

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015 AT 5.30 PM
COMMITTEE ROOM 3, CAMDEN TOWN HALL, JUDD STREET, LONDON WC1H
9JE

Enquiries to: **Vinothan Sangarapillai, Committee
Services**
E-Mail: **vinothan.sangarapillai@camden.gov.uk**
Telephone: **020 7974 4071 (Text phone prefix 18001)**
Fax No: **020 7974 5921**

MEMBERS

PANEL A – CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Ms. Jean Harrison (Camden Free Church, Baptist), Dr. Lynndy Levin (Jewish), Rev. B. Ananda Mangala (Buddhist), Mr. Abdul Quadir (Muslim), Mr. Peter Ward (Roman Catholic), Ms. Krishna Pujara (Hindu), Ms Alice Fuller (Humanist), Ms Shahanaz Begum (Muslim) +1 vacancy for Sikh representative.

PANEL B – THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Ms. Liz Wolverson, Mr. Peter Ginnings, Rev.Dr. James Walters , Ms A Szewczyk-Radley, Rev C. Cawse + 1 vacancy

PANEL C – TEACHERS

Ms. Lynne Trigg, Ms Tracy Edwards, Ms Michelle Chalibamba, Ms Sinead Whelan, Mr Gerry Cohen + 1 vacancy

PANEL D – CAMDEN LOCAL AUTHORITY

Councillors Julian Fulbrook (L), Heather Johnson (L), Oliver Lewis (L), Phil Rosenberg (L), Leila Roy (C), Paul Tomlinson (L), Don Williams (C)

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 14 OCTOBER 2015

THERE ARE NO PART II REPORTS

AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

To elect a Chair of Camden SACRE for the 2015-16 academic year.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect a Vice-Chair of Camden SACRE for the 2015-16 academic year.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

6. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

7. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pages 5 - 8)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2015.

8. UPDATE ON DETERMINATIONS

(Pages 9 - 32)

- (i) To consider an application for a Determination from Primrose Hill Primary school.
- (ii) To note the list of schools with Determinations and their expiry date.

9. DRAFT SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

To consider a draft of Camden SACRE's annual report for 2014-15.

10. CAMDEN FAITH LEADERS FORUM MEETING HELD ON 29TH JUNE 2015

To consider a verbal update from Rev. Dr. Jim Walters on the Faith Leaders Forum meeting.

11. SUPPORT NETWORKS FOR RE TEACHERS

To consider a verbal update from Tracy Edwards on support networks for RE teachers.

12. CAMDEN/ISLINGTON JOINT SACRE CONFERENCE

13. NASACRE UPDATE

To receive a verbal update on NASACRE from the Professional Advisor to Camden SACRE.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings of Camden SACRE will be on:

- Tuesday, 9th February 2016
- Tuesday, 10th May 2016

AGENDA ENDS

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** held on **TUESDAY, 2ND JUNE, 2015** at 5.30 pm in the Room 1, Training & Development Centre, 2nd floor, Crowndale Centre, 218-220 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1BD

MEMBERS PRESENT

Panel A: Christian and other denominations

Rev B. Ananda Mangala	Buddhist
Abdul Quadir (Vice-Chair)	Muslim

Panel B: The Church of England

Liz Wolverson
Peter Ginnings

Panel C Teachers

Tracey Edwards
Michelle Chalibamba

Panel D Camden Local Authority

Councillor Julian Fulbrook

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Leila Roy, Maryam Eslamdoust, Oliver Lewis and Phil Rosenberg and from Jim Waters, Lynne Trigg, Lynndy Levin, Alice Fuller, Shahanaz Begum and Jean Harrison.

2. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

SACRE members welcomed Gerry Cohen to the meeting and thanked him for his interest in serving as a teacher member of SACRE. It was agreed that he become a member of the committee, subject to the confirmation of his nomination as a teacher representative by his trade union (the NASUWT).

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2015.

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DETERMINATIONS

Consideration was given to the Determination requests from Torriano Infants, Torriano Juniors and Hampstead School in the agenda pack and to the supplementary information tabled from Primrose Hill School.

Torriano Infants

Members welcomed the information provided by the school. However, they said they were disappointed that the school had chosen not to consult parents as part of the process of applying for a Determination renewal. They agreed to renew its Determination.

Torriano Juniors

Members welcomed the information provided by the school. They agreed to renew its Determination.

Hampstead School

Members welcomed the information provided by the school. They also noted verbal comments from Michelle Chalibamba, who taught at the school, and Peter Ginnings, who had visited the school. They agreed to grant a Determination to the school.

Primrose Hill

Members noted the information provided by the school. However, there was some confusion about the content of assemblies, as the KS2 assembly list listed topics of a

religious nature whereas the timetable for assemblies had topics on social and moral development instead.

Members were of the view that, before considering a school's application, there should have been a visit to the school by the Professional Advisor and/or SACRE members. They noted that this might be difficult due to time or resource constraints. However, they thought that this would be helpful in cases such as Primrose Hill as there would then be able to be a report back to SACRE from those who visited to explain what the collective worship they had witnessed had been like and whether it had paid enough attention to religious and spiritual matters as well as the social, moral and cultural development of the children.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT a Determination be granted to Torriano Infants' School;
- (ii) THAT a Determination be granted to Torriano Juniors' School;
- (iii) THAT a Determination be granted to Hampstead School;
- (iv) THAT further consideration of the application from Primrose Hill School take place at a future meeting once a visit had taken place to the school.

**ACTION: Clerk to SACRE &
Professional Advisor to SACRE**

6. REPORT FROM NASACRE CONFERENCE

Lesley Prior, the Professional Advisor to SACRE, reported back on the NASACRE (National Association of SACREs) Conference which had taken place in Birmingham on 21st May. She had served as Chair of NASACRE and had now stepped down from that role but remained a member of the Executive. The new Chair of NASACRE was David Hampshire.

The keynote speaker at the NASCARE conference had been Charles Clarke. He was working with others to produce a booklet on the problems facing Religious Education. Members were advised that a podcast of his keynote address and links to presentations by other speakers could be seen at

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm>

As Camden was a member of NASACRE, Camden SACRE members could access the password-protected part of the website. The Clerk would email the username and password to SACRE members.

7. UPDATES FROM PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR TO SACRE

The Professional Advisor informed members that she was involved in the Expert Advisory Group on RE, which was aiming to provide non-statutory guidance on the subject. She had also given evidence, in a personal capacity, to the Commission on Religion & Faith in Public Life. She had said that the key issue for RE teaching was not the syllabus but how well-trained those delivering it were.

It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of teaching students who were opting to teach RE. However, it would take several years for this increase to have an impact 'at the chalkface'.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Dates of future meetings would be circulated to members following liaison between the Chair, Professional Advisor and Clerk.

ACTION: Clerk to SACRE

The meeting ended at 7pm

CHAIR

Contact Officer: Vinothan Sangarapillai

Telephone No: 020 7974 4071

E-Mail: vinothan.sangarapillai@camden.gov.uk

MINUTES END



APPLICATION TO CAMDEN SACRE FOR A DETERMINATION FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK ACT 1998

NAME OF SCHOOL: PRIMROSE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

DATE OF APPLICATION: September 2015

HEADTEACHER:

CONTACT NO & EMAIL:

Please provide an updated analysis of the religious affiliation of the pupils at your school.

Like many Camden schools Primrose Hill has an intake of pupils from a wide range of social, ethnic and religious backgrounds. We believe that collective worship in our school should reflect our school population, hence the reason for this application. We also believe collective worship should be about focusing on what is important and in celebrating and discussing aspects of life and to reflect upon these to make us better individuals, relevant to our community.

The school is diverse and inclusive. The figures below show how faiths are currently represented.

	2015-2016	
	Number	%
CHRISTIAN	89	20%
HINDU	7	1%
JEWISH	5	1%
MUSLIM	215	45%
SIKH	7	1%
BAHA'I		
BUDDHIST	7	1%
JAIN	0	
SHINTO	0	
ZOROASTRIAN	0	
HUMANIST	0	
NO RELIGION	60	15%
UNCLASSIFIED OR UNSPECIFIED	99	19%
OTHER	6%	1%

2. Please describe any circumstances relating to the application for a Determination which may have changed since a previous Determination was agreed (if any).

As a community school, we believe it is important that we share with the children an understanding of religious tolerance and an acceptance that there are many religions and belief systems in our world and each one must be valued and respected.

Our school is diverse and inclusive. Our children and their families are of many religions, including Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Sikh and several other faiths. There are also a number of families of no religion or whom are unclassified or have not informed us.

Every five years the school applies for a determination which allows us to reflect our population in our assemblies and curriculum; without this the Department for Education would require our assemblies and ethos to be based on Christian beliefs.

3. Before making an application to review a Determination, the Governing Body must have been consulted.

a) How did this take place?

The determination was discussed at the Governing Body Meeting in the Spring Term 2015. The chairs of committees have each been consulted and confirmed their wish that renewal be sought.

Views which Governors wished to convey to SACRE

Our daily assembly focus at Primrose Hill is based around giving children a broad experience of SMSC. We love the time to come together to talk about key information. We do make use of religious aspects in terms of stories, thoughts and experiences. We aim to create a varied experience for the children as a whole school, as a year group, phases and in class. We will also celebrate our achievements and reinforce the expectations of conduct and behaviour.

c) Did Governors exercise their right to consult with parents?

Yes.

If YES describe the nature and outcome of this consultation

A letter was sent out to parents and carers inviting comments. We had some questions regarding this in the playground, but these were not in opposition, more to enquire further about the process and to support the decision. In addition, the interim Head Teacher led a parent coffee morning and the focus for the discussion was about determination. The parents represented a cross section of the school community and all were in favour of the renewal.

4. It is for the Headteacher to decide what form the alternative worship will take, although SACRE should be informed of the proposed arrangements. Please attach:

a) The school's policy on collective worship –

b) The school's plan for collective worship indicating: organisational arrangements

i) themes/topics featured in the collective worship programme – this is outlined in the Assembly policy.

5. Who will be representing the school at the SACRE meeting when the application for renewal of the Determination is to be considered (if anyone)?

No one.

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DATE OF APPLICATION: JUNE 2015

HEADTEACHER:

CONTACT NO & EMAIL:

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The school is diverse and inclusive. The figures below show how faiths are currently represented. As I am new to the school, I have been unable to locate previous figures when the original determination was granted.

	2015	
	Number	%
CHRISTIAN	96	20%
HINDU	5	1%
JEWISH	5	1%
MUSLIM	215	44%
SIKH	5	1%
BAHA'I		
BUDDHIST	5	1%
JAIN	0	
SHINTO	0	
ZOROASTRIAN	0	
HUMANIST	0	
NO RELIGION	66	14%
UNCLASSIFIED OR UNSPECIFIED	92	17%
OTHER	6%	1%

2. Please describe any circumstances relating to the application for a Determination which may have changed since a previous Determination was agreed (if any).

As a community school, we believe it is important that we share with the children an understanding of religious tolerance and an acceptance that there are many religions and belief systems in our world and each one must be valued and respected.

Our school is diverse and inclusive. Our children and their families are of many religions, including Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Sikh and several other faiths. There are also a number of families of no religion or whom are unclassified or have not informed us.

Every five years the school applies for a determination which allows us to reflect our population in our assemblies and curriculum; without this the Department for Education would require our assemblies and ethos to be based on Christian beliefs.

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c) Did Governors exercise their right to consult with parents?

Yes.

d) If YES describe the nature and outcome of this consultation

A letter was sent out to parents and carers inviting comments. We had some questions regarding this in the playground, but these were not in opposition, more to enquire further about the process and to support the decision. In addition, the interim Head Teacher led a parent coffee morning and the focus for the discussion was about determination. The parents represented a cross section of the school community and all were in favour of the renewal.

4. It is for the Headteacher to decide what form the alternative worship will take, although SACRE should be informed of the proposed arrangements. Please attach:

- a) The school's policy on collective worship –
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- i) themes/topics featured in the collective worship programme – this is outlined in the Assembly policy.

5. Who will be representing the school at the SACRE meeting when the application for renewal of the Determination is to be considered (if anyone)?

No one.

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Primrose Hill Primary School

Princess Road, Regent's Park, London NW1 8JL

Telephone : 020 7722 8500

e-mail : admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk

Headteacher: Sue Ladipo

25th February 2015

Dear parents/ carers,

Consultation

As a community school, we believe it is important that we share with the children an understanding of religious tolerance and an acceptance that there are many religions and belief systems in our world and each one must be valued and respected.

Our school is diverse and inclusive. Our children and their families are of many religions, including Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Sikh and several other faiths. There are also a number of families of no religion.

Every five years the school applies for a determination which allows us to reflect our population in our assemblies and curriculum; without this the Department for Education would require our assemblies and ethos to be based on Christian beliefs. This determination has now expired.

The governing body has asked me to write to you to let you know that we would like to continue this broad and balanced coverage in our assemblies, including a wide range of beliefs and ideas. This means that we wish to renew our determination. We will do this by applying to The London Diocesan Board Adviser for Religious Education in Community Schools (SACRE).

If you have any concerns or questions at all then please feel free to come and see me or email the school: admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk. Please put SACRE in the title and it will be sent directly to me.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Ladipo
Interim headteacher



Primrose Hill Primary School

Assembly policy

(Collective worship)

What is the purpose of this policy?

This policy describes the aims, content and organisation of assemblies at Primrose Hill School.

What does collective worship mean at Primrose Hill and what are the connections between collective worship and religious education (RE)?

At Primrose Hill we define collective worship as a time when members of the school community come together to collectively give value to a variety of spiritual, moral social and cultural ideas. Our aim is to encourage all our children to recognize and celebrate the diversity in our community, and also to see the many commonalities in different religious beliefs and practices and what it is to be human..

Opportunities for worship come about through moments of quiet reflection and contemplation. During these moments children are given the opportunity to silently give thanks or praise. In this way children of any faith, and those with no faith, can take the opportunity to worship, or not, as the case may be.

The aims of assemblies:

1. To promote the overall aims and values of the school as agreed by governors. These aims are displayed prominently around the school and inform all our work.
2. To promote pupils' sense of being a member of the community of Primrose Hill School.

3. To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Assemblies should:-

- provide pupils with the knowledge and insight into values and beliefs enabling them to reflect on their experiences in a way that develops their spiritual awareness and self-knowledge, (spiritual)
 - teach the principles which distinguish right from wrong, (moral)
 - encourage pupils to relate positively to others, take responsibility, participate fully in the community and develop an understanding of citizenship, (social)
 - teach pupils to appreciate their own cultural traditions and the diversity and richness of other cultures. (cultural)
4. To develop pupils' personal qualities including their self-esteem, their sense of identity, their appreciation of awe and wonder, their openness and tolerance, and their ability to reflect on these qualities and other aspects of life's fundamental experiences.
5. To promote the school's commitment to equality of opportunity by celebrating, giving value to and learning about different ethnic and faith groups, in particular those represented within the school community.
6. To promote pupils' understanding of the cycle of the year through the exploration of the annual cycle of nature and the annual cycle of religious and non-religious celebrations.
7. To promote pupils' moral development by exploring values and qualities that can be supported by both members of faith communities and by those who are not members of a faith community.

How are assemblies organised at Primrose Hill?

Children in all classes (except the nursery) take part in an act of collective worship/reflection each day. Primrose Hill is a large school so we are able to arrange two whole school assemblies each week. There are separate assemblies for key phases.

Do children have to attend assemblies?

We encourage all children to attend assemblies, and this has never been an issue. If parents and carers wish to withdraw their child, they can after discussion with the Head Teacher.

June 2015

Primrose Hill Primary School

Assembly timetable

Monday	10.15 Whole School assembly with a PSMSC Focus 9.15 EYFS singing assembly with parents
Tuesday	3.00 - Phase 1 PHSCE (SEAL) assembly 12.10: Phase 2 and 3 music assembly
Wednesday	Phase 1 singing assembly 3pm Phase 3: Circle time Phase 2 Assembly PHSCE (SEAL) themes
Thursday	Phase 2 Circle Phase 3 assembly
Friday	10.15 Whole School celebration assembly with an achievement focus

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Time table of whole school assemblies
September 14 – July 15

Week commencing	Theme of the week	Achievement	Phase assemblies	Music and singing (See assembly policy for timetable)
01.09.14	Welcome back/working together	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
08.09.14	The power of art/illustration (Charlie)	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
15.09.14	The wonder of Space	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
22.09.14	Guess how much I love you (Value)	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
29.09.14	Anthony Getting on and falling out Brown – reading the pictures (emotion)	See smart file See smart file		Phase EYFS 1, 2 and 3 separately
06.10.14	Alyssa Monks – realism with meaning (spiritual)	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
13.10.14	Playing together- Getting on and falling out	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
20.10.14	Playground games - Getting on and falling out	See smart file	Keeping safe on bonfire night	Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
Half term				
03.11.14	Playground games/taking turns Getting on and falling out	See smart file	Primrose hill passports	Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
10.11.14	Jacks (History of games) Getting on and falling out	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately

17.11.14	Speed stack (being competitive) Getting on and falling out	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
24.11.14	Marbles - Getting on and falling out	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
01.12.14	Skipping - Getting on and falling out Phase 1, 2 and 3 separately	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
08.12.14	Advent – the value of waiting	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
15.12.14	Preparing for Christmas	Head teacher leaving assembly		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
Christmas holidays				
05.01.15	Resolutions – liked to the needs of others	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
12.01.15	Wants and Needs	See smart file	List of magic – presentation/caring for our work	
19.01.15	World Religion Day	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
26.01.15	Holocaust memorial Day	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
02.02.15	Candlemas – the symbolism of light	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
09.02.15	The story of Buddhism	Leaving assembly – Jan (after 26 years)		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
Half Term				
23.02.15	World Book day prep - Why is reading important	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
02.03.15	Expectations of ourselves and others	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately

09.03.15	Eco warriors Code	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
16.03.15	Empathy – putting yourself in other people’s shoes	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
23.03.15	World Water Day- Water aid clip “Water Walk”	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
30.03.15	Education “the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”	See smart file		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
EASTER HOLIDAY				
21.04.15	Introduction to new HT	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
27.04.15	Friendship – what can we do for people who need us	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
04.05.15 Bank Holiday		See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
11.05.15	Friendship – qualities of appreciation	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
18.05.15	Austin’s Butterfly – making improvements to our work	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
<u>Half Term</u>				
01.6.15	Best of British – beginning project about being British	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
09.06.15	Democracy	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
15.06.15	The Rule of Law	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
22.06.15	Individual Liberty	See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately

29.06.15	Tolerance		See Assemblies File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
<u>06.07.15</u>	End of Year Celebration		See Assemblies File		<u>Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately</u>

Time table of whole school assemblies
September 15 – Oct 15

Week commencing	Theme of the week	Achievement	Phase assemblies	Music and singing (See assembly policy for timetable)
02.09.14	New Beginnings	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
07.09.14	How School Helps You	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
14.09.14	Rosh Hashanah	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
21.09.14	Eid Al Adha	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
28.09.14	Difference is good	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS 1, 2 and 3 separately
05.10.14	Healthy Living in School	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
12.10.14	Hijra	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately
19.10.14	Promises	See Assembly File		Phase EYFS, 1, 2 and 3 separately

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Camden SACRE Determinations list

Schools with Determinations

School	Date Determination agreed	Date of expiry
Beckford	February 2011	February 2016
Rhyl	February 2011	February 2016
Swiss Cottage	February 2011	February 2016
Frank Barnes	February 2012	February 2017
Kingsgate	February 2012	February 2017
Christopher Hatton	June 2012	June 2017
Edith Neville	February 2013	February 2018
Brookfield	June 2013	June 2018
Eleanor Palmer	June 2014	June 2019
Gospel Oak	November 2014	November 2019
Torriano Infants	June 2015	June 2020
Torriano Juniors	June 2015	June 2020
Hampstead	June 2015	June 2020

Schools without Determinations

School	Details of past Determinations
Arygle	
Brecknock	Had Determination from 2009-14
Carlton	
Fitzjohn's	
Fleet	
Hawley Infants	
Netley	
New End	
Primrose Hill	Had Determination from 2009-14
Richard Cobden	
Acland Burghley	
Haverstock	Had Determination from 2006-11
Parliament Hill	
Regent High	Had Determination from 2009-14

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Camden Standing
Advisory Council on
Religious Education

Annual Report
2014-2015

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Introduction

1. Religious Education (RE)

1. Locally Agreed Syllabus
2. Standards in RE
3. Methods of Teaching, the Choice of Teaching Materials, Teacher Training
4. Complaints concerning RE

2. Collective Worship (CW)

1. Advice on Collective Worship
2. Determinations
3. Complaints concerning Collective Worship

3. Links with other Bodies

4. SACRE Arrangements

Appendices:

1. Membership of SACRE
2. Camden SACRE Guidance on Collective Worship

Introduction from the Chair of Camden SACRE

We live in times of heightened anxiety about religion and the impact that distorted forms of it may have in our schools. This year has seen new instructions from government to all schools about how religious identity must be understood within the promotion of the British values of democracy, the rule of law, liberty and tolerance. It has also seen the extension of the government's Prevent Strategy to cover school children of all ages.

This has inevitably increased scrutiny and debate around Religious Education and the accommodation of religious issues within schools. As well as meeting our specific legal obligations, the SACRE is seeking to support schools as well as it can in facing these issues, publishing briefing papers and talking with teachers and headteachers to provide guidance in particular contexts. Our joint meeting with the Camden Faith Leaders Forum at the end of the year was an indication of how we want to share this conversation with the wider community, ensuring that the different faith communities present in the borough have confidence in the religious education being provided and the respect shown to their traditions.

This report sets out that work in detail and provides more information about our procedures and policies for Collective Worship. We hope that our efforts in the year ahead continue to resource Camden schools in developing a learning environment that improves religious understanding, develops spiritual awareness and encourages respectful and lively debate.

James Walters
Chair 2014-2015

Background

This report summarises the activities of Camden Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) during the academic year 2014 – 2015. SACRE has a remit for monitoring Religious Education and Collective Worship in non-denominational schools. The relevant diocesan authorities monitor denominational schools. The Education Act 2002 requires that Religious Education must be provided as part of the basic curriculum in addition to the National Curriculum. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of RE and are not obliged to state their reasons for withdrawal.

This report continues to be composed in the light of guidance from the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) on the format of SACRE annual reports.

1. Religious Education

1.1 Locally Agreed Syllabus

After due process, the Local Authority agreed to adopt the Hampshire RE Syllabus – Living Difference. Work was carried out to adapt the syllabus to make it specific to Camden. The content of the syllabus and the methodology behind it were not amended, as these were the key factors in agreeing to adopt the syllabus. The new syllabus became the statutory Agreed Syllabus for all non-denominational schools in Camden from September 2012

Materials were sent to schools in July 2012. Each school received hard copies of the Agreed Syllabus, plus CD versions. Schools also received a primary or secondary handbook, as appropriate.

Appropriate advice, support and training was offered to primary and secondary teachers to enable them to implement the new syllabus. The feedback was very positive.

Support continues to be provided to subject leaders via access to the Hampshire RE website and associated Moodle platform where there are many additional resources, including teaching plans.

1.2 Standards in RE

The school visit programme continued and is a useful way of sampling approaches to the subject in a range of schools across Camden. SACRE members and the SACRE Consultant offer school based colleagues advice, help and support during these visits, reflecting the requirements of the agreed syllabus and pertinent to the individual needs of each school.

1.3 Methods of Teaching, the Choice of Teaching Materials, Teacher Training

The focus for the year was on continuing to support the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus.

In addition, SACRE helped to organise the biennial joint conference with colleagues from Islington SACRE. It was held on Thursday 19th March in Islington and sincere thanks go to them for all their work in ensuring that it was a great success.

The title of the conference was 'Rights and Responsibilities: What is the relationship between RE and Community Relations?' and Dr. Joyce Miller, Chair of the RE Council of England and Wales was the guest speaker. After her presentation, there was an opportunity for members of the audience to break into smaller groups and discuss the issues raised, as well as their implications for SACREs. They then engaged in a question and answer session with Joyce. Attendees included SACRE members and teachers from a range of Camden and Islington schools, as well as governors and members of local faith communities.

1.4 Complaints concerning RE

No complaints were received by SACRE in 2014-2015.

2. Collective Worship

2.1 Advice on Collective Worship

SACRE has produced short and clear advice for schools on Collective Worship and distributed to schools (see appendices).

Visits to schools by SACRE members accompanied by the SACRE Consultant and/or the Chair of SACRE have continued. Any school applying for or renewing a Determination should receive a visit from SACRE members prior to the application being discussed at a meeting.

In addition, during the academic year, such visits were also made to the following schools, some also including support for Religious Education as well as Collective Worship:

- Brecknock Primary School
- Fitzjohn's Primary School
- Rhyl Primary School

2.2 Determinations

There were no new applications for a Determination. There are currently **15** schools with a Determination.

At the SACRE Meeting on 4th November 2014, members considered and approved an application for the renewal of a determination from the following school:

- Gospel Oak Primary School

At the SACRE Meeting on 2nd June 2015, members considered and approved applications for the renewal of a determination from the following schools:

- Hampstead School
- Torriano Infant School

- Torriano Junior School

The application from Primrose Hill Primary School was considered at the same meeting, but no renewal was granted as SACRE members had not been able to make a visit to the school to observe Collective Worship. The school was encouraged to make another application at the next SACRE Meeting in Autumn 2015, once such a visit had taken place.

Schools with Determinations and Date of Review

- Primrose Hill Primary School 06/14
- Brecknock Primary School 06/14
- Beckford Primary School 02/16
- Swiss Cottage Special School 02/16
- Rhyl Primary School 02/16
- Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children 02/17
- Kingsgate Primary School 02/17
- Christopher Hatton Primary School 06/17
- Eleanor Palmer Primary School 06/19
- Gospel Oak Primary School 11/19
- Hampstead School 06/20
- Torriano Infant School 06/20
- Torriano Junior School 06/20

Some schools have determinations which have expired but all are engaged in the process of renewing these.

2.3 Complaints Concerning Collective Worship

No complaints were received by SACRE.

3. Links with other bodies

The SACRE Consultant attended the Annual General Meeting of the National Association of SACREs in Birmingham on 21st May 2015.

The Rt Hon Charles Clarke, former Secretary of State for Education was the keynote speaker. Charles is currently Visiting Professor in Politics at the University of East Anglia and also a Visiting Professor in Politics and Faith at the University of Lancaster. The University has established a department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, within which he is doing some teaching and lecturing. With Professor Linda Woodhead, also at the University of Lancaster, he has worked on a paper on the future of religion in schools and this was the main subject of his address. The full paper can be found at:

<http://faithdebates.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/A-New-Settlement-for-Religion-and-Belief-in-schools.pdf>

If SACRE members would like to hear Charles Clarke's speech from the NASACRE AGM , then they will need to login to the NASACRE website to gain access to a podcast. The link is available here, but please note that login details are required in order to access it successfully. <http://www.nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm/2015/materials> . These are available from the Clerk to SACRE.

Other speakers at the AGM included Professor Denise Cush of the University of Bath Spa and Mary Myatt, Senior Ofsted Inspector and RE Adviser. Their presentations are also available on the NASACRE website.

4. SACRE Arrangements

SACRE Meetings were held on:

- 4th November 2014
- 3rd February 2015
- 2nd June 2015

Clerking of SACRE was provided by Camden Council Committee Services section.

Professional support was provided by SACRE Consultant Lesley Prior on a consultancy basis, supported by Tracy Edwards, Specialist Leader in Education, based at Swiss Cottage Special School.

The Local Authority covered the running costs.

Appendix 1

SACRE MEMBERSHIP – 2014/ 2015

PANEL A – CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Ms. Jean Harrison (Camden Free Church, Baptist)
Ms. Lynndy Levin (Jewish)
Rev. B. Ananda Mangala (Buddhist)
Mr. Abdul Quadir (Muslim)
Mr. Peter Ward (Roman Catholic)
Ms. Krishna Pujara (Hindu)
Ms Alice Fuller (Humanist)
Ms Shahanaz Begum (Muslim) (from November 2014)

PANEL B – THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Ms. Liz Wolverson
Ms Amanda Szewczyk-Radley
Mr. Peter Ginnings
Reverend James Walters

PANEL C – TEACHERS

Ms. Lynn Trigg
Ms Tracy Edwards
Ms. Michelle Chalibamba
Ms. Sinead Whelan
Mr. Gerry Cohen (from June 2015)

PANEL D – CAMDEN LOCAL AUTHORITY

Julian Fulbrook
Heather Johnson
Maryam Eslamdoust (to June 2015)
Paul Tomlinson (from June 2015)
Oliver Lewis
Phil Rosenberg
Leila Roy
Don Williams

Guidance on Collective Worship for non-denominational schools

Why Collective Worship?

In a speech to high school students the late American writer David Foster Wallace remarked, “There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.” That may be money, beauty, power or intellect. Wallace was not a religious person. But for him, living well was learning to worship the right things and shaping your character according to good values.

So Collective Worship is the opportunity in the day for your school to focus on what is most important. It’s a time to celebrate your common life, to reflect on the values that you want to shape your school and to form the character of the staff and pupils within it.

Why worship “of a broadly Christian character”?

The majority of people in this country believe in God and 55% self-identified as Christian in the 2011 census. Christian history, culture and values continue to shape our national life well beyond those who regularly attend church. So the law continues to stipulate that collective worship should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief, being shaped by Christian stories, prayers and songs.

Religious diversity

This Christian character does not and should not preclude the incorporation of other faith traditions or humanistic wisdom within the collective worship. It is not the “corporate worship” of the Church but an inclusive experience that “collects” the whole school together and imposes no beliefs or devotional practices on anyone.

Where collective worship of a broadly Christian character is strongly at odds with the make up of the school community, the Head Teacher can apply to SACRE for a Determination. If granted this does not lift the legal requirement for a daily act of worship and requires some sensitive

reflection on the character of worship that may need to engage with interfaith resources and the broader values that underpin the school.

What should Collective Worship include?

Collective Worship is part of the educational experience of the school day and should contribute to the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). Teachers can make use of religious material drawn from a variety of traditions, including prayers. These should give those pupils who wish to the opportunity to worship God while offering to all a profound reflective experience.

Practical issues

- Collective Worship can be offered at any time of the day in any school grouping.
- Collective Worship is required by 1988 Education Act as compulsory for all pupils aged 5 to 18 unless they are withdrawn by parents.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship, but not from SMSC.
- Teachers also have the right not to take part in Collective Worship.
- Collective Worship is the responsibility of the Head Teacher and the Governing Body.

Camden Local Education Authority

Camden Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Collective worship: applying for a determination

Advice to headteachers

1. Background

1.1 A determination from SACRE lifts the requirement of Section 7(1) of the Education Reform Act 1988 that collective worship should be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character".

1.2 Section 12 of the Act allows for applications to be made to the local SACRE "to consider whether it is appropriate for the requirement for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of that school, or in the case of any class or description of pupils at that school".

1.3 Paragraphs 68-81 of the DFE (Department for Education) Circular 1/94 summarise the position on determinations. If you consider that it is inappropriate for the school to provide collective worship "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character", you can apply to SACRE for a determination. The Act requires consultation with the governing body before an application can be made.

1.4 In accordance with paragraph 74 of Circular 1/94, SACRE has drawn up these procedures to help you apply for a determination.

1.5 SACRE recommends that headteachers and governing bodies consider Camden's policy on collective worship before making an application using the proforma provided by SACRE.

2. Procedures for applying for a determination

2.1 Collect data on the percentage of pupils belonging to different faith communities and include this with your application. Evidence that the family backgrounds of pupils are from a faith other than Christian or from a variety of religious faiths and life stances would be necessary for conclusion in favour of determination to be reached.

2.2 Discuss your proposal to apply for a determination with governors drawing their attention to the relevant sections of Circular 1/94 and the SACRE collective worship policy. Record the views expressed by governors, the voting outcome if a vote was taken, and the date of the meeting. Enclose this information with your application.

2.3 Seek the views of the parent body as to whether or not an application should be made. You are advised to write to parents, informing them of your intention to apply for a determination based on your policy for collective worship, and inviting them to respond if they object. A copy of this letter must be enclosed with your application.

2.4 Your application should demonstrate that the 1998 Act is being complied with, that is the school must organise a daily act of collective worship for all pupils.

2.5 If the school intends to adopt the SACRE policy, then the implication is that the determination will apply to the whole school. Your application should explain how all pupils would take part in acts of collective worship on a daily basis. Secondary headteachers should note that the relevant requirements of the Act apply to all 11 to 19 year olds, apart from those sixth form pupils who have chosen to withdraw. Primary headteachers should note that the requirements do not apply to nursery schools and nursery classes.

2.6 If you do not intend to follow the SACRE policy, then you must clearly state what alternative policy you will use. You should demonstrate that the school's approach to collective worship is in concert with the aims of school collective worship as outlined in SACRE's collective worship policy, by providing a copy of the worship policy and programme.

2.6 You should apply using the appropriate form and sign the application, attaching all necessary additional papers:

1. Name of School
2. Name of headteacher
3. Pupils for whom the application applies
4. Reasons for applying, including information on the percentages of different faiths (or none) in the school
5. Details of consultation with governors
6. Details of consultation with parents (include copy of letter or newsletter requesting views of parents) and any consultation with pupils.
7. Proposed organisational arrangements for collective worship
8. Proposed policy for collective worship (if different from SACRE policy)
9. The statutory statement of the provision of collective worship intended for inclusion in the school's brochure.

3. Procedures for granting or rejecting applications

3.1 SACRE should receive applications at least eight weeks before the meeting at which the application will be considered.

3.2 Initially, the written application will be scrutinised by the Professional Adviser to SACRE.

3.3 The school will be included in the SACRE visit programme prior to the application being heard.

3.4 Headteachers will normally be notified in writing of the date of the SACRE meeting at which the application will be heard. SACRE meetings are held once a term and headteachers are invited to attend. The headteacher will be notified in writing, normally within two weeks, of the determination made by SACRE. If the determination made is to accept the application, it shall take effect from the date of that SACRE meeting and shall have effect for five years

Camden SACRE

Collective worship: Procedure for reviewing a determination

Schools are granted a Determination by SACRE for a period of 5 years. The following procedure for reviewing a Determination has been agreed by SACRE: -

1. The Clerk to SACRE will write to a school approximately 3months prior to the date for review, asking if it wishes to renew the Determination.
2. If a school wishes to renew a Determination, it should seek the views of parents through a letter or newsletter.
3. The governing body should formally agree to apply to renew the Determination
4. The appropriate form and supplementary papers should be sent to the Clerk of SACRE.
5. Information should be provided by the school about the representation of different faiths (or none) as well as details of the current arrangements for collective worship.
6. The school will be included in the SACRE visit programme prior to the renewal request being discussed at a meeting.
7. At the next SACRE meeting the form and supplementary papers will be presented and members asked to renew the Determination or not.
8. The school will be informed of the decision and, if successful, the Determination renewed for a further five years.
9. If a school does not respond to the request to renew its Determination, the Clerk will write to the school for clarification.

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