



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2022

Members

Group A: *Patricia Alder, Dr Bernard Arambepola, Hasan Boluceh, Nick Chanda, Rabbi Yuval Keren, Rabbi Emanuel Levy, Marina Robb, Dr John Strange*

Group B: *The Revd. Ian Crofts, Sally Moore, The Revd. Tina Kelsey, Vince Sheehan*

Group C: *Hannah Croton, Rebecca Islam (Maternity Leave), Ozlem Onay, Samantha Manipon, Josh Newham, Becky Shah*

Group D: *Cllr Alessandro Georgiou, Cllr Esin Gunes, Cllr James Hockney, Peter Nathan, Lucy Nutt, Cllr George Savva*

Italics denotes absence

Also Attending

Julia Diamond-Conway – RE Advisor

Felicia Ferraro – Clerk (covering Pauline Swain)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Group A
Patricia Alder

Group B
The Revd Tina Kelsey has finished her term of office and stepped down.

Group C
Ozlem Onay

NOTED that Dr John Strange had emailed Pauline Swain in advance of the meeting and advised that he needed to leave by 6.45pm, if the meeting continued after this time, due to attendance at another meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Improving standards in religious education and collective worship

2. MEETING CHAIR

REPORTED that the position of Chair and Vice Chair of the Enfield SACRE remained vacant. To date, no nominations for either position had been received. The LA Officer, Lucy Nutt asked SACRE members whether anyone wished to be nominated for either position.

Cllr Alessandro Georgiou confirmed that he was happy to be Chair. The SACRE members of the committee thanked Cllr Alessandro Georgiou for coming forward to the role of Chair.

RESOLVED that

- Cllr Alessandro Georgiou be Chair of SACRE.
- There was still a vacancy for Vice-Chair, which hopefully would be filled soon.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND WELCOME

NOTED that the Chair welcomed all the SACRE members, who all introduced themselves. Felicia Ferraro was welcomed as the Clerk covering in the absence of Pauline Swain.

Appointments

Member Vince Sheehan was welcomed to Group B

Resignations/Ceased Membership

- Reverend Tina Kelsey from Group B had stepped down as a SACRE member. Pauline Swain had received the formal written email of resignation. SACRE members wished Reverend Tina Kelsey all the very best for the future.
- Revd Ian Crofts advised that he was retiring in January 2023.

NOTED that the Enfield SACRE constitution, last reviewed and updated by Legal Services in June 2019 detailed the appointment of a Co-opted, non-voting membership to individual representatives of Enfield faith/belief communities and those that hold non-religious world views, with a one year term of office (renewable).

RESOLVED that LA Legal Services would be approached to review the Enfield SACRE Constitution (item carried forward from previous Minutes on 14 June 2022).

4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2022 AND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

NOTED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2022 and 8 September 2022 were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

All outstanding items under matters arising had been actioned, were in hand or had been included as an agenda item at the meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Improving standards in religious education and collective worship

5. DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-2022

NOTED that SACRE members were asked to consider tasks to support the Enfield SACRE's key objectives and to **agree** the SACRE Development Plan 2022-2024.

Lucy Nutt confirmed that no suggestions had been received and therefore proposed to the SACRE members that the item be carried forward to the next meeting in February 2023. The Chair together with the SACRE members agreed that under the circumstances it was reasonable to defer the item to the next meeting.

RESOLVED to defer the discussion and ratification of the Development Plan 2020-2022 to the next meeting in February 2023.

ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR

6. ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

REPORTED that Lucy Nutt advised that due to the borough profile statistical release of data not being available until end of October 2022, unfortunately the exam data regarding uptake of RE at GCSE and A Level was not available at the meeting. The SACRE members were reminded that they were able to download the 'Analysis of SACRE Annual Reports 2020-2021 from the NASACRE website, which provided an overview of what SACREs around the country had achieved.

It was suggested that all the information be emailed to the SACRE members in advance of the next meeting, so members had time to review the data and bring back any questions to the next meeting. The suggestion was validated by the SACRE members.

Julia Diamond-Conway advised that the format of the future reports would be identical, in order to make it easier to extract any comparisons, however the order of the information could be slightly different. Julia Diamond-Conway was very happy to help any members who had queries and Pauline Swain had always been instrumental in bringing all the information together.

RESOLVED that all the information/data be emailed to all SACRE members as aforementioned before the next meeting and the Annual Report be brought back as an agenda item to the next meeting in February 2023.

ACTION: LUCY NUTT/SACRE ADMINISTRATOR/ALL SACRE MEMBERS

7. AGREED SYLLABUS (AS) 2022

RECEIVED an update on progress of the new Enfield Agreed Syllabus 2022, following the Extraordinary meeting held on 8 September 2022.

REPORTED that

- To date all the additional units had been written. The only outstanding task was the completion of the Alevism unit, which Prince of Wales Primary School had kindly confirmed they were very happy to write. Julia Diamond-Conway advised that she had a meeting with Prince of Wales School that morning and the units would be completed by 27 November 2022, with the aim of having time to get them to publication by 30 November 2022. This allowed plenty of time for the training of the AS to all Schools to take place on the 19 January 2023. The units could also be made available to other Schools and be developed over time. All the information was going to be explained in detail at the training/launch. SACRE members were very grateful for the support received from Prince of Wales School.
- The venue for the launch of the Syllabus on the 19 January 2023 was to be held at Bishop Stopford School, Brick Lane, Enfield, EN1 3PU from 9.45am – 4 pm. Any representation from SACRE members was encouraged if possible, even if it was for just part of the day, and if a member could do the welcome at the beginning and/or thanks at the end of the day, it would also be greatly welcomed. Josh Newham confirmed that he was able to attend and support in any way possible. It was very positive to have representation from a Headteacher member of SACRE.
- Julia Diamond-Conway and Lucy Nutt had been discussing the best way to deliver the launch of the Enfield agreed Syllabus 2022. It was going to be a soft launch allowing Schools at least two terms to transition into the new Syllabus ready for being fully implemented by September 2023. It was suggested that because the majority of Headteachers attended the regular virtual

Headteachers' briefing, this seemed the best way to present the Syllabus in order to capture the highest audience possible. The suggestion was also validated by Josh Newham, as a Headteacher himself and the rest of the SACRE members. The plan was for Julia Diamond-Conway to be invited to present the Syllabus at the Headteachers' briefing in the summer term 2023, with the actual training for the RE Subject Leaders on the 19 January 2023. Training materials were also going to be made available to Schools.

- Lucy Nutt confirmed that all the LBE Maintained Schools were required to follow the agreed syllabus, however an Academy did not need to, but still had a statutory duty to cover Religious Education. Interestingly, there were some Academies that were actually using the agreed LBE Syllabus. Hannah Croton thanked Lucy Nutt for the concise clarification.

RESOLVED that

- as requested by the Chair, invitations to the 19 January 2023 training/launch for the Enfield Syllabus be forwarded as a calendar invite to all the SACRE members as soon as possible.
ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR
- any SACRE members interested in supporting on the day to email either Lucy Nutt or Julia Diamond-Conway as soon as possible.
ACTION: ALL SACRE MEMBERS

8. UPDATE FROM SACRE RE ADVISOR

RECEIVED a National RE update from Julia Diamond-Conway that included details on RE CPD and networking opportunities and RE resources:

Enfield SACRE: National news update Autumn 2022

A level Religious Studies numbers drop for first time in 20 years

After two decades of growth, numbers of students taking an A level in RS dropped by 2.7% in 2021. The National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) and the Religious Education Council of England and Wales (REC) have warned this period of growth is now under threat after a five-year funding gap that has impacted current and future young people taking the subject.

www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/a-level-religious-studies-results-prompt-call-for-government-support/

This comes as research demonstrates that, in state schools in England, RS A level is one of the most likely subjects to be taken by disadvantaged students (fourth after sociology, psychology and English Lit), and that it is more accessible to students with lower prior attainment than many (11th out of 31). See <https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2022/04/do-disadvantaged-students-choose-different-subjects-from-their-peers-at-key-stage-5/> and www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/

How can SACRE respond?

GCSE numbers

- The number of students in England and Wales taking a GCSE course in Religious Studies GCSE has risen to 253,225, an increase of 0.6% from last year.
- The increase was largely driven by a surprise rise in the short course in England, up 16.5% from 15,672 to 18,257.

- In Wales, amid an overall 5% drop in pupils taking GCSEs, the number of entries to RS courses fell by 11%.

The strong entry results in England saw the Religious Education Council of England and Wales (REC) and the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) reiterate their call for a National Plan for the subject. They warn that an ongoing funding crisis and lack of a specialist teacher recruitment strategy now seriously threatens the provision of high-quality learning for the quarter of a million students who take the subject annually.

Joining the call for a National Plan was Lord Karan Bilimoria, CBE, DL, Vice President of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and Chancellor of the University of Birmingham who pointed to the number of disadvantaged students going on to take the subject at A level. A study in April (see above) found they were twice as likely to take the subject than their peers, favouring it over history and geography:

"When it comes to levelling up education, the latest data shows that giving more support to religious education students at GCSE is an easy win. If RS is the humanity that disadvantaged young people are most likely to take, then backing this up with a properly funded National Plan is a must. The subject will provide those young people with the crucial skills of analysis, curiosity and intellectual confidence as part of a broad, balanced education and give them a headstart in the global workplace."

www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/take-action-on-re-say-leading-politicians-as-more-students-take-the-subject-at-gcse/

How can SACRE respond?

RE report card 2022

The reactions to the above information on examination numbers draw on the report cards mentioned in previous news updates. The RE Policy Unit from the RE Council has gathered together data on RE from the last five years and written a report card on the state of RE. There is some excellent news (such as how schools with higher rates of GCSE RS entry get higher Attainment 8 scores!) but far too much bad news (34% of academies report no timetabled RE). The full set can be found here: www.rethinkre.org/re-report-card

How can SACRE respond? One way is to alert local MPs to the information here, with particular reference to the lack of Government funding given to the subject in the last 5 years (see graphic below). How else can we use the data?



Online responses to the state of RE:

Kate Penfold Attride, primary DHT, makes the case for RE

- www.theheadteacher.com/attainment-and-assessment/teaching-practice/making-the-case-for-stronger-re-lessons-in-the-primary-curriculum

Imam Sabeh Ahmedi urges a rich RE curriculum:

- <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/poor-or-no-re-is-a-gaping-hole-in-the-curriculum/>

Regional RE Hub leads in place and ready to go!

Under the leadership of Claire Clinton, Lead Director, a fantastic team of Regional Leads will be supporting ten regions of England and Wales. They have been recruited to build relationships with advisers, dioceses, universities, SACREs, LAs, governors, MATs, teaching school hubs and more. The Regional Leads will also act as conduits between the regional providers of research, CPD, resources, places of worship and so on for the benefit of all RE/Religion and Worldview stakeholders. The Regional Hub structure aims to increase accessibility for all teachers to local and regional professional development and research, and to enable teachers to teach with greater confidence through their access to the support, knowledge, training and resources available in their region.

Details and the list of Regional Leads:

www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/the-regional-re-hubs-team-is-ready-to-go/

The London lead is Stacey Burman: how can SACRE work with Stacey to help connect Enfield teachers to SACRE training and resources, and other local opportunities?

Culham St Gabriel's 'In conversation' series

Three conversations were programmed for the autumn:

- 17 Oct: Christian ethics, animal welfare and the religion and worldview classroom (Prof David Clough and Scarlett Hayward)
- 21 Nov: Understanding understanding! What do we mean by understanding? (Prof Trevor Cooling and Dr Kate Christopher)
- 19 Dec: Conceptualising religion and worldviews for the school (Dr Kevin O'Grady)

Details and booking info here: www.cstg.org.uk/activities/events/in-conversation/

Next term's 'In conversation' series is planned to focus on the theme of freedom of religion or belief.

Extensive back catalogue here: www.reonline.org.uk/research/in-conversation/

*****It was proposed to the SACRE members that arrangements be made to pay the annual fee so members could access the theme of religion or belief resources **.***

How can SACRE respond? Perhaps a SACRE member could volunteer to watch an 'In conversation' event and to report back on its implications for SACRE and local schools.

NASACRE online training programme

NASACRE is continuing its training and support for SACREs and SACRE members. Here are the sessions coming up in the next few months:

- 6th December 2022: 7-8pm: How to effectively use pupil and teacher voice in your SACRE?
- 19th January 2023: 7-8:30pm: Being an effective Chair part 2
- 21st February 2023: 4-5:30pm: Being an effective SACRE Clerk
- 14th March 2023: What's happening to Collective Worship beyond determinations?

Full details of all sessions and costs: <https://nasacre.org.uk/training-and-support/>

Inclusive Judaism: resources from the Jewish Museum of London

Classroom resources, including an extensive image library, open up the diversity of Jewish communities. Developers, Shereen Hunte and Eliana Mendelsohn, say:

The teaching of Inclusive Judaism is important for many reasons and ensures that:

- *The Jewish community is represented authentically.*
- *Students truly understand what it means to be Jewish, in all its diversity.*
- *We are able to connect to each other's experiences with empathy and compassion.*

See: [Inclusive Judaism - The Jewish Museum London](#)

Subject Leaders attending this term's meeting have already been introduced to this resource. How else can SACRE enable schools to access this rich resource?

NATRE's annual Strictly RE conference returns on 28-29th January 2024

Taking place online for the third year, the conference themes explore: **depth, diversity and Abrahamic worldviews**

Before the weekend: 13 weekday seminars

On the weekend: 3 keynotes, 21 workshops, seven virtual staffrooms

Workshops include:

- Thinking out loud- joining the dots to help children think more critically (Primary)
- Introducing Philosophy and Philosophers to the Primary Classroom (Primary)
- Dharmic Lenses on the Climate Crisis (Secondary)
- Creating a core RE Programme for KS4 (Secondary)
- Interfaith conversations - exploring creative projects that deepen pupils' understanding in RE (Crossphase)
- Special RE (Crossphase)
- Championing and advocating for RE with parents (for SLT's)

Pay for the weekend, get access to recordings and downloads for ALL sessions!

Details and booking info, including Early Bird deals before 31 Oct...

www.natre.org.uk/courses-events/strictlyRE-2023/

How can SACRE respond? Could a SACRE member attend and report back?

NATRE Spirited Arts 2023 – new themes announced

Will schools from our area join hundreds of schools from around the world taking part in this year's Spirited Arts competition? Entries are welcomed in (almost!) any art form pupils can think of. Winning entries will provide a good response to one of the 5 themes, and judges will be asking is it original? Is it well-crafted? And (most importantly!) is it excellent RE?

The 5 themes

1. “We have more in common than that which divides us.”
2. Green faith, green future? [‘God’s good earth?’]
3. Where is God today?
4. Faith in action, values in action.
5. Sacred space and holy buildings

Find out more details here www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2022/

2022 results will soon be available on the NATRE website

How can SACRE encourage schools take part in this competition? Can this link in with anything going on locally? Some SACREs have held local Spirited arts competitions and worked to display entries in a local museum. Is this something this SACRE might consider?

Visits, videos and other resources for the classroom

Birmingham faith visits

The Arts Society Birmingham has worked with six faith communities to provide guidance and materials on six places of worship. Teachers can find a 4-page booklet, three videos introducing the building and community, and a related quiz for each place of worship.

Supported by a generous grant from Westhill Endowment Trust, The Arts Society Birmingham has collaborated with six different places of worship, Birmingham Faith Leaders and other organisations to produce resources designed to enhance a school visit, or to support a virtual visit, to a place of worship for children 8 to 13 years.

Actual visits to the places of worship may be arranged by contacting them directly. Contact details are provided on the Illustrated Guides.

<https://birmingham-faith-visits.theartsociety.org/>

Free webinars for primary and secondary ECTs – a taster for NATRE ECT membership

Early Career Teachers have access to a range of free support through a series of online sessions. ‘Café’ sessions give you a chance to talk with experienced teachers and experts from different worldview backgrounds. The taught sessions offer expert input with a focus on practical classroom strategies.

Date – All Mondays 4.00-5.30pm	Topic
10 Oct	Café NATRE – Subject knowledge Islam
14 Nov	Taught session: Focus on Disciplinary RE
12 Dec	Café NATRE: Subject knowledge Buddhism
9 Jan	Taught session: Focus on Non-religious worldviews
13 Feb	Taught session: Focus on Hindu Dharma
13 Mar	Café NATRE – Subject knowledge Judaism
8 May	Taught session: Focus on Worldviews
12 June	Taught session: Focus on Sikhi
10 July	Café NATRE: Subject knowledge Christianity

ECT webinars booking link <http://ow.ly/VupG50KG3cP>

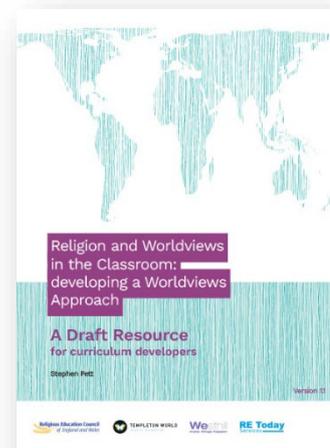
Draft Resource for Religion and Worldviews in the Classroom

As part of a three-year Worldviews project, the RE Council of England and Wales (REC) has published a draft resource for Religion and Worldviews in the Classroom.

The resource sets out a rationale for a religion and worldviews approach, building on the developments since the 2018 Commission report. It incorporates a revised **National Statement of Entitlement (NSE)**, which gives a clear description of an education in religion and worldviews, and sets a benchmark for high-quality teaching and learning. The resource then offers practical guidance, including how to use the NSE to develop a syllabus or curriculum, applying ways of knowing, developing pupils' personal worldviews, and what progress looks like in a worldviews approach.

Sections include:

- What do people mean by 'religion'?
- What do people mean by 'worldview'?
- The value of worldviews
- Purposes for RE in a religion and worldviews approach
- Revised National Statement of Entitlement
- Developing pupils' personal worldviews
- Making good progress
- Applying disciplinary methods
- How to use the NSE to develop a syllabus
- How to use the NSE to develop questions and construct units of work
- Making good progress: three models



The resource is primarily written to inform three Framework Development Teams, who are currently working to apply the NSE and the guidance to their own contexts. During this process, the draft resource will be tested and revised as necessary, before the publication of a final Handbook, three example frameworks, sample units of work and pupil responses, in 2024.

You can download copies of here: www.religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/projects/draft-handbook-and-nse/

How might SACRE consider this and its implications for our local schools?

For access to the primary survey, it can be found at: <https://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/what-do-primary-teachers-say-about-re-in-their-schools/>

www.rethink.org – website that outlines all the Political information

RESOLVED that the annual fee be paid for the NASACRE Training resource, so all SACRE members could access it. Membership will then to be reviewed to evaluate if purchasing the annual subscription was value for money.

ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR

Clerk's note: Marina Robb joined the meeting at this point and provided apologies for lateness.

9. SACRE MEETING DATES 2023

NOTED the date of the Spring Term 2023 meeting to be held on **Tuesday 21 February 2023** at 5.30pm.

RESOLVED that following the discussion of SACRE members and confirmation from Marina Robb, the meeting would take place at:

St Demetrious Church, Logan Road, Edmonton, N9 0LP (near Edmonton Train Station). SACRE members thanked Marina Robb for proposing the venue. There would hopefully be the option of having a hybrid meeting (suggestion was for a tour of the Church at 5.00pm, followed by the meeting at 5.30pm).

Clerk's note: Marina Robb emailed the clerk after the meeting to confirm the venue which the clerk acknowledged.

Autumn Term 2023 – Tuesday 14 November 2023

To note that dates were set in accordance with school terms, religious dates and Council meetings. However, the dates are subject to full Council approval in accordance with the Municipal Calendar.

SACRE groups were warmly invited to make recommendations, through the Chair on matters and topics of business for future meetings.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Improving SACRE's effectiveness

10. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2023

Members noted the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2023: Ordinary People to be held on **Friday 27 January 2023 in the morning at the Dugdale Centre, Enfield Town.**

The theme this year, highlights the ordinary people who let genocide happen, the ordinary people who actively perpetrated genocide, and the ordinary people who were persecuted. The theme will also prompt us to consider how ordinary people, such as ourselves, can perhaps play a bigger part than we might imagine in challenging prejudice today.

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

RESOLVED that following a recommendation presented by Rabbi Emanuel Levy enquires to be made with Shaun Rogan, Head of Corporate Strategy at the Local Authority in terms of what the plans were going forward to have a face to face event for next year, rather than virtually. Lucy Nutt advised that she was happy to check with Shaun Rogan and report back to the SACRE members at the next meeting. The Chair added he would double check with the Cabinet Member for Communities as well.

ACTION: LUCY NUTT/CLLR ALESSANDRO GEORGIU

11. INTERFAITH WEEK – 13-20 NOVEMBER 2022

Members noted that Inter Faith Week will take place:

Sunday 13 November 2022 to Sunday 20 November 2022.

This was a week to focus on inter faith understanding and cooperation.

Building good relationship and working partnerships between people of different faiths and beliefs was part of the work of the year-round work of many people.

The aims of the week were to strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels, increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to the wider society and to increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

<https://www.interfaithweek.org/>

NOTED that Marina Robb asked if there were any plans for places of worship to actually be accessible. Historically there was a place of worship available every day of the week, that was open to the community and was organised by the Faith Officer for the Police. SACRE members had a clear duty to raise the question. Lucy Nutt added that she was not aware of what the previous arrangements had been and was more than happy to take the request forward to the LA.

RESOLVED that Shaun Rogan, Head of Corporate Strategy or Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety at the Local Authority be contacted to establish whether places of worship could be made available from next year and what the future plans were. An update to be shared with SACRE members at the next meeting in February 2023.

ACTION: LUCY NUTT

12. AOB / USEFUL LINKS

(a) Recognition

NOTED that on behalf of the SACRE members both Lucy Nutt and Julia Diamond-Conway were thanked for all their hard work and contributions to SACRE. Julia Diamond-Conway thanked Rabbi Emmanuel Levy for his input and support.

(a) Resources

Enfield SACRE Website: <http://enfieldsacre.com/>

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

Most areas of the NASACRE website are open to all, but the log-in is required to access parts of the Resources section.

Username: members

Password: 22N@sAcRE23