



SACRE Officer's Update

1. **Membership:** The current membership is as follows:

	Name	Organisation
Group A: Christian denominations, other than Church of England, other religions, world views and their denominations reflecting the principal religions/beliefs in the area (14)		
1.	Martin Bennett	Salvation Army
2.	VACANCY	Methodist Church
3.	Moira Dales	Roman Catholic
4.	Krishna Dasi	Director of Hinduism Education Services
5.	Chris Richards	Humanist
6.	Deb Martin	Quaker
7.	M Qasim Hussain	Islam
8.	Ezekiel Alawale	Majority Black Led Churches
9.	Pvail Singh	Sikhism
10.	Norman Randall	Jewish
11.	Dr Ifran Malik	Ahmadiyya Muslim Association
12.	VACANCY	United Reformed Church
13.	Anna Ratcliff	Baptist Church
14.	VACANCY	Greek Orthodox Church
Group B: The Church of England		
1.	Anne Lumb	Southwell and Nottingham Diocese
2.	Alison Milbank	University of Nottingham - Theology & Religious Studies
3.	Andrea Burrows	Lowdham Primary
4.	Kirsty Lacey	Bluecoat Aspley Academy (Secondary)
5.	Sarah Peek	St. Stephen's Primary
6.	VACANCY	
Group C: Teacher and Head Teacher Associations, and others representing educational interests (1-6, plus 3 Co-options, 7 & 8)		
1.	Louise Regan	National Education Union
2.	Nazia Iqbal	Chair of Governors, Middleton Primary
3.	Emmanuel Ofori	Governor, Berridge Primary & Bluecoat Aspley (Secondary)
4.	Fiona Maciel	Governor, Carrington Primary
5.	Leanne Harwood	Governor, Dovecote Primary
6.	Samia Ishaque	Governor, Middleton Primary
7.	Ambreen Razak	Chair of Governors, Snape Wood Primary
8.	Claire Al-Hussaini	Leader of SEND and Safeguarding (Djanogly City Academy)
Group D: The Local Authority (1-6)		
1.	Councillor Cheryl Barnard	Bulwell Forest Ward
2.	Councillor David Mellen	Dales Ward
3.	Councillor Angela Kandola	Berridge Ward
4.	Councillor Neghat Khan	Dales Ward
5.	Councillor Saj Mohammed	Mapperley Ward TBC
6.	Councillor Farzana Mahmood	Radford Ward TBC

1.1 Since the last meeting, October 2023, the following actions have taken place with regard to SACRE membership.

Group A	Ioakeim Oureilidis, Greek Orthodox Church (resigned) and Dr Martin Bennett, Methodist Church (resigned) Anna Ratcliff: Nominated as Baptist Representative (see recommendation) United Reformed Church, Methodist & Greek Orthodox Church: Vacant
Group B	One vacancy; see recommendation
Group C	David Wand, Unison (resigned)
Group D	Councillor Farzana Mahmood and Councillor Saj Mohammed ; Awaiting confirmation.

1.2 Recommendation: It is proposed that SACRE endorse:

- a) the Local Authority's nomination of Anna Ratcliff as Baptist representative. She is an Ordained Baptist Minister with theological training relevant to a diverse city and has experience in education as a governor and Chaplin at Nottingham Trent University.
- b) the proposal from the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham for Emmanuel Ofori to fill the remaining vacancy in Group B. He moves from Group C to Group B, with his agreement.

2. Training

SACRE members attended two NASCRE on-line events last term.

2.1 'In Conversation' (November 2023)

The first session in November was a partnership between NASCRE and RE Hubs to facilitate *In Conversation* events bringing representatives of SACRES across the country together. The questions, ideas, concerns and developments raised at these sessions will assist national developments.

Areas covered included

- **Non-Religious World-Views: (Group A membership)** NASACRE have long been asking the DfE to issue guidance to Local Authorities regarding the position of non-religious Worldviews on Group A. Guidance was issued in August 2023
[20230808_SACRE-guidance-for-LAs.pdf \(nasacre.org.uk\)](#).
- **Funding:** Are SACRE's aware of their funding position from the Local Authority and is it appropriate to enable SACRE's to conduct their duties. Discussion also highlighted the various roles of RE advisors and support officers across SACRES. This report was referenced: [Funding-Report-2023-FINAL.pdf \(nasacre.org.uk\)](#)
- **Annual Reports:** See [20230610-Final-Analysis-of-SACRE-Annual-Reports-2021-2022-with-front-cover.pdf \(nasacre.org.uk\)](#)

Recommendation: In light of this training, it is proposed that SACRE undertake a self-evaluation process to inform the next Annual Report and enable SACRE to determine its priorities and work plan for 2024/5.

2.2. How May SACRES Effectively Monitor Schools (December 2023)

This training outlined the responsibilities of SACRE to monitor schools and the different approaches taken by SACRES across the country to do this. See [PowerPoint Presentation \(nasacre.org.uk\)](#)

Recommendation: It is proposed that Nottingham City SACRE convene a 'Monitoring Sub-Group' to progress this area of work.

3. OFSTED & RE

In November 2023 Ofsted published its **Annual Report** from the Chief Inspector. This year there were references to individual subjects, including RE:

RE in schools is generally of poor quality. Although it is a statutory subject, schools often consider RE as

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an afterthought. As a subject on the curriculum, it is under-valued. RE is a complex subject, and the lack of clarity and support from government makes schools' job harder. Some schools steer through these challenges well, but most do not. We found that:

- many schools do not meet the statutory requirement to teach RE at all stages*
- pupils are rarely taught enough substance to prepare them to engage in a complex, multi-religious and multi-secular society (where religion and non-religion play different parts in different people's lives)*
- too often, schools do not teach topics in the RE curriculum deeply enough for pupils to develop a substantial understanding of the subject matter*
- non-examined RE is typically not high quality.*

All pupils should develop a broad and secure knowledge of the complexity of religious and non-religious traditions. It will take coordinated effort by stakeholders to improve the quality of RE in schools:

- schools need high-quality professional development to teach RE well*
- curriculum publishers need to identify clearly what pupils will learn and when, building on knowledge over time, so that pupils develop a deep knowledge of the chosen religious and non-religious traditions*
- the government should provide clear expectations about RE provision in schools. Schools should follow these. Current non-statutory guidance for RE should be updated and include clear information for schools about the breadth and depth of the syllabus they are expected to teach.*

3.1 Recommendation: That SACRE take account of this Report in undertaking its role to monitor the quality of RE provision and supporting the professional development of staff.

For Information only:

- 4. Ramadan: Guidance for Schools:** Nottingham City SACE acknowledges the generous support from colleagues in Newham in compiling guidance for schools regarding Ramadan.
- 5. SACRE Constitution:** Work to revise and update the Constitution is on-going and will be part of the summer term agenda after consultation with legal services.