

SACRE National Update: Spring 2020

Ofsted reports

In late 2019 NATRE published a document showing all the Ofsted reports that mentioned RE. There are 101 of them! Teachers including middle and senior leaders might find it interesting to discuss some of the points that have emerged so far.

The document also picks out some of the key themes from the reports.

Read the [Ofsted NATRE report](#) here.

How will Havering SACRE communicate with schools who get particularly positive reports or reports that show areas for improvement?

Guidance on RE and collective worship in academies

The Department for Education's 'Questions and Answers' document about Religious Education and Collective Worship in Academies and Free Schools has now been updated to the new format found here: [Collective Worship in Academies and Free Schools](#). This should be helpful to teachers and others looking for guidance on Government Policy with references to legislation.

This document is also linked to and from: [Religious Education guidance in English schools non-statutory guidance 2010](#)

Collective Worship judicial review

Some of you may have noticed some coverage in the [press](#) last term regarding two children who had been withdrawn from Collective Worship in a primary school in Oxfordshire. The school concerned is a community primary. Although it has joined the Oxford Diocesan MAT, Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST), this didn't change the status of the school. It must still provide daily collective worship of a 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' in line with current legislation. One family, supported by Humanists UK, chose to withdraw their children from this Collective Worship, as is their right. The parents were seeking a judicial review because they felt that during CW, the school should provide an alternative of equal educational worth for their children to attend.

Before the Judicial Review took place the family and the school [agreed](#) an [out of court settlement](#).

The DfE have clearly stated that this case has no immediate implications for SACREs or schools.

'The complaint was settled by the two parties outside of court and as such has no bearing on current legislation or the current national policy on collective worship'.

Legislation and guidance have not been altered and community schools should still continue to provide a daily act of Collective Worship of a broadly Christian nature, unless a determination is

in place, or parents withdraw their children. There is no requirement for the school to provide alternatives for children withdrawn from CW, although as a result of the case, schools and SACREs may receive enquiries and requests.

What does Havering SACRE know about Collective worship in schools? What support might be given to schools?

Wales

In October 2019, the Welsh Government issued a consultation on Ensuring Access to the Full Curriculum for all pupils.

The Welsh Government have decided that there will no longer be a right to withdraw from RE and RSE as part of the new curriculum.

The Welsh government have also decided to rename RE as Religion, Values and Ethics in response to the consultation.

For more information, please see: <https://gov.wales/written-statement-ensuring-access-full-curriculum>

Timing of SATs tests in 2021: Adaptations available for Muslim pupils

In 2021, Eid-ul-Fitr is likely to begin on the evening of Wednesday 12th May. The DfE are aware that some pupils are likely to be fasting during Ramadan at the start of the week and absent from school on Eid-ul-Fitr. Guidance will be given to schools on how to best care for pupils and rearrange tests for some or all pupils if deemed necessary.

How will Havering SACRE and LA make sure schools understands the guidance?

NASACRE National Conference and AGM 2020: Monday 18th May "Authority in RE"

The **2020 NASACRE Conference and AGM** will be held on Monday 18 May at: Crowne Plaza London - The City, 19 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6DB

The hotel is across the road from Blackfriars underground (Circle and District line) and mainline station. It is less than a 10 minute walk from the Thameslink service.

Coffee and tea and pastries will be available from 10:30, ready for an 11am start. The keynote speaker is Matthew Purves, Ofsted's Deputy Director, Schools.

A number of workshops will be offered (see **conference programme**); delegates will need to indicate their preference of workshops on booking, alongside indicating any dietary requirements.

NASACRE encourages all SACREs to send representatives. Bookings can be made **here**.

Who could represent Havering?