

NASACRE – Recent National Developments in Religious Education (UK)

Briefing for SACRE Distribution | Updated: January 2026

Purpose of this Briefing

This paper provides a concise update on recent developments and statements from the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE), for information and discussion at SACRE meetings.

1. NASACRE Statement on the Curriculum and Assessment Review (November 2025)

Following publication of the independent Curriculum and Assessment Review, NASACRE issued a formal statement welcoming the recognition given to Religious Education and reaffirming the continuing importance of SACREs in any future curriculum reform.

- NASACRE welcomed the Review's acknowledgement of the educational value of RE.
- The statement highlights ongoing inconsistency in RE provision across schools.
- NASACRE supports a staged approach to potential inclusion of RE in the National Curriculum, with SACRE involvement safeguarded.
- NASACRE has committed to active engagement in national discussions and consultations.

2. NASACRE Communications and Publications

NASACRE continues to publish regular NASACRE News and SACRE Briefings, providing updates on national policy, research, training opportunities and sector developments relevant to SACREs.

- Termly NASACRE News issues available in printable PDF format.
- Briefings designed for direct inclusion in SACRE agendas and reports.

3. NASACRE Noticeboard – Key National Issues

The NASACRE Noticeboard highlights significant national developments, including responses to Ofsted publications and wider sector initiatives.

- NASACRE statement supporting 'deep and meaningful' Religious Education.
- Links to the Ofsted Religious Education subject report.
- Updates on NASACRE organisational development and charitable status.

4. NASACRE Support for SACRE Development

NASACRE continues to support SACRE effectiveness through training, guidance and shared resources.

- Training webinars and induction materials for SACRE members.
- Guidance on SACRE governance and effective practice.
- Subscriber access to additional publications and archived materials.

5. Points for SACRE Consideration

- Note NASACRE's engagement with national curriculum reform discussions.
- Consider use of NASACRE News and Briefings in SACRE planning and reporting.
- Identify opportunities for SACRE members to engage in NASACRE training and support.

Key Reference Links

NASACRE website: <https://nasacre.org.uk/>

NASACRE News and SACRE Briefings: <https://nasacre.org.uk/sacre-briefing/>

NASACRE Statement on Curriculum and Assessment Review (Nov 2025): https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s56596/Item_No_7_-_NASACRE-chairs-Statement-on-CaAR-11.25.pdf