

Nottingham City SACRE



Code of Conduct

General principles [The Seven Principles of Public Life - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Members are reminded that all public officeholders are both servants of the public and stewards of public resources. As such the members of SACRE are expected to work according to the seven principles of public life, (The Nolan Principles)

1.1. Selflessness: Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

1.2 Integrity: Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

1.3 Objectivity: Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

1.4 Accountability: Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

1.5 Openness: Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

1.6 Honesty: Holders of public office should be truthful.

1.7 Leadership: Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour and treat others with respect. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

Nottingham City SACRE encourages all its members to:

- attend all SACRE meetings and take a full and active part in its work
- participate in and review the work of SACRE for the benefit of the whole community
- listen with respect to the views of other members and where a situation of disagreement occurs, disagree respectfully
- express views and opinions openly, honestly and sensitively, always recognising others may have views different to one's own
- assume at all times that other members of SACRE are honourable and concerned with the best interests of SACRE

- seek reasoned consensus where views diverge and never disrespect the views of other SACRE members or seek to convert them to a different belief stance
- actively consult with, and report back to, the membership body which they represent so that debate is fully informed
- actively challenge and resist stereotyping

Remember that the central aim for the SACRE is to improve the quality of provision in RE and collective worship for all pupils in Nottingham City.

Visiting schools as a representative of a faith or Worldview community

From time to time, SACRE members may have the opportunity to visit schools. SACRE members should remember that it is a privilege to visit a school. They are there as invited guests, not to make judgements about the school or to “inspect” RE and collective worship.

- inform the Clerk of SACRE and the SACRE’s RE Professional of any invitation received and visits made
- ensure that you do not say or do anything, which could be viewed as denigrating any religion or ethical belief system
- avoid being critical of others or imposing their own views
- any confidential information disclosed should not be passed on but along with any possible concerns or confusions about what may have been seen should be discussed with the LA Officer before being reported back to SACRE

Visiting schools as a representative of a faith/World View community

Some faith community representatives may be more regular visitors to schools and invited to support RE and/or collective worship.

Visitors should be well-supported by the class teacher who should always be present, taking an active role in question-and-answer sessions, and ensuring visitors are well-briefed before a visit.

SACRE members visiting a school to share their beliefs, values and experiences should:

- have a clear, mutually agreed understanding of the purpose of the visit before it takes place
- appreciate that they are not there to convert or proselytise, avoiding being critical of others or imposing their own views
- be familiar with the school’s aims, ethos and policies in RE and collective worship
- have an understanding of where the lesson will fit into the unit of work from the Agreed Syllabus and what the learning objectives are

- use a variety of teaching and learning methods and approaches, but at no time touch pupils or behave favourably towards pupils of particular faiths, ethnic groups or genders
- ensure that pupils understand that the visitor is representing a particular faith view and their own personal interpretation of it and therefore that others from the same faith may not always interpret ideas in exactly the same ways
- ensure that they do not say or do anything, which could be viewed as denigrating
- communicate at an appropriate level for the age group concerned

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