



**STANDING ADVISORY  
COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**

**AGENDA**

<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Tuesday 14 July 2020</b>	<b>Zoom - <a href="https://zoom.us/j/94447502059?pwd=L2R1aDdEbHVza3hskwzK1hkbncwUT09">https://zoom.us/j/94447502059?pwd=L2R1aDdEbHVza3hskwzK1hkbncwUT09</a></b>
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Members **29**: Quorum **9** **BUT** a minimum of **one** representative must attend from each group

**Representative Groups (current membership)**

**Group A**

**Representing  
Christian denominations and  
other religious  
denominations and beliefs (17):**

Mr Peter Feinson, Baptist  
Dr John Lester, Baha'i faith  
Mr Om Dhir, Hindu  
Mr Sansar Narwal, Sikh  
Mr Kamal Siddiqui, Sunni Muslim  
Rabbi Lee Sunderland, Jewish  
Mr Tariq Mahmood, Sunni Muslim  
Saddhabhaya, Buddhist  
Mr Kevin Walsh, Roman Catholic  
Mrs Jenny Fox, Salvation Army  
Mrs Dawn Ladbrook, Evangelical Free Church  
Pastor Aloysius Peter, Pentecostal Church  
Mr John Smailes, Evangelical Free Church  
Mr Nasir Mubashar, Ahmadiyya Muslim  
Mr Luthaneal Adams, Pagan Federation  
Barry Smith, United Reformed Church  
Wendy Brice-Thompson, Roman Catholic

**Group B**

**Representing the  
Church of England (3):**

Mrs Stephanie Ellner  
Ruth Everett  
Marlene Wylie

**Group C**

**Representing  
teachers (4):**

Kirsty Fanning, ATL  
Louise Linton  
Clare Beech  
Kathryn Everitt  
Terry Riches

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**Group D**

**Representing the  
Local Authority (5):**

Councillor Gillian Ford  
Councillor Stephanie Nunn  
Councillor Philippa Crowder  
Councillor Judith Holt  
Councillor Tele Lawal

**For information about the meeting please contact:  
Maureen Smith 01708 433665  
SACRE@haverling.gov.uk**

## **Protocol for members of the public wishing to report on meetings of the London Borough of Havering**

Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

Anyone attending a meeting is asked to advise Democratic Services staff on 01708 433076 that they wish to report on the meeting and how they wish to do so. This is to enable employees to guide anyone choosing to report on proceedings to an appropriate place from which to be able to report effectively.

Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

Announcement of the arrangements in case of fire or other events which might require the evacuation of the meeting-room or building.

**Please turn off or mute any mobile phone**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - IF ANY, TO RECEIVE**

**2 NEW OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

To note any substitute members present at the meeting and welcome any new members.

**3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING (Pages 1 - 6)**

To agree as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2020 (attached) and to authorise the Chair to sign them and to address any matters arising therefrom.

**4 UPDATE ON SCHOOL ACTIVITY (Pages 7 - 8)**

To receive oral and written reports from the Primary and Secondary phase representatives and to comment on them or propose action as necessary.

**5 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Pages 9 - 12)**

To receive oral and written reports and to comment on or propose action as appropriate.

**6 NASACRE CONFERENCE**

To receive feedback from the NASACRE Conference held on 18 May 2020.

**7 SCHOOL WEBSITE MONITORING UPDATE**

To discuss and note any issues and/or good practise identified during the website monitoring of schools.

**8 HAVERING AGREED SYLLABUS**

Consider and decide upon the way forward for the Havering Agreed Syllabus for RE.

**9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Any member may raise issues previously notified to either the Chair or the Clerk (unless the issue relates to a matter arising from the meeting itself or is of an urgent nature, when the Chair will determine whether to allow it or not).

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To set a date for the [??] Term meeting and, if possible, set a date for future meetings.

**MAUREEN SMITH  
Clerk to SACRE**

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

3 March 2020 (6.00pm – 6.30pm)

Present:

Representing Christian denominations and other religious dominations and beliefs (Group A):

Dr John Lester\*, Baha'i faith  
Mr Sansar Narwal, Sikh  
Mr Peter Feinson, Baptist  
Mrs Jenny Fox\*, Salvation Army  
Mr Atta Ullah Issah\*, Ahmadiyya Muslim  
Mr Barry Smith, United Reform Church

Representing the Church of England (Group B):

Mrs Stephanie Ellner, Church of England  
Mrs Marlene Wylie, Church of England  
Mrs Ruth Everett, Church of England

Representing teachers (Group C):

Mrs Clare Beech  
Ms Kirsty Fanning\*

Representing the Local Authority (Group D):

Councillor Gillian Ford  
Councillor Stephanie Nunn  
Councillor Judith Holt\*

Professional advisers:

Julia Diamond-Conway

Michelle Morgan – Clerk

Observers:

Ms Kathryn Everitt – Ardleigh Green Junior

\*indicates for part of meeting

Chair's  
Initials

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr G Ford (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Om Dhir, Kamal Siddiqui, Saddhabhaya, Dawn Ladbroke, Nasir Mubashar, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Cllr Philippa Crowder, Deborah Weston (Professional Advisor) and Terry Riches (observer).

The following members were not in attendance and no apologies had been received, Tariq Mahmood, Rabbi Lee Sunderland, Pastor Aloysius Peter, John Smailes, Luthaneal Adams and Cllr Tele Lawal.

The Chair reported that Louise Linton (Group C) had resigned from SACRE due to work and personal commitments. Members wished to thank Louise for her time and support as a SACRE member; a formal letter of thanks would be sent by the Chair.

**ACTION: Chair**

Julia Diamond-Conway explained that there were potentially 2 new Group C representatives, Terry Riches and Kathryn Everitt. It was noted that formal approval would be sought for both Terry and Kathryn to join SACRE once they had confirmed their intentions in writing.

**ACTION: HGS**

## 2. NEW OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Members noted that Mr Atta Ullah-Issah would be joining the meeting representing the Ahmadiyya Muslim faith in the absence of Nasir Mubashar

## 3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 DECEMBER 2019 AND MATTERS ARISING

3.1. The notes of the meeting held on 3 December 2019, were agreed as a true record.

3.2. Matters arising from the minutes (not included elsewhere on the agenda) were noted as follows:

3.2.1. Havering School Improvement Services (HSIS) termly update (minute 4.2.3, refers): The clerk confirmed that both the autumn and spring term HSIS newsletters had been distributed to SACRE members.

Chair's  
Initials

3.2.2. Resource catalogue (minute 4.2.4, refers): An update would be brought to the summer term SACRE with regards to the Resources catalogue.

**ACTION: Deborah Weston**

3.2.3. NASACRE Conference (minute 4.2.5, refers): It was confirmed that the link to the resources shared at the NASACRE Conference had been shared by Julia Diamond-Conway.

*Jenny Fox and John Lester arrived at 6.05pm*

3.2.4. Membership (minute 4.2.6, refers): Julia Diamond-Conway reported that she had contacted the Board of Deputies with regards to identifying another representative to replace Rabbi Lee Sunderland. The Board of Deputies agreed to look to identify a new member to ensure the Jewish Community were represented within the Havering SACRE. An update would be brought to the next meeting.

**ACTION: Julia Diamond-Conway**

3.2.5. Syllabus errors (minute 10, refers): Kamal Siddiqui was not present to confirm if he had submitted the errors within the syllabus with regards to the Sunni Muslim faith.

**ACTION: Kamal Siddiqui**

#### **4. NEW OFSTED FRAMEWORK**

Members noted that at the previous meeting discussions had been held with regards to the impact of the new Ofsted framework on Religious Education (RE). As yet, there had not been any 'deep dives' into RE as part of an Ofsted within Havering however there had been nationally. Members were advised that in December NASACRE had reviewed the first 100 Ofsted reports following the introduction of the new framework and RE had been cited on a number of occasions even when RE had not been a specific focus of the inspection. A key change was evident in that Inspectors were ensuring that schools had not 'narrowed' their curriculum; schools which had proactively looked to visit and discuss different places of worship in order to make learning 'real' had received positive feedback.

SACRE Members requested whether examples could be provided of when RE had been mentioned in the Ofsted outcome report within Havering moving forward. The clerk agreed to investigate further.

**ACTION: HGS**

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*Cllr Judith Holt and Mr Atta Ullah Issah arrived at 6.10pm*

## **5. AGREED SYLLABUS**

It was noted that members had looked at feedback from teaching staff at the previous meeting in relation to whether they would welcome a new syllabus. Feedback, on the whole, had been that although difficult at first to implement teachers would prefer to retain the current syllabus. Some areas however had been identified as potential areas of development such as guidance on assessment and resource lists.

SACRE members were advised that Redbridge SACRE were also holding the same discussions regarding the agreed syllabus. Julia Diamond-Conway proposed that if their discussions were similar and were based on retaining the syllabus with some targeted improvements consideration should be given to look into joint commissioning. To make a formal decision regarding this a formal vote would be required at the next meeting.

The Chair invited members to share their thoughts around the proposal. A member questioned that if both SACREs agreed to move forward with joint commissioning who would be approached to undertake the review and improvement of the syllabus. Julia Diamond-Conway responded that there were RE Advisors/Consultants available however it would be beneficial to collaborate with RE Subject Leaders in local schools when reviewing any changes or enhancements to the syllabus. The Chair agreed that it was important for teachers to be involved so that they were more engaged with the process and the agreed syllabus.

A member shared some concern that they did not wish to agree to a joint commissioning arrangement with Redbridge without fully understanding what this model would look like. Julia Diamond-Conway reassured members that no decisions had been made and that if it was agreed to move forward a formal vote would need to take place by convening an 'Agreed Syllabus Conference' in the summer term. This conference could be incorporated into the SACRE meeting if required. Members agreed to consider joint commissioning with Redbridge should this also be their wish.

## **6. UPDATE ON LOCAL SCHOOL ACTIVITY**

Members had received the local school activity report; there were no questions. Members were invited to contact Julia Diamond-Conway should they wish to represent Havering SACRE at the NASACRE Conference in London on 18 May.

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## **7. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Members noted the report on national developments in RE; there were no questions.

## **8. SCHOOL WEBSITE REVIEWS**

Members noted that in previous years SACRE had audited school websites to review the provision of RE and collective worship within Havering Schools. The Chair requested members to agree to undertake some school website audits at home in readiness for the next meeting; a list had been provided which reflected schools which had not been audited in 2017-2018 which members could put their name to. Julia Diamond-Conway agreed to send the clerk a copy of the website audit; the clerk would distribute to SACRE members.

**ACTION: HGS/Julia Diamond-Conway.**

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A member questioned if those children who had won the art competition would be awarded with a certificate (or similar) on behalf of SACRE. The Chair was surprised to hear that the winners had not received an award as this had been her expectation. Members acknowledged however that the winners had been notified in December and that potentially too much time had now elapsed to present a meaningful certificate to the children. It was noted that the winners had been identified as part of Julia-Diamond-Conway's RE article in the HES spring term newsletter. Members agreed that certificates would be awarded in a timely manner following any further competitions in the future.

Members agreed that it would be nice to run an annually event, potentially at Easter time. It was agreed for members to bring ideas to the next SACRE for further discussion.

**ACTION: HGS**

## **10. DATES OF MEETINGS IN THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR**

Members noted the date and venue of the summer term SACRE meeting:

Tuesday 30 June 2020 (6pm) – Romford Baptist Church, Main Road

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

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## Havering SACRE, July 14<sup>th</sup> 2020

### Local RE update

#### Subject Leaders' meetings

This term's Subject Leaders' training was delivered via a webinar rather than face to face due to Covid-19. All delegates were able to access a pre-recorded webinar and a number of resources to support planning and teaching.

Next term's Subject Leaders' meeting will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

#### RE Syllabus Review

Julia Diamond-Conway has been in discussions with members of Havering Education Services' (HES) staff about suggested revisions to the syllabus.

Revisions considered and costs were:

Item	Quantity required	Price (to be shared by Havering and Redbridge)
Expand the 1 page unit plans into full unit plans.	9	£9 900
Expand the medium length unit plans into full unit plans.	8	£6 600
Add resource lists to each unit	17	£1 375
Update unit 2.14 which has proved unpopular in Havering schools	1	£550
Create an assessment exemplification document	1	£550
Create a document to highlight progression within the syllabus in light of the new Ofsted inspection framework	1	£1000
RE Today advisers leading a day's worth of training and a launch event (price to be deducted if all items on the list are purchased)	1	£2000

Havering has fewer maintained schools than Redbridge, so would be charged £7,334. It was hoped that by charging schools to attend the launch event, the LA could recoup much of the costs, so would be asked to underwrite the £7,334. However, in the current climate, a face to face launch day over the next few months may well be an impossibility. Havering have had to cancel all conferences at the moment and cannot confirm when these will resume.

After considering the educational landscape, funds and responses to the survey, HES is considering the revisions that seem to be the most pressing, which are:

An assessment exemplification document

A document to highlight progression within the syllabus in light of the new Ofsted inspection framework

Update unit 2.14 which has proved unpopular in Havering schools

Although these are not all of the revisions that SACRE were asking about, the lack of central funding is a key issue. Staff from HES are confident that the LA is fulfilling its statutory obligations as Havering already has a comprehensive syllabus, high-quality RE training and funds SACRE.

### **Home learning resources**

A list of home learning resources linked to RE has been written for Havering Education Services and can be found on their website. <http://www.hes.org.uk/Page/17179>

### **Newsletter**

Havering Education Services has produced a bi-weekly newsletter in recent months in order to keep educational professionals up to date. RE has been featured in one of the newsletters with plenty of links to online resources that will help pupils' RE education whether at home or at school.

### **Virtual Tours**

Across the country, many pupils are taking virtual tours to places of worship rather than physically attending due to Covid-19. There are some pre-existing virtual tours, but these are not Havering-specific. Could SACRE and its members support creating Havering-specific virtual tours?

## SACRE National Update: Summer 2020

### **New HMI Leading on RE**

Dr Richard Kueh has recently been appointed as the new Ofsted Subject Lead for Religious Education. Richard is well-known to the RE world through his work on curriculum and was one of the key professionals involved in the formation of Norfolk's Agreed Syllabus.

### **#REchatUK**

Teachers and other RE professionals are invited to participate in NATRE's #REChatUK twitter discussion which takes place on Mondays, between 8 and 9pm. Everyone is welcome! Although these chats usually happen on the first Monday of the month, they are currently running every Monday due to lockdown.

### **Open University course on religious literacy**

Why Religion Matters: Religious Literacy, Culture and Diversity

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/why-religion-matters/> is a free, 4-week (12 hours) course presenting some of the latest university-level thinking on religious literacy in an accessible and interactive way. It should be easy for RE Teachers to apply these principles in their presentation of curriculum and topical discussions. The next start date for this course is 2nd November 2020. FutureLearn hosts courses provided by a number of universities and partners. It has other upcoming courses on religion, so teachers and RE professionals may like to keep their eye on this, alongside other e-learning platforms (such as EdX) which provide courses on religions and beliefs.

### **RE teachers' engagement with research**

Culham St Gabriel's and the Graduate School of Education, University of Exeter are collaborating on a research study exploring RE teachers' engagement with research. Culham St Gabriel's Research for RE strategy and wider discourses surround CPD, have emphasised the valuable role that research can play in teachers' professional development and practice. However, deeper understanding is needed about the range of ways RE teachers engage with research, access it, mediate it, interpret it, and use it to inform practice within school contexts. Teachers of RE in primary, middle or secondary schools in England or Wales who would like to get involved in this project should contact Samantha Brown (research assistant) at the University of Exeter at [s.brown6@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:s.brown6@exeter.ac.uk). Participation would involve a virtual interview, lasting approximately one hour.

### **Home Learning**

NATRE have over 1500 resources available online. Members need simply login to access them. To help all schools during this difficult time, RE Today is working hard to support NATRE by producing resources that ALL teachers can use and share with pupils and parents in order to support with home learning. Free resources will be added to this page on an ongoing basis, so it is advisable for teachers to keep checking the site. Resources can be accessed here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/free-resources-for-you-and-your-pupils/>

A list of useful resources for RE home learning from a range of providers can be found here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/uploads/Additional%20Documents/RE%20home%20learning%20resources%20v2.pdf>

A list of useful video clips to aid remote learning can be found here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/uploads/List%20of%20video%20clips%20of%20aid%20independent%20learning%20FINAL.pdf>

### **UK Council for Subject Associations launches directory to support educators**

Subject associations are experiencing a surge in demand for practical resources to support home learning in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. In response, the UK Council for Subject Associations (CfSA) has created a new online directory of organisations to guide parents and education professionals in need of specialist resources and support across all subjects. Many resources have been tailored for use by parents as standalone materials while retaining links to wider learning programmes. Some of these were made available via BBC Bitesize and other BBC channels on 20<sup>th</sup> April. Access the new Subject Association Directory here: <https://www.subjectassociations.org.uk/the-cfsa-directory/>

### **BBC Bitesize Daily**

NATRE has received schedule information from the BBC via RE Today Adviser Lat Blaylock who has been commissioned to support them with the creation of RE lessons for Bitesize. The first Secondary RE lesson went out on the morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> April and is now available on iPlayer, via the following links:

11-12: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p089rj1x/bitesize-1112-year-olds-week-1-4-maths-english-and-religious-studies>

12-13: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p089sg9j/bitesize-1213-year-olds-week-1-4-maths-english-and-religious-studies>

13-14: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p089rfyz/bitesize-1314-year-olds-week-1-4-maths-english-and-religious-studies>

Further transmissions are **currently** scheduled as follows:

- Primary RE – Thursday 30th April
- Primary RE – Thursday 7th May
- Secondary RE – Thursday 7th May
- Secondary RE – Thursday 11th June
- Primary RE – Wednesday 1st July
- Secondary RE – Thursday 2nd July

These are of course subject to change. The BBC hope to keep us informed of any changes.

### **New RE films from BBC Bitesize**

The BBC has released 22 new short films with accompanying information and activities for 11-14 year olds. This new, free BBC Bitesize RE content for Key Stage 3 is very timely as it is designed for pupils to use themselves, rather than needing a teacher to tell them what to do.

Access the BBC Bitesize films and resources here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt>

### **From the Inter Faith Network**

The Inter Faith Network (IFN) has produced a resource for primary schools, aimed at teachers in upper Key Stage 2, which explores inter faith activity in the UK. The resource has a teacher introduction and four units that can be used to explore inter faith activity, looking at issues such as dialogue, social action and sport. Each unit has a series of hyperlinks that link teachers and pupils to actual projects across England with a series of possible tasks to assist learning. It can be found at: <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/learning-about-inter-faith-activity-a-primary-resource>.

The IFN has been collating and publishing the ways that faith communities and inter faith bodies are responding to the Corona virus/Covid-19 crisis. The link can be found at: <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/faith-communities-and-coronavirus>. This is being updated on a weekly basis as more responses come in.

### **How GCSE, AS and A Level will be awarded this year**

Ofqual have published details of how GCSE, AS and A levels will be awarded this summer.

You can find the details and the relevant documents here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-gcses-as-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2020>

### **Developments in Wales**

Following the Welsh Minister for Education's announcement last January of her intentions to re-name RE Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) as well as to remove the parental right of withdrawal from the subject, Welsh Government is now consulting on proposal to make legislative changes for religion, values and ethics in the Curriculum for Wales Framework.

The relevant document and response forms can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/legislative-proposals-religion-values-and-ethics>.

The proposals involve making significant changes to the scope of RVE, arrangements for SACREs and Agreed Syllabus Conferences (ASCs) as well as to the expectations placed upon different types of schools.

