



Nottingham City SACRE 28 January 2021

Title of paper:	The Agreed Syllabus The Agreed Syllabus for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire; Religious Education for All 2021-2026
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Other colleagues who have provided input:	None
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users): SACRE is a Statutory Body and has a responsibility to agree a syllabus for the teaching of Religious Education. Members of Nottingham City SACRE have worked with County colleagues to develop a Syllabus for 2021-2026 and this was launched, autumn 2020.	
Recommendation(s):	
1	That SACRE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the content of this report Consider organising a briefing workshop for faith leaders to support their understanding of the new Syllabus.

1 Reasons for recommendations

This report is to update SACRE about the final development and launch of The Agreed Syllabus for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire; Religious Education for All 2021-2026.

Ordinarily the launch of the RE syllabus would have been a face to face training day allowing staff to network. Due to the continuing concerns about Covid-19 and the uncertainty regarding guidance for larger meetings and social distancing, decisions were made to launch of the new RE Syllabus as an on-line process, November 2020. This process began as originally proposed week beginning 16 November 2020. And actually gave greater access and flexibility to schools. It had various elements to support staff to maximise the new resources.

Element One

Schools had access to pre-recorded webinars by RE Consultant Lat Blaylock detailing the content of the syllabus, implementation and impact. These could be accessed by schools as they chose, individually, in small groups, or in staff meetings within the establishment. They were available from Monday 2 November 2020 and staff needed to have accessed them by the time they attended element two of the package. Schools were able to retain these webinars for future reference. In addition there are further resources available to schools on both the City and County websites which we hope will evolve as time goes on. These include various lesson plans and information and risk assessments connected to visiting places of worship, as well as the Faith and Relationships resource produced by the City SACRE Relationships and Sex Education Group.

Element Two

Schools were then able to participate in a live discussion webinar with Lat Blaylock between Monday 16 November and Wednesday 18 November 2020. The Wednesday session had have Secondary phase as the main focus. These were also recorded for future use.

Element Three

Having received the Syllabus, had a discussion with Lat Blaylock and been given time for schools to digest the information, there were three further live webinar opportunities with members of staff who worked on the syllabus. Jill Edmonds (South Wilford Primary School) and Sarah Peek (Sneinton Church of England Primary School) led a City session for primary staff on 23 November 2020.

In the months preceding these events there was regular communication with schools encouraging them to book. Schools received both an electronic and hard copy of the syllabus on booking to complement these sessions. The cost for this material and all webinars and the live discussions was **£165** per school. If a school wished to only have the hard copy and electronic copy the cost was **£80**.

Uptake

To date 37 city schools have participated in the launch events, 15 of which were schools from various Multi-Academy Trusts, the remainder being maintained schools. Some schools have made enquiries about purchasing the package post the launch events.

Across the City and County, 231 staff attended the live discussion webinars with Lat Blaylock. 182 staff in total participated in the primary live webinars and 25 on the secondary live webinar.

Impact

Feedback from the webinars and workshops has been overwhelmingly positive, a sample of comments:

- *The three webinars were very useful and explained a lot about how to implement the syllabus. I like the phrase 'linger longer and dig deeper!'*
- *It is clear and explicit. Extremely helpful for someone (like me) who has just taken R.E. on.*
- *I really valued the plans as it helped us to design and cross reference our curriculum across the year groups. Lots of detail for how to support deeper thinking in this curriculum*
- *Very good training. Done the first unit of the training too and was super impressed. Thank you - this was very inspiring and can't wait to start using it!*

2 Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)

2.1 SACRE has previously committed funds to working with Nottinghamshire SACRE in the co-creation of the revised Syllabus. An overall statement of income and expenditure is currently being calculated with County colleagues. To date Nottingham City SACRE has incurred the following costs

- RE Today Consultancy Services £5,000
- Staff costs £1,300

3 Legal and Procurement colleague comments (including risk management issues, and legal, Crime and Disorder Act and procurement implications)

3.1 There are no legal or procurement issues related to these recommendations.

4 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

4.1 The Constitution of SACRE has been compiled with regard to the Statutory legislation and guidance in establishing SACRE. All Local Authorities are required by chapter 3 (paragraphs 375-399) of the Education Act 1996 to constitute a SACRE. These arrangements set out the

framework within which the SACRE may function, and the content reflects, and is required, by the Act. The constitution also reflects the requirements of Circular 1194 for the SACRE to broadly represent the proportionate strength of local religious groups, in terms of equality impact and proportionate representation.

Faith communities could be further supported by SACRE to understand the new Syllabus and to develop links with local educational settings by hosting an information session for faith leaders about the new Syllabus.

5 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

5.1 **The Agreed Syllabus for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire; Religious Education for All 2020.** This is available to schools who have purchased the document and associated resources.

6. Recommendations

That SACRE

- Note the content of this report
- Consider organising a briefing workshop for faith leaders to support their understanding of the new Syllabus.