

A G E N D A

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2003**

Time: **2.00 p.m.**

Place: **The Council Chamber,
Brockington, 35 Hafod Road,
Hereford**

Notes: Please note the **time, date** and **venue** of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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**County of Herefordshire
District Council**

AGENDA

for the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

To: Councillor J. Stone (Chairman)

Members: Mrs. W.U. Attfield, Revd. P. Barlow, Mrs. J. Brown,
Father M Donnelly, Dr. D. Goodman, P.E. Harling, Ms S McCamley,
Mrs A. Mundy, Mr. J. Rendall, Mr M. Rollnick and Revd. I. Terry

Co opted Members: Ms. K. Mayclothling, Mrs G. Morris.

	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive apologies for absence.	
2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY) To receive details any details of Members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a Member of the Committee.	
3. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS Chairman to welcome Father Martin Donnelly and Ms. S. McCamley as Members of SACRE.	
4. MINUTES To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st July, 2003.	1 - 8
5. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS (IF ANY) To answer any pre-received written questions from members of the public.	
6. RECENT OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS To summarise fro SACRE some key points that emerge from the Ofsted inspection of individual schools undertaken during the 2002 – 03 academic year.	9 - 10
7. DIOCESE OF HEREFORD: SECTION 23 INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS To receive a report by Mr J. Rendall on the Hereford Diocese Section 23 inspection of schools.	
8. UPDATE OF LOCAL EDUCATION MONITORING OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION To inform SACRE on the progress being made in monitoring and evaluating the quality of Religious Education in Herefordshire.	11 - 14
9. SACRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE To receive a presentation on the Herefordshire – 5th Annual Conference held 22nd September, 2003.	

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| <p>10. ANNE FRANK EXHIBITION REPORT</p> <p>To receive a report by Mr J. Rendall on the Anne Frank Exhibition.</p> | |
| <p>11. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS</p> <p>To receive a report on National developments in Religious Education.</p> | |
| <p>12. RE TRAINING FOR 2004</p> <p>To receive information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Course Provision; (b) Feedback on termly teachers meetings; (c) Assessment for RE proposals. | |
| <p>13. UPDATE ON WORK BY THE ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER</p> <p>To receive an update by Ms. K. Mayglothing on the work of the Advanced Skills Teacher (AST)</p> | |
| <p>14. QCA PUBLICATION ON RE AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP</p> <p>To discuss the main findings and issues arising from the QCA publication 'Religious education and collective worship - An analysis of 2002 SACRE reports'.</p> <p>NOTE: Copies of the publication have been issued separately to SACRE Members.</p> | |
| <p>15. SCHOOLS' RESPONSE TO THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGREED SYLLABUS</p> <p>To report on the outcomes of the questionnaire sent to all schools last term.</p> | 15 - 18 |
| <p>16. REPRESENTATION OF OTHER FAITHS ON SACRE</p> <p>To invite SACRE to consider how to make further progress in the appointment of Other Faith representatives on SACRE.</p> | |
| <p>17. REVIEW OF SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN</p> <p>To review the SACRE Development Plan 2001 – 2004 and consider the development of a further plan.</p> | |
| <p>18. DRAFT HEREFORDSHIRE SACRE ANNUAL REPORT - ACADEMIC YEAR 2002/2003</p> <p>To comment upon the draft SACRE Annual Report for the academic year September 2002 to July 2003 prior to submission to QCA.</p> <p>(Note: Members of SACRE have received separately a copy of the draft report. The final version will be made available to the public and press in early January 2004).</p> | 19 - 20 |

Published SACRE Annual Report

Note : The attached Annual Report has been published since the meeting.

19. PRESENTATION BY THE HEAD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT HAYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

To receive a presentation by the Head of RE at Haywood High School and to discuss RE issues of concern and their implications for pupils in schools.

MINUTES of the meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) held at the Town Hall, St. Owen Street, Hereford on Tuesday 1st July, 2003 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J. Stone (Chairman)

Sister M. Gallagher, Dr. M. Goodman, Ms. K. Mayglothling, Mrs A. Mundy, Mr J. Rendall, Mr. M. Rollnick.

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that following the local government elections in May 2003, former Councillor Mrs J.H. Thomas, who had not stood for re-election, could not continue as a member of SACRE. The Chairman referred to the valuable service Mrs Thomas had given to SACRE since 1998 and congratulated her on receiving an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for her services to the community.

The Chairman also referred to former Councillor A.J. Allen who had not been returned in the local elections and therefore could not represent the LEA. He commented that, as a former headteacher Mr Allen had made an important contribution to both the work of SACRE since 1998 and education generally.

SACRE noted with regret that this would be the last SACRE meeting attended by Sister Margaret Gallagher. She reported that due to commitments at the Cardiff Archdiocese Religious Education Service, regrettably she was unable to maintain her position as Roman Catholic representative and thanked SACRE members for their support and friendship over the years. She further reported that Fr. Martin Donnelly from Our Lady's RC Church would be replacing her as the Roman Catholic Representative. SACRE thanked Sister Gallagher for her significant contribution to Religious education in the County and her valuable work on SACRE since 1999.

The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance complemented Councillor J. Stone on his re-election to Herefordshire Council and his re-appointment as Chairman of SACRE.

RESOLVED: That

- (a) the Chairman write to Mrs J.H. Thomas and Mr A.J. Allen to thank them for their valuable service and support to SACRE and to congratulate Mrs Thomas on her MBE.**
- (b) the appointment of Father Martin Donnelly as the Roman Catholic representative (Committee A) on SACRE be welcomed.**

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs J. Brown, Rev P. Barlow, Rev. I. Terry, Mrs. R. Privett.

3. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

There were no named substitutes.

4. MINUTES

Mr Rendall briefly updated the meeting on the Development of Collective Worship in Schools (Minute No 43). Schools had been informed of a meeting in October when further information and ideas would be gathered. It was hoped that a report could be formulated within the following three months.

SACRE noted that good levels of publicity were being achieved for the Anne Frank Community Exhibition 2003. However, problems had arisen over obtaining volunteer guides for the event.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March, 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

No written questions from members of the public had been received.

6. REPRESENTATION OF OTHER FAITHS ON SACRE

SACRE considered whether the current membership of SACRE, and in particular Committee A, adequately reflected the proportionate strength of denominations in the County.

SACRE received a report by the Committee Administrator (Scrutiny) outlining the guidance contained in DFE Circular 1/94 concerning the membership of Committee A, namely: Christian denominations and other religions and religious denominations (other than the Church of England who comprise Committee B) that reflect broadly the proportionate strength of that denomination or religion in the area. The report also indicated that appointments were made by the Local Education Authority and outlined two areas that the LEA would have to take into consideration in making such appointments.

The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance (IASPS) reported that while statistically Herefordshire had a small number of 'Other Faiths', SACRE needed to consider the wider multi-faith communities represented in the Country as a whole and reflected in the programmes of study contained in the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

The Committee Administrator (Scrutiny) cautioned that, in accordance with DFE guidance 1/94, the inclusion on Committee A of representatives of belief systems such as humanism, which did not amount to a religion or religious denomination, would be contrary to legal provisions. However, it would be permissible to appoint such representatives as non-voting co-opted members.

It was agreed that SACRE should lead by example and encourage racial harmony and promote inter-faith dialogue. They discussed various means of obtaining representatives from the various faith groups in the County. SACRE was however, conscious of the need to ensure that nominated representatives should truly represent their faith group as a whole. It was noted that an associated benefit, to SACRE and RE teachers, of a wider membership base would be the further

establishment of links, and exchange of information, between the various faith groups.

On an associated issue the Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance (IASPS) reported that Mrs R. Privett, Head of Pembridge C.E. Primary School, would be leaving Herefordshire to take up a new teaching post. A vacancy would therefore arise on Committee C as Primary Education representative, and he suggested that a replacement representative be sought from the maintained schools sector.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That

- (a) the LEA be requested to seek accredited representatives from other faith groups in Herefordshire to serve on SACRE;**
- (b) accredited representatives of other belief systems be considered for co-option by SACRE; and**
- (c) the LEA be requested to seek a replacement Primary Education representative from the County School sector.**

FURTHER RESOLVED:

That

- (d) the Chairman write to Mrs R. Privett to thank her for her valuable contribution to education in the County, particularly at Pembridge C.E. Primary School, and for her significant involvement in the work of SACRE since October 1998; and**
- (e) the term of office for co-opted members on SACRE be reviewed at the next meeting.**

7. RECENT OFSTED INSPECTIONS

The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance (IASPS) presented a report on the outcomes of the Ofsted inspections of Herefordshire schools undertaken since the start of the academic year in September 2002, with particular reference to the quality of religious education.

He commented that a significant number of schools had been inspected by Ofsted since the start of the academic year and his report gave a brief summary of the outcomes of those Ofsted reports. The report covered the following schools:

Ashperton Primary School

Brookfield School (an Emotional and Behavioural Disorder [EBD] Special School)

Clehonger Church of England Primary School

Clifford Primary School

Holme Lacy Primary School

Holmer Church of England Primary School

Kington Primary School

Ledbury Primary School

Leominster Junior School
Longtown Primary School
Lord Scudamor Primary School
Luston Primary School
Mordiford Primary School
Much Birch Church of England Primary School
Shobdon Primary School
St Francis Xaviers Roman Catholic School
St Thomas Cantilupe Church of England Primary School
St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Credenhill
Stoke Prior Primary School
Stretton Sugwas Primary School
Haywood High School
Whitecross High School

The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance (IASPS) commented that in the main the outcomes had been very positive. He mentioned in particular that Brookfield Special School had now been taken out of Special Measures having made good progress. He expressed surprise about the report for Lord Scudamore Primary School. Overall the school had received a good report. However, in relation to the drop in standards in RE he thought this related to the school's failure to give the subject the minimum time recommended by the Agreed Syllabus and the level of priority accorded in the school's Development Plan.

He apologised that three schools had been omitted from the list and reported that the Ofsted report for Lugwardine Primary School indicated it was a good school with good RE features. Michaelchurch Escley Primary School was an effective school with good RE features. Weobley Primary School had received a very good inspection report and was a highly effective school. Three further schools had, or were about to be, inspected and the outcome of those inspections would be reported to the next meeting.

SACRE noted the efforts made by all schools and acknowledged that both Whitecross and Haywood High Schools had made enormous improvements in recent years. It was suggested that, in view of the number of recent Ofsted inspections, either a press release be issued or a letter be sent to all schools complimenting them on their high level of attainment in teaching Religious Education.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the Chairman write to all schools in Herefordshire complimenting them on their high level of attainment in Religious Education.

8. DIOCESE OF HEREFORD: SECTION 23 INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS

Mr Rendall reported upon the Diocese of Hereford: Section 23 Inspection of Schools in relation to the inspection of Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled Schools. He reported that Credenhill CE Primary School had just been inspected and four other schools were due for inspection in the autumn.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

9. ACTS: 2 – ANNUAL REPORT AND UPDATE

Mr Rendall reported upon the work of ACTS 2 (A Christian Team in Schools) and presented the ACTS: 2 Annual Report.

He reported that the ACTS: 2 Team had had a busy year working to promote, and support Collective Worship in schools in Herefordshire. He circulated at the meeting an information sheet detailing the aims and objectives of ACTS: 2 and extracts of feedback from schools which indicated a very favourable response to the work of the team. He further reported that a number of visits to schools were on hold due to a shortage of trained team members. He also reported that similar compliments had been received following the visit of GSUS LIVE. The ACTS:2 team had offered their support to the KS 3 project, discussed later in the meeting, and also to the development and support of Christian Clubs in High Schools.

RESOLVED: That the report on ACTS: 2 be noted.

10. SACRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE - UPDATE

The Consultant for RE reported on the planning for the SACRE Annual Conference 2003.

She reported that workshop leaders had been organised for the 6 faith workshops. However, the Buddhist workshop required final confirmation. A number of SACRE members were assigned to welcome and host workshop leaders. This would facilitate the smooth running of the event and enable the member to report back to SACRE on any issues that occurred. She requested that SACRE members be ready with questions for the Faith Forum at the end of the conference programme.

She also reported that a kind contribution (£155) towards the fees for the keynote speaker at the conference had been received from The Council of Christians and Jews.

The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance (IASPS) commented generally that, following recent changes to school budgets, it had been noted both locally and nationally that attendance figures at education conferences and courses had declined. He reminded SACRE that a large proportion of the cost of attending courses was the provision of supply cover while away from school. On commenting that a Conference reminder leaflet would be sent to schools in due course, it was suggested that the leaflet include information that the 'Bookstore' and 'Articles of Faith' would also be available at the Conference.

RESOLVED: That the report on planning for the SACRE Annual Conference 2003 be noted.

11. KS3 PROJECT UPDATE

SACRE received an update report on the KS3 (Key Stage 3) project and were invited to consider sample pages of the KS3 project work for recommendation to the LEA.

Ms Mayglothling reported upon the project and stated that, subject to consideration by the LEA, it was intended that the project work would be piloted by a number of secondary schools during summer 2003. Subject to funding availability, the results would be evaluated in December 2003. The sample work, attached to the report at appendix 1, included lesson plans and materials relevant to that lesson. In addition there were examples of two of the assessments included in the project. It was

intended that all secondary schools would receive a copy of the project with a video of believers' testimonies and a cassette of relevant music to accompany lesson activities. She intended to visit secondary school RE departments to introduce the project. The RE Swapshop termly meeting would also be used to advertise the project.

SACRE congratulated Ms Mayglothling and the Working Group on producing the project. Following the Head of IASPS's comment that limited funding would be available to complete the project evaluation, Sister Gallagher suggested contacting the General Teaching Council for grant funding.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the work of the KS3 Working Group be supported.

12. TERMLY TEACHERS MEETING

The Consultant for RE reported that the last termly teachers meeting had received a presentation by Janet Brown and Melanie Mellor on Religious Education and Special Educational Needs. She reported that while numbers attending had been low the evening had been very worthwhile. The next meeting for RE subject leaders would be held on 7th July at which Navinder Gill was expected to speak about growing up and living as a Sikh.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

13. FUTURE ISSUES FOR SACRE

SACRE considered issues for future meetings and the following suggested subjects were noted:

- **A non-statutory framework for religious education** – The Consultant for RE briefly updated SACRE on the position regarding the proposal to introduce a non-statutory framework for religious education. She reported that currently strong lobbying was underway by both sides concerning the proposal. This was an important issue and a report on further developments would be presented in due course.

Copies of the QCA booklet 'A non-statutory framework for religious education – Report of a feasibility study' were made available at the meeting.

- **Ofsted Inspection Reports** – The Head of IASPS commented that in recent years a large number of school Ofsted inspections had been undertaken with the results being reported to SACRE. While those individual results had on the whole been extremely positive about RE in schools, he suggested that the reports be analysed to ascertain whether there were any wider or underlying RE issues that needed to be addressed.
- **Presentations to SACRE** – The Head of IASPS commented that the occasional Faith and teaching RE presentations to SACRE had worked well and SACRE had learned a great deal about the issues concerned. He enquired whether SACRE wished to continue with the presentations, particularly the practice of inviting schools to talk about the reality of teaching Religious Education. The RE Consultant commented that SACRE needed to be clear about what it wanted to get out of the presentations.

- **The Marches Consortium – Teacher Training** – It was suggested that SACRE receive a presentation and or report on the work the Marches Consortium were undertaking in connection with their teacher training programmes.

RESOLVED:

That

- (a) a report be presented to a future meeting on the proposals for a non-statutory framework for religious education;**
- (b) the recent Ofsted inspection results be analysed to ascertain whether there were any wider or underlying RE issues that needed to be addressed and a report be presented to a future meeting; and**
- (c) a presentation be given to a future meeting on the Teacher Training programmes run by The Marches Consortium.**

14. NEXT MEETING

SACRE discussed the proposed date of the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the next meeting be held at 2.00 p.m on Tuesday, 2nd December, 2003 at Brockington, Hafod Road, Hereford.

The meeting ended at 3.56 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

RECENT OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS

Report By: Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance Service

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

1. To summarise for SACRE some key points that emerge from the Ofsted inspection of individual schools undertaken during the 2002 – 03 academic year.

Report

2. Over the last few years SACRE has traditionally received a brief report on individual school Ofsted inspections at each meeting. Whilst this has proved useful, it remains difficult to obtain an overview of the key issues that are emerging over-time which will help direct the work of the committee.
3. Joyce Mackley (RE Consultant) recently analysed all the individual school reports from the last academic year. A full copy of her report, eleven pages in length, can be made available to committee members on request. However, her main findings, based on the reports on twenty one primary and two secondary schools reveal the 'good news' that:
 - Most school reports indicate improvement in key aspects, particularly in teaching and learning, since the last inspection.
 - RE has improved significantly in the two secondary schools inspected due mainly to the quality of subject leadership.
 - The revised Agreed Syllabus has been a spur to improvement, helping schools revise their schemes of work, focus on learning outcomes, and, when these are shared with pupils, raise achievement and increase the value in which the pupils hold the subject.
4. The aspects that require further support include.
 - Assessment at both the primary and secondary phases, particularly marking and showing ways of improving work with pupils.
 - Learning strategies in primary schools with teachers needing to use a wider range of teaching and learning strategies, including the more imaginative use of ICT.
 - Improved planning to avoid repetition of work and lack of progress by pupils.
 - Inadequate time allowed for the teaching of RE in some schools.
 - Ensuring a better balance between 'learning about' and 'learning from' religion.
 - Improving the support given to the most able pupils.

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance Service
Telephone (01432) 260813

5. In addition, Joyce Mackley was critical of the judgements made by inspectors in some of the reports. She felt that on occasions there seemed to be a confusion in the minds of inspectors between spiritual and cultural development, and between RE and Collective Worship. In one instance, this led to a report where bad practice was commended as good.

RECOMENDATION

That SACRE considers the developmental points raised and identifies the action to be taken.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report on the analysis of individual Ofsted reports.

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance Service
Telephone (01432) 260813

UPDATE OF LOCAL EDUCATION MONITORING OF RE**Report By: Head of Inspection, Advice and School
Performance Service****Wards Affected**

Countywide

Purpose

1. To inform SACRE on the progress being made in monitoring and evaluating the quality of RE in Herefordshire.

Report

2. One of the main functions of SACRE is to monitor and evaluate the quality of RE in Herefordshire. Over the last few years the Ofsted inspection reports on individual schools have provided considerable re-assurance to SACRE on the quality of provision, of teaching and judgements on the standards attained by pupils.
3. More recently, however, these reports have become less comprehensive as the Ofsted inspection process has been refined. RE is no longer inspected in many schools.
4. In order to gather further local information, without subjecting schools to additional inspection pressures, the Education Directorate, on behalf of SACRE and its development plan, has contracted both Joyce Mackerly (RE Consultant) and Mike Carter (retired Primary Inspector and Headteacher) to sample what is happening in the subject in around 10% of schools. Appendix 1 is an example of the proforma being used. Mike Carter has so far visited eight schools and his work will include a brief report back to each school. He is finding it an "interesting journey" of discovery, with schools being most helpful and willing to engage with the process.
5. The Agreed Syllabus is perceived very positively, particularly the guidance section, and the role of the RE Consultant is greatly valued. The annual SACRE Conference is seen as very valuable not only for INSET but also for the networking potential.
6. Values education appears to be linking well with RE and PSE but Mike is finding that the challenge of providing pupils with practical experiences of other world faiths is proving problematic.

RECOMENDATION**THAT a full report be considered by by SACRE early in the New Year.****BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None identified.

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance Service
Telephone (01432) 260813

HEREFORDSHIRE SACRE

Evaluation of RE in Primary Schools

1. What form of policy does the school have for the teaching of RE?
2. How does the school perceive and use the Agreed Syllabus for the teaching of RE? (balance between Christianity and other faiths)
 - a) At KS1
 - b) At KS2
3. What experience of RE do children have in the Foundation Stage (PSED and KUW)
4. How is RE taught:
 - a) at KS1?
 - b) at KS2?
5. What particular aspects of RE does the school feel it does well? What is the evidence for this?
- 6a. What particular aspects of RE does the school feel the need for further development or support?
- 6b. Where does the school look for / find support for development in RE?
7. How does the school assess progress in RE:
 - a) In KS1
 - b) In KS2
8. In what ways does RE contribute to the pupils' understanding of citizenship and PSHE?
9. In what ways does RE have an impact on or influence within the wider community? (Social cohesion)
10. What uses are made of visitors and visits to support the teaching of RE?
(e.g. links with Collective Worship)
 - a) In the Foundation Stage (PSED and KUW)
 - b) In KS1
 - c) In KS2

11. How well is the school resourced for RE? What is the extent and use made of RE resources? (include budget allocation)

12a. How is the subject managed and co-ordinated?

b) How is the subject monitored and evaluated?

c) What opportunities are there / have there been for training in the teaching and management of the subject? (pyramid, cluster, in-school, off-site)

d) Comment on the effectiveness of any training

e) What type of training would the school like to see being made available?

13. Diocesan links

Comment on any links there been with the Anglican diocese / Catholic diocese

14. Links with other faith communities

15. Other issues?

SCHOOLS' RESPONSE TO THE RE AGREED SYLLABUS

Report By: Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance Service

Wards Affected

None

Purpose

1. To report to SACRE the outcomes of the questionnaire sent to all schools last term.

Report

2. Over half the schools (approximately 64%) in the County responded to the questionnaire. Appendix 1 shows an analysis of their responses, including comments by individual schools.
3. In general, schools' response to the RE agreed syllabus was very encouraging but it would be useful for SACRE members to comment on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT SACRE comment upon the findings of the questionnaire and identify any issues arising that require further action

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified.

Whilst the Agreed Syllabus has been well received by staff and implemented - there is a need for further suggestions for resources to match each subject area. The suggested resources are helpful but some are difficult to get hold of.	Brockhampton
Question 4 (a) Not so helpful for mixed year groups.	Brampton Abbots
Training for teachers other than RE Co-ordinators would be welcome	Hunderton Infants
Thank you for an excellent resource; in particular the reference to small school class groupings was most helpful.	Sutton
Gave mainly neutral scores because of the nature of the school. A mutual exchange of KS3 materials for lower abilities e.g. Powerpoints would be useful.	Brookfield
The Guidance is overly complicated compared with other LEA models seen and are over - reliant on using resources which are not always readily available. Lack of such resources make the planning of little help at times (e.g. ref to videos).	Lugwardine
Teaching SEN Pupils - "Workshops" for teaching ideas and resources as follow up to Guidance material. New HOD starting in September. Recommend his being involved in local meetings to establish contacts with other schools in the area.	Bishops
Non co-ordinators courses especially in World Religions.	Marden
More courses on guided visualisation.	Much Birch
Mainly gave neutral scores: Difficult to answer 2, 3, 4b and 5 as SLD pupils tend to develop own SOW.	Westfields
There is a need for some year groups to replace the non-statutory guidance with a more detailed medium term plan. Further support or training in non-Christian religions would be useful.	Broadlands
Courses in pyramids/districts would be appreciated on assessment, standards etc.	Almeley
Training for non-specialist teachers for Islam, Sikhism, Hinduism, Judaism.	St Martins
Knowledge about 'World Religions' e.g. Hinduism is not as good as it could be. Further training would be helpful.	Holme Lacy
The Minster College could not properly complete the form as they do not have an RE Specialist.	Minster
Not had time within staff development to fully develop the syllabus - hope that 2003 -4 will be better.	Burley Gate
Further input for co-ordinators support for teaching Skikhism, Islam.	Gorsley Goffs
I feel that the support for the subject is very good in comparison to foundation subjects.	Colwall
Partnerships between secondary schools in planning SOW, sharing ideas, planning assessment tasks. From September 2003 time allocation at KS4 will be doubled, so short course RE can be taught. Answers to question (4 marked low) Kevin Scot highlighted the fact he wrote much of the non-statutory schemes of work.	Aylestone High
Any "after-school" co-ordinator groups/speakers are always interesting, informative and useful!	Stoke Prior
Maybe KS1 teachers could look at the units and discuss ideas, resources, etc. together. KS2 teachers do the same.	Weston under Penyard
Mainly gave (4) Ofsted inspection/spring term 2003 found RE to be unsatisfactory.	Lord Scudamore
Although the syllabus has given great resources lists, I personally (as RE co-ord) would find a list of key books/teachers notes that most schools find useful. There are hundres of resources available and I constantly get sent mailings, but with a limited budget would love to hear recommendations from other teachers/schools, so that I can build a backbone of resource material - in particular KS2.	St Mary's Fownhope

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Ted St George on (01432) 260813

SCHOOLS ' RESPONSE TO THE RE AGREED SYLLABUS

	1	2	3	4	5	N/Ans	Total
1 The agreed syllabus is clear and accessible	26	27	1	1		7	62
2 The syllabus has helped us develop teaching and learning in RE	17	33	4	1		7	62
3 The syllabus has helped teachers develop a clearer understanding of standards and expectations in RE	20	26	7	2		7	62
4a The non-statutory guidance has been useful in helping to develop long term planning for RE	15	34	6			7	62
4b The non-statutory guidance has been useful in helping to develop lesson planning for RE	12	33	10			7	62
5 The revised non statutory guidance has been helpful in raising standards and teacher expectations	8	35	11		1		62
6. In your view have the following aspects of RE improved or remained the same in your school over the last two years:							
	Improved	Same	N/Ans	TOTAL			
Pupils achievement in RE	34	21	7				62
Teachers confidence in teaching RE	43	12	7				62
Teachers subject knowledge in RE	39	16	7				62
Provision of teaching time for RE	17	38	7				62

Key

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

N/Ans Returned Forms but completed incorrectly

**DRAFT HEREFORDSHIRE SACRE ANNUAL REPORT –
ACADEMIC YEAR 2002/2003****Report By: Committee Administrator (Scrutiny)****Purpose**

1. To consider the draft Herefordshire SACRE Annual Report.

Report

2. DfE Circular 1/94 requires SACREs to produce an annual report for submission to QCA. The draft annual report, copies of which have been issues to members of SACRE, gives an indication of the work of Herefordshire SACRE during the academic year September 2002 to July 2003 and follows the reporting principals required by QCA.
3. Comments are invited from SACRE prior to finalising the report. The final report is required to be submitted to QCA before the end of December.
4. It is also intended to make the report available to the public via usual methods e.g. libraries, Council Area offices etc.

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT subject to any comments by SACRE and final proof reading the
SACRE Annual Report be submitted to QCA.**

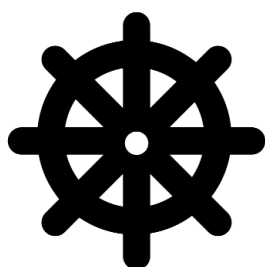
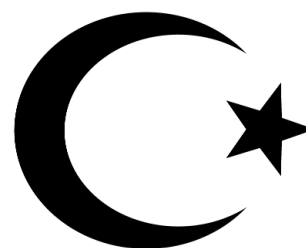
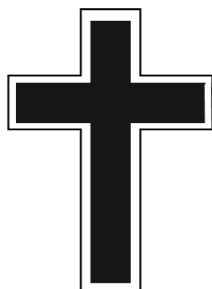
BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified.



HEREFORDSHIRE
COUNCIL

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2002/2003



HEREFORDSHIRE
COUNCIL

Councillor J. Stone

Upton Ward

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

JS/

Please ask for:

Mr. J. Stone

Direct Line/Extension:

(01584) 711227

SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth Annual Report as Chairman of SACRE. It has been another busy year for SACRE with important developments over the membership of SACRE, the Anne Frank exhibition in Hereford Cathedral and an initiative to evaluate RE in schools.

The May Council elections altered the LEA membership of SACRE with the retirement of Councillor Mrs Joyce Thomas and departure of Councillor Tony Allen. They are replaced by Councillor Mrs Ursula Attfield and the Chairman of Herefordshire Council, Councillor Peter Harling. Councillor Harling is a former Chairman of SACRE. The year also saw the departure of Sister Margaret Gallagher, due to her work commitments with Cardiff Archdiocese, and Rosemary Privett who took up a new teaching post out of the County. I greatly appreciated the support and interest they showed in all the activities of SACRE and they are all missed.

The SACRE Annual Conference was held on 22nd September at Hedley Lodge, Belmont and maintained its reputation for attracting first class speakers around the important theme of educating for religious diversity. The key to a successful conference is all the preparatory work and once again we are indebted to Joyce Mackley, the LEA's Religious Education Consultant, for all her time and effort. I always enjoy the annual conference, in particular the opportunity it presents for meeting RE teachers and I am sure that bringing so many of our teachers together to share experiences for the day is in itself valuable.

The Anne Frank Exhibition in October more than lived up to everyone's expectations and I am delighted that so many schools visited and participated in the workshops. It provided a reminder to us that although the Second World War may seem a long time ago, we forget some of its lessons all too easily. Prejudice and racism are too prevalent not just around the world but often within our society back home and we need to be aware of it and be prepared to stand up and be counted when necessary.

SACRE took an important step forward in July by agreeing to seek a wider representation from other faith groups in Herefordshire to serve SACRE on Committee A. While statistically Herefordshire may have a small number of 'other faiths', it was agreed that they should be represented and we intend to move this initiative forward in 2004, which will bring us into line with other SACREs around the Country.

County of Herefordshire District Council
P.O. Box 240, HEREFORD. HR1 1ZT
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Councillor J. Stone, Brimfield Lodge, Brimfield, LUDLOW, Shropshire. SY8 4ND
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I continue to be impressed with the standard of RE in our schools and this is reflected in the vast majority of Ofsted reports. It was also reflected in another very good GCSE performance with 68% of pupils entered for a full GCSE in Religious Studies achieving A– C grades. I wrote in September on behalf of SACRE to all 103 head teachers thanking them for all that is being achieved.

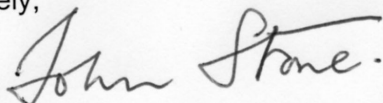
There continues to be concern however, that Ofsted inspections often gloss over RE in their reports and for this reason we have taken an initiative to gather our own local information. Mike Carter a former Inspector and Headteacher, has visited a number of schools and will be giving a report next year. We are not trying to increase the inspection regime or add to anyone's workload, but to provide SACRE with more information than is often provided by Ofsted, so that we can work even more closely with our schools.

The work carried out by Kate Mayglothling and her working group on Key Stage 3 is much appreciated and I hope will enhance RE for this vital age group. The termly RE teachers meetings have also been very useful and keep people in touch.

My thanks to Ted St. George, Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance and to Joyce Mackley for all that they contribute to SACRE. I am also grateful to Paul James for preparing the documentation and for minuting all SACRE meetings in such a professional way. I am grateful also to Councillor Don Rule, Cabinet Member (Education), for the interest he takes in SACRE.

Finally, many thanks to all who teach RE in Herefordshire schools for their dedication and enthusiasm and for maintaining consistently high standards. They help their students to understand an increasingly diverse and complex society and I can assure them of SACRE's support and good wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR JOHN STONE
CHAIRMAN OF SACRE

County of Herefordshire District Council
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Herefordshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

ANNUAL REPORT 2002/2003

Following Local Government Reorganisation in 1998, this is the fifth full Annual Report of the Herefordshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) which provides information about Herefordshire SACREs current constitution, the membership and its deliberations during the academic year comprising the period September 2002 to July 2003, as required by Section 391 (6) of the Education Act 1996.

Function of SACRE

SACRE's main function, as set out in the Education Act 1996, is:-

“To advise the local education authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit”

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Under Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 The Herefordshire Local Education Authority (the LEA) is required to set up a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

1.2 At the meeting of the Herefordshire Council's Education Committee held on 7th April 1998, the constitution of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) was approved.

A copy of the original constitution is attached at Appendix A. In accordance with SACRE's wish to encourage racial harmony and promote inter-faith dialogue, the Constitution will be amended to provide for further representatives to be appointed to Committee A (Other Faiths).

1.3 At the meeting of the Education Committee held on 26th June 1998, the membership of the Herefordshire SACRE was endorsed.

Since the last annual report the following membership changes have taken place:

Following the retirement of Mr T. Jenkins, Reverend I. Terry, Church of England Diocesan Director of Education has been appointed to Committee B.

Following the local elections the new Councillor representatives on Committee D are Councillor Mrs W.U. Attfield and Councillor P. E. Harling (the former Chairman of SACRE). Councillor J. Stone continues as Chairman.

Due to her work commitments with Cardiff Archdiocese, Sister Margaret Gallagher reluctantly felt unable to continue on SACRE. Father Martin Donnelly has replaced her on Committee A.

Mrs R. Privett had been appointed to a new teaching post out of the County and has resigned. A vacancy currently exists on Committee C.

A list of the current membership is attached at Appendix B.

1.4 Since the last Annual Report, SACRE have met on the following occasions:-

6th December, 2002
18th March, 2003
1st July, 2003

Further meetings are scheduled to take place at the Herefordshire Council's offices at Brockington, Hafod Road, Hereford on:

2nd December, 2003
23rd March, 2004

- 1.5 The Local Education Authority (LEA) serves an area with a mixed urban and rural economy where small schools and geographical isolation are a common feature. There are 103 school settings with a school population of approximately 23,500. However, the school population in primary schools is declining with a drop of 1,000 pupils forecast over the next five years. On the Government's ranking of social deprivation Herefordshire is close to the average of all authorities. The County's economy has a limited industrial and technological base.

2. MAIN SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

2.1 Presentations

As part of SACRE's wish to understand the wider religious view, particularly from faiths not directly represented, SACRE received two extremely informative presentations from the following:

The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'is of Hereford – spoke about and discussed the practices and beliefs of the Bahá'i Faith.

"Growing up and living as a Sikh" – a trainee teacher from the Marches Consortium gave a talk on her personal experience of growing up and living as a Sikh.

2.2 The Anne Frank Community Exhibition 2003

SACRE have received a number of update reports on the Herefordshire Anne Frank Exhibition held at the Hereford Cathedral. The Exhibition provided information on the life of Anne Frank and was intended to combat prejudice and racism by inspiring compassion, tolerance and justice.

Limited finance had been found within the current SACRE budget to support the production of information packs for schools.

2.3 Recent Section 10 Ofsted Inspections

SACRE received a number of reports on the outcome of recent Ofsted Section 10 inspections of Herefordshire schools with regard to pupils' attainment in Religious Education. These are further reported in section 4.

2.4 Section 23 Inspections

SACRE have also received information produced by the Hereford Diocesan Board of Education on Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools following their Section 23 inspections. These are further reported in section 5.

2.5 Herefordshire SACRE Annual Conference

SACRE were kept informed of the organisation of the Annual Conference held at the Hedley Lodge, Belmont, Hereford on Monday 22nd September 2003. This year's Conference focused on Learning about and learning from different faiths – educating for religious diversity. This is further reported in section 6.

2.6 Evaluating Religious Education

SACRE discussed various methods of evaluating RE in schools including undertaking a sample evaluation by questionnaire; by introducing voluntary visitors along similar lines to the 'Bishop's visitor' in the Diocese of Gloucester, or by RE advisor visits. It was noted that each had cost or time implications. SACRE decided to explore further the compilation of a short questionnaire based interview with selected schools together with a sample of schools to be visited by a consultant.

2.7 Response to written public questions.

No written questions from members of the public were received during the reporting period.

2.8 GSUS LIVE

SACRE were informed that the "GSUS Live" trailer would be visiting the County. The facility was made available to Secondary Schools through local churches and other groups committed to providing Christian

resources in education. The trailer was a purpose-built mobile classroom which introduced Jesus' teaching on the themes of Fear, Forgiveness and Rejection.

2.9 Termly Teachers Meetings

SACRE were informed that termly teachers meetings continue to take place. Recent meetings had received very informative presentations on:

- Using ICT in RE;
- Approaches to teaching about the Harvest in primary school;
- RE and Special Educational Needs;
- Growing up and living as a Sikh.

2.10 QCA SACRE Conference

SACRE received an informative presentation by the Consultant for RE following her attendance at the SACRE QCA conference.

A number of issues were debated arising from the conference, including whether SACREs should be more inclusive and the omission of SACREs from Ofsted inspections of LEAs.

2.11 Collective Worship in Herefordshire Schools

It was reported that some funding had been made available from the LEA to undertake the further development of Collective Worship Guidance for schools. Work would now commence on the third of the Group's tasks namely to gather together a working group to draft up the guidance. It was expected that draft guidance would be presented to SACRE by Autumn 2004.

2.12 Annual INSET Training Programme

SACRE considered the programme of INSET training and suggested that a follow up RE Special Education Needs (SEN) course be added to the programme.

2.13 Values Education

SACRE received an informative presentation by Bridget Knight, General Inspector with the LEA on Values Education.

She explained that the purpose of Values Education was to:

- help the school and the community think

about and reflect upon positive universal values and the practical implications of expressing them in relation to themselves, others, the community and the world and;

- to inspire individuals to choose their own personal, social, moral and spiritual values and be aware of ways of developing and deepening them as citizens of the world.

SACRE considered that this subject could be linked to citizenship at next year's SACRE Conference. A further report will be made to a future meeting.

2.14 Religions in Herefordshire

Following the release by the Office for National Statistics of the 2001 Census information, SACRE received details of the range of religions present in the County. While statistically Herefordshire had a small number of 'Other Faiths', SACRE considered the wider-faith communities represented in the County as a whole. SACRE agreed that it should lead by example and encourage racial harmony and promote inter-faith dialogue. The LEA have therefore been requested to seek accredited representatives from other faith groups in Herefordshire to serve SACRE on Committee A or as Co-opted representatives.

2.15 ACTS:2 (A Christian Team in Schools)

SACRE received an update report on the work of ACTS:2. It was noted that the Team had had a busy year working to promote and support Collective Worship in schools in Herefordshire. However, due to the high current demand and a shortage of trained team members, a number of visits to schools were currently on hold as the Team were unable to visit all the schools that had expressed an interest.

2.16 KS3 Project Update

KS3 (key stage 3) project work would be piloted by a number of secondary schools during the summer term 2003. The project work included lesson plans and material relevant to the lesson. The intention was that all secondary schools would receive a copy of the project with a video of believer's testimonies and a cassette of relevant music to accompany the project.

3. NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SYLLABUS

- 3.1 Having been accepted for adoption by the Local Education Authority, Herefordshire schools started using the new Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education at the commencement of the Autumn term 2001.
- 3.2 Further work on specific areas of Non-statutory Guidance, e.g. Special Needs and Religious Education, have been undertaken and this has been submitted to the Local Education Authority.
- 3.3 The SACRE Development Plan 2001-2004 proposed that a formal study be undertaken during Spring/Summer 2003 into the impact of the Revised Agreed Syllabus and non-statutory guidance. SACRE debated what form the study should take, being conscious of the time commitments and costs involved. A draft questionnaire was considered and following minor amendment was approved for distribution by the LEA during the Spring Term 2003. The initial findings of this questionnaire seemed to indicate a broad agreement that the revised Agreed Syllabus had been effective in raising standards and expectations in RE. The final report on the findings is expected to be reported to SACRE in December 2003.

4 OFSTED SECTION 10 INSPECTIONS

- 4.1 Section 10 Inspections, carried out by Ofsted, include, the inspection of Religious Education (RE), Collective Worship (CW) and the Spiritual, moral social and cultural education of pupils (SMSC) in County schools. It involves the inspection of RE and SMSC in Voluntary Controlled schools, but only SMSC in Voluntary Aided Schools.
- 4.2 Mr. T. St. George, Head of Inspection, Advice & School Performance, has presented further reports to SACRE on recent Ofsted Section 10 inspections of Herefordshire schools with regard to pupils' attainment in Religious Education.
- 4.3 During this reporting period, SACRE have considered reports on 18 Primary, 1 Junior, 1 Special and 2 High schools, which describe a predominantly positive view of the state of RE teaching within the County. The minor issues highlighted by the inspection reports have been considered by SACRE and referred to the LEA for action or for further consideration when planning future resource allocation.
- 4.4 During the period of this report some schools received a "short inspection" Ofsted report in which not every subject was inspected. Whilst this has been generally welcomed by schools and education authorities, it has resulted in a reduction in the

number of published reports where there was a judgement made about standards and quality in RE.

- 4.5 The Chairman continues to write to those schools on which reports have been received to convey the views of SACRE on the result of the schools' RE Ofsted inspections to either affirm good practice or offer support in meeting key issues. In view of the number of Schools that had been reported upon in recent years the Chairman, on behalf of SACRE, wrote to all 103 school settings to thank them for what had been achieved in terms of the standards in Religious Education across schools in Herefordshire.

5 OFSTED SECTION 23 INSPECTIONS

- 5.1 Section 23 Inspections look at Collective Worship (CW) and Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural education of pupils (SMSC) in Voluntary Controlled Schools and look at Religious Education (RE), CW and SMSC in Voluntary Aided Schools. While Section 23 reports do not officially come within SACRE's brief there are sensible overlaps between SMSC and CW and it is important to see schools as a whole.
- 5.2 Therefore, with the approval of the Diocesan Authorities, a number of Section 23 inspection reports have also been considered. Recommendations identified in Section 23 inspection reports indicate key issues for Governors and staff to consider.

6 TRAINING

- 6.1 The SACRE Annual Conference 2003 was held on Monday 22nd September at Hadley Lodge, Belmont. The Conference was attended by approximately 39 schools in the County, several school governors, members of SACRE and the Local Education Authority, and provided an excellent opportunity for Herefordshire RE teachers to hear national speakers. This year's Key Note Speaker was Clive Lawton who spoke on the theme of educating for religious diversity.

The day conference also included seminars led by members of six principal religions in Britain today and provided opportunities for teachers to reflect on how they could teach other people's faiths with integrity.

- 6.2 The SACRE Annual Conference also furthered the development of inter-personal networks that bring RE teachers together for subject development.
- 6.3 Termly teachers meetings are also being held and have been very positive events. These have been an excellent means for primary and secondary RE teachers to share good practice and discuss issues of common concern.
- 6.4 The LEA's Religious Education Consultant, Mrs. J. Mackley, from RE Today Professional Service team, has continued to take a major role in delivering In-service Education Training (INSET) within the LEA and has acted as advisor to many schools on a range of RE issues.
- 6.5 SACRE have discussed and commented on the programme of INSET training.
- 6.6 Members of SACRE have received information produced by a number of organisations, including QCA, and have received reports on national RE conferences. As part of the ongoing programme of member development, members have received a number of presentations on religious education issues. (Further reported at 2.1)

7 FINANCE

- 7.1 The LEA has established a base budget (£10,000) to fund the work of SACRE which included administration i.e. postage and printing, within the Education Directorate. This figure also included supply cover for teachers attending SACRE meetings and supporting SACRE related issues.

Funding was used from within the current SACRE budget to support the production of Anne Frank Exhibition information packs for schools.

The KS3 project also received limited funding to support its work.

- 7.2 Separate funding has been used to meet the cost of the work of the Religious Education Consultant (the County does not employ an RE advisor). The RE Consultant, Mrs Joyce Mackley, is contracted for up to 30 days per year on a daily basis.
- 7.3 The Council's budgetary system does not identify the additional cost incurred by officers of the Council who advise, administer or clerk the SACRE.

8 EXAMINATION RESULTS

- 8.1 For comparison purposes the previous year's statistics are shown in brackets.
- 8.2 In 2003 337 (290) pupils in Herefordshire were entered for a full GCSE in Religious Studies and the A*-C pass rate was 68.2% (65.2%). The A*-G pass rate was 90.8% (96.9%).
- 8.3 717 (720) pupils were entered for a short course GCSE in either Religious Studies or Religious Education. 48.4% (57.6%) achieved an A*-C pass, 93.0% (96.1%) achieved an A*-G pass.
- 8.4 The Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus, implemented in September 2001, encourages schools to enter pupils for externally accredited courses in Religious Education wherever possible.

9. STANDARDS IN RE

- 9.1 A number of matters have been commented upon by SACRE following consideration of individual school Ofsted reports and other subject specific reports. These comments have been noted by the LEA for consideration when future resource planning or funding is considered. However, no specific policy advice has been issued to the Local Education Authority on raising standards in RE.
- 9.2 No formal complaint has been received regarding Religious Education in Herefordshire schools.

10. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

10.1 The majority of Primary Schools are meeting the statutory requirements for Collective Worship although this still remains problematical at some High Schools.

10.2 In accordance with the SACRE Development Plan a Working Group has been established to address the issues and to support Religious Education and Collective Worship in the County and Diocesan schools.

SACRE acknowledged that schools already undertook a good deal of good practice in this area.

The Working Group have collated good examples of training materials for teachers and limited funding has been found to support the group in drafting a Herefordshire Worship Policy for schools. It is expected that draft guidance will be presented to SACRE by Autumn 2004.

10.3 Consideration of the developing relationship between the areas of SACRE concerning RE and Collective Worship, with other whole school related subjects and aspects of school life, with particular reference to Citizenship, PSHE and Values Development will be monitored through Ofsted and LEA review in accordance with the SACRE Development Plan.

10.4 No application for a determination under the Education Act 1996 has been made during this reporting period.

11. LINKS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

11.1 SACRE continues to develop its links with other agencies such as RE Today; through its membership of The National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE), and other local organisations. The RE Adviser, Mrs Joyce Mackley, provides consultancy to SACRE. Representatives have attended the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) SACRE conference. Valuable links continue to be established via the local Herefordshire SACRE Conference.

12. SACRE ARRANGEMENTS

12.1 The Head of Inspection, Advice and School Performance and the Religious Education Consultant attend SACRE meetings in

an advisory capacity. Meetings have been clerked and professionally serviced by representatives of the County Secretary and Solicitor for Herefordshire Council.

- 12.2 No members of the Public have attended meetings. This is disappointing given the availability of agendas at Council offices and public libraries and the notification of meetings via the Council's public notice of meetings.
- 12.3 Attendance at meetings by Members and Co-opted Members has been extremely good, particularly considering the distance, and other commitments, many of the Members and Co-opted Members have.
- 12.4 Agendas for SACRE meetings and a copy of this Annual report are available on the internet by visiting the Councils Web Site home page at www.herefordshire.gov.uk then using Councillors on the navigation bar then select Meetings. You are presented with a list of Council meetings from which you select SACRE.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONSTITUTION

Introduction

1. Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 requires The Herefordshire LEA to establish a permanent body, called a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), **to advise them on matters concerned with the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship.** This constitution sets out the main functions of the SACRE membership, the voting arrangements and the rules for the conduct of business.
2. SACRE's main function is to advise the LEA upon matters connected with religious worship in County Schools and with the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the LEA may refer to the SACRE or as the LEA may see fit.
3. SACRE can also require the LEA to review its current agreed syllabus, and must consider applications made by a headteacher that the requirement for collective worship in County Schools to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character shall not apply to the collective worship provided for some or all of the pupils at that particular school.
4. The broad role of SACRE, therefore, is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and collective worship in schools.

Membership

5. Under Section 390(4) of the Education Act 1996, the SACRE must include persons appointed by the LEA to represent respectively -
 - A. such Christian denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions as, in the opinion of the LEA, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area (not including persons to represent the Church of England);
 - B. the Church of England;
 - C. such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the LEA, ought, having regard to the circumstances of the area, to be represented;
 - D. the Local Education Authority (LEA)
6. The SACRE may also include co-opted members.
7. In accordance with the requirements of Section 390(4), the membership of the SACRE for Herefordshire comprises -

Group (A)	One Roman Catholic representative (nominated by the Roman Catholic hierarchy)
	One Free Church representative (nominated by Churches together in Herefordshire)
	One representative of other faiths
Group (B)	Three Church of England representatives (nominated in consultation with the Diocesan Education Authority)

- Group (C) Three Teachers' representatives, with one drawn from each of the primary, secondary and special education sectors (nominated through recommendation of recognised Teacher Associations) and one Co-opted Member
- Group (D) Three Herefordshire Council members as Local Education Authority representatives

8. The number of members appointed to any representative group to represent each denomination or religion required to be represented shall, so far as is consistent with the efficient discharge of the group's function, reflect broadly the proportionate strength of that denomination or religion in the County.
9. The members of SACRE, who have not been co-opted themselves, may co-opt a person, and a person so co-opted shall hold office on such terms as may be determined by the members co-opting them. When considering using their powers of co-option, the members of SACRE should bear in mind the range of Christian denominations and world faiths in the County.
10. Any member of SACRE may at any time resign his/her office.
11. Any member of SACRE unable to attend a meeting may appoint a named substitute to attend in his/her place.

Voting Arrangements

12. On any question to be decided by SACRE, only the representative groups on SACRE shall be entitled to vote, and each such group shall have a single vote.

Conduct of Business

13. Subject to the requirement of the voting arrangements above, SACRE and, in relation to any question falling to be decided by members of SACRE of any particular category, the members of that category may regulate their own proceedings.
14. The validity of proceedings of SACRE or of the members of SACRE of any particular category shall not be affected:-
 - (a) by a vacancy in the office of any member of SACRE required by Section 390(4); or
 - (b) on the ground that a member of SACRE appointed to represent any religion, denomination or association does not at the time of the proceedings represent the denomination or associations in question.
15. The representative groups on SACRE, other than that consisting of persons appointed to represent the LEA, may at any time require a review of any agreed syllabus for the time being adopted by The Herefordshire Council.
16. Meetings of SACRE may be convened at the request of the Chairman or any one of the Groups.
17. No business shall be transacted at the meeting unless all representative groups are represented at that meeting.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman

18. The Chairman of SACRE is appointed by The Herefordshire Council. In the absence of the Chairman from a meeting, a Chairman pro tem shall be appointed from amongst the LEA representatives there present.

Secretary

19. The Director of Support Services of The Herefordshire Council shall be the Secretary of SACRE.

Rights of Press and Public to attend meetings

20. In accordance with the statutory requirements of the Education Act 1996 and associated regulations, the press and public will be entitled to attend meetings of the Council, but may be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of items containing information capable of being treated as exempt information if meetings of SACRE were meetings of a local Authority. At the beginning of each meeting, for up to half an hour, members of the public will have an opportunity to receive answers to any pre-received written questions they have submitted to the Secretary.

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING ADVISORY
COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The constitution of SACRE was formally approved by the Education Committee in April 1998. To reflect recent changes it will be amended to provide for further representatives to be appointed to Committee A (Other Faiths). The composition of SACRE is as follows:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 390(4), the membership of the SACRE for Herefordshire comprises -

Group (A)	One Roman Catholic representative (nominated by the Roman Catholic hierarchy) One Free Church representative (nominated by Churches together in Herefordshire) One representative of other faiths
Group (B)	Three Church of England representatives (nominated in consultation with the Diocesan Education Authority)
Group (C)	Three Teachers' representatives, with one drawn from each of the primary, secondary and special education sectors (nominated through recommendation of recognised Teacher Associations) and one Co-opted Member
Group (D)	Three Herefordshire Council members as Local Education Authority representatives

THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE (as at 31st July 2003)

- Group (A): Father M. Donnelly, Mrs. A. Mundy, Mr. M. Rollnick.
- Group (B): Rev. P. Barlow, Mr. J. Rendall, Rev I Terry
- Group (C): Mrs. J. Brown, Dr. M. Goodman, 1 vacancy,
- Group (D): Cllr Mrs W.U. Attfield, Cllr. P.E. Harling, Cllr. J. Stone.
- Co-opted member: Ms. K. Mayglothing
- Co-opted member for the Academic Community: Mrs. G. Morris.
- Further representatives are to be appointed to serve on Group A "Other Faiths". Representatives from other belief systems may be considered for co-option.

**Herefordshire
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
(S.A.C.R.E.)**

Development Plan 2001-2004

Mission Statement:

**To assist schools to raise standards in Religious Education and
Collective worship by
providing high quality, informed advice to the Herefordshire
LEA.**

Key Functions of SACRE

- ◆ advising the LEA on matters connected with RE and Collective Worship;
- ◆ advising on
 - methods of teaching
 - choice of materials
 - provision of teacher training
- ◆ dealing with applications from head teachers of county schools for a total or partial exemption from providing Christian worship. Criteria for such 'determinations' relating to family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of pupils.
- ◆ requiring the review of the Agreed Syllabus for RE adopted by the LEA.
- ◆ publishing an annual report of its work and sending it to the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)

The functions of SACRE - Extract from Circular 1/94

- ◆ 'To advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit'
 - in addition SACRE can
 - require the council to review its agreed syllabus
 - consider application made by headteachers that the requirement for collective worship shall not apply (determinations)
- ◆ support the effective provision of RE and collective worship in schools
 - LEA should work with SACRE to *review the existing provision for RE*
 - consider with SACRE *whether changes need to be made in the Agreed Syllabus or in the support offered to schools*
 - LEA should work with SACRE *to monitor collective worship*
 - and consider *what action is needed to improve such provision.*
- ◆ 1988 act identifies the following matters which the LEA should refer to SACRE
 - *methods of teaching*
 - *choice of teaching material*
 - *provision of teacher training*
- ◆ SACRE may offer other advice relating to its function. It is not statutory – but schools should give careful consideration to such advice offered.

SACRE should send such advice on RE or Collective worship to schools, including GM schools, free of charge.

- ◆ LEA required to keep SACRE fully informed – including information following inspection. SACRE has to obtain the report. LEA's are requested to pass on lists of schools due for inspection.
- ◆ Each SACRE must publish an annual report

SACRE Development Plan 2001-2004

Target	Action	Timescale	Responsibility:	Resource implications	Monitoring and evaluation
<p><i>To support and monitor teaching and learning in RE</i></p> <p>1.1 To advise the authority on inset requirements relating to RE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual programme of inset provided in partnership with Hereford Diocese ◆ Offer school based support and training for RE ◆ Analysis of school inspection reports ◆ To provide an annual SACRE day conference ◆ To undertake a formal study of the impact of the revised agreed syllabus <p>Termly meeting for RE subject leaders (co-ordinators/HoD's).</p>	<p>Annually – Autumn term SACRE meeting.</p> <p>As required.</p> <p>Termly SACRE meetings</p> <p>Annual trend analysis.</p> <p>Annually.</p> <p>Spring/Summer 2003.</p> <p>Termly from Autumn 2001.</p>	<p>RE consultant in liaison with Ted St George</p> <p>Ted St George/RE consultant/ AST's</p> <p>Ted St George</p> <p>RE consultant</p> <p>RE consultant</p> <p>RE consultant /AST</p>	<p>Annual SACRE budget</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of all functions described on this development plan will be by means of reports made to SACRE. These are to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ofsted inspection reports ◆ Inservice evaluation comments ◆ Consultants visits to schools ◆ Diocesan Boards of Education (C of E and RC) ◆ Officers reports ◆ Course evaluation comments

<p><i>To monitor and support collective worship in county schools</i></p>	<p>To consider whether guidance should be issued to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft worship policy for schools - Guidelines for worship in county schools - Definition of worship - Links with spiritual development - Whole school/class worship support materials - In service training - SACRE visits to schools to observe Collective Worship <p>SACRE conference focus collective worship and spiritual development.</p>	<p>Spring/Summer 2002 (Working group).</p> <p>Published Sept 2002 SACRE conference.</p>	<p>SACRE with Jonathan Rendall, Joyce Mackley and collective worship working party</p>	<p>Working party costs Publication costs</p>
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Target	Action	Timescale	Responsibility:	Resource implications	Monitoring and evaluation
<p>To review the Agreed Syllabus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Revised Agreed Syllabus implemented. ◆ To undertake a formal study of the impact of the revised agreed syllabus and non-statutory guidance implemented from September 2001. 	<p>From September 2001. Spring/Summer 2003.</p>	<p>Schools RE consultant and AST</p>		

<p>To work in partnership with schools, the faith communities and the LEA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To participate (if appropriate) in the development of the 3 year Educational Development plan (2002-2005), and to participate in the annual review of this Plan. ◆ To advise the LEA on support required by schools on light of inspection findings. ◆ To continue a programme of presentations to SACRE by teachers exemplifying good practice. ◆ To encourage the active partnership of faith communities. ◆ To use the QCA format for the Herefordshire SACRE report. 	<p>Autumn 2001 and Autumn annually thereafter.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>At least annually.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Autumn annually.</p>	<p>Ted St George</p> <p>Ted St George to write to schools; RE consultant to offer support</p> <p>SACRE members to advise</p> <p>SACRE to advise</p> <p>Clerk to SACRE</p>	<p>Publication costs</p>
<p>To prepare annual report</p>				

Target	Action	Timescale	Responsibility:	Resource implications	Monitoring and evaluation
<p>To liaise with national bodies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ NASACRE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to support and disseminate the work of NASACRE in raising issues relating to RE & CW at National level. ◆ QCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to communicate matters relating to RE & CW - to respond to requests for information - to submit annual report - to receive report of annual QCA/SACRE conference. ◆ DfEE/ TTA / OFSTED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To draw on developments relating to RE and Collective Worship and debate implications. 	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Spring SACRE meeting annually.</p>	<p>SACRE members + RE consultant</p>		

<p>To consider the developing relationship between RE and collective worship with other related subjects and aspects of school life with particular reference to Citizenship/PSHE/Values development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ SACRE monitoring through OFSTED and LEA review ◆ Attention to this aspect through annual conference. 	<p>Ongoing.</p>	<p>LEA officer</p>		
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If you require further information please contact Mr. P. R. James, Committee Administrator, on (01432) 260460 or pjames@herefordshire.gov.uk Published by Members' Services, Herefordshire Council, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford. HR1 1ZT

