



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2023

Members

Group A: *Patricia Alder*, Dr Bernard Arambepola, *Hasan Boluceh*, Nick Chanda, *Rabbi Danny Rich*, Rabbi Emanuel Levy, *Marina Robb*, Kaj Seth, Dr John Strange. **Vacancies x 9**

Group B: Sally Moore, Father Vince Sheehan. **Vacancies x 4**

Group C: *Rebecca Islam (Maternity Leave)*, *Ozlem Onay*, *Samantha Manipon*, Josh Newham, *Becky Shah*. **Vacancies x 4**

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

Italics denotes absence

Also Attending

Julia Diamond-Conway – RE Advisor (RE Today)

Shaun Rogan – Head of Corporate Strategy

Pauline Swain – Clerk

The meeting was held at the Revival Christian Church, 47 London Road, Enfield, EN2 6DS and was preceded by a tour of the church led by Dr Nick Chanda. The meeting was held in hybrid blended format.

Dr Chanda was warmly thanked by SACRE members for kindly hosting the meeting and for the hospitality extended by the Revival Christian Church and refreshments provided, it was very much appreciated by the Enfield SACRE.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

NOTED apologies had been received from Rabbi Danny Rich

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

RECEIVED a **nomination** from Cllr George Savva that Cllr Destiny Karakus be elected as Chair of Enfield SACRE. The nomination was **seconded** by Rabbi Emmanuel Levy.

RESOLVED by all members attending that Cllr Destiny Karakus be **elected** as Chair of Enfield SACRE.

NOTED that sadly **no** nominations at this time were received for Vice Chair. SACRE members were asked to reflect on the opportunity to step forward to this role.

3. **MEMBERSHIP AND WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed members, invited guests and observers to the meeting.

Observers:

REPORTED that Kaj Seth had been nominated by the Hindu Election Board as the Hindu Faith Representative on Group A.

RESOLVED by all members that Kaj Seth be formally welcomed and appointed as the new Hindu Faith representative of Group A on Enfield SACRE.

Appointments:

Members welcomed the **appointment** of Council Bodies for 2023-24. Group D, 4 members – 2 majority and 2 opposition.

Cllr Alessandro Georgiou, Cllr James Hockney, Cllr Destiny Karakus, Cllr George Savva.

Resignations:

REPORTED the **resignation** of Hannah Croton, Teacher representative on Group C.

NOTED If a member is absent for 3 or more consecutive meetings for any reason not acceptable to the Council, there shall be deemed to be a vacated place to be filled by the appointing body for that member

REPORTED that there continues to be a high number of vacancies on SACRE, in total 17.

Members discussed and reflected on the work being done to recruit representatives and agreed there was a strong commitment from the Local Authority in support of the SACRE and widening its membership, filling the vacancies was stressed. The commitment was not onerous, given that there were only three meetings year. Groups that can support recruitment include the Diocese of Westminster and London Diocesan Board for Schools as well as the recognised nomination bodies of other Faiths.

REPORTED that the SACRE had again recently reached out to all mosques in the borough to invite attendance and representation of the Islamic Faith on the Enfield SACRE as the three vacancies had been unfilled now for several years. Sadly no responses had been received from the letters of invitation that had been sent.

Invited Speaker:

WELCOME was extended to Shaun Rogan, Head of Corporate Strategy who would be facilitating the discussion of agenda item 5, Inter-Faith Week 12-19 November 2023.

4. **MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2023**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 February 2023, were **agreed** as a correct record.

REPORTED that all outstanding items under matters arising had been actioned, were in hand or included as an agenda item at this meeting.

Item 5: Withdrawal from RE – Letter to Schools – Action: Lucy Nutt – In progress.

5. INTER-FAITH WEEK 12-19 NOVEMBER 2023

WELCOME was again extended to Shaun Rogan, Head of Corporate Strategy, who opened up and facilitated a group discussion, inviting ideas from SACRE Members on possible plans how the LA might use the week as a platform to highlight and deepen inter faith and religion and belief dimensions.

Members in discussion agreed that the promotion of Inter Faith week makes a significant contribution to inter faith understanding, harmony and cooperation. SACRE members agreed they are very interested in working with our schools to highlight Inter Faith Week and encourage participation in discussion, workshops, activities and awareness raising that could make a positive impact. The week is a great opportunity for pupils to explore inter faith issues and for schools to build relationships with faith, belief and inter faith groups in their community.

Members were signposted to the Inter Faith website which has lots of activity ideas, with examples and illustrations drawn from the many successful activities held for the week to date by faith and belief bodies, local authorities, SACREs, schools, local faith organisations and many others as well as the NASACRE website which has information on previous Interfaith events and activities, all of which can be drawn upon.

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

<https://nasacre.org.uk/file/nasacre/1-706-2019-20-enfield.pdf>

REPORTED that the LA Faith Forum would be meeting on 12 July, and it would be helpful to put together a short paper in readiness for the meeting. The Enfield Mayor, Cllr Suna Hurman was aware of Inter Faith Week and had already indicated that she would like to host an event to mark the occasion.

Members agreed that the SACRE has the potential to be a great resource for schools through their primary focus on religious education and schools, celebrating all faiths and the relevance of multi cohesion. The importance of communication and highlighting what will and has taken place was identified as important as well getting the message out to as many people as possible. Faith Forum members can also assist with this in terms of both holding events and also in terms of including it in their weekly sermons to congregations.

NOTED for consideration and to take forward as possible actions:

- Raise at LA Primary / Secondary Headteachers termly briefing to promote awareness, engagement and involvement from schools.
- SACRE Faith Leaders record short film reels on camera / phones. Teacher to coordinate and lead on a compilation Digital Video activity. Promote and circulate to schools to view at school assemblies / RE lessons and upload to SACRE website.
- Develop an Inter Faith Resources Pack, similar to the Schools HMD Pack for schools to be promoted through uploading to the Schools Hub and SACRE Website.
- Mayors Event similar to one previously hosted by the LA in 2018 in partnership with the North London Area BCU with exhibits, artefacts, educational resources, and light refreshments, this had received positive feedback and had provided an exceptionally good opportunity to raise the profile of SACRE in the borough.
- A themed approach such as the theme 'giving' and being generous to others could be more effective in pulling together strands, rather than a specific focus on different religions.

SACRE members thanked Shaun for a thought provoking, reflective and interesting discussion and agreed that it would be good to take forward for further consideration points discussed, noted above. This would need to be progressed relatively quickly given the impending school summer break and involve the LA Faith Forum. Several members of SACRE stepped forward, including the Chair and Father Sheehan offering assistance in taking this forward.

ACTION: SHAUN ROGAN/LUCY NUTT/CHAIR/FATHER SHEEHAN

6. DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022 – 2024

RECEIVED the SACRE Development Plan 2022-24 for members consideration.

REPORTED that the SACRE Development Plan 2022 – 24 is focussed against each of the five dimensions of the Ofsted ‘SACREs and Self-Evaluation: A Guide’

1. The monitoring and improvement of the standards, quality and provision for RE
2. The partnership between SACRE, the LA and other key stakeholders
3. The effectiveness of the locally agreed syllabus
4. The monitoring and improvement of the provision and quality of collective worship
5. The contribution of SACRE to the promotion of social and racial harmony.

RESOLVED to **agree** the SACRE Development Plan 2022-24.

7. ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

RECEIVED the Enfield SACRE Annual Report 2021-22 for members consideration.

REPORTED that SACREs have a duty to publish an annual report, which has to be sent to the Secretary of State for Education as well as key partners, including schools NASACRE, and Councillors. The main purpose of the annual report is to hold the LA to account, by detailing what advice SACRE has given to the LA during the year. SACRE also need to celebrate what it and others have done to promote high quality RE and Collective Worship.

RESOLVED to **agree** the Enfield SACRE Annual Report 2021-22 and to send to the DfE, NASACRE and key partners as required.

ACTION: SACRE CLERK

8. AGREED SYLLABUS (AS) 2023 - 2028

RECEIVED an update on the launch and school training of the Agreed Syllabus 2023-28.

REPORTED that the Enfield Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2023-2028 had been finalised and launched to Schools on 19 January at Bishop Stopford’s School, Enfield. The soft launch on 19 January allowed Schools at least two terms to transition into the new Syllabus ready for being fully implemented by September 2023.

NOTED that

Of 97 possible schools 83 were represented at the Headteachers’ conference launching the Agreed Syllabus Workshops had been held taking participants through step by step of details of the new AS.

Dr John Strange (Group A member) had attended for the full day and been very impressed. Josh Newham (Group C Hazelwood Primary) had attended to open the session and welcome participants.

Some Enfield Local Authority schools had bought into the Haringey Education Partnership (HEP) for their school improvement and were therefore using Haringey's AS. However there was a statutory requirement to use the Agreed Syllabus for the geographical Local Authority and all Headteachers needed to be aware of and comply with this. Peter Nathan, Director of Education had included a reminder in his weekly Headteachers' Newsletter.

A poetic minute-taker had attended the conference, Rakaya Fetuga and had performed a poem at the end of the day, which had been thought provoking and beautifully captured the spirit of RE.

A resource package for £250 for 5 years was available which was good value and ensured the AS was easy to deliver. A high level of support was included in the price and allowed schools lacking in confidence to alter as appropriate to ensure quality teaching was provided.

Members were reminded that they could view all this information using the password for the SACRE website as not all content was in the public domain

<http://enfieldsacre.com/agreed-syllabus-23-28/>

Password: siDBc7mT0w

REPORTED that a follow up **RE Teach Meet** for schools was being held on Tuesday 4 July at 4.10pm-5.30pm at Firs Farm Primary School, Rayleigh Road, Enfield, N13 5QP. The Teach Meet would discuss progress with the new scheme of work and to prepare to full embed it in September 2023.

9. UPDATE FROM SACRE RE ADVISOR

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

Using the 2021 Census Data in RE

The 2021 Census data has now been released and we can use it to look at the results with pupils, and compare with the local area. Here are some tips on how to make the most of it!

1. Explain to pupils or students that the religion question was voluntary. People over 18 had to choose which box to tick.
2. Show pupils the **results for the UK as a whole**: what do they notice? Note the **large fall in the number of people who identify as Christian, and the large rise in the number of people who tick 'no religion'**. Ask pupils why that might be.
3. Look at the **results for our area – local authority and region**. Can students notice some similarities and differences to the national picture?
4. Either show to the class, or allow students to investigate for themselves, the Census data on the internet. Use this link: below. **You can find clickable maps that allow you to zoom in on your really local area and search by religion**. Can students see how their area compares to the wider area? How is it similar, how is it different?

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/religion/bulletins/religionenglandandwales/census2021>

NATRE Spirited Arts 2023 – themes

Will your schools 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? Closing date is 31st July.

The 6 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
6. All God's creatures?

More details here www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2023/

Ofsted appoint new Acting Subject Lead for RE

Hazel Henson HMI was appointed as acting subject lead for RE at OFSTED in March 2023. She has a background in primary education.

Children's Commissioner shares her view on RE with former pupil

Shammi Rahman, recently interviewed The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza for RE Today magazine. Dame Rachel is a previous RE teacher and headteacher and Shammi, is a former secondary teacher and now a Race Equality Adviser. Dame Rachel was her RE teacher! Dame Rachel says, 'a former RE teacher myself, I believe RE teachers have a crucial opportunity to teach children about the wider world and principals of fairness and equality. It was great to talk about how different faiths can teach us different things, for example treating others as we would like to be treated ourselves; having compassion for others; and celebrating the beauty of life in our environment.'

Listen to their conversation here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/conversation-with-shammi-rahman-the-importance-of-religious-education/>

RE Hubs – Website now live!

RE Hubs website is now live at www.re-hubs.uk. RE Hubs aim to connect those who can provide resources with those who need them and create a neutral platform being RE professionals together. Enfield's hub is London, led by Stacey Burman.

NATRE Secondary Survey

The NATRE survey of secondary RE teachers is now underway and open until Monday 31st July. Everyone who completes the survey will receive a £5 coupon for the RE Teaching Resources online shop as well as being entered into a prize draw to win a NATRE School Enhanced membership worth £270.

The survey is here: [NATRE Survey - Secondary 2023\(surveymonkey.co.uk\)](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/survey/NATRE-Survey-Secondary-2023)

Culham St Gabriel's launch FREE new self-study course

Digging Deeper: Subject Knowledge, this short, self-study course builds on the introduction level course and is available for FREE.

Find out more here: [Culham St Gabriel's Trust Moodle \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://cstg.org.uk)

Understanding Humanism launches new animation and free resources

Understanding Humanism has launched a **NEW animation** 'One Life, live it well' voiced by author and presenter, Alice Roberts. Accompanied by classroom activities, this simple but beautiful animation illustrates how humanists try to approach life:

[One Life, Live It Well: watch our new animation narrated by Alice Roberts »](#)
[UnderstandingHumanism](#)

They also have available new FREE resources for children in early years, and the stories of four amazing humanist women who changed the world.

Training and CPD opportunities and other support

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
12 June	Taught session: Focus on Sikhi
10 July	Café NATRE: Subject knowledge Christianity

ECT webinars booking link

www.natre.org.uk/membership/early-careers-teacher/ect-free-monthly-webinar/

NATRE: new membership packages!

NATRE is the largest membership organisation that promotes, defends and supports RE teachers and RE teaching. It does this through producing high-quality resources and CPD, lobbying government, being involved in conversations with the DfE and Ofsted, Local Authorities and SACREs, telling teachers' stories and experiences and being a voice for all teachers. Membership packages for students, ECTs, teachers, schools, RE professionals and RE enthusiasts!

Details: www.natre.org.uk/membership

NATRE: welcome webinars for new members

New NATRE members are invited to a monthly welcome webinar. This will help them use their NATRE membership and enjoy it to its fullest!

What will they learn?

- How to Access NATRE resources
- Access online termly mailing resources
- Access Local Groups area
- Take the best out of the NATRE monthly newsletter
- How to redeem your REtoday library membership
- How to use your membership discount

Members can register their interest to attend a webinar at this link.

www.natre.org.uk/member-login/natre-members-welcome-webinar/

BBC expands early years RE resources

There are new resources for 4- and 5-year olds for RE / RME and RVE from BBC Bitesize Reception. These include some simple craft activities and some recipes for festive food with clear and simple ideas to bring the world of religion alive for small children. The subject is connected to work in the fields of expressive arts and design, helping pupils with their understanding of the world particularly in the field of religion and belief. These new materials cover Christmas, Easter, Eid Al Adha, Vaisakhi, Divali and more and have now gone live. They include video clips made for the age group, activity sheets and information for teacher-use. Lat Blaylock, who contributed to the work says: 'I'm really pleased to see that BBC have made such a diverse and well thought out contribution to Early Years learning about religion and belief. Teachers will find this is a little treasure trove.'

Here is a link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z24kqyc> [Religions, festivals and celebrations](#)

Educate Against Islamophobia (EAI)

Educate Against Islamophobia (EAI) has recently published a plethora of educational materials for the Early Years, primary schools, high schools and educational practitioners across the U.K.

Using Faith Inspired Art to Encourage Conversation, Enable Reflections and Inspire Action. Cheryl Homer, Westhill Endowment

Westhill Endowment has 9 art collections which are available FREE* to schools and community venues around the UK.

Many communities have already benefited from these resources which aim to encourage conversation, enable reflections, and inspire action. A Year 10 textiles student recently reflected on her experience with the Gethsemane Garments: "I liked the green garment [representing Hope] showing the rips and tears of the fabric, but with the sides being restitched to show signs of healing and positivity."

A Primary School Teacher reflected on a creative lockdown session provided by their local vicar using the exhibition Bald Statements: "The creative artwork [the children produced in response] has been thought provoking and the children were able to speak honestly on their feelings and experiences of lockdown."

The art collections come with a variety of themes and mediums, including free standing and wall mounted works of art. Additional materials such as booklets, education packs, and films are available. Westhill will also consider funding applications for events around your exhibition. Westhill Endowment work one to one with all exhibition hosts helping you tailor your exhibition to suit your space and your audiences. If you'd like to know more, please contact Westhill's Arts Coordinator, Cheryl Homer, on cheryl@westhillendowment.org or check the website or social media. www.westhillendowment.org www.facebook.com/WesthillEndowment www.youtube.com/channel/UCHKjKpunQ0C4XSXD4j88XZA

Anti-racist RE: continuing debates and widening resources

Jonathan Marshall, MBE, ran a brilliant RE and interfaith centre in Plymouth before he retired. He draws attention to resources which might compliment the NATRE anti-racist RE materials (<https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/anti-racist-re/>) saying "I think teachers might find the work of the Equiano Project on anti-racist education helpful. In the true spirit of quality RE, some diversity of views might be welcome."

This black-led project may help teachers of RE who want to understand the complexity of an anti racist RE approach: they should be encouraged to explore a range of different voices, one of which is to be found on the excellent website of "The Equiano project" <https://www.theequianoproject.com/> See for example the video "Understanding the new politics of race" by Prof. John McWhorter. At just under twenty minutes, this perspective is an extremely helpful and profound insight into the background and current situation of anti-racism.

Jonathan also draws attention to the 'Don't Divide Us' project, whose opening statement includes these key ideas: "We should treat everyone as an individual worthy of respect regardless of race, religion or the colour of their skin We call this colour-blind anti-racism – it is based on freedom and tolerance – and we believe it is the best way to counter prejudice where it does exist. Britain is a successful multi-cultural society with a positive story to tell about race relations: We won't benefit from importing divisive political ideas from the US that don't reflect our history and which undermine our shared values today. See much more at: <https://dontdivideus.com/our-beliefs/>

Philosophy of Religion resources from the FT!

Jack Robertson, RE teacher in north London, is working with the the Financial Times to offer free access to FT.com for all schools and colleges teaching sixteen to nineteen-year-old students. An FT subscription can support students in developing the broad knowledge that will help them stand out to examiners, universities and employers. A Philosophy Class page, ft.com/philosophyclass, is available for teachers and students of philosophy and ethics. It brings together relevant articles from across the FT and provides accompanying questions that prompt students to reflect critically and make connections to areas of the A-level specification.

Recent Philosophy Class articles cover topics from the ethics of climate protests and abortion to developments in AI and quantum physics, as well as interviews with philosophers such as MacAskill, Chalmers and Srinivasan.

Participating schools receive the same level of access to FT.com as regular subscriber. Check if your school is registered or register your interest via the Philosophy Class page or at [ft.com/schoolsarefree](https://www.ft.com/schoolsarefree)

The RE Connect Environmental programme for RE

Are you looking for ways to connect your RE teaching with the environmental crisis?

The RE: Connect Teacher Fellowship Programme is designed to help deepen teachers' understanding and confidence for exploring the environmental crisis through the lens of religions and worldviews in RE. The programme is not just about getting ideas, but also enhancing your teaching practice and professional network around this theme.

After a successful pilot of the programme in 2021-22, RE: Connect will be running again from September 2023, thanks to a grant from the Culham St Gabriel's Trust. There are places for up to 10 teachers of RE (primary and secondary) on the 6-month teacher fellowship programme. The initiative is run by Dr Jeremy Kidwell, Associate Professor in Theological Ethics at the University of Birmingham and Dr Ian Jones of St Peter's Saltley Trust, with input from experienced primary and secondary specialists, environmental scientists, climate activists and academic researchers in religion and environment. The programme offers opportunities to:

- Deepen subject knowledge on the intersection of religion and ecology
- Work with cutting-edge subject specialists on religious ethics/practice, ecology, and climate change policy
- Work as part of a supportive and dynamic team to create and trial new approaches and resources for teaching on this theme
- Become a champion for teaching and learning on religion and environmental crisis

The Teacher Fellowship Programme involves monthly workshops from Autumn 2023 to Spring 2024, with tasks to undertake between workshops. Programme sessions will include one fully funded weekend residential and 6-8 online evening sessions (roughly one per month). There is no cost of participation to the teacher or their school and Fellows receive a bursary of £500 to cover costs of participation plus travel expenses to enable attendance at in-person sessions.

Interested? Please contact Ian Jones (director@saltleytrust.org.uk) to register your interest.

Selection for the programme is by a formal application process.

10. SACRE MEETING DATES 2023-24

NOTED the dates of the meetings in 2023, Tuesdays at 17.30.

14 November venue to be confirmed – offers to host were invited.

Father Sheehan, Freezywater St Georges School and also Josh Newham, Headteacher at Hazelwood School felt that they could potentially host a SACRE meeting. Lucy would progress these kind offers.

ACTION: LUCY NUTT

RESOLVED by members that the proposed dates for **2024 calendar of meetings** be agreed.

Spring Term 2024 – Tuesday 20 February 2024

Summer Term 2024 – Tuesday 11 June 2024

Autumn Term 2024 – Tuesday 12 November 2024

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

11. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2024

SACRE Members **noted** the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2024: **Fragility of Freedom**

Freedom means different things to different people. What is clear is that in every genocide that has taken place, those who are targeted for persecution have had their freedom restricted and removed, before they themselves are murdered. This is often a subtle, slow process.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust were joined by survivors to launch the theme and discuss the [ten stages of genocide](#). You can watch the recorded version, [here](#).

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

12. AOB / USEFUL LINKS

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

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

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

Username: members

Password: 22N@sAcRE23