

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21**

## **LB CAMDEN STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**MARCH 2022**

This LB Camden SACRE Annual Report is presented in the new format developed by NASACRE in conjunction with the DfE for use from September 2021.

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## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Foreword from the Chair of SACRE 2020-21**

**Mary Thorne (Group B)**

**1.2 Religion and Belief in LB of Camden? Data not easily found online... is it held by the Council and would it be useful to include it here?**

## **2. Religious Education Statutory Responsibilities**

### **2.1 Background**

The London Borough of Camden's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) is required, in accordance with Section 391(6) of the Education Act 1996, to publish an annual report on its activities. This report summarises its activities during the academic year 2020-21. Its current terms of reference, as laid down by the Education Reform Act 1998, are: "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 particular, the SACRE is charged with the following responsibilities:

- It can require the authority to review the Agreed Syllabus on Religious Education.
- It may determine, on application by the headteacher that the requirement for Collective Worship in community schools to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character shall not apply to the Collective Worship provided for some or all of its pupils in a particular school.
- With the authority, to review the support offered for RE teaching, the methods of teaching employed, and teachers' in-service professional development.

In addition, the SACRE has a direct role in the consideration and disposal of complaints related to the RE curriculum or Collective Worship. The SACRE will be asked to advise where complaints relate to Religious Education given in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus or to Collective Worship in county – now called community - schools.

Details of the work of the LB Camden SACRE can be found here:

**Insert link here?**

Agendas, minutes and associated papers can be found via this link:

**And here?**

### **2.2 Locally Agreed Syllabus**

By statute, every local authority is required to adopt a Locally Agreed Syllabus (LAS) for Religious Education and to review it every five years. The current LB of Camden LAS has

been in place since ???, after undergoing a rigorous process of review and revision in conjunction with colleagues in Hampshire from where the LAS was adopted. The version used in LB of Camden (and three other LAs in London) has been adapted from the original to reflect the demographics of our capital city.

The LAS for LB of Camden can be accessed here: [insert link](#)

## **2.3 Standards in RE**

SACRE members gave close consideration to the various national and local developments concerning the provision of RE. These discussions were prompted by the information provided to the SACRE through the regular updates from the RE Consultant and SACRE Adviser and NASACRE Briefings.

## **2.4 Teacher Training**

Lesley Prior (the RE Consultant and Adviser to SACRE) offers extensive telephone and online consultations to Subject Leaders who are developing schemes of learning and reviewing and revising policy documents for RE. In addition, Lesley issued six newsletters during this period (one every half term) for distribution to Subject Leaders to share new materials and resources, promote relevant RE events and highlight significant national developments and initiatives in the subject. SACRE members also receive these newsletters.

Lesley can be reached at: [lesley.prior@london.anglican.org](mailto:lesley.prior@london.anglican.org).

## **2.5 Complaints and Withdrawals**

There have been no complaints to SACRE in 2020-21 in relation to Religious Education.

SACRE has received no reports of pupils being withdrawn from Religious Education in 2020-21.

## **3. Collective Worship Statutory Responsibilities**

### **3.1. Standards and Monitoring of Collective Worship**

During 2020-21 SACRE was unable to monitor Collective Worship provision fully because of the restraints imposed by the pandemic.

### **3.2 Determinations**

The Adviser to SACRE regularly reminds members about the role, nature and purpose of determinations in relation to Collective Worship.

In 2020-21, the following schools received a determination in relation to Collective Worship:

- Brecknock School (expires summer 2026)
- Primrose Hill Primary School (expires summer 2026)
- Regent High School (expires summer 2026)
- Rhyl Primary School (expires summer 2026)

- Torriano Primary School

### **3.3 Other Information**

There have been no complaints to SACRE in 2020-21 in relation to Collective Worship.

SACRE has received no reports of pupils being withdrawn from Collective Worship in 2020-21.

### **4. Links with other Bodies**

LB Camden SACRE is affiliated to The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) and notes and discusses key points from its regular briefings.

See this link for more details: [www.nasacre.org](http://www.nasacre.org). Login details for the NASACRE website can be obtained from the SACRE Clerk.

The 2021 I NASACRE Conference and AGM was held virtually on 24th May 2021, and Mary Thorne (Group B and Chair of SACRE) attended it on behalf of LB Camden SACRE. Verbal feedback on the Conference was provided to the SACRE at its summer term meeting and formed the basis for discussion and reflection by members. Full details and copies of the relevant paperwork from the 2021 Conference can be found at <https://nasacre.org.uk/conference-and-agm/2021>.

The Adviser to SACRE is a member of the NASACRE Executive Group and is also a member of many other RE professional bodies and shares information from them at SACRE Meetings.

### **5. SACRE Involvement Locally**

LB Camden SACRE has developed links with various local groups and initiatives.

### **6. SACRE Arrangements**

#### **6.1 Meetings in 2020-21**

The SACRE met on the following three occasions in 2020-21:

- 13th October 2020
- 4th February 2021
- 24th June 2021

The SACRE usually meets at Camden Town Hall. Due to restrictions and safety precautions related to Covid-19, all the SACRE meetings in 2020-21 were held via virtual platforms.

#### **6.2 Professional and Administrative Support**

Secretarial assistance and a budget for the discharge of the SACRE's duties is provided by the LB Camden. The key areas of this support include the following:

- Provision of a Clerk
- Support of a Local Authority Adviser
- Commissioning of an RE Consultant and Adviser to the SACRE
- Funding of the NASACRE annual membership
- Funding for at least one SACRE member to attend NASACRE's annual Conference and AGM
- Costs relating to establishing and reviewing a Locally Agreed Syllabus (when appropriate)

The SACRE is grateful to the LB Camden for making this support available.

### 6.3 Key Contacts (add emails?)

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Chair of the SACRE      | Mary Thorne (Group B)        |
| • Vice Chair of the SACRE | Ann Boater (Group A)         |
| • Clerk to the SACRE      | Vinothan Sangarapillai       |
| • Local Authority Link    | Owen Rees                    |
| • Adviser to SACRE        | Lesley Prior (RE Consultant) |

### 6.4 Membership, Representation and Recruitment - quoracy, issues and successes with recruitment? Leavers, new members?

A full list of SACRE members is included in the Appendices.

### 6.5 Attendance

All SACRE meetings in 2020-21 were quorate???. Attendance has improved with online meetings ???.

### 6.6 Attendance Records

Full details of attendance are available at:

[Insert link here?](#)

### 6.6 Training for SACRE Members

SACRE members are encouraged to attend training provided by NASACRE. School based SACRE members or those with other links to education also attend local and national RE training including Diocesan training.

### 6.7 Finance given to SACRE for its Work

£??? is allocated to SACRE and the funding contributes toward the running costs of the SACRE, the work of the RE Consultant, and other costs such as membership of NASACRE, and attendance at the NASACRE Conference etc.

## 7. Appendices

### 7.1 Table of GCSE & A Level Religious Studies Results 2021

The government cancelled all public examinations at Key Stage 4 and 5 again in 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Students were awarded grades through the Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG) process. Teachers in LB Camden schools used a range of evidence to award grades to students. These grades will not be published.

## **7.2. SACRE Membership 2020-21**

## **7.3 Circulation Details for the SACRE Annual Report**

This Annual Report is shared with the **Director of Education** for LB Camden and sent to the Department for Education, NASACRE and schools, including governors. The report will be available for anyone to view on the LB Camden website:

**Insert link here?**