

# North Yorkshire Council

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

### December 2023 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 (LA) Officers have responded to the feedback from SACRE members raised at the last meeting and made a number of refinements to the SACRE Annual Report. The Chair, Clerk and Professional RE Adviser have supported the LA Officers with the content. The final draft report is included within the enclosures for this meeting for final sign-off before publishing.
- 2.2 The SACRE autumn term 2023 newsletter was distributed to schools via the Red Bag system on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- 2.3 LA Officers have met with RE Today to confirm the content of the model A+ syllabus that the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) approved at the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023. RE today have confirmed that there are four additional new units within the model A+ syllabus.
- 2.4 LA Officers have met with RE Today to gain an understanding into the content that will be the focus of the new agreed syllabus launch event. This will enable the launch event to be promoted with school leaders prior to the launch date next year. LA Officers are awaiting further information from RE Today on the intended content of the launch event. Once this is received the event will go 'live' on the NYES booking system for schools to register for on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at the Pavilions of Harrogate.
- 2.5 LA officers have signposted SACRE members to optional training events offered by NASACRE. LA officers have also attended some of these events in order support SACRE effectively.

#### 3.0 Support for Senior Leaders and Governors

- 3.1 A named Senior Education Adviser, Heather Russell, continues to have dedicated management time assigned to her to liaise and co-ordinate work with the Professional RE Adviser.
- 3.2 The Local Authority is continuing to facilitate the coordination of RE subject leader networks alongside RE subject leadership courses. Data concerning uptake and feedback from any networks that have taken place since the last SACRE meeting is reported in the professional adviser report.
- 3.3 Guidance from organisations that can support schools to manage questions and concerns raised by pupils regarding the ongoing situation in Israel and Palestine has been shared with schools via the Red Bag. This article clarified that the LA is not endorsing the advice which has been produced collaboratively by AREIAC (Association of RE Advisers, Inspectors and

Consultants) and with support from the DfE, Board of Deputies and the Muslim Council of Britain.

#### 4.0 Ofsted inspections

- 4.1 Since the start of this academic year up to the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Ofsted have published 35 reports from graded, ungraded or monitoring inspections, in the proportions outlined in the table below.

	Junior	Primary	Secondary	PRS
Community School	1	8	1	2
Voluntary Controlled		9		
Voluntary Aided		3		
Foundation				
Academy Convertor		9		
Academy Sponsor Led		1	1	

- 4.2 Few inspections commented explicitly on teaching or learning within RE lessons, the quality of the taught RE curriculum/syllabus or Collective Worship, however the extracts below taken from inspection reports between the start of term and 24th November 2023 and reflect where inspectors have identified behaviours and/or understanding that pupils have demonstrated that are in line with the principal aims of the RE curriculum as identified within the agreed syllabus (page 7). Comments from all schools inspected within North Yorkshire have been included. SACRE members are reminded that SACRE's remit for RE curriculum is only for maintained Community, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation schools alongside any Academies that choose to adopt the syllabus and that SACRE's remit for collective worship extend only to maintained community school and Academies without a religious characteristic.

Name	Comments relating to RE	Comments relating to Collective Worship
St George's Catholic Primary School - a Catholic voluntary academy		
Hutton Rudby Primary School	However, some aspects of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) curriculum are not as comprehensive as others. Pupils cannot discuss faith and religion as confidently as other aspects of their SMSC curriculum, such as equality.	
Applegarth Primary School		
Carlton Miniott Primary Academy		
Hunton and Arrathorne Community Primary School		The school inspires pupils to contribute to their local community through fundraising and by sending every home in the village a Christmas card. Pupils learn more about the world around them through 'Tuesday Newsday' and inclusive assemblies, which deepens their understanding of protected characteristics. Personal development in this school is exceptional. Leaders have woven opportunities for character development into every part of the school. The school inspires pupils to be proud of where they are from. Staff cultivate pupils' appreciation of, and curiosity about, the wider world.
Hertford Vale Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Staxton		The school values of 'respect, kindness, love, peace and resilience' underpin everything that happens at Hertford Vale. Pupils and staff embody these Christian values. Pupils at this school are very happy, positive and welcoming members of the school's 'family'. A strong Christian ethos is evident throughout the school. Pupils have a very strong sense of equality. One pupil told an inspector, 'Our school is very inclusive. Daily worship reinforces the school's Christian ethos and immerses pupils in its core values. This includes strong spiritual, moral, social and cultural guidance.
St Mary's Catholic Primary School - a Catholic voluntary academy		When pupils join the school, they quickly become part of a caring community. Links with the local church are well established and pupils are active within their parish community.
Ruswarp Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		Leaders are keen that pupils understand the world beyond their local area. An issue from the news is incorporated into collective worship each week. Pupils then have time to discuss this with their peers.

Gladstone Road Primary School		
Bishop Monkton Church of England Primary School		Leaders celebrate pupils' talents through musical soirees, talent competitions and collective worship.
Burneston Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School	Leaders make sure that pupils learn about major world faiths, atheism and humanism.	
Tockwith Church of England Primary Academy		Pupils at Tockwith Church of England Primary Academy embrace the school's Christian values of perseverance, friendship and creativity. These values underpin leaders' ethos of 'living life in all its fulness'. There is a culture of respect and acceptance, where differences are celebrated.
Graham School		
Holy Trinity Church of England Junior School	Pupils understand the school's Christian values and enjoy close links with both the parish church and Ripon Cathedral. They talk maturely about equality, respect for others and tolerance.	The school's Christian ethos and values are woven through everything they do.
Boroughbridge High School		
Bainbridge Church of England Primary and Nursery School	Pupils are knowledgeable about the major world religions and what it means to be a person of faith.	
Askrigg Voluntary Controlled Primary School	Pupils are knowledgeable about the major world religions and what it means to be a person of faith.	
Kirkby Malzeard Church of England Primary School		
Oatlands Community Junior School		
Scarborough Pupil Referral Unit		
St Peter's Brafferton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School		Pupils take on responsibilities linked to the environment and the Christian ethos of the school.
Scotton Lingerfield Primary School	Pupils benefit from carefully considered cultural experiences woven throughout the curriculum. These broaden pupils' experience of the world. Visits to places of worship, such as a mosque, increase pupils' awareness of tolerance and respect for other faiths and beliefs.	

Sutton on the Forest Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		Leaders consider how to ensure that the school values of respect, compassion, friendship and perseverance run through the curriculum. There are several opportunities for pupils to develop and demonstrate these values, for example through participating in the Archbishop's Young Leader Award, or by attending one of the extra-curricular clubs.
Hambleton/Richmondshire Pupil Referral Service	Pupils learn about protected characteristics. They are encouraged to debate challenging topics. Staff promote fundamental British values throughout the curriculum. Pupils learn about faiths and people who are different to them. Outside of school, pupils do not have opportunities to regularly engage with different people in the community. Leaders want to develop these opportunities to support pupils' wider development.	
Fylingdales Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School		Pupils consistently talk about feeling safe, cared for and that they matter. This is a result of the culture of care and kindness that runs throughout the school. Pupils treat each other with high levels of respect, bringing to life the school's Christian values. As one pupil said, 'It is important to be nice.'
Egton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School		Leaders and governors have a strong and clear vision for the school, its pupils, their families and the community. Much of this vision is founded on strong Christian values. This is enhanced by the strong link with the diocese.
Harrogate, Bilton Grange Primary School		
Barlby Community Primary School		
Brompton-on-Swale Church of England Primary School		
Filey Junior School		
Trinity Academy Richmond		
St Benedict's Catholic Primary School - a Catholic voluntary academy	The school promotes pupils' wider development. Pupils learn about relationships and equality and diversity in an age-appropriate way. They also learn about the importance of physical and mental health. Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, both online and in the local community. The school organises trips and visits that enrich pupils' learning. Pupils visit places of cultural interest, such as York Mosque and Eden Camp Modern	

	History Museum. They also enjoy the school's forest school and learn about their locality's heritage and history	
Moorside Primary School & Nursery		
Seamer and Irton Community Primary School		
Greatwood Community Primary School	There are some aspects of pupils' personal development though, which are not as well developed as others. For example, pupils find it difficult to talk about fundamental British values and demonstrate a lack of understanding of different faiths.	

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Report Author: Julie Pattison  
Background documents: None  
Additional sources: LA Red Bag, Ofsted inspection reports