

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) Annual Report]</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Committee 12 January 2015</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Director Children's Services</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Hilary Ferries</b>		
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>(Head of Standards and Achievement)</b>	<b>Tel: 293738</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

## **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 Since 1988 local authorities (LA) have had a duty to establish a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).
- 1.2 Duties of SACRE  
The SACRE advises the LA on matters relating to collective worship in community schools and on religious education given in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus. The agreed syllabus has to be reviewed every five years and was last reviewed in 2013. Religious Education is a statutory part of the basic curriculum for all pupils, but it is not a National Curriculum subject. SACRE also advises on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development.
- 1.3 The Education Act 1996, Section 391 (6) and (7) requires that each year the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) from each Local Authority will 'publish a report as to the exercise of its functions and any action taken by the representative groups on the Council during the last preceding year'.
- 1.4 This report outlines the work that SACRE has done over their four meetings during the year.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the SACRE report and records its support for the work of SACRE

### **3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Following the review of the Agreed Syllabus in 2013, SACRE has supported development opportunities for staff including networks of teachers that meet to share and develop practice

- 3.2 In the academic year 2013 – 2014, SACRE has produced materials to support teachers with the introduction of the new syllabus. SACRE has produced these in partnership with East Sussex County Council. In partnership with the Diocese of Chichester to free resource boxes for all teachers on world faiths. These are supported by workshops and publicised through the teachers' bulletins.
- 3.3 SACRE are supporting the citywide priorities of promoting BME achievement and tackling radicalisation
- 3.4 In November 2013 an all-day conference took place for RE teachers 'Tackling Dealing with Difficult Subjects within RE for KS1 and KS2' in the morning and 'Developing Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education through RE' in the afternoon. This was funded by SACRE.

### 3.5 Data Analysis

#### Subject : Religious Studies ; Exam : GCE AS level

Centre	Number On Roll	Number Of Entries	A	B	C	D	E	N	Q	U	X	A-B	A-E	QCA Av Pts
NCER	559229	826	19.0	22.8	23.7	19.7	12.5			2.3	[7]	41.8	97.7	52.50
LA Comparator	2313	110	25.5	20.9	23.6	12.7	10.0			7.3		46.4	92.7	51.61
Blatchington Mill School	304	17	47.1	17.6	23.5	5.9				5.9		64.7	94.1	57.35
Cardinal Newman School	341	56	30.4	26.8	17.9	14.3	8.9			1.8		57.1	98.2	55.71
Dorothy Stringer School	327	37	8.1	13.5	32.4	13.5	16.2			16.2		21.6	83.8	42.77
Total		110	25.5	20.9	23.6	12.7	10.0			7.3		46.4	92.7	51.61

This table shows that the percentage of pupils achieving an A-B grade in GCE AS level was higher than the national, but we were 5 percentage points below the national for A-E.

#### Subject : Religious Studies ; Exam : GCSE Full Course

Centre	Number On Roll	Number Of Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Q	U	X	A*-C	A*-G	QCA Av Pts
NCER	559229	240400	9.5	18.4	23.1	19.1	12.2	7.7	4.8	3.0		2.1	[865]	70.1	97.9	41.22
LA Comparator	2313	573	7.0	15.2	24.6	21.1	11.2	9.8	4.7	3.8		2.6	[6]	67.9	97.4	39.90
Cardinal Newman School	341	270	4.8	14.1	27.8	23.3	10.4	10.0	4.1	3.3		2.2		70.0	97.8	39.98
Hove Park School	300	116	5.2	19.8	25.9	18.1	10.3	6.9	2.6	7.8		3.4	[2]	69.0	96.6	39.71
Longhill School	240	12	8.3	8.3	25.0	16.7	25.0	8.3		8.3				58.3	100.0	39.50
Varndean School	266	175	11.4	14.3	18.9	20.0	12.0	11.4	7.4	1.7		2.9	[4]	64.6	97.1	39.92
Total		573	7.0	15.2	24.6	21.1	11.2	9.8	4.7	3.8		2.6	[6]	67.9	97.4	39.90

Not all schools entered students into the full GCSE course. Performance overall was 2 percentage points above national performance for A\*-C, but in line with A\*-G. Hove Park exceeded national figure for students receiving grade A and Varndean exceeded the national figures for students achieving A\*.

### 3.6 How SACRE works

- SACRE meets four times a year. New members receive a booklet on being a SACRE member and the group has received training through a National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) CD Rom.
- SACRE has a budget of £8200. This funds a member of staff who clerks SACRE, an RE consultant with specialist knowledge, the meetings and the work with schools and other interested groups.
- The agendas for meetings were adapted to reflect SACRE's desire to understand more about the general changes to education and specific local changes which may affect schools in their delivery of a rounded education including religious education.
- The range of faith groups represented at meetings in the last year include: Baha'i Faith, Religious Society of Friends, Methodist Church, Baptist Union and Jewish. The members details also list the following members: Buddhist, Roman Catholic Church, Coptic Christian Church and Muslim Faith however they have not attended the last few meetings. A new representative for the Buddhist faith has been appointed and representation for the Roman Catholic Church, Coptic Christian Church and Muslim Faith are being asked to renew their representation.
- New churches and the Humanist Association were also contacted to see if they could supply representation to SACRE.
- SACRE also deal with complaints about RE. No formal complaints have been received this year. However advice was requested from one parent (who did not want to be named) and two schools regarding requests to withdraw from all or part of religious education.

### 3.7 Next Plans

- Looking Ahead SACRE is planning to Circulate a questionnaire to all schools to seek their views of RE and SMSC and assess progress on the Agreed Syllabus delivery
- Review the materials on Collective Worship
- Support schools with SMSC development
- Support wherever possible council priorities of 'One Voice' and the prevent agenda

## 4 ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

### 4.1 SACRE is a statutory function

## 5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

### 5.1 SACRE has members from different faith groups in Brighton & Hove. SACRE is consulting with schools on their work

### **SACRE Membership**

Chair of SACRE Rev Derek Bastide (Church of England)  
Committees

Representatives of other faiths and Christian denominations other than the Church of England

Michael Hickman Methodist Congregation  
Rabbi Vivian Silverman Jewish Community  
Peter Ward – Roman Catholic  
Michael Bray – Baptist Union  
Rachel Shepherd - Salvation Army  
Carolyn Drake – Buddhist Community  
Harvey Gillman – Society of Friends  
Mona Hajatdoost – Baha’I Faith  
Vacancies: Sikh, Hindu, Jain, Russian Orthodox, Muslim and United Reform Church

Church of England

Reverend Derek Bastide  
Linda Dupret  
Ian Parks

Councillors

Leslie Hamilton  
Ania Kitcat  
Stephanie Powell  
Andrew Wealls

Teaching Unions

Laura Wells – NUT

Co-opted Members

RE consultant – Lilian Weatherly  
LA Officer - Hilary Ferries  
University Representative – Tom Newlands (University of Brighton)  
Special School Representative – John Coleman

**6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 SACRE is a statutory body. It is fulfilling its function to promote, monitor and evaluate achievement in RE, collective worship and opportunities for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development across the city.
- 6.2 SACRE requests that Committee notes the report and expresses support for the work of SACRE.

**7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The functions carried out by SACRE are managed within a set budget and there are no other financial implications set out in this report.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Steve Williams*

*Date: 23/12/14*

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The legal context in which SACRE operates is as set out in the body of this report

*Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson*

*Date: 23/12/14*