE	2020-2022	SACRE members  Teachers and pupils	Travel expenses	SACRE members receive first-hand evidence of pupil response through visits to SACRE meetings, SACRE meetings held in schools, or through electronic means	Pupil voice is part of Senior Education Adviser safeguarding focus days, which can include discussion of RE curriculum and collective worship focus

Priority 2 starts on the next page



<b>Priority 2: To operate effectively as a SACRE</b>					
<b>Target: Clear and positive collaboration between the LA and SACRE, within SACRE, and between SACRE and schools</b>					
<b>Intended Impact: The work of North Yorkshire SACRE is meaningful and valued as it works effectively to fulfil its brief</b>					
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>People involved</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	<b>Progress made September 2022</b>
Undertake a skills audit of all SACRE members	2020	Members of SACRE Clerk to SACRE		The relevant skills of SACRE members will be used to good effect	Training has taken place
Provide training for SACRE members	2020-2022	LA officer Members of SACRE NASACRE	Costs of training programmes if bought in, costs of bringing speakers to SACRE meetings	Members of SACRE will gain new skills so that all contribute to the effective working of the body	Ongoing training is part of membership
Build capacity within SACRE	2020-2022	LA officer Chair of SACRE NASACRE		Attendance at meetings is regular and vacancies are filled; all committees are well represented	Membership still an area to focus
Develop our systems and procedures through the LA to ensure we meet statutory duties	2020-2022	Local Authority Adviser  Chair of SACRE		Effective communication and regular liaison between SACRE, democratic services and Children's services	SACRE has the full complement of Local Authority Officers working with us.

Priority 2 Continued					
Action	Timescale	People involved	Costs	Monitoring and Evaluation	Progress made September 2022
SACRE Members regularly have opportunities to experience RE and Collective Worship in schools	2022- on-going	Chair of SACRE Local Authority Officers Members of SACRE	Travel expenses ?	Schools are aware of, and make use of, the resources of SACRE; monitoring is more effective throughout the LA	Intention to start focus on website reviews  Evaluation responses shared and results to be shared with SACRE Members
SACRE to respond to recommendations of key partners and identify key priorities for NYCC	2020-2022	Clerk to SACRE Chair of SACRE		SACRE is in step with current recommendations	We now have a clear line of communication with the Local Authority and have more links with the wider Council.
Revise and improve the format and content of the Annual Report	2020-2021	Chair of SACRE RE Adviser Members of SACRE		Partners will receive a fuller picture of the work and scope of SACRE each year and will be able to engage more easily with the work of SACRE	The new format has been implemented

<b>Priority 3: Active links between SACRE and the LA</b>					
<b>Target: The LA recognises and supports the work of SACRE</b>					
<b>Intended Impact: SACRE is more able to fulfil its brief; the LA provides the means of support for SACRE to do so</b>					
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>People involved</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	<b>Progress made September 2022</b>
Active and regular Local Authority representation in SACRE meetings	2020-2022	Local Authority Officer  Other Local Authority representatives as appropriate		Members of SACRE are aware of relevant LA policies, greater evidence of a supportive relationship between the LA and SACRE	Local Authority Officers meet half termly with Professional RE Adviser and with wider core group Members, prior to SACRE full membership
Ensure Local Authority support in staffing and funding	2020-2022	Local Authority Officer  Other Local Authority representatives as appropriate  Clerk to SACRE	Staffing costs  Funding for wider SACRE work and officers as necessary	SACRE is represented at NASACRE and other relevant conferences; SACRE meetings are clerked; school-based actions are funded; SACRE is appropriately funded as per DFE expectations	SACRE is fully staffed by the Local Authority  Funding has been provided for officers (part-time for the Professional RE Adviser) and a report has been received from the Principal Education Adviser (Support), which has informed the latest Annual Report.  NASACRE 2020 Conference was cancelled. However, the Chair attended the online EGM in November 2020.  In May 2021 the Chair, Professional Adviser and Local Authority Officer attended the online NASACRE conference.

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## North Yorkshire County Council

### North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) –

13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

#### **Report of the Professional Religious Education Adviser - Timeline for Agreed Syllabus review (for Autumn 2024 implementation)**

Please note: Consultation and discussion on options will include a detailed paper outlining 4 options available to the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC). These will be presented fully for consultation in the SACRE meeting later in the Autumn term and through the setup of an ASC. These are presented here in brief for information only to inform the timeline set out below.

#### **SACRE renews the licence with RE Today, which includes an updating of the 2019-2024 folder.**

This update includes information on, for example, progression in the light of the new OFSTED EIF and research review, the Commission Report, new early Years framework, tighter requirements at KS4 and 5, assessment, and some additional guidance. This relicensing would include a 'relaunch' conference, to support teachers with ideas and resources.

#### **SACRE could adopt RE Today's more recent Syllabus Model B.**

This syllabus shares some DNA with the current North Yorkshire syllabus, but offers a more systematic approach, incorporating questions from the Understanding Christianity resource being used in many schools, and a revised assessment model.

#### **SACRE could adopt a syllabus from another local authority.**

This could offer a syllabus written more recently that reflects the Commission on RE national report recommendations, exemplifying its new direction for Religion and Worldviews.

#### **SACRE could commission a bespoke new syllabus.**

This could reflect the Commission on RE national report recommendations closely, exemplifying its new direction for Religion and Worldviews.

Time implications and a commentary on these is set out on the following pages.

Olivia Seymour  
Professional Religious Education Adviser

18 November 2022

Dates	Time implications and commentary
<p><b>September to December 2022:</b> work with schools, SACRE members and interested groups to ascertain their views on the syllabus</p>	<p><b>3 days</b>  Writing and delivery of questionnaire / consultation sessions</p> <p>Consultation could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Questionnaire for schools</li> <li>- Schools, SACRE members and interested groups invited to online consultation sessions</li> </ul> <p>Analysis of feedback</p> <p>Feedback to be considered at December SACRE meeting</p>
<p><b>Spring 2023: Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) set up and meeting</b> Options, finance and timeline for a new syllabus to be discussed at SACRE meeting following feedback from ASC to discuss syllabus options and approve which syllabus will be adopted.</p>	<p><b>2 days</b></p> <p>Writing of paper with options for ASC to consider and present to SACRE</p> <p>Training for SACRE members on ASC</p> <p>An initial ASC meeting with SACRE meeting to follow. This will be a decision making meeting and the ASC is a legal body that will nominate a chair - following consideration of feedback and finances the ASC will decide which option to take and present this to the SACRE. The timeline and commitment of SACRE members / employment of external consultants will be determined by which option is taken.</p> <p><b>Wider support from NYCC for venues and administration</b></p>



Dates	Time implications and commentary
<p><b>April 2023 – March 2024</b> – developing / writing of Agreed Syllabus</p>	<p>If option A B or C is chosen this is likely to be 1-3 days depending on requirements from RE Today / intended SACRE</p> <p>Liaison with RE Today / intended SACRE and liaison/writing of York specific content</p> <p>Writing introduction pages to the syllabus – (will require input from the Chair and members input)</p> <p>Writing appendices specific to North Yorkshire</p> <p>Half a day for ASC to meet with follow on SACRE meeting this will include SACRE members writing and approval of introductory pages and updating SACRE on progress / communication with schools</p> <p>If option C or D is selected then number of days would need to be scoped based on SACRE decisions</p> <p>Usually writing a syllabus would require commissioning a consultant to write oversee / write the syllabus and is typically 10-15 days of consultant time</p> <p>likely 3-5 days for ASC to meet with follow on SACRE meeting this will include SACRE members writing / approving of sections of the syllabus and updating SACRE on progress</p> <p>Wider support from NYCC for venues and administration</p>
<p><b>Between March 2024 and June 2024:</b> a launch conference / follow up sessions all schools</p>	<p>2 days for officers / SACRE members</p> <p>Communication to schools, distribution of syllabus and writing training materials for launch</p> <p>Wider support from NYCC for venue and administration</p> <p>1-3 days for officers / ASC &amp; SACRE members attendance / delivery at conference day and follow up sessions</p>

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**North Yorkshire County Council**  
**North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council**  
**on Religious Education (SACRE) –**  
**13<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Teacher consultation on review of Agreed Syllabus through Autumn**  
**Primary RE Networks**

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To inform Members on consultation with teachers about the review of the Locally Agreed Syllabus undertaken by the Professional RE Adviser during the RE networks this term.

**2.0 Questions and responses**

- 2.1 During the Primary RE networks this term the Professional RE Adviser provided an opportunity for all teachers present to submit responses to a small number of questions about the current locally agreed syllabus and the review for 2024.
- 2.2 Detailed below is the responses from teachers. (copied as given and unedited) Further consultation will be needed but this gives a starting point for SACRE and the Agreed Syllabus Conference's consideration.

**Question 1**

**How effective is the current Locally Agreed Syllabus (LAS) for Religious Education in meeting and supporting your curriculum needs?**

- 1 extremely effective
- 2 very effective
- 3 moderately effective
- 4 slightly effective
- 5 not at all effective

All present put 2 except one teacher who selected 1.

Comments included:

- Syllabus very effective
- I think it is very effective along with the units we bought
- Yes very effective
- 2 - it is very detailed (but perhaps a bit overwhelming for some teachers)
- Syllabus is very effective I like the detail to start with

## Question 2

**Is the guidance contained within the LAS clear?**

Yes / No

All present put yes

Comments included:

- I find it very clear
- 1 - Guidance is clear
- The guidance is clear but as someone suggested, it is overwhelming at times.
- 1 clear, but a lot in it and a lot of work to do in each school with the guidance.
- I think what you have shown us today about how to break things down is really helpful - so that we know exactly which information to pull out.
- I think it takes time for staff to read and re read to understand. I always find summary pages useful in documents so I know after I have read a document that I understood its main points

## Question 3

**Regarding the guidance contained within the LAS, how effectively does it enable you to:**

**A) Plan a coherent programme of learning**

**1 extremely effective**

**2 very effective**

**3 moderately effective**

**4 slightly effective**

**5 not at all effective**

**Comment**

**B) Deliver a coherent programme of learning**

**1 extremely effective**

**2 very effective**

**3 moderately effective**

**4 slightly effective**

**5 not at all effective**

**Comment**

Responses were split between A2, B2 and A3, B3.

Comments included:

- 2 and 2 - I wouldn't know where to start without it.
- 2 B)2 (with units bought)
- It's a very effective start to then use for planning. I feel after today I can pick out more.
- b)3 We bought the more detailed units which made it easier
- 3: it would be helpful to have a more coherent sequence of steps to achieve the learning
- B. 3 These networks are helping with this
- A2 Outlines all the requirements for delivering RE and also consistent in its approach across all key-stages.
- Good framework to use far more detailed
- The detail in the programme helps the other staff with their planning and activities
- I spoke to the RE team at the time of implementation as our team found the planning fairly difficult to use and quite incoherent but was basically told that we were the only ones that felt that way so we've persevered but don't find it particularly great.  
(comment relates to units of work)

#### Question 4

**What do you feel are the strengths of the current LAS?**

**What do you feel could be improved in the current LAS?**

Comments included:

- The full units are helpful with lots of ideas to support objectives
- The strengths are the breadth and depth of information .
- I think it would be good to not change it too much as there is so much we are just getting to grips with, especially given the 2 years of disruption
- Strength is an excellent starting point. Improvement would be including the breakdowns you've shown us today.
- The links between the units are very useful. It's easy to dip into and find relevant sections.
- I feel more knowledge progression, like today, from the start
- What could be improved - yes I agree with Jackie - the breakdowns and progression.
- Improvements - I agree please don't change too much as it will make a lot of work for us subject leads. Updates rather than changes would be good.
- Agreed - improve but without too much change
- Yes updates rather than changes.
- Improvement- relevant links you have been sharing in networks on it. I think the links are useful on the unit plans but I have found a couple outdated, or not many. Updating these would be necessary
- An alternative believing unit for y6
- Agree seeing the breakdowns and progressions would be brilliant. This is a huge job for small schools.
- Include mixed age planning for small schools
- Also exemplifications of high standards of work
- Agree seeing the breakdowns and progressions would be brilliant. This is a huge job for small schools.
- Agree - Updated with improvements. Overwhelming at times.
- Examples of Knowledge Organisers and concept maps - some of what you have been covering today.
- Current strengths - three strands, descriptors for emerging, expected and exceeding great for informing assessment.
- Strengths - allows us to plan a spiral curriculum
- Strengths - learning outcomes particularly emerging, expected and exceeding.
- I'd like an updated syllabus - so much work has gone into developing our curriculum
- Thank you Olivia, all useful. In terms of updated syllabus, I agree with Sarah, so much work has gone into creating our curriculums etc. any change is always hard to take.

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## North Yorkshire County Council

### North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) –

13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

#### Report of the Professional Religious Education Adviser - School workforce data

##### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members on work undertaken by NATRE relating to the school census in November 2021.
- 1.2 To provide members with a mechanism to monitor standards in NYCC Secondary Schools.

##### 2.0 Notes to accompany the release of school level data from the 2021 DfE School Workforce Census.

- 2.1 This data was reported by schools to the DfE as part of the school census in November 2021. The national data trends were published in June, but this dataset was extracted from the data as part of a memorandum of understanding between NATRE and the DfE. 2928 schools are included in the sample which includes the majority of state funded secondary schools. but not all; some have not reported any data this year for a variety of reasons.

##### 3.0 Hours taught for years 7 to 13, in subjects RE, philosophy and all subjects, reported by a sample of state-funded secondary schools with electronic timetabling software, School Workforce Census 2021 (see Appendix)

- 3.1 To note:
  - a) NATRE calculate that some schools that completed their SWF this year chose not to report RE but did report other subjects – some of those reported the more obvious “0.0%” last year.
  - b) Where schools reported that they allocate teaching hours to a specific year group, but have not included RE in that report, this is indicated by a dot in that year group column. SACREs are advised to investigate this issue as it appears unlikely that a discrete lesson of RE is being taught in these circumstances.
  - c) NATRE have created a couple of new columns to indicate possible reporting issues e.g. where RE is either possibly not reported or under reported but Philosophy is reported (instead?).  
This can easily happen if the lesson on the timetable is Philosophy and Ethics or even Philosophy, Religion and Ethics. The timetabling software often looks at the first part of the title and makes a judgment about which code to allocate. Some schools report RE and Philosophy.

3.2 **The usual health warning applies:** This data is a conversation starter not a definitive indicator of what schools are doing so SACREs need to treat the information alongside other information such as the school website, public examination results (where available) and school visits. It is important to always write to schools to ask them to clarify, if there is no data or if the data suggests they are non-compliant.

#### 4.0 **Next steps:**

4.1 The next step for NYCC SACRE might be to use its statutory remit 'to advise the local authority' to formally report the fact that schools in their area have reported data to the DfE that suggests they are non-compliant with the law in relation to RE and in the case of academies, their funding agreements. The LA can be asked to investigate and report their findings back to SACRE after a conversation with a school leader.

#### 5.0 **How might we do this?**

5.1 In line with development plan priorities, SACRE could set up a working group to examine this data and consider other monitoring activities such as a school website audit. The working group would write a report to SACRE for it to consider and submit to the LA.

**Action –** SACRE to agree on next steps and timescale in this meeting.  
Professional RE Adviser to act on decision made.



LA name	School name	Religious character	% year 7 hours - RE	% year 7 hours - philosophy	% year 8 hours - RE	% year 8 hours - philosophy	% year 9 hours - RE	% year 9 hours - philosophy	% year 10 hours - RE	% year 10 hours - philosophy	% year 11 hours - RE	% year 11 hours - philosophy	% year 12 hours - RE	Year 13 hours - philosophy	% year 13 hours - RE	% year 13 hours - philosophy	% mixed hours - RE	% mixed hours - philosophy
North Yorkshire	Risedale School	Does not apply	3.88		3.96		3.69		5.32		5.43						0	
North Yorkshire	Thirsk School & Sixth Form College	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Caedmon College Whitby	Does not apply									0						2.38	
North Yorkshire	Eskdale School	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	The Wensleydale School & Sixth Form	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Malton School	Does not apply	2.77		2.32		4.81		4.56		1.74		0		0		0	
North Yorkshire	Settle College	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Upper Wharfedale School	Does not apply	4.08		4		4.14		6.63		0							0
North Yorkshire	Ripon Grammar School	Does not apply	1.94		3.44		4.62		4.09		4.32		1.84		2.27		0	
North Yorkshire	Boroughbridge High School	Does not apply	3.96		6.05		6.13		0		1.54				0			
North Yorkshire	Nidderdale High School	Does not apply	3.73		6.1		3.14		4.57		4.06							0
North Yorkshire	Selby High School Specialist School for the Arts and Science	Does not apply	2.63		3.06		3.36		3.74		0.94							0
North Yorkshire	Harrogate Grammar School	Does not apply	5.34		4.95		5.09		5.43		5.23		1.64		1.79			
North Yorkshire	Norton College	Does not apply	3.48		6.06		1.98		2		0		0		0			
North Yorkshire	South Craven School	None																
North Yorkshire	Rossett School	Does not apply	3.56	0	3.5	0	3.62	0	0	1.24	0	1.98	0	4.5	0	2.83		
North Yorkshire	The Skipton Academy	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Stokesley School	Does not apply	3.97		1.95		1.96		1.89		0		0		0			
North Yorkshire	EBOR Academy Filey	Does not apply	4.08		7.06		6.12		2.42		2.4							
North Yorkshire	Scarborough University Technical College	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Brayton Academy	Does not apply																
North Yorkshire	Barlby High School	Does not apply	3.7		2.91		5.74		5.56		5.66							
North Yorkshire	Richmond School	Does not apply	3.47	0	4.02	0	3.7	0	1.78	1.13	0	1.11	2.79	0	3.66	0		
North Yorkshire	Tadcaster Grammar School	Does not apply		3.08		3.13		3.41		6.14		6.17		0		0		
North Yorkshire	Sherburn High School	Does not apply	4.6		4.65		0		2.26		2.52		0		0			
North Yorkshire	Graham School	Does not apply	0		0		0.73		1.87		1.54							
North Yorkshire	George Pindar School	None																
North Yorkshire	Northallerton School & Sixth Form College	Does not apply	0		0		0		1.6		1.58		6.31		5.96			
North Yorkshire	St Augustine's Catholic School - a Catholic voluntary academy	Roman Catholic	9.84		9.69		9.54		11.2		10.8							
North Yorkshire	St Francis Xavier School - a Joint Catholic and Church of England Voluntary Academy	Roman Catholic/Church of England	6.62		7.69		7.56		6.56		7.72							
North Yorkshire	Holy Family Catholic High School, A Voluntary Academy	Roman Catholic	10.78		9.41		7.38		9.69		10.2							
North Yorkshire	Lady Lumley's School	Does not apply	1.87		1.99		1.95		5.63		5.68		4.49		3.6		0	

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## North Yorkshire County Council

### North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) –

#### 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Update from Professional RE Adviser

##### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

To inform Members on work undertaken by the Professional RE Adviser since the last SACRE meeting.

To provide members with local and national updates on RE

##### 2.0 Training

2.1 The Professional Practice Groups for Primary for 2022-23 are focussing on subject knowledge for a range Religion and Worldviews across the year. The first Primary networks of the year took place in November and 28 attended. This is up from 12 last term and a significant increase in attendance from networks last academic year. The focus was on considering substantive knowledge and knowledge progression for Islam and Humanism and included exploring a range of practical resources to support teacher subject knowledge and classroom teaching.

2.2 Feedback from attendees included:

- I think my colleagues would really like this as a guide
- Yes and very handy to refer back to.
- This would be useful to pass onto my staff
- This is so helpful thankyou
- My colleague and I were just saying how we find there is so much vocab associated with religion that we need to be decisive about the key ones we highlight and use. We are conscious of not overwhelming children
- Thank you. It is really helpful
- It saves teachers just simply 'googling' and getting misconceptions
- Thank you Olivia and thank you so much for the pre meeting technical support! Off the back of your network, I have ordered two books, proposed some staff meeting time to review our long term RE planning and added some key vocab to our long term overview with a view to discussing with staff at the next available time – it was just what I needed!
- Thank you - very helpful, especially the resource links
- Thanks, lots of useful information to take back to school
- It's been really helpful; lots of practical ideas to take back to school. Thank you.
- Today has been extremely helpful and also on leadership course.
- We wrote our own progression documents last year..... it's a big job but we really know our RE curriculum now!!! Helps teachers to incorporate retrieval practice too as they know what came before
- Please could you make a note of those questions about the specific questions we can address as a school? I am new to this subject role, and those questions are very useful in helping me understand and re evaluate
- I think the concept light/concept deep is something we have been grappling with - making sure children do get a good breadth, particularly of worldviews beyond their own experience, but without sacrificing depth.
- Thank you very much Olivia, very useful and informative.
- Thanks so much Olivia very useful as always

2.3 The subject leader course will run again in the spring term 2023.

### **3.0 SACRE Newsletter**

3.1 The autumn term newsletter went out to schools in October. A copy is attached for SACRE members. I would be grateful for volunteers to write a short introduction to themselves and the group they represent for the next newsletter.

### **4.0 Cross-party calls for RE National Plan after Westminster debate London, 01 November 2022:**

4.1 A Westminster Hall debate has heard cross-party calls of support for religious education, as MPs urged the Government to do more to protect the subject they considered vital for young people in modern Britain.

4.2 The debate, entitled 'Religious Education in Modern Britain,' was called by Conservative MP Martin Vickers who cited concerns about the number of schools fulfilling their statutory responsibility to teach the subject. At year 11, one school in five reported offering zero hours of RE.

4.3 During the hour and a half debate, members across the House spoke on the subject's importance for fostering mutual understanding in society, as well as the world beyond Britain where 70% have a religious affiliation.

4.4 Supportive Labour MP Luke Pollard spoke in support of the National Association of Teachers of RE and commended the subject's ability to prepare students to be critical and curious about ideas in the world. He then went on to urge all parties to make a manifesto commitment to increase the provision for the subject in every school.

4.5 Shadow Minister for Schools, Stephen Morgan expressed concerns over specialist RE teacher recruitment, citing a National Foundation for Educational Research report that recruitment was 20% below its target for 2022. He questioned Government support for the subject, and called for the implementation of a National Plan for RE.

4.6 Among those from the Conservative benches who spoke up strongly for the subject were the PM's Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Fiona Bruce MP, as well as former RE teacher, Jonathan Gullis MP.

4.7 Closing the debate, Martin Vickers said the debate had expressed a 'considerable concern' over the teaching of RE in modern Britain, and requested the Department for Education be 'more robust' in ensuring schools were following their statutory requirement for RE. He had previously invited the Minister to meet with him and the Religious Education Policy Unit, particularly with regards to reinstating the teacher training bursary for RE.

[Hear some sound bits from the debate:](#)

[Luke Pollard, MP](#)

[Stephen Morgan, MP](#)

## 5.0 What do primary teachers say about RE in their schools?

5.1 The results and findings from the 2022 NATRE Primary survey are in. Over 500 teachers were surveyed during the summer of 2022 to gather their views on RE in their schools.



5.2 Key highlights from the survey show:

- The number of schools where pupils are withdrawn is increasing. 23% of schools report some withdrawal from RE (18.6% in 2020, and 16% in 2018).
- 96% of schools report that they make provision for RE for all pupils in their school.
- More than 40% of teachers report that they received between 0 and 3 hours of training to teach RE in their initial teacher training. 20% received none.

- 63% of schools say some RE is being delivered by adults other than teachers (TAs/HLTAs etc.)
- In 28% of schools, RE receives no budget or no set budget and is 30% less funding than foundation subjects.
- In just under a third of schools (31.5%) insufficient time (less than 60 mins) is being spent on the teaching of RE to ensure that pupils make good progress.
- In 80% of schools, subject leaders receive some training but 25% of other teachers receive none and report reduced confidence.
- In over 30% of schools, time for RE increased and in 30% of these, Ofsted has cited as the main reason: inspection comments, the Framework, or the Research Review in RE.

[Read the full report here](#)

## 6.0 Briefing: Impact of census results on religion and belief

6.1 The [2021 census for England and Wales](#) revealed that 42 per cent of the population describe themselves as Christian, a drop of 13 per cent since the last census in 2011. Non religion is the second largest grouping at 37 per cent, while other religious groups report a rise. In this Religion Media Centre [briefing](#), our panel analysed the results. What accounts for the decline in Christianity, what does non religion actually mean, and why are other faith groups better at passing on their faith to the next generation than the church. Ruth Peacock chaired this discussion with panellists:

- [Professor Linda Woodhead](#), F. D. Maurice professor and head of the department of theology and religious studies at King's College London
- Dr Kathryn Wright Chief Executive Officer of [Culham St Gabriel's Trust](#)
- [Dr Jasjit Singh](#), Associate Professor at University of Leeds in the School of Philosophy, Religion and the History of Science
- [Dr Azim Ahmed](#), deputy head of Islam UK Centre in Cardiff and secretary general of the Muslim Council of Wales
- [The Bishop of Burnley](#), Philip North, also acting bishop of Blackburn
- [Fr Christopher Jamison](#), Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation

Members can access a copy of the recording here: <https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/rmc-briefings/briefing-impact-of-census-results-on-religion-and-belief/>

## 7.0 Update on Professional RE Adviser Role

7.1 I would like to inform members that I will be finishing my role following our June 2023 meeting due to relocation to Northern Ireland. I would like to take this opportunity to thank members for their support and valuable contributions to the work we do to support schools in North Yorkshire and wish SACRE the very best as it develops the new agreed syllabus and builds on the work already achieved.

Olivia Seymour  
Professional Adviser to North Yorkshire SACRE  
County Hall, Northallerton

18/11//2022

Report Author: Olivia Seymour

Background documents relied upon in the preparation of this report - None



# North Yorkshire SACRE Newsletter

## School Improvement and Early Years' Service October 2022

### PLEASE PASS ON TO YOUR RE SUBJECT LEADER

Welcome to the autumn term SACRE newsletter for North Yorkshire schools. This termly newsletter will keep you up to date on what SACRE is doing and the support it offers to North Yorkshire schools alongside national and regional updates and news on RE resources and training.

#### What is SACRE?

The acronym SACRE stands for: Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

#### Why is there a SACRE?

Every local authority (LA) has to have a SACRE by law. The Children's Services division of the LA that takes responsibility for making sure SACRE works well and SACRE's work is related to schools and their curriculum.

#### What does a SACRE do?

The law says that RE must be taught in all schools and a SACRE's role is to advise its local authority on what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area. This is because RE is not part of the National Curriculum; it is a local responsibility. Through the SACRE, local communities and teachers have the opportunity to influence and support what pupils learn in RE.

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

### Where do I go for advice relating to RE or Collective Worship in my school?

Olivia Seymour, is the Professional RE Adviser for maintained schools in North Yorkshire over the coming academic year. (Please note for church schools Olivia can provide advice relating to the Agreed Syllabus but we encourage church schools to seek wider RE advice from their home diocese)

Olivia also provides advice to community schools on matters relating to collective worship (church schools should again seek advice from their home diocese)

Enquires into the Local Authority can be directed to [schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk) and the service will provide a conduit to the specialist advice.



You can find out more about RE in North Yorkshire schools here:

<https://cyyps.northyorks.gov.uk/religious-education-re>

You can find out more about collective worship in North Yorkshire schools here:

<https://cyyps.northyorks.gov.uk/collective-worship>

## RE Subject Networks and training for Primary and Secondary RE Leads

This year NYCC is again offering termly online professional practice networks for all schools. These networks will include support for subject knowledge, curriculum-planning using the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus, national and local updates, resources to support RE and an opportunity to ask questions and share good practice. There will also be a subject leadership course for new and developing RE leads in Primary Schools.

Details of all the networks and courses are below

Title of event	Date	Online Code	Start	End
Primary Religious Education (RE) Autumn Network Subject knowledge focus: Islam and Humanism	10/11/2022	SI-1122-T002	09:30:00	11:30:00
Secondary Religious Education (RE) Autumn Network Ofsted focus: intent, implementation and impact.	15/11/2022	SI-1122-T004	16:00:00	18:00:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Autumn Network Subject knowledge focus: Islam and Humanism	17/11/2022	SI-1122-T003	13:30:00	15:30:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Spring Network Subject knowledge focus: Hinduism and Judaism	21/02/2023	SI-0223-T001	09:30:00	11:30:00
Secondary Religious Education (RE) Spring Network Engaging with text and developing writing in the RE classroom	21/02/2023	SI-0223-T002	16:00:00	18:00:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Spring Network Subject knowledge focus: Hinduism and Judaism	01/03/2023	SI-0323-T001	13:30:00	15:30:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Subject leadership course	09/03/2023 & 20/03/2023	SI-0323-T002	Day 1: 09:30:00 Day 2: 13:30:00	Day 1: 11:30:00 Day 2: 15:30:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Summer Network Subject knowledge focus: Christianity and Sikhism	26/04/2023	SI-0423-T001	09:30:00	11:30:00
Primary Religious Education (RE) Summer Network Subject knowledge focus: Christianity and Sikhism	02/05/2023	SI-0523-T001	13:30:00	15:30:00

Bookings can be made through [NYES Info](#) .

If you don't have an account with NYES please use the 'sign up' link in the top right of the webpage to request login details to book on training/events, existing customers can login to book with existing credentials. If any assistance with this is required you can contact [nyes@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nyes@northyorks.gov.uk) or telephone 01609 533 222.

If you have any further questions or queries relating to the courses you can contact [Schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Schoolimprovementservice@northyorks.gov.uk) or telephone 01609 79 88 64.



## News from NATRE - Strictly RE 2023



**Includes recordings and downloads of seminars!**



Hosted by NATRE, Strictly RE has become a key date in the diary for the RE community. With 400+ people taking part in over 25 online sessions, this event is a great place for RE professionals to come together to share ideas, gain new knowledge and further boost your confidence when teaching RE, as you will leave armed with lots of downloads, presentations and ready-to-use resources in the classroom. There will be something for everyone, from Headteachers and Senior Leaders to Primary Teachers and ITEs.

**Strictly RE 2023 conference themes:** Depth. Diversity. Abrahamic Worldviews

**Choose from a range of seminars on a wide variety of topics and across all key stages including:**

- Thinking out loud- joining the dots to help children think more critically (Primary)
- Introducing Philosophy and Philosophers to the Primary Classroom (Primary)
- Dharmic Lenses on Climate Crisis (Secondary)
- Creating a core RE Programme for KS4 (Secondary)
- Interfaith conversations - exploring creative projects that deepen pupils understanding in RE (Crossphase)
- Special RE (Crossphase)
- Championing and advocating for RE with parents (for SLT's)

### **NEW FOR 2023!**

Sponsored by Professional REflection, look out for the following SLT seminars targeted towards Senior Leaders and Head Teachers: A7, B7 and C7, **PLUS** the twilight sessions on the lead up to the main event - see below for further details!

### **DOWNLOAD THE STRICTLY SESSION TIMETABLE FOR 2023**

**WHEN?** Saturday 28 January AND Sunday 29 January 2023 (**PLUS additional weekday twilight seminars leading up to Strictly!**)

**WHERE?** Online, all from the comfort of your own home!

**HOW MUCH?** StrictlyRE tickets are **£135 each**, which includes downloadable handouts and presentations from all sessions PLUS access to all recordings after the event! Delegates will also receive a gift box of goodies, posted straight to your door!

**EARLY BIRD OFFER: Book before 31st October 2022 to receive £15 off the cost of your strictly booking!** Use discount code: STRICTLY15

Don't forget: By booking onto Strictly, you can attend the live sessions but you also get all the recordings and downloadable resources that are available from the weekend and weekday sessions that you didn't attend!

## News from NATRE - Curriculum Symposium content: videos & resources



The curriculum symposium was a face to face-to-face event to develop curriculum planning and thinking skills, enabling teachers to be more confident in their understanding and development of high quality curricula and to enhance the understanding of processes involved in constructing high quality curricula. The symposium contributed to the start of a process for teachers considering curriculum design in terms of an education in religion and worldviews.

This section of the NATRE website is open to all to use and provides access to recordings of symposium presentations and ppts as well as a 'How to guide' to allow others to recreate their own curriculum symposium over a series a sessions across a term or a year or over a day spent together.

Spotlight on symposium resources:

During the Curriculum Symposium teachers heard from a range of speakers; Christian Counsell, Matthew Lane, Stephen Pett, Kathryn Wright – you can watch recordings of the talks and access the associate resources here.

Richard Kueh HMI also presented but due to his Ofsted role NATRE were unable to record his talk or share resources.

[Christine Counsell The Principles of curriculum design](#)  
[Matthew Lane Change Management Hand-out and Notes](#)  
[Matthew Lane Change management](#)  
[Stephen Pett How to go about designing a curriculum](#)  
[Kathryn Wright A multidisciplinary approach to curriculum design](#)

## News from Culham St Gabriels - In Conversation Series Autumn 2022



This year we are planning monthly 'In Conversation' events on the third Monday of every month between October and April. We are hosting shorter sessions (40 mins) so it will be easier to catch up later with the audio files if you miss the live events.

This term we are discussing three very different themes. Please note times vary for each session.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 4-4.40pm**

**In conversation with Professor David Clough and Scarlett Hayward**

**Theme: Christian ethics, animal welfare and the religion and worldviews classroom**

Join us to hear how an academic research project on the Christian ethics of farmed animal welfare is working with a group of teachers and a pilot group of schools to develop new learning resources appropriate for different key stages.

Book [here](#)

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 7-7.40pm**

**In conversation with Professor Trevor Cooling and Dr Kate Christopher**

**Theme: Understanding Understanding! What do we mean by understanding?!**

Trevor and Kate agree on many things, but they are not sure they agree on the nature of understanding! Come and hear them chat about their varying views in this philosophical discussion!

Book [here](#)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 4.30-5.10pm**

**In Conversation with Dr Kevin O'Grady**

**Theme: Conceptualising religion and worldviews for the school**

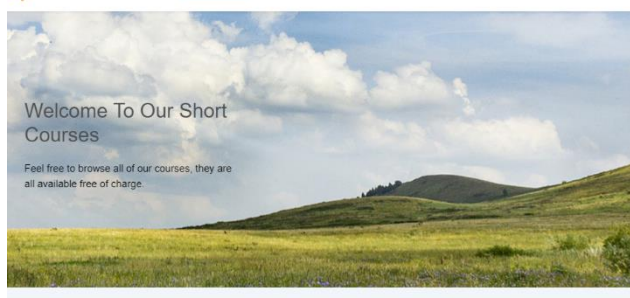
Kevin will share some of the key thinking behind his recently published book. He will explore opportunities, challenges and complexities of a transition from religious education in England and beyond.

Book [here](#)

## News from Culham St Gabriels - New Culham St Gabriel's eLearning Platform

Culham St Gabriel's has for many years provided free CPD to teachers through the popular Teach:RE courses. Times have changed and they are delighted to announce the launch of a newly developed, FREE online platform for teachers' CPD. This is a supportive, stimulating and interactive way to access free, self-study courses, designed to introduce teachers (and other interested parties) to current thinking in Religion and Worldviews education.

CULHAM ST GABRIELS Contact My Courses



Stay up to date, challenge yourself, discover new ideas and enhance your confidence and skills with Culham St Gabriel's Courses for teachers' CPD.

Why not try out one of the introductory courses:

An introduction to religion and worldviews

An introduction to curriculum

An introduction to research

Register today here: <https://courses.cstg.org.uk/>

## Jewish Museum London: Inclusive Judaism Image Library

The Inclusive Judaism Image Library allows you to download photos from Britain's vibrantly diverse Jewish community directly to your classrooms. By downloading images for FREE, you can feel confident that you are teaching a representative, inclusive and authentic Judaism in your classrooms. All images have curriculum links to Jewish festivals, Life cycle events and Synagogue worship for Primary and Secondary schools, representing the UK's vibrantly diverse Jewish community.



<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/schools/in-the-classroom/inclusive-judaism/imagelibrary/>

## If you listen to one thing this week....

### The RE Podcast: The One About World Views

The first episode of Season 7 of the RE Podcast is out! The theme is World Views. In the last few years we have heard the terms 'worldviews' and 'lenses' being used more and more frequently in terms of RE. But what do these words mean? Why is everyone talking about them and what does it mean for the future of RE?



Listen to the podcast here: <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/s7-e1-the-one-about-world-views/id1534213872?i=1000578123660>

## A visit to a Mosque



This resource by BBC Bitesize is full of interesting facts about a visit to a Mosque including also engaging animated videos for KS1 pupils.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj3d7ty/articles/zfwphcw>

## Festival Calendar

Search for religious festivals by religion and/or month here: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/festival-calendar/>



## North Yorkshire County Council

### North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) –

#### December 2022 Update from the Local Authority

##### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

To inform Members on work undertaken by the Local Authority since the last SACRE meeting.

##### 2.0 Communication and resourcing

- 2.1 Local Authority Officers have met with the Professional RE Adviser to co-ordinate the publication of the Annual Report.
- 2.2 The termly newsletter is continuing to be distributed to schools via the Red Bag system, and occasional and ad hoc information is also posted via Red Bag.
- 2.3 School leaders have been communicated to both via Red Bag and SEAs to encourage participation in the annual survey on RE and Collective Worship in schools. This data forms a baseline for inclusion in the Annual Report. A total of 75 schools (60 primary, 15 secondary) responded, which is an increase of slightly more than 50% responses to last year.

##### 3.0 Support for Senior Leaders and Governors

- 3.1 A named Senior Education Adviser has dedicated management time to liaise and co-ordinate work with the professional RE Adviser.
- 3.2 Work has commenced with school governance officers to develop support for school governing bodies to further understand their statutory responsibilities regarding religious education and collective worship.
- 3.3 The professional RE Adviser is scheduled to present to the Spring Headteacher Leadership Briefings to communicate updates on current statutory responsibilities and changes in religious education provision.
- 3.4 The Local Authority facilitated the administrative and bookings of subject leader networks and are continuing to update the resources pages on <http://nyes.info> Networks and training courses are available to be booked for the current school year. Data concerning uptake and feedback is reported in the professional adviser report.

##### 4.0 Ofsted inspections

- 4.1 Since the last SACRE meeting Ofsted have published 13 Section 5, 8 and monitoring reports;

	Primary	Secondary	Special	PRS
Maintained	5	1	1	0
Academy	5	1	0	0

Narrative refers to religious education and collective worship as follows;

- The Christian ethos remains central to leaders improvement plans.
- Pupils caring attitudes at the school reflect its strong Christian ethos.

Adrian Clarke  
Principal Education Adviser (Support)  
County Hall, Northallerton

06/12/2022

Report Author: Adrian Clarke

Background documents: None

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE SACRE – DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2024**

The North Yorkshire SACRE Development Plan is shaped around the five key functions of SACRES contained in the NASACRE Self-Evaluation Toolkit, namely:-

1. To improve the management of SACRE and build the partnership between SACRE and other Key Stakeholders
2. Promoting improvement in the standards, quality of teaching and provision in RE
3. Evaluating the effectiveness of the Locally Agreed Syllabus
4. Promoting improvement in the provision and quality of collective worship
5. Contributing to cohesion across the community and the promotion of social and racial harmony

The 2022-24 Plan includes some of the actions in the 2020-22 Development Plan which have not been possible to complete due to Covid.

North Yorkshire SACRE has begun a programme of self-evaluation activity, using the NASACRE self-evaluation toolkit, which underpins identified priorities.



<b>Objective One: To increase Member engagement</b>					
<b>Intended Impact: SACRE has active Members engaged with and contributing to the work of SACRE</b>					
<b>Links to NASACRE Self-evaluation toolkit:</b>					
<b>Priority One</b>					
To improve the management of SACRE and build the partnership between SACRE and other Key Stakeholders					
<b>Priority Five</b>					
Contributing to cohesion across the community and the promotion of social and racial harmony					
Ref	Action	Cost	Lead	Timescale	Progress
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to enhance Faith Group representation by working with Faith Groups to enhance Group A Membership</li> </ul>	-		On-going	Sarah Beveridge – Society of Friends –appointed June 2022
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to enhance Teacher Representation</li> </ul>	-		On-going	Sarah Hodgson appointed – September 2022
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a programme of Member presentations at each SACRE meeting with a focus on Member work / community involvement and how it links into SACRE</li> </ul>	-	Clerk (i.e.set up a rota)	On-going from September 2022	Commenced – presentation by Sarah Beveridge at September 2022 meeting
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a programme of schools hosting occasional SACRE meetings</li> </ul>	Travel expenses School Time	Clerk	By March 2023	
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and agree a separate budget for SACRE to enable its work</li> </ul>	-	Principal Adviser (Support)	By December 2022	
1.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To engage Schools in designing a logo for SACRE</li> </ul>	-	Principal Adviser (Support)	September to November 2022	Delayed due to capacity. Do SACRE members want to do this and when would be a helpful time?



**Objective Two:** To monitor the effective teaching of RE throughout the Local Authority and explore ways to model best practice in RE

**Intended Impact:** SACRE Members have an informed understanding of the quality of RE provision and standards in RE across NYCC schools

**Links to NASACRE Self-evaluation toolkit:**

**Priority Two**

Promoting improvement in the standards, quality of teaching and provision in RE

Ref	Action	Cost	Lead	Timescale	Progress
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrange a programme of visits to a range of Schools in North Yorkshire to see RE in action</li> <li>Develop a SACRE Visits Policy and Visits Form</li> </ul>	Travel expenses School time	LA Officer Principal Adviser (Support)	On-going from April 2023	
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a system for receiving pupil feedback on RE</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Principal Adviser (Support)	On-going from April 2023	

**Objective Three:** To review the locally Agreed Syllabus

**Intended Impact:** SACRE Members implement a locally agreed syllabus for 2024-29 taking account of national developments and consultation with schools

**Links to NASACRE Self-evaluation toolkit:**

**Priority Three**

To evaluate the effectiveness of the Locally Agreed Syllabus

**NOTE:** This is primarily a priority for the second year of this Development Plan

Ref	Action	Cost	Lead	Timescale	Progress
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to consult with the Local Authority; SACRE Members; and Schools on the effectiveness of the current Agreed Syllabus</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	From Autumn 2022	Teacher consultation through networks November 2022, further consultation to be implemented
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to set up Agreed Syllabus Conference in line with legal requirements</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	Spring 2023	Timetable and options being presented to SACRE – Dec 2022
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to review options in light of consultation</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	Spring / Summer 2023	
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to produce and recommend to the Local Authority an Agreed Syllabus for RE which is educationally sound and meets legal requirements</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	By Spring 2024	
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority to adopt and launch Agreed Syllabus</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	Spring /Summer 2024	
1.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to work in partnership with the Local Authority to put in place ongoing training and support to ensure full implementation of the Agreed Syllabus in NYCC schools</li> </ul>	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	On-going from launch	

<b>Objective Four:</b> To review and update SACRE guidance to schools on collective worship					
<b>Intended Impact:</b> schools have updated and clear collective worship guidance that take account of national developments					
<b>Links to NASACRE Self-evaluation toolkit:</b>					
<b>Priority Four</b>					
To promote improvement in the provision and quality of Collective Worship					
<b>NOTE:</b> This is primarily a priority for the second year of this Development Plan					
Ref	Action	Cost	Lead	Timescale	Progress
1.1	SACRE engage with and respond to the NASACRE national report on Collective Worship	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	2023/2024	
1.2	A SACRE working party review and update guidance for Schools	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser SACRE working party	2023/2024	
1.3	SACRE develop a programme of training and support for schools on collective worship	-	LA Officer Professional RE Adviser	2024	

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**NORTH YORKSHIRE SACRE – ROLLING WORK PROGRAMME: PLEASE NOTE: Items are subject to change.**

<b>SACRE 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022</b>			
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>REPORT DEADLINE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Member presentation	-	-	By Monhinder Singh Chana
Annual Report 2021/2022	Principal Education Officer (Support)	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	To approve the Annual Report
Agreed Syllabus Review	Professional Religious Education Adviser	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	Three reports: Options; Timeline; Teacher Consultation
School Workforce Data	Professional Religious Education Adviser	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	Work undertaken re school census in November 2021
Professional RE Adviser's update	Professional Religious Education Adviser	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	Standing Item
Local Authority Update	Principal Education Officer (Support)	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	Standing Item - to include any update on OFSTED Inspections
Development Plan 2022/2024	Principal Education Officer (Support)	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	To review progress
Work Programme	Clerk	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	

**NORTH YORKSHIRE SACRE – ROLLING WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>SACRE 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023</b>			
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>REPORT DEADLINE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Professional RE Adviser's update	Professional Religious Education Adviser	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Standing Item
Local Authority Update	Principal Education Officer (Support)		Standing Item - to include any update on OFSTED Inspections
Work Programme	Clerk		
Member Training	Professional Religious Education Adviser	N/A	

**NORTH YORKSHIRE SACRE – ROLLING WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>SACRE 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023</b>			
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>REPORT DEADLINE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Professional RE Adviser's update	Professional Religious Education Adviser	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Standing Item
Local Authority Update	Principal Education Officer (Support)		Standing Item - to include any update on OFSTED Inspections
Work Programme	Clerk		

Patrick Duffy  
Clerk to SACRE

November 2022

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