

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

LB HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

November 2022

This LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE Annual Report is presented in the new format developed by NASACRE in conjunction with the DfE for use from September 2021.

Table of Contents

Section		Page
1.	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreword from the Chair of SACRE 2021-22 • Religions and Beliefs in LB Hammersmith and Fulham 	3-4
2.	Religious Education (Statutory Responsibilities) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed Syllabus and RE in schools • Standards and Monitoring of RE • Teacher Training and Advice to Schools • Other Information 	4-5
3.	Collective Worship (Statutory Responsibilities) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards and monitoring of Collective Worship • Determinations • Other information 	5-6
4.	Links to other Bodies	6
5.	SACRE Involvement Locally	6
6.	SACRE's own arrangements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional and Administrative support • Membership and Recruitment • Attendance • Training • Finance 	6-8
7.	Appendices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table of RE GCSE and A level Results? • Circulation details for the Annual Report 	9-10

1. Introduction

1.1 Foreword from the Chair of SACRE 2021-22

It is a great pleasure to be able to present Hammersmith & Fulham SACRE's Annual Report for 2021/22.

I can report that thanks to the leadership of our SACRE consultant advisor, Lesley Prior, and also the continued commitment of the SACRE team along with representatives from the LA, SACRE has been able to continue to meet and support the teaching and learning of RE in our H&F schools, despite the continued challenges of the pandemic.

There is much to celebrate in this report, not least the hard work and effort of our H&F RE teachers, and the young people in H&F, who continued to deliver high quality teaching and learning in RE, despite all of the challenges they faced using blended teaching approaches. I would also like to celebrate the fact that throughout 2021/22, H&F SACRE continued to meet online and was quorate at all of its meetings. The meetings were all carried out remotely.

I would like to thank all of the SACRE members for continuing to make these adaptations this year and for all of their support and contributions in these meetings.

I have no doubt that with the help and commitment of our SACRE members, SACRE consultant, and with the continued strong support of H&F Council, we will be able to provide excellent support and advice to all H&F schools again in the year ahead.

Mark Newton, H&F SACRE chair

Mark Newton (Group B)

1.2 Religion and Belief in LB of Hammersmith and Fulham

The LB Hammersmith and Fulham is very diverse in a whole range of respects, including in relation to religions and worldviews. Although statistics from the 2011 National Census are now somewhat out of date they remain helpful in illustrating this.

In that National Census, among those who stated a religious affiliation, Christians remained the largest religious group in Hammersmith and Fulham representing 54.1 per cent of residents (63.7 per cent in 2001). This is a higher proportion than for London as a whole at 48.8 per cent.

The second-most common category was "No religion", comprising nearly a quarter of the population (23.8 per cent), up from 17.6 per cent in 2001.

13.5 per cent of Borough residents belonged to non-Christian religions, the next largest being Muslim (10.0 per cent of the overall population).

One in twelve residents (8.4 per cent) did not answer the census question related to religion.

There was a decline in the proportion of the Christian population within the borough (- 6.0 per cent), across London (-5.2 per cent) and the country as a whole (-11.0 per cent).

When the data from the National Census conducted in 2021 is published, it is the intention of the LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE to review the information it provides in relation to

religion and belief in the area, consider any possible implications for the composition of the SACRE and offer any advice to the LA that may be necessary as a result.

2. Religious Education Statutory Responsibilities

2.1 Background

The LB Hammersmith and Fulham's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) is required, in accordance with Section 391(6) of the Education Act 1996, to publish an annual report on its activities. This report summarises its activities during the academic year 2020-21. Its current terms of reference, as laid down by the Education Reform Act 1998, are: "to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit."

In particular, the SACRE is charged with the following responsibilities:

- It can require the authority to review the Agreed Syllabus on Religious Education.
- It may determine, on application by the headteacher that the requirement for Collective Worship in community schools to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character shall not apply to the Collective Worship provided for some or all of its pupils in a particular school.
- With the authority, to review the support offered for RE teaching, the methods of teaching employed, and teachers' in-service professional development.

In addition, the SACRE has a direct role in the consideration and disposal of complaints related to the RE curriculum or Collective Worship. The SACRE will be asked to advise where complaints relate to Religious Education given in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus or to Collective Worship in county – now called community - schools.

Details of the work of the LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE can be found here:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-staff-zone/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre>

Agendas, Minutes and associated papers can be found via the same link.

2.2 Locally Agreed Syllabus

By statute, every local authority is required to adopt a Locally Agreed Syllabus (LAS) for Religious Education and to review it every five years. The current LB Hammersmith and Fulham LAS has been in place since June 2020, after undergoing a rigorous process of review and revision in conjunction with colleagues in Hampshire from where the LAS was adopted. The version used in LB Hammersmith and Fulham (and three other LAs in London) has been adapted from the original to reflect the demographics of our capital city.

The Agreed Syllabus for LB Hammersmith and Fulham is available via this link:

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section_attachments/living_difference_iii_-_hammersmith_and_fulham_electronic_version.pdf

2.3 Standards in RE

SACRE members give close consideration to the various national and local developments concerning the provision of RE. Their discussions are prompted by the information provided to the SACRE through the regular updates from teacher members, the RE Consultant and SACRE Adviser and NASACRE Briefings. During 2021-22, SACRE gave particular attention to:

- strategies to promote the continued implementation of the agreed syllabus, including support for primary teachers in particular
- exploring the workforce data produced by the National Association of Teachers for RE (NATRE) and its implications for the provision of RE in local secondary schools although it was noted that SACRE has no direct remit over these schools
- discussed the RE Report card, a data review of RE Provision undertaken by a team from the Religious Education Council of England and Wales (REC), the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE), and RE Today Services. Members were of the opinion that although the report was very secondary focussed it was a useful summary of the national picture and the card should be shared with schools.

2.4 Teacher Training

A Good Practice Network for Subject Leaders for RE in community primary schools continued to run on a termly basis in 2021-22. These sessions are led by Lesley Prior, RE Consultant and Adviser to the SACRE. Occasionally SACRE members are able to be present too and play a key role in building effective links between SACRE and the members of this group.

The RE Subject Leaders in community primary schools have met three times this year. Due to continued restrictions and safety precautions related to Covid-19, all of these meetings in 2021-22 were held via virtual platforms.

- 30th November, focusing on:
 - Raising the Profile of RE in Your School
- 24th February, focusing on:
 - Ofsted News Relating to RE
 - Assessing Teaching and Learning in RE
- 23rd June focusing on:
 - The Future of the Agreed Syllabus
 - Ofsted 'Deep Dives' and RE.

The Primary RE Network is small but members maintain regular and mutually supportive contact with one another between sessions using a WhatsApp Group. This initiative has been warmly welcomed, with questions being raised, materials recommended and documentation shared. As the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 prevented face to face meetings during this period, the support offered was hugely appreciated by all those involved.

Anyone wishing to join this group should contact Lesley Prior, the RE Consultant and Adviser to SACRE who can ensure they are added to it.

Lesley can be reached at: lesley.prior@london.anglican.org.

Lesley Prior (the RE Consultant and Adviser to SACRE) offers extensive telephone and online consultations to Subject Leaders who are developing schemes of learning and reviewing and revising policy documents for RE. Lesley also issued six newsletters during this period (one every half term) for distribution to Primary Subject Leaders for RE to share new materials and resources, promote relevant RE events and highlight significant national developments and initiatives in the subject. SACRE members also receive these newsletters.

2.5 Complaints and Withdrawals

There have been no complaints to SACRE in 2021-22 in relation to Religious Education.

SACRE has received no reports of pupils being withdrawn from Religious Education in 2021-22.

3. Collective Worship Statutory Responsibilities

3.1. Standards and Monitoring of Collective Worship

During 2021-22 the SACRE Adviser continued to offer advice and support on Collective Worship to staff in schools who have requested this.

3.2 Determinations

The Adviser to SACRE regularly reminds members about the role, nature and purpose of determinations in relation to Collective Worship. A determination lifts the requirement for the majority of the statutory daily Acts of Collective Worship in these schools to be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”.

Guidance on applying for a determination (or a renewal of the same) can be found with the relevant application forms in the LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE document referenced above (under 3.1).

The Adviser to SACRE can offer support with this process on request.

3.3 Other Information

There have been no complaints to SACRE in 2021-22 in relation to Collective Worship.

SACRE has received no reports of pupils being withdrawn from Collective Worship in 2021-22.

4. Links with other Bodies

4.1 NASACRE

LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE is affiliated to The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) and notes and discusses key points from its regular briefings.

See this link for more details: www.nasacre.org. Login details for the NASACRE website can be obtained from the SACRE Clerk.

The 2022 NASACRE Conference and AGM – ‘Ambitious SACREs’ - was held virtually on 23rd May 2022, and Keith Tysoe and Hannah Abu-Ghaida attended on behalf of LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE. Verbal feedback on the Conference was provided to the SACRE at its summer term meeting and formed the basis for discussion and reflection by members. Full details and copies of the relevant paperwork from the 2022 Conference can be found at <https://nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm/2022-ambitious-sacre/>.

The Adviser to SACRE is a member of the NASACRE Executive Group and is also a member of many other RE professional bodies and shares information from them at SACRE Meetings.

4.2 Other Groups

LB Hammersmith and Fulham SACRE has developed links with various local groups and initiatives.

With the support of Naif Sheikh (Group A), the SACRE has produced Ramadan Guidance for schools and this can be accessed here:

http://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpdoc/5/5/8/4/1/files/725093_2021-hf-sacre---ramadan-guidance.pdf

5. SACRE Arrangements

5.1 Meetings in 2021-22

The SACRE met on the following three occasions in 2021-22:

- 23rd November 2021
- 17th March 2022
- 15th June

Due to continued restrictions and safety precautions related to Covid-19, SACRE meetings in 2020-21 were held via virtual platforms.

5.2 Professional and Administrative Support

Secretarial assistance and a budget for the discharge of the SACRE’s duties is provided by the LB Hammersmith and Fulham. The key areas of this support include the following:

- Provision of a Clerk
- Support of a Local Authority Adviser
- Commissioning of an RE Consultant and Adviser to the SACRE
- Funding of the NASACRE annual membership
- Funding for at least one SACRE member to attend NASACRE’s annual Conference and AGM

The SACRE is grateful to the LB Hammersmith and Fulham for making this support available.

5.3 Key Contacts

- Chair of the SACRE Mark Newton (Group B)
- Clerk to the SACRE Lorraine Mitchell
- Local Authority Contact Keith Tysoe
- Adviser to SACRE Lesley Prior (RE Consultant)

5.4 Membership, Representation and Recruitment –

A full list of SACRE members is included in the Appendices.

5.5 Attendance

All SACRE meetings in 2021-22 were quorate. Members of the SACRE transitioned well with the move to virtual meetings and attendance levels remained steady.

5.6 Attendance Records

Full details of attendance are available at:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-staff-zone/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre>

5.7 Training for SACRE Members

SACRE members are encouraged to attend training provided by NASACRE. School based SACRE members or those with other links to education also attend local and national RE training including Diocesan training.

5.8 Finance given to SACRE for its Work

Up to £8,000 is allocated to SACRE and the funding contributes toward the running costs of the SACRE, the work of the RE Consultant, and other costs such as membership of NASACRE, and attendance at the NASACRE Conference etc.

6. Appendices

6.1 SACRE Membership 2021-22

6.2 Circulation Details for the SACRE Annual Report

This Annual Report is shared with the Director of Education for LB Hammersmith and Fulham and sent to the Department for Education, NASACRE, local schools and governors. The report will be available for anyone to view on the LB Hammersmith and Fulham website:

[Insert link here?](#)

6.3 Key Contacts

- Chair of the SACRE Mark Newton (Group B): mark.newton@london.anglican.org
- Clerk to the SACRE Ann Kenny: ann.kenny@lbhf.gov.uk
- Local Authority Contact Keith Tysoe: keith.tysoe@lbhf.gov.uk
- Adviser to SACRE LesleyPrior(REConsultant) lesley.prior@london.anglican.org

6.4 Membership, Representation and Recruitment – Not all members have been attending sessions and no apologies received. **quoracy, issues and successes with recruitment? Leavers, new members?**

A full list of SACRE members is included in the Appendices.

6.5 Attendance

All SACRE meetings in 2021-22 were quorate. During the pandemic, access to meetings has improved with online meetings. Consideration will be given to operating a hybrid model going forward.

Attendance Records

Full details of attendance are available at:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-staff-zone/standing-advisory-council-religious-education-sacre>

6.6 Training for SACRE Members

SACRE members are encouraged to attend training provided by NASACRE. School based SACRE members or those with other links to education also attend local and national RE training including Diocesan training.

6.7 Finance given to SACRE for its Work

£8,000 pa is allocated to SACRE and the funding contributes toward the running costs of the SACRE, the work of the RE Consultant, and other costs such as membership of NASACRE, and attendance at the NASACRE Conference etc.

7. Appendices

7.1 Table of GCSE & A Level Religious Studies Results 2022

See link: .

7.2 Circulation Details for the SACRE Annual Report

This Annual Report is shared with the Director of Education for LB Hammersmith and Fulham and sent to the Department for Education, NASACRE and schools, including governors. The report will be available for anyone to view on the LB Hammersmith and Fulham website:

Insert link here?

