

Annual Report
For
Lambeth Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
(SACRE)
2022 – 2023.



**Lambeth SACRE is a member of the National Association of
SACREs**

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/>



Welcome from the Chair of Lambeth SACRE.

Welcome to our Annual Report for 2022 - 2023 of the Lambeth Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, (SACRE.)

This academic year has been another year of challenge for everyone, for many different reasons. Currently affecting our schools is the crisis in falling school roles resulting in surplus school places, particularly affecting Lambeth Local Authority. Schools have also faced serious difficulties over school funding cuts and the after-effects from the COVID-19 pandemic are still being felt by pupils and adults. Indeed, Lambeth Council itself continues to face significant budget cuts and is having to make difficult choices about where it spends its limited financial resources. This is on top of the struggles just to keep going for many people personally, coping with the cost-of-living crisis and other situations affecting them detrimentally at this time. So, our world is living through troubled times, not least with the continuing war in Ukraine caused by the invasion of Russia. It is a difficult and anxious time for our children and young people to be growing up in.

Throughout all of this, our schools have again continued to be places of routine, safety and sanctuary amidst the on-going turmoil that has been going on around them. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of Lambeth SACRE, to thank our schools for all they have continued to do to ensure that education and care has continued in the ways that they have and how they have served their pupils and families.

Numerous people in and around Lambeth make a difference to their neighbours and fellow members of the community. Our local faith and belief communities have been at the forefront of these efforts and initiatives; indeed, faith is an anchor of hope for many in difficult times. Of course, the learning about and from faith and beliefs is what SACRE is all about. Over the past year we have supported our schools in their provision of Religious Education (RE) and Collective Worship. Our meetings have remained virtual, but we are committed to returning to physical meetings in the next academic year, enabling us to, once again, build good relationships between the different members and the communities which they represent.

This year has been the first full year of implementation of 'Exploring the World of Faith and Belief in Lambeth,' the new Lambeth Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. We do hope that every maintained Community School in Lambeth (and other schools if they would like to!) now have the syllabus embedded. It is important that schools continue to be mindful of gaps in quality RE learning that their pupils have encountered due to COVID-19 lockdowns and ensure that each cohort of pupils has tailored future teaching which addresses major gaps in their RE knowledge and understanding.

Our Lambeth RE Co-ordinators' Network provides a termly forum of support and training for RE Subject Leaders, I do urge all RE Subject Leaders to join and attend the meetings.

As Chair, I would like to thank each and every member of Lambeth SACRE for their consistent loyal and dedicated support and work on SACRE. I must notably mention Penny Smith-Orr, our SACRE Consultant, for her consistent RE and Collective Worship advice to SACRE; Kathryn Shaw, our LA Officer, for her on-going support from the LA; Jo Backus, our Vice Chair; and Maria Gabrielczyk, our SACRE Clerk, for her organisation.

Thank you also to Sarah Thorley for her continued work on our Lambeth Faith Trails for Schools. If you haven't yet been on a faith trail, I recommend the experience to you!

Shaun Burns. Chair, Lambeth SACRE.

<u>GROUP A:</u> Christian Denominations other than the Church of England and representatives from faiths and beliefs in the local area.	Attendance	<u>GROUP B:</u> The Church of England	Attendance
Jo Backus – Buddhist Vice-Chair	2	Shaun Burns- Chair	3
Roman Catholic	Vacant	Sarah Thorley	2
United Reformed Church	Vacant	Esther Moorey – School Chaplain	0
Judaism	Vacant		Vacant
Charley Jarrett - Humanist	2		
<u>GROUP C:</u> Associations representing Teachers	Attendance	<u>GROUP D:</u> Local Authority Representatives	Attendance
Jason McInnis – Secondary School Teacher Rep.	0	Penny Smith-Orr – SACRE Consultant	3
Primary RE Teacher From summer 2023	1	LA Officer Kathryn Shaw	3
Denise Henry – NEU Rep	2	Maria Gabrielczyk – Clerk	3
NEU	Vacant		
Deputy Headteacher & RE Teacher NAHT	Vacant		

Lambeth SACRE met 3 times during the year 2022-2023 and the Executive group met on one additional occasion on 3rd August 2023. The SACRE meetings were all held virtually and were on 7th December 2022, 20th February 2023 and July 4th 2023.

Brief Overview of Meetings.

Discussions were held at the meetings on how to fill the many vacancies currently on the committee and various members have been tasked with contacting groups and individuals whom they have links / contacts with to encourage them to join in. The SACRE Consultant gives a verbal report and the SACRE Development Plan is looked at for us to evaluate the progress made. The 2021 Census data was discussed in the Spring, having been published by the Office for National Statistics and this linked to the discussions on membership.

In the Autumn term the results of the self-evaluation exercise that we had done in the previous year were presented to members, (see below, with the Development Plan)

The Lambeth Faith trails were also discussed as a standing item. These are on the Lambeth Schools Partnership website now and the means of schools booking was gradually worked out over the year. Alongside this has been an effort to arrange a way of updating the Places of Worship in Lambeth map, which is out of date.

In the Summer Term the constitution of Lambeth SACRE was discussed, and some slight changes made, particularly related to the sending out of invitations and agendas for the meetings. Also, a report from the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education, (NASACRE) AGM was given, which representatives of Lambeth SACRE had attended. Congratulations were given to Jo Backus, our Vice Chair, for her election to the NASACRE Executive, it was decided that news from NASACRE would be a standing item on our agenda of Lambeth SACRE meetings, going forward.

Religious Education Statutory Responsibilities.

The new Agreed Syllabus for RE for Lambeth schools is being implemented by most schools in Lambeth now. The syllabus can be found on the Lambeth Local Authority website at:

www.lambeth.gov.uk/schools-and-education/education-lambeth/religious-education-lambeth-schools/agreed-syllabus-religious-education

and on the Lambeth Schools Partnership website at:

<https://www.lambethschoolspartnership.uk/Article/84139>

The teachers attending the termly RE Co-ordinators network meetings have asked for help with actual detailed units of work and help with assessment procedures. The SACRE Consultant has worked on some units and shared these and adapted some from the previous syllabus. These are all aligned to the new Lambeth Agreed Syllabus, as it is this syllabus that Lambeth schools need to be teaching.

Currently the only monitoring of RE is by speaking to the RE Co-ordinators. It would be useful to look at websites of schools in Lambeth in the next year. The Lambeth RE Co-ordinators' Network meetings cover RE news, some information on festivals and other events, ideas for teaching activities and some training on aspects of RE for the teachers to share in their schools. Details of forthcoming meetings can be found on the Lambeth Schools Partnership website at: <https://www.lambethschoolspartnership.uk/Training>

The Lambeth Faith Trails have really got going again this year, despite the closure of some of the places of worship. Sarah Thorley, SACRE member and the Lead on this project, has found other places of worship to visit on the trails and managed to get the booking arrangements simplified with help from the Council. All the information is on the website now and schools can book. Members of SACRE have been encouraged to go on at least one trail and some have managed to do this.

As far as we are aware, no schools in Lambeth have applied for the REQM. We would like to encourage local schools to work towards this award in the future.

The SACRE Consultant is available to answer questions and give advice by email and some teachers have asked for advice regarding withdrawals.

Collective Worship Statutory Responsibility.

The SACRE members worked on a Guidance for Collective Worship in Schools over the previous year, and it was sent to the website for schools to access this year. There have been no Determinations in Collective Worship sent to SACRE, but the committee has discussed the process should this occur. However, we hope that Lambeth SACRE's guidance on Collective Worship will help schools to see how they can provide Collective Worship that is inclusive and comfortable for those in their school community of all faiths and beliefs and those with no faiths, thereby not feeling the need to apply for a Determination.

There has not been any training on Collective Worship during the year.

Links with Other Organisations.

The Lambeth SACRE is affiliated to the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE.) The Chair of Lambeth SACRE is the Primary Religious Education, Worship and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Adviser for the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education.

Faiths Together in Lambeth and the South London Interfaith Group and South London Citizens are also represented by members of the committee. The SACRE Consultant and Chair are both members of the Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants, (AREIAC,) a network of Religious Education advisers. Lambeth has also signed up to the London Hub network.

SACRE Statutory Responsibilities.

Lambeth SACRE has a budget of £25,000 and this pays for an RE Consultant for 10 days per year and pays for a SACRE Clerk to the meetings who also keeps members in touch with any developments during the year. A Local Authority Officer attends each meeting which gives a strong link in to the Council and helps with discussions.

Self-evaluation of Lambeth SACRE 2021-2022.

Key Area	Key Area	Developing	Established	Advanced
1a	Religious Education provision across the LA		x	
1b	Standards of achievement	x		
1c	Quality of teaching and learning	x		
1d	Quality of leadership and management and resourcing	x		
1e	Recruitment and retention	x		
1f	Relations with academies and free schools	x		
2a	Review process of syllabus		x	
2b	Quality of the syllabus		x	
2c	Launching and implementing			x
2d	Membership of ASC			x
2e	Developing revised syllabus			x

2f	Use of national Guidance			x
3a	Support entitlement to Collective Worship	x		
3b	Enhance quality of provision of Collective Worship	x		
3c	Respond to determinations		x	
4a	SACRE meetings			x
4b	Membership and training			x
4c	Improvement/development planning		x	
4d	Professional and financial support	x		
4e	Information and advice		x	
4f	Partnership with key stakeholders		x	
4g	Relations with academies	x		
5a	SACRE membership		x	
5b	SACRE understanding of the local area		x	
5c	SACRE engagement with community cohesion		x	
5d	SACRE role within LA initiatives on Community Cohesion	x		

Lambeth SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – September 2022 - July 2023						
All the objectives are connected to the statutory duties of a SACRE. Annual allocation of Adviser Days 10						
Objective	Action	Responsibility	Date	Costs	Success criteria	Progress
Evaluate SACRE work and establish priorities.	Continuous self evaluation process using the NASACRE Self-Evaluation Document.	RE Consultant	Annual update of self-evaluation at Autumn meeting.	During one meeting.	Identify further areas for development towards an Advanced SACRE – to be incorporated as appropriate into future development plans.	Evaluation completed and started discussion .
To prepare agenda, respond to any action from previous meetings and plan ongoing programme for SACRE	<p>Arrange the Agenda for meetings, with approval from the Chair.</p> <p>Write papers and reports for the meeting to LA timetable.</p>	<p>Clerk, Chair, RE consultant</p> <p>RE Consultant</p>	<p>(Include in the Annual Report – Autumn.)</p> <p>For 3 meetings per year.</p>	Consultant time - 3 days	<p>Results to be incorporated into the annual report.</p> <p>Effective meeting</p>	3 meetings carried out virtually

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Objective	Action	Responsibility	Date	Costs	Success criteria	Progress
committee meetings.					Action Points of by Members be meetings. Mem knowledge of a understanding responsibiliti es of SACRE	
To create a guidance document for Collective Worship (CW) in Lambeth Schools.	Discuss at meeting. Develop a guidance document.	RE Consultant and members of SACRE.	In schools Autumn 2022 (Spring Term 2023)		Document to be sent to schools.	CW guidance sent to website for access by schools.
To report annually on the work of SACRE.	Collect information on exam data and SACRE work. RE Consultant to write a SACRE Annual Report by December, on the previous academic year.	RE Consultant to write, Chairman to write forward and read, Clerk to circulate to schools.	Deadline - end December 2022	RE Consultant time - 2 days	Completed on time and copies provided for SACRE members, Director, Assistant Director, schools and their governing bodies. NASACRE and the Secretary of State for Education.	Completed
To monitor standards of RE and CW in Lambeth Schools.	Look at alternative ways to monitor standards. Provide data for members on RE examination results in	RE Consultant- Data Team to provide	Ongoing For the SACRE Annual	Time at meeting Members time Adviser	To have monitored RE in schools.	Discussion s on-going on this.

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Objective	Action	Responsibility	Date	Costs	Success criteria	Progress
	secondary schools.	RE Consultant, with details	Report 2022			
To reply to queries from schools regarding the syllabus and general support.	Replying to telephone and email requests for resources and advice.	RE Consultant	As required.	1 day per annum.	RE Coordinators able to access resources.	Schools able to ask for advice by e-mail.
To lead an RE Co-ordinators' Network Meeting termly. To run courses for RE teachers, as required.	Arrange dates for 3 meetings. Plan information/activities and present to meeting. Devise courses as per requirements of Lambeth RE Co-ordinators.	RE Consultant RE Consultant	Termly	3 days including meetings. 3 days	RE co-ordinators kept up to date with teaching and learning. RE Co-ordinators confident in their role and able to pass ideas for exciting RE on to other teachers.	3 meetings held, with increasing numbers attending.
Consider an assessment document for the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus.	RE Consultant to draft. Members to consider and have input.	RE Consultant	During the year.	/	Teachers access to an assessment document connected to the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus.	Item still being worked on.
Plan detailed units of work for the Lambeth Syllabus.	RE Consultant to work on some units of work. Members to consider and have input.	RE Consultant	During the year.	?	Teachers able to use Agreed Syllabus with ease.	Item still being worked on.

Distribution of This Report.

The SACRE Annual Report is made available electronically to:

The Department for Education

The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Lambeth SACRE members

Lambeth Council, Elected Members

Corporate Director of Children, Families and Education

Director of Education

SACRE Nominating Bodies

The principal Faith and Belief Groups in Lambeth

Teaching Unions in Lambeth

Ecumenical Borough Deans

All schools in Lambeth

Lambeth LA Website

Lambeth Schools Partnership website