

Wolverhampton SACRE Annual Report 2022-2023



Report produced by Laura Jude

1.0 Introduction

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1.2 Words from the Chair of SACRE

In the last academic year we have again focussed particularly on support for teachers, which we feel is a strength of our SACRE. Notable among this work is the creation of a new RE Network for secondary teachers of RE, which will pilot in Autumn 2023. Our primary teacher RE Network continues to thrive.

We have also extended our highly successful *'Multi-faith approaches to diversity and racial equality'* project which has been funded by a grant from Westhill. Our first conference in May 2022 saw pupils from secondary schools across the city come together to create resources and consider the importance of equality and diversity in both religious life and wider society. Following this success we have developed a second project strand. This has allowed us to bring both primary and secondary pupils from across the city together at a conference that took place in June 2023. In the 2023-2024 academic year we plan to build on this success again, engaging even more of our schools in the project in a third and final strand.

Our aim for 2023-2024 is to continue our support for teachers, who are key to developing and delivering good RE across our city.

*Martin Gomberg was Chair of SACRE at the time this report was written. He stepped down on 5/09/2023 and invitations for nominations for a new Chair are currently live.

1.3 Overview of SACRE activity for 2022-2023

Membership of Wolverhampton SACRE

PANEL A

Body

Baptist Representative
Methodist Representative
Roman Catholic Representative
Buddhist Representative
United Reformed Representative
Pentecostal Representative
Hindi Representative
Sikh Representative
Jewish Representative
Islam Representative
Humanist Representative

Nominee

VACANCY
VACANCY
Louisa Craig
Ven Bante Tejwant
Rebecca Wood
VACANCY
VACANCY
Jaswinder Singh Chaggar
VACANCY
Akeel Ahmed
VACANCY

Panel B

Body

Church of England Representative
Church of England Representative
Church of England Representative

Nominee

VACANCY
Alison Smith
Janine Wright

Panel C

Body

NEU
NEU
NEU
NEU
NAHT
NASUWT

Nominee

Kay Cresswell-Green
Tracey Welsh
Natalie Wilson-Jones
Danielle Fannell
VACANCY
Kirsty Holyhead

Panel D

Body

Wolverhampton City Council

Elected member

Nominee

Laura Jude
Cllr Jacqui Coogan,
Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and
Education

Co-options

Representing:

Uplands Junior School

Nominee

Ourmala Devi

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Clerk:

Shelley Humphries

(Democratic Services – Non member)

SACRE met three times in the 2022-2023 academic year. Details of the priorities worked on during the year can be found in Appendix 1, a review of our 2022-2023 action plan.

Appendix 2 demonstrates how new and continued priorities will be moved forward for the 2023-2024 academic year.

1.4 Executive summary

SACRE's foci for 2022-2023 have centred around supporting schools and RE teachers to provide high quality RE through the implementation of the LAS or alternatives. In particular, by providing a broad CPD and training offer for both primary and secondary schools. This has included specific provision such as CPD for colleagues teaching in Special schools and 'new to RE' leadership support for colleagues taking up their first RE lead role.

2023-2024's work will build on previous successes around teaching training and support for teachers. Continuing foci, such as recruiting to SACRE membership and CPD for SACRE members will be prioritised.

2.0 Statutory RE in Wolverhampton

2.1 The Wolverhampton Locally Agreed Syllabus in schools

The 2021-2026 LAS remains in place.

In addition to previous implementation support for teachers in 2021-2022, SACRE has funded further training for schools by type and phase (primary, secondary and special school) in 2022-2023 to strengthen support for teachers in delivering the LAS effectively. These have included:

- A new to RE package (launched October 2022)
- Termly community of practice meetings for teachers working in special schools (launched October 2022)

The following mechanisms remain in place to improve communication and support for RE teachers:

- A termly RE update in the City of Wolverhampton Council Education Provider Bulletin.
This update is sent to all education settings in the city

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- An RE teacher mailing list

Academies have been actively encouraged to engage with training and to utilise the LAS. Both have been accessible to academies through public access to our LAS and funded teacher training. In addition, our optional scheme of work has also been made available to academies. These resources have been well received and the City of Wolverhampton Council's School Improvement team have received a number of requests for curriculum planning support for RE in academised secondary schools as a result.

Wolverhampton SACRE have continued to work to support secondary schools to provide high quality RE which facilitates into examined RE such as GCSE pathways. To support our secondary schools SACRE have funded the creation of new units of work for Key Stage 3 which, alongside the LAS support schools in providing a solid foundation for GCSE study. These new units have been received positively by schools and are currently being used by both maintained schools and academies. More schools are making plans to move toward examination RE at key stage 4 as a result.

2.2 Monitoring the Locally Agreed Syllabus

Predominantly, the LAS has been monitored through communication with and training for schools. In 2022-2023 mechanisms put in place to collect this information in 2021-2022 have been reviewed and embedded example:

- Seeking feedback through surveys/evaluations
- Seeking verbal feedback at training events
- Discussions with individual schools

2.3 Standards and monitoring of RE in schools

RE in schools is monitored through the following mechanisms

- Feedback from the RE network
- Regular self-report surveys by schools
- Updates to SACRE about recent Ofsted, SIAMS and Section 48 inspections
- Headline findings from LA school reviews where relevant to RE/Collective Worship
- Reports from the LA regarding RE school improvement work undertaken in schools

RE GCSE outcomes for 2023

In Wolverhampton, 974 pupils received outcomes for GCSE Religious Studies in 2023. 64% achieved a grade 4 or above and 20% achieved a grade 7 or above. Pupils made less progress than the national average in GCSE Religious Studies in 2023.

2.4 RE Quality Mark (REQM) awards

There have been no applications for REQM awards and none have been received during this time period.

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2.5 Teacher training and advice for schools

SACRE support a range of training opportunities for schools, as detailed below:

- Teachers of RE in Wolverhampton have access to a termly RE network. This is a forum for sharing good practice, discussing any challenges in implementing the locally agreed syllabus and seek advice from RE specialists. The network is organised by City of Wolverhampton Council and facilitation by an RE consultant is funded by SACRE
- Working party groups
- Presentations to senior leaders
- Project work

Advice is available to schools through:

- Online drop-in sessions run by LA advisors
- Consultancy time funded by SACRE. For example, at the end of RE network sessions
- LA school reviews
- By email to/from the LA officer for SACRE

2.6 Withdrawals and complaints

There have been no withdrawals or complaints within this period.

2.7 Advice to the LA

There has been no advice to the LA issued by SACRE during this period.

3.0 Collective Worship

3.1 Monitoring

Collective worship is monitored in the following ways:

- Presentation of Ofsted, SIAMS and Section 48 findings for Wolverhampton schools at every SACRE meeting
- Feedback from LA School Improvement reviews where relevant
-

3.2 Determinations

There have been no applications for determination within this period.

4.0 Additional information

4.1 List of groups and agencies this report has been presented to:

- Wolverhampton SACRE
- Department for Education
- NASACRE

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- City of Wolverhampton Council Education Leadership Team
- A copy of this report and associated action plan for 2023-2024 will be made public on the [Religious Education - Wolverhampton SACRE | City Of Wolverhampton Council](#) webpage.

4.2 List of acronyms and abbreviations

CPD – Continuing Professional Development

LA – Local Authority

LAS – Locally Agreed Syllabus

NASACRE – National Association of SACREs

RE – Religious Education

REQM – Religious Education Quality Mark

SACRE – Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

4.3 List of appendices

Appendix 1: Review of Wolverhampton SACRE 2022-2023 Action Plan

Appendix 2: Wolverhampton SACRE 2023-2024 Action Plan

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Appendix 1: Review of Wolverhampton SACRE action plan 2021-2022

Objective	Key details	Delivery date	Milestones			Lead	Cost estimate
			Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Increase membership and participation of SACRE	1.Ensure that all vacancies are filled 2.Review the changes to meeting arrangements in place in October 2022, seeking feedback from SACRE members 3. Continue to monitor participation in SACRE meetings termly	Ongoing	Advertise vacancies for new academi year	85% members	Full membership	SACRE/CWC	Nil
Continued development for SACRE members	1.CPD audit 2.Robust and responsive CPD offer for SACRE members	Ongoing	Develop CPD a	Member CPD offer for 2022-2023 in place	CPD audit 2 evidences an increase in CPD Draft CPD offer for 2023-2024 in place	SACRE/CWC	TBC dependent on outcome of audit
Continue to support and monitor the implementation of the new Locally Agreed Syllabus	1.Provide support and C any new RE leaders as they implement the new Locally Agreed Syllabus 2.Provide regular opportunities for feedback from teachers	Ongoing	RE Network Launch 'new to in Wolverhampton support package Autumn community of practice meetings Ongoing: Regular communication schools via the mailing list and Bulletin	RE Network New to RE 2 Communities of Practice 2 Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the RE mailing list and Bulletin	RE Network New to RE 3 Communities of Practice 3 Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the RE mailing list and Bulletin	SACRE/CWC/RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2021-2022/23
Continue to strengthen the CPD offer to schools	1.Offer a broad range of CPD and training for teachers	Ongoing	RE Network Opportunities through Westhill project	RE Network Opportunities through Westhill	Annual CPD evaluation and audit (online survey)	SACRE/CWC RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between

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	specifically special school colleagues 2. Maintain improved communication with teachers of RE 3. Launch communities of practice		CPD opportunity for schools Termly SACRE update via Bulletin/ mailing list	project Termly SACRE update via Bulletin	Termly SACRE update via Bulletin		Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2021-2022/23
Westhill Project	1.Undertake the planned project with schools	October 2021 – December 2022	Planning phase complete	Evaluation with schools	Final impact report provided	SACRE/CWC	Nil – funded through grant

KEY

Green = objective achieved

Yellow = objective partially achieved

Red = objective not achieved

Blue = postponed due to extension of the project

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Appendix 2: Wolverhampton SACRE 2023-2024 Action Plan

Objective	Key details	Delivery date	Milestones			Lead	Cost estimate
			Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Increase membership and participation of SACRE	1.Ensure that all vacancies are filled 2.Review the changes to meeting arrangements in place in October 2022 seeking feedback from SACRE mem 3. Continue to monitor participation in SACRE meetings termly	Ongoing	Advertise vacancies for new academic year	85% member	Full members	SACRE/CWC	Nil
Continued development for SACRE members	1.CPD audit 2.Robust and responsive CPD offer for SACRE members	Ongoing	Develop CPD aud	Member CPD offer for 2022-2023 in place	CPD audit 2 evidences an increase in CPD Draft CPD offer for 2023 -2024 in place	SACRE/CWC	TBC dependent on outcome of audit
Continue to support and monitor the implementation of the new Locally Agreed Syllabus	1.Provide support and CPD any new RE leaders as they implement the new Locally Agreed Syllabus 2.Provide regular opportunities feedback from teachers	Ongoing	RE Network Launch 'new to RE in Wolverhampton' support package Autumn community of practice meetings Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the RE mailing list and Bulletin	RE Network New to RE 2 Communities Practice 2 Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the RE mailing list and Bulletin	RE Network New to RE 3 Communities Practice 3 Ongoing: Regular communication with schools via the RE mailing list and Bulletin	SACRE/CWC/RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2023-24
Continue to strengthen the CPD offer to schools	1.Offer a broader range CPD and training for teachers	Ongoing	RE Network Opportunities through Westhill project	RE Network Opportunities through Westhill project Termly	Annual CPD evaluation and audit (online survey) Termly	SACRE/CWC RE Today consultancy	Cost within Service Level Agreement between

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	specifically special school colleagues and secondary non specialists 2. Maintain improved communication with teachers of RE		CPD opportunities for schools Termly SACRE update via Bulletin/ mailing list	SACRE update via Bulletin	SACRE update via Bulletin		Wolverhampton SACRE and RE Today 2023-24
Westhill Project Phase 3	1.Undertake the planned project with schools	October 2021 – December 2022	Planning phase 3 Complete Final evaluation to Westhill	Evaluation with schools	Learning shared with SACRE	SACRE/CWC	Nil – funded through grant

KEY

Green = objective achieved

Yellow = objective partially achieved

Red = objective not achieved

Not highlighted = not started

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