

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Thursday 22 October 2020 at 4.30 pm
Virtual, Zoom Meeting

Membership:

Chair: Basma ElShayyal

Vice Chair: Helen Mooney

Advisers:

- Lesley Prior

Councillors:

- Cllr Tariq Dar
- Cllr Orleen Hylton
- Cllr Neil Nerva

Representatives of:

- Local Authority
- Church of England
- Brent's other faiths and denominations
- Teachers unions

For further information contact: Fern Aldous, Governance Officer
fern.aldous@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas visit
<http://vslweb04.brent.gov.uk>

The SACRE meeting will be open for the public and press to attend as an online virtual meeting. The link to attend and view the meeting is available [HERE](#)

Agenda

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To consider extensions of determinations for the following schools:	
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Date of the next meeting: 11th February 2021

**MINUTES OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(SACRE)**

Held as an online virtual meeting on Thursday 25 June 2020 at 5.30 pm

Attendees (in remote attendance):

<p>GROUP A <i>(A committee of persons representing such Christian denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions as, in the opinion of the authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area)</i></p>	<p>Basma ElShayyal (Sunni Islam, Chair) Bhupinder Singh (Sikhism) Sheralyn Snaith (Baha'i) Rupa Monerawela (Buddhism)</p>
<p>GROUP B <i>(A committee of persons representing the Church of England)</i></p>	<p>Steve Taylor (Church of England) Mark Newton (Church of England)</p>
<p>GROUP C <i>(A committee of persons representing such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the authority, ought to be represented, having regard to the circumstances of the area)</i></p>	<p>Lea Murray Florence Quainoo (Associations Representing Teachers)</p>
<p>GROUP D <i>(A committee of persons representing the authority)</i></p>	<p>Cllr Neil Nerva Cllr Orleen Hylton Cllr Tariq Dar</p>

<p>In attendance:</p>	<p>Lesley Prior (RE Adviser/Consultant to SACRE) Stacey Burman (Adviser to the ASC) Brian Grady (OD, Safeguarding Performance and Strategy) John Frankis (Systems and Partnerships Manager, School Effectiveness Service)</p> <p>Helen Tulloch (Governor Support Coordinator) Shawn Cremin (Associate Member) Kim Wilson (Potential Teacher Representative) James Kinsella (Governance Manager) Fern Aldous (Governance Officer)</p>
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Apologies:	Helen Mooney (Associations Representing Teachers) Ian Slade (Associations Representing Teachers) John Roche (Associations Representing Teachers)
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1. Welcome and Introductions

Basma ElShayyal, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Kim Wilson, Potential Representative for Teachers and Sheralyn Snaith, representative for the Baha’l religion.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from the previous meeting

It was noted that in approving the minutes the group were ratifying the decisions from the inquorate meeting held on the 30th January 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous SACRE meeting held on 30th January 2020 be approved as an accurate record.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

The Chair had received an interest in the position of vice-chair from Helen Mooney (Associations Representing Teachers). As there were no other expressions of interest the committee proceeded to unanimously vote Helen Mooney as vice-chair of SACRE.

RESOLVED:

That Helen Mooney be appointed vice-chair of SACRE

4. Adoption of SACRE Constitution

RESOLVED:

That the constitution be approved and adopted by SACRE

Draft Religious Education Syllabus

NOTED the outcome of the Agreed Syllabus Conference and the fact that it had not yet been possible for all Groups to reach a consensus in order to agree the final syllabus for recommendation on to SACRE.

5. Determinations

The Chair provided an update on the below listed schools with outstanding determination decision.

- Harlesden Primary
- Barham Primary
- Carlton Vale Infants
- Roe Green Infants
- Roe Green Juniors
- Uxendon Manor Primary

It was NOTED that the determinations in relation to the above schools had been dealt with under the Chair's delegated powers during the Covid-19 restrictions

6. Dates of Future Meetings

The date of the next meeting was noted to be **Thursday 22 October 2020** at 4:30pm.

7. Any Other Business

The Chair asked that her thanks and appreciation to the authority and those who had worked on the syllabus be noted.

The meeting closed at 18:40

Basma ElShayyal
Chair

Report

Title	Chair and Vice Chair election
Author	Helen Tulloch
Contact details	helen.tulloch@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 3038
For consideration by	Members of SACRE
Date to be considered	22 October 2020
Report contains confidential or exempt information	No

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report outlines the roles of the Chair and Vice Chair and the skill and the experience the LA would expect the post holder to have.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That SACRE members consider the report and make a nomination (or self-nominate) at the next meeting.

3. Detail

- 3.1 The local authority has agreed not to exercise their right to appoint the SACRE Chair and Vice Chair.
- 3.2 SACRE members are asked to make a nomination for the positions; a secret ballot will take place if there is more than one candidate.
- 3.3 The term of office for the Chair and Vice Chair will be one year and elections will take place at the last SACRE meeting of the academic year.

Role of Chair and Vice Chair

The appointment of the Chair

SACREs are bodies appointed by the local authority (LA) and as such the LA has the authority to appoint the Chair of SACRE. Where the LA decides not to exercise this right, SACREs appoint their own Chair (and Vice Chair), by taking nominations and holding a secret ballot if there is more than one candidate.

The term of office for the SACRE Chair and Vice Chair will be one year and elections will take place at the last meeting of each academic year.

Role of the Chair

- ensure the smooth and efficient running of meetings, consistent with the SACRE constitution
- ensure that SACRE fulfils its statutory duties and responsibilities
- ensure that SACRE membership is efficiently maintained, i.e. that the four main groups of SACRE have appropriate representation, with good attendance and participation
- ensure that an annual report is produced each year and sent to the Secretary of State as required by statute
- to give due consideration to the training requirements of SACRE members, and that new members are appropriately inducted
- liaise with the clerk and lead officer to draft and comment on meeting agendas.
- sign the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record and ensure the actions arising from the minutes have taken place
- take a leading role in SACRE's on-going process of self-evaluation and development
- where there is an agreed code of conduct it is adhered to by all SACRE members.
- bring any concerns, relating to the timeliness of notice for meetings, publication of agenda and reports, the provision of funding, support or meeting venues, to the attention of the LA's lead officer
- ensure that there is a Vice Chair in post to deputise in the Chair's absence

Skills and experience of the SACRE Chair

The Chair should:

- have a clear understanding of the nature and constitution of SACRE, and SACRE's responsibilities and statutory functions
- be aware of the role that RE and collective worship play in a broad and balanced curriculum and their contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- have experience of chairing meetings and ensure that matters at meetings are dealt with and all members are given to opportunity to participate and contribute.

Role of the Vice Chair

The role of the Vice is to deputise in the Chair's absence

Complete Members List 2020/21					
Groups	Denomination/belief/faith/group	Title	Forename	Surname	End of Term
A	Baha'i	Mrs	Sheralyn	Snaitth	Jun-24
A	Buddhism	Mrs	Rupa	Monerawela	Jun-24
A	Hinduism (Brent Hindu Samaj)	Mr	Deva	Samaroo	Jun-24
A	Hinduism (Saiva Siddanta)	Mr	Santanam	Swaminathan	Jun-24
A	Islam (Shi'a)	Mrs	Andleeb	Naqvi	Jun-24
A	Islam (Sunni) – Chair	Mrs	Basma	El Shayyal	Jun-24
A	Jainism	Mr	Manhar	Mehta	Jun-24
A	Roman Catholicism	Ms	Dawn	Titus	Jun-24
A	Pentecostal Churches	Ms	Sarah	Cawte	
A	Sikhism	Mr	Bhupinder	Singh	Jun-24
A	Zoroastrianism	Mr	Malcolm	Deboo	Jun-24
A	Zoroastrianism	Mr	Yazad	Bhadha	Jun-24
A	Judaism (Vacancy)				
A	Christian Orthodox (Vacancy)				
B	Church of England	Mr	Steve	Taylor	Jun-24
B	Church of England	Mr	Graham	Marriner	Jun-24
B	Church of England	Mr	Andrew	Teather	Jun-24
B	Church of England	Mr	Mark	Newton	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers	Ms	Lea	Murray	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers	Mr	Andrew	Bate	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers - Vice Chair	Ms	Helen	Mooney	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers	Mr	Ian	Slade	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers	Ms	Florence	Quainoo	Jun-24
C	Associations Representing Teachers	Mr	John	Roche	Jun-24
C	Vacancy				Jun-24
D	The Authority (Municipal Year 2018)	Cllr	Neil	Nerva	Jun-24
D	The Authority (Municipal Year 2018)	Cllr	Tariq	Dar	Jun-24
D	The Authority (Municipal Year 2018)	Cllr	Orleen	Hylton	Jun-24

Brent SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education)

Constitution and Terms of Reference

1. Context & Definitions

In accordance with the Education Act 1944 and subsequent requirements set out in the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Education Act 1996, every Local Authority (LA) is required to establish a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

The essential role of the SACRE is to support the LA and the LA's schools in meeting the entitlement of pupils to engage in high quality Religious Education (RE) and Collective Worship.

Children are obliged to attend both Collective Worship and RE instruction. These are two distinct and separate matters for which SACRE has responsibility. RE and Collective Worship must not promote any one religion or belief system over another. It is not the aim of RE to persuade pupils to be religious. RE is part of the core curriculum in schools and is an academic subject. It should contribute, along with all national curriculum subjects, in helping to provide for the Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural development of children

Parents have the right in law to withdraw their children from Collective Worship or RE. On request parents receive help and advice from their school and the LA. The SACRE can also advise. Collective Worship and RE are intended to be suitable for all children. It is important for all concerned to realise that when parents conclude that they wish to withdraw their children, actually deciding to go ahead and single out their children to be different from others, is a difficult step to take.

Collective worship:

The Education Act 1996 requires the SACRE to advise on matters relating to religious worship in schools where Collective Worship comes into its remit and lays down a requirement that all schools hold a daily act of collective worship and that this should be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character."

Brent SACRE, working with schools, drew up its own Recommended Approach to Collective Worship. Brent SACRE provided schools with information about their legal obligations and how to request an exemption known in the Education Act as a "Determination", which includes the legal requirements regarding consultation with governors and parents and how to present the request.

Locally Agreed Syllabus and Agreed Syllabus Conference:

The Locally Agreed Syllabus is the statutory document for RE within the LA. It sets out what should be taught to pupils in all key stages and the standards expected at the end of key stages. It is produced by an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) and must be reviewed every five years. However, if a majority of SACRE members agree, they can write to the LA to ask for it to be reviewed sooner and the LA must convene a conference.

An ASC is a statutory body established in order to produce an agreed syllabus for RE. Although it is a separate legal entity from a SACRE each group can include the same members. The LA will appoint members ensuring that the committee membership is broadly representative of the proportionate strengths of the denominations, religions and associations in the area. .

The LA can ask suitably skilled colleagues, who are not members of SACRE, to attend an ASC and advise on the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

2. Roles, Functions & Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the SACRE are to:

- i. consider questions and provide advice to the LA on all aspects of its provision for RE in its schools (not including Voluntary Aided Schools);
- ii. consider questions and provide advice to the LA on Collective Worship in its schools (this does not include Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled schools);
- iii. initiate reviews and, when deemed necessary, ensure that revisions to the Brent Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education are undertaken through the formation of an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) set up by the Council; publish an annual report of its work which specifies any matters in respect of which the SACRE has given advice to the authority; broadly describes the nature of the advice given; and where, any such matter was not referred by the LA, provides the reasons for offering advice on that matter.
- iv. provide advice on training for teachers in RE and Collective Worship;
- v. consider requests from head teachers to hold Collective Worship that is not of a broadly Christian character (known as “Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Determinations”)

The SACRE may also

- vi. advise on and monitor the provision and delivery of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC);
- vii. be aware of, and monitor the uptake of external examinations in RE and religious studies and monitor or review the standards achieved;
- viii. consider complaints about the provision and delivery of RE or Collective Worship referred to it by the LA.

The LA has the responsibility of ensuring that the SACRE’s work is effective and related to schools and their curriculum.

3. SACRE Membership

The SACRE is a body appointed by the LA. In accordance with the provisions of the Education Act 1996 (section 390(4)), the SACRE must be comprised of members from four groups, as follows:

Group A – The Christian denominations and other religions and their denominations, reflecting the principal religions of the LA.

Group B – The Church of England.

Group C – Professional teacher and headteacher Associations recognised by the LA and others representing education interests.

Group D – The LA.

4. Composition and Quorum

The specific numbers of members in relation to each of these groups is as follows:

Group	Group category	Number of members
Group A	The Christian denominations and other religions and their denomination, reflecting the principal religions of the area.	16
Group B	The Church of England	4
Group C	Teacher and head teacher associations and often others representing education	6
Group D	The Local Authority.	4

The membership structure of SACRE will be reviewed after every full local government election.

Brent SACRE will meet at least once every term.

A SACRE meeting will be deemed quorate if the following two conditions both apply:

- i 30% of SACRE voting members are present and
- ii Each of the four representative groups are represented.

5. Voting

On any question to be decided by the SACRE, only the representative groups on the SACRE shall be entitled to vote and each group shall have a single vote.

It may be, from time to time, that SACRE wishes to ascertain the general feeling of its members on a particular issue the chair of SACRE, after consulting the servicing officer, could rule that an open vote would be appropriate in such cases.

On formal votes it may be necessary for the four representative groups to meet separately to determine how their collective vote will be cast. To facilitate such a vote each representative group should elect a chair. Decisions made within a group as to how their vote should be cast do not require unanimity.

6. Appointment process

All members of the SACRE are appointed by the LA for a four-year term. At the time of appointment the LA can also appoint the member to the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

The LA must take all reasonable steps to assure itself that the persons appointed to the above Groups are representative of the denominations or associations in question.

The LA may remove a member of the SACRE if in the opinion of the LA that member ceases to be representative of the denomination or association which he/she was appointed to represent.

Any faith community wishing to take part in the SACRE's work must make a written application to the Strategic Director Children & Young People. The application must state:

- (i) their ability to define themselves as a faith community;
- (ii) why they have a legitimate interest in the work of SACRE as outlined in this constitution; and
- (iii) how their interests are not currently being adequately represented.

SACRE members may co-opt non-voting members for a period of two years. However co-opted members may not propose further co-options.

Should a member of SACRE not attend three consecutive meetings, the Strategic Director Children and Young People will write to that member informing them that their membership will lapse if they are unable to attend the next meeting.

7. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

It is open to the Authority to appoint the chair of the SACRE but it is the current view that the SACRE should appoint its own chair subject to the following:

- i that a chair be elected annually at the last meeting of the summer term;
- ii that the new chair takes up office from the end of that meeting; and
- iii that a chair be elected by nomination and secret ballot of all voting groups present at the relevant meeting, each group having one vote.

The SACRE has adopted the same procedure for the election of the vice-chair.

8. Code of Conduct

All representatives should:

- attend the meetings of the SACRE and take part in the deliberations and work of SACRE;
- participate in and review the work of the SACRE for the benefit of the whole community

- actively challenge and resist stereotyping;
- assume at all times that other members of the SACRE are honourable and concerned with the best interests of the SACRE;
- respect the rights of other members to disagree with your point of view.

Groups A and B representatives should:

- ensure that they are adequately qualified to represent their faith community;
- be able to explain how they intend to inform and consult with their faith community;
- feel a sense of responsibility not only to the children coming from their own faith but also to all the children of Brent;
- provide expertise, or assist in providing access to such expertise, in matters of fact, tradition, theology and practice relating to their own faith for the benefit of the whole school population;
- represent to the SACRE the interests and concerns of their own faith community;
- endeavour to represent fairly the views and interests of the widest possible range of faith positions within their community (this is particularly relevant if they are the sole representative on the SACRE for their faith);
- follow the guidelines for visits to schools;
- recognise that stating a belief or religious tenet is not the same as advancing an argument for or against any proposal, although it may well be an overriding consideration;
- inform members of their faith community of the work of the SACRE.

For school visits faith representatives should:

- only visit a school as a SACRE faith group representative when invited;
- inform the Clerk of the SACRE of any invitation received and visits made;
- make absolutely clear that you are speaking from the perspective of the particular religion or belief system that you are representing;
- ensure that you do not say or do anything, which could be viewed as denigrating any other religion or ethical belief system;
- at all times behave honourably in relation to your fellow SACRE members.

Teacher and teacher association representatives should:

- provide information and expertise in relation to teaching and the school environment;
- if appropriate provide information and expertise in relation to the teaching of religious education and the carrying out of collective worship in schools;
- represent the interests and concerns of teachers, pupils and schools;
- consult with teaching colleagues and students;
- keep colleagues informed about the work of the SACRE;
- ensure that the welfare and education of all the children in Brent is the primary focus of the SACRE.

Council representatives should:

- represent the wider public interest;
- provide information and expertise to the SACRE in their capacity as an elected member of Brent Council;

- inform the SACRE of concerns or issues known to Brent Council relating to education and in particular the provision for SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development), teaching of religious education and the carrying out of collective worship in schools;
- support the work of the SACRE by representing its interests in Brent Council;
- ensure that legal requirements for the conduct of the SACRE are observed in particular in relation to the suitability and qualifications required to be a member of the SACRE.

June 2020

Report

Title	SACRE Annual Report 2018/19
Author	John Frankis
Contact details	Email: john.frankis@brent.gov.uk
For consideration by	Members of SACRE
Date to be considered	22 October 2020
Report contains confidential or exempt information	No

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. SACREs have a duty to publish an annual report, ideally by the 31st December each calendar year but if necessary in the following calendar year. This report has to be sent to the Secretary of State for Education, NASACRE, to local schools and to other interested parties.
- 1.2. The essential role of the SACRE is to support the Local Authority (LA) and local authority schools in meeting the entitlement of pupils across the local authority to engage in high quality Religious Education and Collective Worship. The main purpose of the report is to set out the work of SACRE during the year in question in relation to this role.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. That members of SACRE approve the 2018/19 Annual Report (Appendix 1) and permit the Chair to add a foreword following the meeting.



SACREBrent

**Brent Standing Advisory Council
on Religious Education**

**Annual report
2018-19**

October 2020

Queries about this report should be addressed to:

Helen Tulloch
Governor Support Coordinator
Setting and School Effectiveness
Brent Civic Centre
Engineers Way
Wembley HA9 0FJ
Tel: 020 8937 3038
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LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

ANNUAL REPORT OF BRENT STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2018-2019

1.0 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1.1 Agreed Syllabus

An Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) was convened in June 2017 tasked with reviewing and redrafting the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. Until a new Agreed Syllabus is approved by Brent Council, the current syllabus remains the legally binding document for all local authority maintained schools in the Borough.

A full version of the current Agreed Syllabus, including its appendices, can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.brent.gov.uk/media/946060/agreed_syllabus_for_religious_education.pdf

1.2 Standards in RE

Analysis of Ofsted reports, following inspection, remain an important source of information on the effectiveness of schools in relation to the teaching and delivery of the curriculum for Religious Education (RE) and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

A total of 17 schools in Brent received an Ofsted inspection in the 2018/19 academic year.

It is noted that no adverse issues were identified during the inspection of these schools in terms of religious education and/or spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It is also noted that a number of schools received positive comments on their approach to RE and/or its impact, as indicated in the following table:

School	Type	Ofsted comment
Newfield Primary School	Maintained Community School	<p>The curriculum supports pupils' personal development. In studying the Second World War, for example, Year 6 pupils explored the feelings of Anne Frank while in hiding from the Nazis. Such topics promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.</p> <p>Strong promotion of moral and social qualities and the British values of tolerance and respect helps pupils from different backgrounds to get on well together. Pupils are well prepared for their future life in a diverse society. As one pupil commented: 'We all work together; no one is excluded.'</p>

School	Type	Ofsted comment
St Robert Southwell RC Primary School	Voluntary Aided School	<p>Leaders ensure that there are many opportunities for pupils to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.</p> <p>The broad curriculum contributes well to pupils' strong understanding of SMSC.</p>
Mount Stewart Infant School	Maintained Community School	<p>The school's strong values foster pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.</p> <p>In RE, pupils' progress is stronger in learning about different faiths and the values of tolerance and kindness.</p>
St Gregory's Catholic Science College	Multi Academy Trust	<p>Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted very well throughout the curriculum and in the broader work of the school.</p> <p>Pupils are exceptionally respectful of others, reflecting the school's ethos and values. They are encouraged to discuss difficult issues and to listen to the viewpoints of others from different cultures, religions and backgrounds.</p>
Fryent Primary School	Maintained Community School	<p>Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well across all aspects of school life. In lessons, pupils learn about other cultures and are encouraged to respect the religious practices of others. As a Rights Respecting School, pupils are taught values to practise each week, such as caring and empathy.</p> <p>Pupils are helped to correct mistakes and develop their learning. For example, in religious education lessons visited by inspectors, pupils discussed their understanding of Hindu rituals. Teachers used effective questioning to help pupils make links with practices in other religions and cultures.</p> <p>The school embraces all cultures and religions through the curriculum, assemblies and displays.</p>

School	Type	Ofsted comment
Lyon Park Primary School	Community School	<p>Through the curriculum, pupils develop a strong awareness of different faiths, ethnic backgrounds and cultures. Pupils demonstrate respectful and considerate attitudes and are well prepared to play a positive role in modern Britain.</p> <p>They are taught how to show respect for each other, even if they hold very different beliefs or points of view.</p>
Kingsbury Green Primary School	Community School	<p>Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is actively promoted.</p> <p>Pupils' personal development is outstanding. They show very high levels of respect for one another's cultural and religious beliefs, learning in a prejudice-free environment, where everyone's opinion is valued.</p>
Harlesden Primary School	Community School	<p>Pupils are caring, articulate and confident. Leaders and staff promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.</p> <p>The school's values and caring ethos promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively. Pupils appreciate the difference between right and wrong and told inspectors that it is important to 'be fair' and 'kind to everyone'.</p> <p>Older pupils spoke maturely about the importance of being equally respectful towards people of different religions, as well as those who do not have a faith.</p>

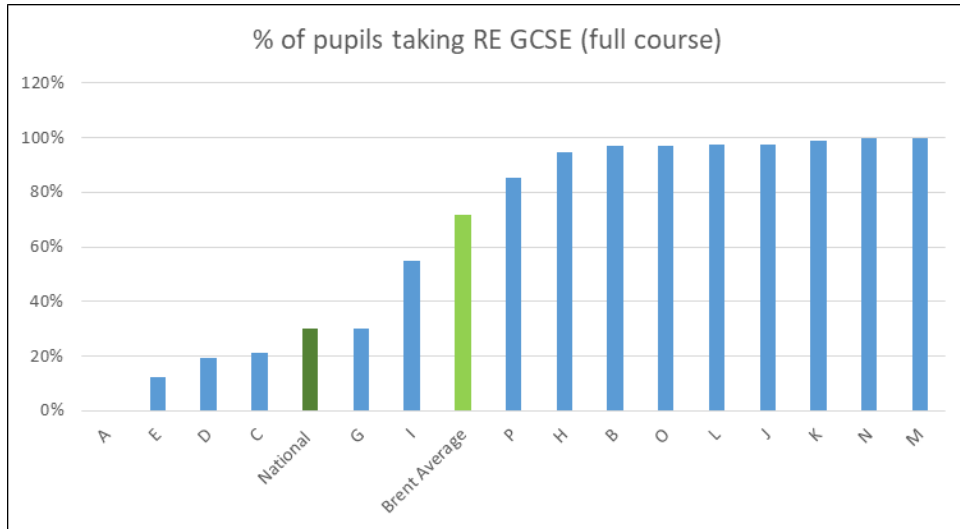
1.3 Religious Studies: GCSE and A Level Participation and Attainment

2018/19 Religious Education GCSE

Religious Education GCSE (full courses of study) was offered in all but one Brent secondary school in the 2018/19 academic year. The percentage of Brent students sitting Religious Education GCSE (full) examinations in 2019 was 67 per cent. This is significantly above the national average of 31 per cent.

However, whilst the overall percentage of students sitting GCSE RE is high, the variation between schools in Brent is significant as evidenced by chart 1 below. It is noted that four schools in Brent have less than 30 per cent of students sitting GCSE RE.

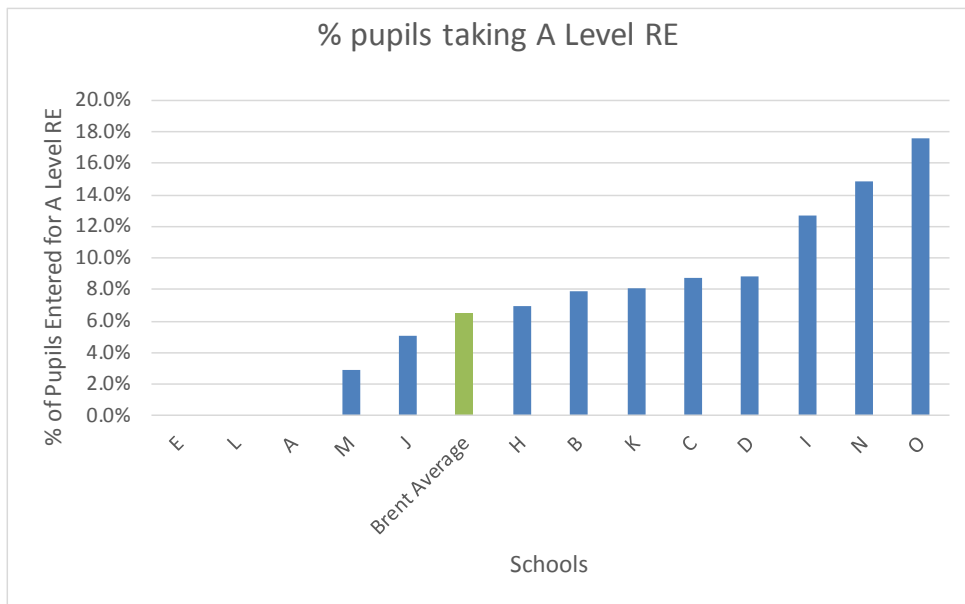
Chart 1: Percentage of Brent students sitting GCSE in Religious Education (2019) by school (anonymised)



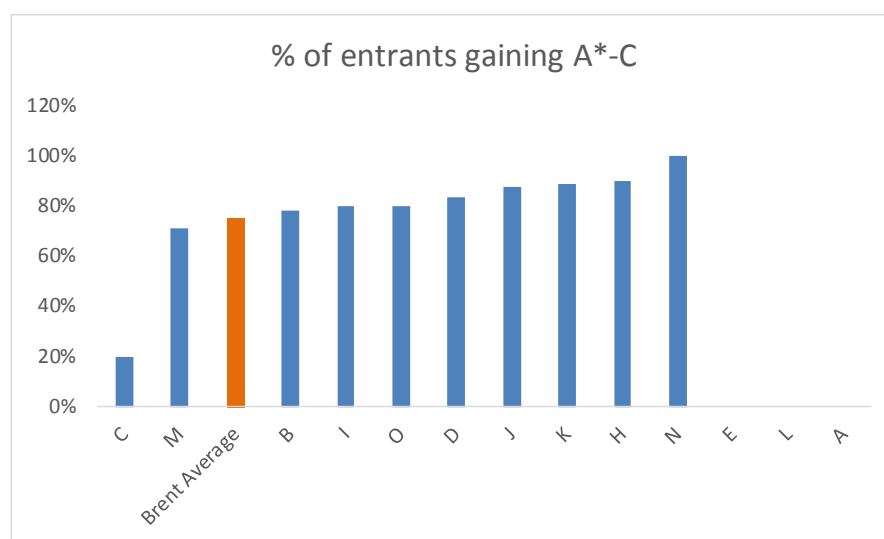
2018/19 Religious Education A Level

The combined total percentage of Brent students taking Religious Studies/Education A Level examinations in 2019 in was 6.5 per cent representing a total of 102 students. This figure is similar to the percentage of students taking A Level RE in 2018.

Chart 2: Percentage of Brent students sitting A Level in Religious Education or Religious studies (2019) by school (anonymised)



The following chart shows the percentage of students attaining A*-C in the 2019 A Level examinations. On average, 75 per cent of Brent students sitting A Level RE or Religious Studies attained a grade of A*-C.



2.0 TRAINING: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

2.1 RE Subject Leaders meetings

SACRE members were pleased to note that there continue to be termly meetings for the Subject Leaders of RE in primary and special schools. These meetings are made available to all schools in Brent via Brent Council's School Compliance and Governor Training Programme.

The subject leader meetings are led by Lesley Prior, Religious Education Consultant. Lesley also supported the Brent SACRE along with Roger Butler. During 2018/19, these meetings took place on the following dates:

- 25/09/2018
- 29/01/2019
- 02/05/2019.

The RE Subject Leaders termly meetings provided participants with opportunities to:

- Receive information regarding the latest developments in RE, both locally and nationally
- Understand the challenges of these developments for schools
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of religions locally, nationally and internationally
- Understand how to apply that knowledge and understanding within the current requirements of the locally agreed syllabus for RE
- Analyse the appropriateness and effectiveness of their current schemes of learning in light of what they have learned
- Evaluate different activities and resources for teaching and learning, including visits and visitors in RE.

Feedback from the participants at these meetings continues to be very positive and the meetings have been a valuable sounding board for Agreed Syllabus Conference members when examining material for the revised Agreed Syllabus as well as evaluating progress.

3.0 COMPLAINTS

No complaints on either Religious Education or Collective Worship were referred to SACRE for investigation in the year 2018/19.

4.0 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

4.1 Determinations

Maintained schools may apply to Brent SACRE for a determination if they identify that collective worship which is “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character” is not appropriate for their pupils.

In 2018/19, thirty of Brent’s thirty-five community and foundation schools had a valid determination. In Brent, this means that such schools then have the choice of following a multi-faith approach recommended by Brent SACRE or following an approach devised by the school.

Whilst voluntary aided and academy schools are also required to have a daily act of collective worship, the governing body is responsible for determining its character and content, and do not therefore have to apply to SACRE for a determination.

4.2 Determination Renewals

The following determination renewals were granted during the academic year 2018-2019.

School	Date
Brentfield Primary School	27/06/2019
Byron Court Primary School	27/06/2019
Fryent Primary School	27/06/2019
Mitchell Brook Primary School	27/06/2019
Mount Stewart Infant School	27/06/2019
Mount Stewart Junior School	27/06/2019
Newfield Primary School	27/06/2019
Northview Primary School	27/06/2019

5.0 MATTERS REFERRED TO SACRE

No matters were referred to SACRE for consideration in the year 2018/19.

6.0 LINKS WITH OTHER BODIES

Brent SACRE is affiliated to The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE).

7.0 SACRE MANAGEMENT and CONTACT OFFICERS 2018/19

SACRE Chair: Basma Elshayyal
SACRE Vice Chair: Laurence Hillel (Vice-Chair, Church of England)

LA Lead Officer: Helen Tulloch (Governor Services Co-ordinator)
Clerk to SACRE: Nikoleta Nikolova (Governance Officer)

8.0 MEETINGS

- 8.1. During the 2018/19 academic year SACRE met on the following dates:
- 9 October 2018
 - 7 March 2019
 - 27 June 2019
- 8.2. During the course of the year, in addition to SACRE standard agenda items relating to membership and determinations, members considered and discussed the following key issues:
- a. **Agreed Syllabus:** Establishing the framework and priorities for development of a new Brent agreed syllabus for Religious Education.
 - b. **The Charles Clarke and Linda Woodhead Report - A New Settlement Revised: Religion and Belief in Schools:** Following a presentation on the key issues raised by the report and an outline of the report's 16 recommendations, SACRE members discussed:
 - The recommendation to reform the requirement for local authorities to agree a locally agreed syllabus for RE in favour of a nationally agreed RE syllabus.
 - The recommendation that SACREs should be reconstituted and properly resourced in order to assist in developing and delivering the faith aspects of the government's approach to community integration and cohesion.
 - c. **Making resources to support RE teaching and learning available online:** Members discussed the development of a Religious Education page and associated resources on Brent Council's BESTBrent website.

ANNEX A

London Borough of Brent SACRE membership 2018/19

Group A: Christian and other religious denominations reflecting the principal religious traditions in the area.

Baha'i	Abraham	Wilson
Buddhism	Rupa	Monerawela
Free Churches (United Reformed/Moravian)	Glen	Warner
Greek Orthodox	Andri	Kyriakidis
Hinduism (Brent Hindu Samaj)	Deva	Samaroo
Hinduism (Saiva Siddanta)	S	Swaminathan
Islam (Shi'a)	Aliya	Azam
Islam (Shi'a)	Basma	El Shayyal
Jainism	Manhar	Mehta
Judaism	Tamar	Bennett
Judaism (Reform)	Valerie	Boyd-Hellner
Rastafarianism	Leroy	Lindsay
Roman Catholicism	Dawn	Titus
Christina Orthodox	Gillian	Crow
Sikhism	Yoginder	Singh Maini
Zoroastrianism	Malcolm	Deboo
Zoroastrianism	Yazad	Bhadha

Group B: Church of England

Graham	Marriner
Laurence	Hillel
Graham	Noyce
Mark	Newton

Group C: Associations Representing Teachers

Lea	Murray
Sophie	Lynch
Andrew	Bate
Helen	Mooney

Group D: LA Representatives

Cllr Neil	Nerva
Cllr Tariq	Dar
Cllr Orleen	Hylton

London Borough of Brent Agreed Syllabus Conference Members 2018/19

Group A: Christian and other religious denominations reflecting the principal religious traditions in the area.

Baha'i	Abraham	Wilson
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Islam (Shi'a)	Aliya	Azam
Islam (Shi'a)	Basma	El Shayyal
Jainism	Manhar	Mehta
Judaism (Reform)	Valerie	Boyd-Hellner
Rastafarianism	Leroy	Lindsay
Roman Catholicism	Dawn	Titus
Sikhism	Yoginder	Singh Maini
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Graham	Marriner
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Sophie	Lynch
Andrew	Bate
Helen	Mooney

Group D: LA Representatives

Cllr Neil	Nerva
Cllr Tariq	Dar
Cllr Orleen	Hylton

Report

Title	NASACRE SACRE Briefing
Author	John Frankis
Contact details	Email: john.frankis@brent.gov.uk
For consideration by	Members of SACRE
Date to be considered	22 October 2020
Report contains confidential or exempt information	No

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. SACRE Briefing is NASACRE's quarterly digital communication which supports SACREs nationally and provides information about current news and support materials.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. That members of SACRE note the content of the last available briefing and agree to receive notice of the publication of future briefings.

3. Detail

- 3.1. Members of SACRE are asked to note that the July 2020 NASACRE Briefing contains the following articles, which includes dates and events taking place in the 2020/21 academic year, including: the NASACRE Annual AGM and Conference; Inter Faith Week 2020, which will take place between 8-15 November.

- Welcome and Update from the Acting chair
- Extraordinary General Meeting
- The Westhill/NASACRE Awards 2020-21
- NASACRE Annual AGM and Conference 2021
- Virtual SACREs
- Collective Worship
- Inter Faith Week 2020, 8-15 November

- 3.2. SACRE members can access current and past NASACRE Briefing papers via the following link:

<https://nasacre.org.uk/sacre-briefing>