

To: All SACRE Members, Council Members,
Kent County Council Corporate Director, Children, Young People and Education,
Head Teacher / Chair of Governors all schools in Kent NASACRE

**KENT STANDING ADVISORY
COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022**



**Kent SACRE is a member of the
national Association of SACREs**

Introduction from the Chair

2021 -22 has been a challenging year.

As the country emerged from the pandemic,

We remained holding meetings in a virtual environment. Although this makes accessibility easier for some, technical challenges made it difficult for others.

The new arrangements also made it difficult to access academic results however we will persist in trying to find work arounds so that we can recommence this vital part of the work plan.

This year we have also been working on the revision to the Kent Agreed Religious Education Syllabus.

We have been well supported in the this by the Local Authority Kent County Council.

I would like to thank our professional adviser, the vice chairman of Kent SACRE and members of Kent SACRE as well as the cabinet member for education and officers at KCC for their unstinting support during the year.

We continue to promote good quality provision in Religious Education in Kent

Steve Manion

Chairman Kent SACRE

Overview

Kent SACRE met three times during the year, all meetings were virtual.

Tuesday 2 November 2021, Tuesday 8th November.

Attendance Appendix A

Agreed Syllabus Conference in person at Maidstone Council on 12th May

SACRE Meetings

The development plan is checked throughout the year. SACRE went through the self-evaluation of SACRE toolkit during the Spring meeting and the results will be used to inform the 2022-23 development plan. (Appendix B for results)

Applications for The WIRE Award are noted and judging of evidence is done at SACRE meetings if necessary.

The RE Consultant gives a verbal report at each meeting. The NASACRE AGM was attended by a number of members and discussed at the following meeting. Training of SACRE members takes place at the end of meetings. Other issues discussed were Interfaith activities, action on a Secondary teacher's hub meeting, the NASACRE workforce data2020, and a budget update is always provided by the Local Authority.

The Annual report is always presented to the Children, Young People and Education cabinet Committee.

Religious Education

This year there were discussions regarding the end of the 5-year license for the RE Today Agreed Syllabus which Kent schools' use. The revision of the syllabus was discussed at meetings and led to an Agreed Syllabus Conference on 12 May. The decision was to recommend to the Local Authority that we purchase a further 5-year license from RE Today along with some new updated units of work for the Primary and Secondary schools. The Local Authority agreed that this could be done, and that the payment could be covered by the Education department budget. The SACRE budget would pay for the trainers from RE Today and the launch of the revised syllabus.

There is various information on the Kelsi website for schools use and the email of the RE Consultant is there to enable teachers to contact her with any queries or worries. Many schools requested the digital version of the current syllabus and asked about the updating of the syllabus. Other enquiries were on methods of teaching and assessment and planning. The RE Adviser for Canterbury Diocese runs a network meeting and non-church school leads can join these. SACRE put on one big training event for schools each year, on 23rd September there was a virtual event with Professor Trevor Cooling discussing his views on 'Where now with World Views.'

During the year a film project continued, the lead teacher on the Teacher group in SACRE worked with pupils of faith to make short films useful for classroom learning. These are currently held in Canterbury and negotiations are ongoing to get them onto a platform that all teachers can access.

Having launched The WIRE award in 2019 schools which were in lockdown were mostly unable to complete. However, this is a standing item and during the year three schools achieved the award and were sent a certificate and congratulations from SACRE. Further schools have applied, and their evidence will be judged at the following SACRE meeting to the receipt of the evidence.

The WIRE award helps to a certain extent with monitoring. Once the new syllabus is launched there will need to be a process of monitoring schools to ensure they are using it successfully.

There have been no complaints regarding Religious Education teaching this year.

The exam results for Kent schools have not been received and evaluated at the time of writing this report.

Collective Worship

The Guidance on Collective worship can be found on the Kelsi website alongside other guidance on different aspects of RE.

No determinations have been received by Kent SACRE, but the SACRE committee have had training on what to do if there ever was a determination application.

Links with other bodies Kent SACRE members are linked with, and part of many different other organisations as follows:

The Education Boards of Canterbury and Rochester	Support teachers and advisers nationally on RE for children with special needs.
Trustee of Kent Liberal Jewish community.	peripatetic teacher of Learners with vision impairment
Maidstone Interfaith Network.	Church of England General Synod and Canterbury Deanery Synod
Tunbridge Wells Interfaith	Council of Reference of the Church of England Readers Council.
HMD commemoration event committee	Chair of Gobs at Victoria Rd Ashford
The Salvation Army	Chair at Little Ark preschool Ashford
Links with the NATRE exec and Culham St Gabriel's	Vice Chair at ACE Academies Ashford.
Head Teacher of a school in the Alethia Anglican Academies Trust	Methodist Church Elder and ECC - Ecumenical Church Council
Members of local faith forums go into schools to talk about faith.	President of Northwest Kent branch Trade union NASUWT

The members of various Interfaith groups in Kent, particularly the Maidstone Group are very proactive in going into schools and giving talks on their different faiths. These talks are gratefully accepted by schools.

SACRE Arrangements

The SACRE has the support of an RE Consultant at each meeting and advising teachers by email and organising one event annually. We also have the support of the Democratic services to do clerking for the meetings, The Education People service helps with arrangements for course for teachers.

The members of Kent SACRE are reasonably representative of the county of Kent new members are sought if there is a vacancy and members are asked for a letter of recommendation from their governing body. We are fortunate to have members from both the Rochester and Canterbury Boards of Education, this is useful for links with schools in Kent and for their insight into the state of RE and CW in the County.

The budget holder of the SACRE budget is available and provides a termly budget update and the SACRE has up to £5000.00 per year to spend, this has been increased this year for the cost of the RE Today License which is charged for each of the 535 schools in Kent.

All three meetings were virtual this year on Teams, some members found this difficult to access, it is planned that future meetings will be face to face and possibly hybrid. Meetings in person are held at Maidstone Council offices.

Appendix A Attendance at Meetings

GROUP A: Faiths and other beliefs other than C of E	Attendance	GROUP B: Church of England	Attendance
N Younosi Muslim	3	Canterbury Diocesan board of Education	
A Goldstein Jewish	1	R Swansbury	3
J Grant Bah'ai	2	R Walters	2
G Spragg Methodist	2	B Naden	2
J Wigg Army Salvation	1	Rochester Diocesan Board of Education	
N Kaur Cheema Sikh	0	J Roddan	0
F Hawkes Catholic	2	C Bostock	1
M Paddison Baptist	1	N Brownfield	1
C Elapatha Buddist	1	GROUP D: LA	
		S Manion Chair	2
		A Brady	2
		S Hamilton	1 of 1
		1 Vaccancy	
GROUP C: Teachers	Attendance	Others	
K Burke	1	Clerk from demographic services	3
J Paul	3	P Smith-Orr RE Consultant	3
M Duncombe	2		
Coopted - E Pope	1		

Appendix B Self-Evaluation of Kent SACRE – March 2022

Number	Key Area	Requires improvement	Developing	Established	Advanced
Section 1 management of SACRE					
1a	Funding: Professional and financial support			x	
1b	SACRE meetings				x
1c	Membership and training		x		
1d	Improvement/development planning			x	
1e	Information and advice		x		
1f	Partnerships with key stakeholders			x	
1G	Relations with the Academies sector			x	
Section 2 Standards and Quality of Provision of RE					
2a	RE provision across the LA.			x	
2b	Standards of achievement and public examination entries	x			
2c	Quality of learning and teaching.	x			
2d	Quality of interaction and communication with leadership and management of RE			x	
2e	Relations with academies and other non-LA maintained schools.	x			
Section 3 The effectiveness of the Locally Agreed Syllabus					
3a	The review process			x	
3b	The quality of the local Agreed Syllabus			x	
3c	Launching and implementing the Agreed Syllabus			x	
3d	Membership and training of the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC)				x
3e	Developing the revised agreed syllabus			x	
3f	Making best use of National Guidance				x
Section 4 How effectively does the SACRE fulfil its responsibilities for the provision and practice of Collective Worship					
4a	Supporting pupil entitlement		x		
4b	Enhancing the quality of provision of collective worship		x		
4c	Responding to requests for determinations				x
Section 5 Contribution of SACRE to promoting cohesion across the community					
5a	SACRE's membership			x	

5b	SACRE's understanding of the local area				x
5c	SACRE's engagement with the community cohesion agenda			x	
5d	SACRE's role within wider LA initiatives on community cohesion		x		