

Rutland County Council

Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP
Telephone 01572 722577
Email: democraticservices@rutland.gov.uk

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A meeting of the **RUTLAND SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)** will be held via Zoom - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82328319599> on **Tuesday, 5th December, 2023** commencing at **4.30 pm** when it is hoped you will be able to attend.

Yours faithfully

Mark Andrews
Chief Executive

Recording of Council Meetings: Any member of the public may film, audio-record, take photographs and use social media to report the proceedings of any meeting that is open to the public. A protocol on this facility is available at www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/

A G E N D A

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

We gather together here today intent on doing good work.
We seek to represent fairly and well, those who have given us this task.
May our efforts be blessed with insight, guided by understanding and wisdom.
We seek to serve with respect for all.
May our personal beliefs give us strength to act honestly and well in all matters before us.

1) WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED

2) RECORD OF MEETING

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Rutland SACRE held on the 12th September 2023.
(Pages 7 - 14)

3) ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Ref:	Action	Allocated to:
1	3	It was agreed that the Chair and the	Gurdev Singh &

		SACRE/RE Adviser would write a draft letter on behalf of the Rutland SACRE to all Councillors and the local MP regarding RE teacher recruitment.	Amanda Fitton
2	4	A further breakdown of the examination results, including destination, cohort size and statistical neighbours' data, would be provided once the examination results were verified.	Lizzie Papworth
3	4	The Service Manager also confirmed that a congratulatory letter to the appropriate schools would be drafted on SACRE's behalf and sent to the appropriate Rutland schools once the examination results data were verified.	Lizzie Papworth
4	4	It was proposed that the RE Adviser should meet with the two Secondary Teacher Representatives to discuss how the statutory requirement that all pupils were entitled to religious education to the end of Year 11, was being fulfilled by Rutland schools.	Amanda Fitton, Kieran Hughes & Sam Brooks
5	4	It was proposed that a letter from SACRE should be sent to all Rutland schools once the examination data had been verified, to promote the values of religious education and positively influence the decision maker.	Gurdev Singh
6	5	The RE Adviser confirmed that the training timetable would be distributed to all schools.	Amanda Fitton / Lizzie Papworth
7	6	It was agreed that a SACRE sub-group, consisting of Rev McWhirter, Lizzie Papworth, Councillor McRobb, Amanda Fitton and Sam Brooks would identify and clarify SACRE's role and duties for approval at the next meeting.	Rev McWhirter
8	9	The RE Adviser would be meeting with Mary-Anne Marples to discuss what schools actually wanted from the network meetings and the possibility of inter-county meetings with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. The RE Adviser confirmed that, following the meeting, she would distribute feedback to the Rutland SACRE members for discussion at the next meeting.	Amanda Fitton

4) SACRE'S ROLE AND ENGAGEMENT WITH SCHOOLS

A. SCHOOLS INSPECTED BY OFSTED

To receive a presentation from Amanda Fitton, SACRE Adviser on the different types of schools, which are inspected by OFSTED for RE and SACRE's responsibilities.

(Pages 15 - 26)

B. OFSTED ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

To receive a verbal briefing from Amanda Fitton, SACRE Adviser regarding the quality of RE teaching in schools as stated in the Ofsted Annual Report for 2022-23: [Ofsted Annual Report 2022/23: education, children's services and skills - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/107222/Ofsted-Annual-Report-2022-23-education-childrens-services-and-skills.pdf)

C. SACRE SUB-GROUP

To receive a briefing from Rev. McWhirter following the sub-group's meetings to identify and clarify SACRE's role and duties for approval by the Rutland SACRE.

5) SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

To review and approve the Rutland SACRE Annual Report for 2022-2023.

(Pages 27 - 42)

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

6) AGREED SYLLABUS

To receive a verbal update from Amanda Fitton, SACRE Adviser regarding an amendment on Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

7) UPDATE ON NETWORK MEETINGS

To receive an update from Amanda Fitton, RE Adviser for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Councils.

(Pages 43 - 44)

8) TRAINING ATTENDED BY SACRE MEMBERS

To receive a verbal update from Members of SACRE on any training attended.

9) MONITORING OF RE IN SCHOOLS AND OFSTED INSPECTIONS REPORT

To receive a verbal report from Lizzie Papworth, Service Manager – Learning and Skills and to receive any Ofsted Inspection Reports.

- [Empingham Church of England Primary School](#)

- [Casterton College Rutland](#)

10) WORK PLAN

To review/update Rutland SACRE's Work Plan for 2023-2024.
(Pages 45 - 46)

11) ANY URGENT BUSINESS

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 12th March 2024 at 4.30 p.m.

---oOo---

DISTRIBUTION

MEMBERS OF THE RUTLAND SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION):

GROUP A – Representatives of faiths (other than Church of England) and worldviews		
1.	Gurdev Singh (CHAIR)	The Sikh Faith
2.	Bjoern Finke	The Roman Catholic Church
3.	Julia Ewans	Humanist UK
4.	Madeleine Gilbert	The Baptist Church
5.	Sheila Gewolb	The Jewish Faith

GROUP B – Church of England Representatives		
6.	Daniel Alfieri	Peterborough Diocese
7.	James McWhirter (Revd) (VICE CHAIR)	Rutland Deanery
8.	Mary-Anne Marples	Peterborough Diocese

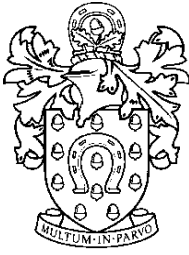
GROUP C – Teacher Representatives		
9.	Cara Topping	Primary Teacher Representative
10.	Kieran Hughes	Secondary Teacher Representative
11.	Megan Davis	Primary Teacher Representative
12.	Sam Brooks	Secondary Teacher Representative

GROUP D – Local Education Authority Representatives		
13.	Councillor Christine Wise	Rutland County Councillor
14.	Councillor Steve McRobb	Rutland County Councillor
15.	Councillor Rosemary Powell (SUBSTITUTE)	Rutland County Councillor

Quorum: One representative from each group must be in attendance.

Local Education Authority Officers		
16.	Amanda Fitton	RE Adviser, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Councils
17.	Lizzie Papworth	Service Manager – Learning and Skills, RCC
18.	Jane Narey	Clerk, RCC

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Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP
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Minutes of the **MEETING of the RUTLAND SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP on Tuesday, 12th September, 2023 at 4.30 pm

PRESENT:

GROUP A – Representatives of faiths (other than Church of England) and worldviews		
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1.	Gurdev Singh (CHAIR)	Sikh Community
2.	Madeleine Gilbert	Baptist Church
3.	Shelia Gewolb	Jewish Community

GROUP B – Church of England Representatives		
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4.	James McWhirter (Revd) (VICE CHAIR)	Rutland Deanery
5.	Mary-Anne Marples	Peterborough Diocese

GROUP C – Teacher Representatives		
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6.	Cara Topping	Primary Teacher Representative
7.	Kieran Hughes	Secondary Teacher Representative
8.	Megan Davis	Primary Teacher Representative
9.	Sam Brooks	Secondary Teacher Representative

GROUP D – Local Education Authority Representatives		
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10.	Councillor Christine Wise	Rutland County Councillor
11.	Councillor Steve McRobb	Rutland County Councillor

Local Education Authority Officers		
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12.	Amanda Fitton	RE Adviser, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Councils
13.	Lizzie Papworth	Service Manager – Learning and Skills, RCC
14.	Jane Narey	Clerk, RCC

APOLOGIES:

15.	Bjoern Finke	Roman Catholic Church
16.	Daniel Alfieri	Peterborough Diocese

ABSENT:

17.	Julia Ewans	Humanist UK
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1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Daniel Alfieri and Bjorn Finke.

---o0o---

Kieran Hughes, Secondary Teacher Representative joined the meeting at 4.39 p.m.

---o0o---

2 RECORD OF MEETING

Members requested that the wording 'world views' in the minutes be amended to 'worldviews'. The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th June 2023 were approved as an accurate record subject to the requested amendment.

3 ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Action 1

It was agreed that the Chair and the SACRE/RE Adviser would write a draft a letter on behalf of the Rutland SACRE to all Councillors and the local MP regarding RE teacher recruitment.

Action to be carried forward.

ACTION: Gurdev Singh & Amanda Fitton

Action 2

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to all Rutland schools asking for representatives from the teachers and the education support staff to become members of the Rutland SACRE.

It was confirmed that the action had been completed and two new teacher representatives had been recruited: Kieran Hughes, Teacher of Religious Studies at Catmose College and Sam Brooks, Head of RE and Citizenship at Uppingham Community College.

Action 3

Induction information including the NASACRE membership and training details would be sent to the new members.

The Clerk confirmed that the action had been completed.

Action 4

Amanda Fitton to send the Clerk the confirmed attendance for Rutland SACRE at the official launch.

It was confirmed that nobody from Rutland SACRE had attended the official launch of the Agreed Syllabus.

Action 5

Amanda would develop a questionnaire for schools regarding the impact of the Agreed Syllabus to identify if any amendments were required to the non-statutory areas of the syllabus. The approval of the schools' questionnaire would be approved by SACRE on the 12th March 2024 prior to distribution to schools.

The RE Adviser confirmed that the questionnaire would be actioned and the item had been added to the SACRE work plan for 2023-2024.

---o0o---
 Mary-Ann Marples, Peterborough Diocese Representative left the meeting at 4.55 p.m. and re-joined the meeting at 4.56 p.m.
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The Chair, with the approval of the committee, agreed to take Agenda Item 7 (Rutland Exam Results) next due to IT issues with the Zoom meeting.

4 RUTLAND EXAM RESULTS

A verbal update was received from Lizzie Papworth, Service Manager – Learning and Skills on the Rutland schools’ exam results for 2023. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Unverified results were received and the figures stated covered all Rutland schools including the independent schools.

GCSE Grade	Rutland %	National %
4 and above	82.1	72.2
5 and above	69.8	61.3
6 and above	61.3	47.2
7 and above	37.7	30.5
8 and above	20.8	18.4
9 and above	14.2	7.7

‘A’ Level Grade	Rutland %	National %
A*	0.0	5.9
A and above	20.4	25.4
B and above	53.1	55.3
C and above	77.6	79.0
D and above	93.9	92.2
E and above	98.0	98.0

- Fewer pupils had undertaken GCSE religious education: 140 pupils in the academic year 2021-2022 compared to 105 for the academic year 2022-2023.
- More pupils had undertaken ‘A’ level religious studies: 45 pupils in the academic year 2021-2022 compared to 50 for the academic year 2022-2023.
- A further breakdown of the examination results, including destination, cohort size and statistical neighbours’ data, would be provided once the examination results were verified.

ACTION: Lizzie Papworth

- The Service Manager also confirmed that a congratulatory letter to the appropriate schools would be drafted on SACRE’s behalf and sent to the appropriate Rutland schools once the examination results data were verified.

ACTION: Lizzie Papworth

- It was proposed that the RE Adviser should meet with the two Secondary Teacher Representatives to discuss how the statutory requirement that all pupils were entitled to religious education to the end of Year 11, was being fulfilled by Rutland schools.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton, Kieran Hughes & Sam Brooks

- It was proposed that a letter from SACRE should be sent to all Rutland schools once the examination data had been verified, to promote the values of religious education and positively influence the decision maker.

ACTION: Gurdev Singh

5 AGREED SYLLABUS 2023-2028

A verbal update was received from Amanda Fitton, RE Adviser for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Councils. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- A reminder about the new Agreed Syllabus had been sent to all schools in Rutland.
- The promotion of and training on the Agreed Syllabus would be the main focus for this academic year.
- Schools in Rutland were comprised of 16 Primary Academies, 3 Secondary Academies and 1 Church of England Voluntary Aided Maintained Primary School. Academies have to follow an RE syllabus but were not required to comply with the locally agreed syllabus and voluntary aided schools could use the diocesan religious education guidance instead of the locally agreed syllabus.
- The RE Adviser confirmed that the training timetable would be distributed to all schools.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton / Lizzie Papworth

6 SACRE'S ROLE AND ENGAGEMENT WITH SCHOOLS

A group discussion was held regarding Rutland SACRE's role in the teaching of religious education and how it could improve its engagement with Rutland schools. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- SACRE contact with schools was currently via the RE Adviser.
- The group discussed sending out a brochure or leaflet to schools about SACRE but agreed that SACRE's role and duties needed to be clearly defined before this was done.
- It was agreed that a SACRE sub-group, consisting of Rev McWhirter, Lizzie Papworth, Councillor McRobb, Amanda Fitton and Sam Brooks would identify and clarify SACRE's role and duties for approval at the next meeting.

ACTION: Rev McWhirter

7 RUTLAND SACRE CONSTITUTION

Members reviewed an updated draft version of the Rutland SACRE Constitution which had been circulated with the agenda pack. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Changes to the constitution had been highlighted in yellow for the attention of members.
- It was agreed that the review of the Constitution would be deferred to the March meeting so that any changes recommended by the SACRE sub-group at the next SACRE meeting could be incorporated into the constitution.

8 RUTLAND SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-28

Members reviewed the draft Rutland SACRE Development Plan for 2023-2028, which had been circulated with the agenda pack. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- A sub-group would be required to work on the SACRE development plan.
- The plan should include the areas of improvement identified in SACRE's self-assessment so that there was a continuous improvement cycle.
- It was agreed to postpone work on the development plan until SACRE's role and duties had been clearly defined and approved at the next SACRE meeting.

9 UPDATE ON NETWORK MEETINGS

A verbal update was received from Amanda Fitton, RE Adviser for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Councils. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The RE Adviser would be meeting with Mary-Anne Marples to discuss what schools actually wanted from the network meetings and the possibility of inter-county meetings with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.
- The RE Adviser confirmed that, following the meeting, she would distribute feedback to the Rutland SACRE members for discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton

10 TRAINING ATTENDED BY SACRE MEMBERS

- Madeleine Gilbert and Councillor Wise informed attendees that they had attended the NASACRE 'So, you've joined your local SACRE...' virtual training session held on the 26th June 2023 and both had found it very helpful and informative – details attached.
- Sheila Gewolb notified members of the [RE Hubs](#) website and the training and free resources that were available: [Upskill \(re-hubs.uk\)](#)

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Councillor McRobb left the meeting at 5.53 p.m.

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- Rev McWhirter informed members of a video about worldviews produced by [THEOS Think Tank](#). The video entitled 'Nobody Stands Nowhere' was available to view on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFRxKF-Jdos&t=17s>

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Mary-Ann Marples left the meeting at 5.58 p.m.

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11 MONITORING OF RE IN SCHOOLS AND OFSTED INSPECTIONS REPORT

A verbal report was received from Lizzie Papworth, Service Manager – Learning and Skills, RCC and members reviewed the Ofsted inspection report for Langham CofE Primary School. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The Ofsted inspection report for Langham CofE Primary School was reviewed and the very positive comments regarding the school's teaching of different beliefs were noted.

12 WORK PLAN

The work plan was discussed and updated as follows:

- The review of the SACRE Constitution would be deferred to the March 2024 meeting so that any changes recommended by the SACRE sub-group could be incorporated once approved at the SACRE December meeting.

13 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 5th December 2023 at 4.30 p.m. via Zoom

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The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.04 pm.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

No.	Ref:	Action	Allocated to:
1	3	It was agreed that the Chair and the SACRE/RE Adviser would write a draft a letter on behalf of the Rutland SACRE to all Councillors and the local MP regarding RE teacher recruitment.	Gurdev Singh & Amanda Fitton
2	4	A further breakdown of the examination results, including destination, cohort size and statistical neighbours' data, would be provided once the examination results were verified.	Lizzie Papworth
3	4	The Service Manager also confirmed that a congratulatory letter to the appropriate schools would be drafted on SACRE's behalf and sent to the appropriate Rutland schools once the examination results data were verified.	Lizzie Papworth
4	4	It was proposed that the RE Adviser should meet with the two Secondary Teacher Representatives to discuss how the statutory requirement that all pupils were entitled to religious education to the end of Year 11, was being fulfilled by Rutland schools.	Amanda Fitton, Kieran Hughes & Sam Brooks
5	4	It was proposed that a letter from SACRE should be sent to all Rutland schools once the examination data had been verified, to promote the values of religious education and positively	Gurdev Singh

		influence the decision maker.	
6	5	The RE Adviser confirmed that the training timetable would be distributed to all schools.	Amanda Fitton / Lizzie Papworth
7	6	It was agreed that a SACRE sub-group, consisting of Rev McWhirter, Lizzie Papworth, Councillor McRobb, Amanda Fitton and Sam Brooks would identify and clarify SACRE's role and duties for approval at the next meeting.	Rev McWhirter
8	9	The RE Adviser would be meeting with Mary-Anne Marples to discuss what schools actually wanted from the network meetings and the possibility of inter-county meetings with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. The RE Adviser confirmed that, following the meeting, she would distribute feedback to the Rutland SACRE members for discussion at the next meeting.	Amanda Fitton

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Our school system in England
and how this effects SACRE

- Community/LA maintained
- Foundation and voluntary controlled
- Schools of a religious character
- Special schools
- Academies
- Free schools
- Grammar schools
- Private schools

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Education stage	National Curriculum	School year group	Child's age
Secondary Education	Key Stage 4	11	15-16
		10	14-15
	Key Stage 3	9	13-14
		8	12-13
		7	11-12
Primary Education	Key Stage 2	6	10-11
		5	9-10
		4	8-9
		3	7-8
		Key Stage 1	2
	1		5-6
Early Years Foundation Stage	Early Years	Reception	4-5
			3-4



Religious Education in England is mandated by the **Education Act 1944**, as amended by the Education Reform Act 1988 and the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The provision of Religious Education is compulsory in all state-funded schools and those in sixth form unless withdrawn by their parents.



RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

The right to withdraw from religious education and/or collective worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and/or collective worship. From age 16, pupils can choose for themselves to opt out of collective worship if they wish. However, they cannot opt out of receiving religious education without parental consent until they are 18.

Community/ LA maintained schools

RE must be taught according to the locally agreed syllabus adopted by the LA by which the school is maintained.

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Academies and Free Schools

All academies and free schools are required, through their funding agreements, to teach RE. For academies without a religious character, this will usually be the locally agreed syllabus.

Voluntary Controlled Schools (VC)

Foundation and voluntary-controlled schools with a religious character: RE provision in foundation and voluntary-controlled schools with a religious character is to be provided in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus. However, where the parent of any pupil at the school requests that RE is provided in accordance with provisions of the trust deed relating to the school (or, where there is no provision in the trust deed, in accordance with the religion or denomination mentioned in the order designating the school as having a religious character), then the governors must make arrangements for securing that RE is provided to the pupil in accordance with the relevant religion for up to two periods a week unless they are satisfied that there are special circumstances which would make it unreasonable to do so.

Voluntary Aided Schools (VA)

Voluntary-aided schools with a religious character: In these schools RE is to be determined by the governors and in accordance with the provisions of the trust deed relating to the school or, where there is no provision in the trust deed, with the religion or denomination mentioned in the order designating the school as having a religious character. However, where parents prefer their children to receive RE in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus, and they cannot reasonably or conveniently send their children to a school where the syllabus is in use, then the governing body must make arrangements for RE to be provided to the children within the school in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus unless they are satisfied that there are special circumstances which would make it unreasonable to do so. If the LA is satisfied that the governing body is unwilling to make such arrangements, the LA must make them instead.

All academies, free schools and maintained schools, Ofsted will inspect RE and Collective Worship

In a voluntary controlled school designated as having a religious character, Ofsted will inspect RE but not collective worship (that comes under section 48 /SIAM's)

Other schools with a religious character, like a VA school will be inspected by processes such as SIAMs or as stated in their funding agreements.

Inspectors may, however, gather evidence from anywhere relevant (including RE lessons and assemblies) to evaluate pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, personal development and/or behaviour and attitudes. The fact that the school has been designated as having a religious character must be referenced in the 'information about this school' section of the inspection report.

Ofsted will check that section 48 inspections have taken place and will comment on this in the report. They will look at reports but not comment on any outcomes.





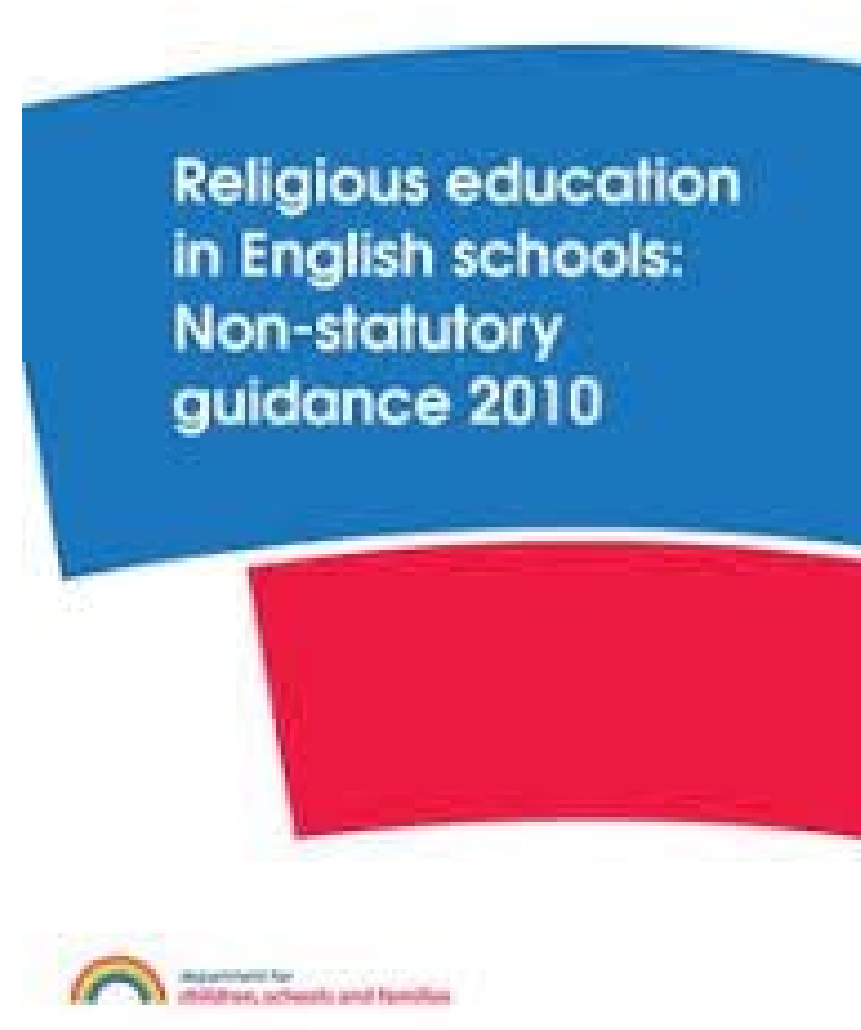
All schools in the state sector must show their curriculum content on their website in some form.



Governing bodies and headteachers in all state schools must ensure that provision is made for RE for all pupils, unless they are withdrawn by their parents.



Religious
education in
English schools:
Non-statutory
guidance 2010



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**Standing Advisory Council on
Religious Education**

Supporting Rutland Schools in delivering Religious Education



Rutland Standing Advisory Council For Religious Education (SACRE)

Annual Report September 2022 – August 2023

Version	Version 1.0
Guardian	Jane Narey, Scrutiny Officer democraticservices@rutland.gov.uk
Approved by SACRE	
Next Review Date	January 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Rutland SACRE annual report. This report covers the academic year from September 2022 to August 2023.

The report is short but details the great deal of work that has been undertaken by the SACRE and that of the Local Authority Officers who have continued to support schools and regularly reported to SACRE.

Four meetings were held in total during the 2022/2023 academic year. Two meetings were held in-person in the Council Chamber at the Council offices and two were held virtually. This was the result of an agreement by the SACRE members, following the easing of the pandemic lockdown restrictions, to continue to hold the autumn and winter meetings virtually but to hold the spring and summer meetings in person.

SACRE's aim has always been to ensure that our children receive a balanced, open-minded and comprehensive education in RE. The main tasks undertaken by SACRE during this academic year were the completion of the Agreed Syllabus and Rutland SACRE's self-evaluation.

2023-2024 promises to be an exciting one as the Agreed Syllabus, which was published on the 15th June 2023, comes into effect and the Rutland SACRE produces its Development Plan for 2023-28.

Britain's society continues to change but we hope that teachers, schools, parents and pupils will continue to adapt by building on the syllabus detailed in the new Agreed Syllabus.

With thanks to everyone on the committee.

Gurdev Singh (Chair: July 2022 – present)

Revd James McWhirter (Vice Chair: June 2023 - present)

2. OFSTED INSPECTION REPORTS – SEPTEMBER 2021 – AUGUST 2022

Eight Ofsted inspection reports were received regarding Rutland schools during the past academic year:

- 1) [Cottesmore Primary School](#)
- 2) [Catmose Primary School](#)
- 3) [St Nicholas CofE Primary School](#)
- 4) [Edith Weston Academy](#)
- 5) [The Shires at Oakham](#)
- 6) [Ryhall CofE Academy](#)
- 7) [Uppingham Community College](#)
- 8) [Ketton CofE Primary School](#)

An Ofsted report on the quality of Religious Education curriculums taught in schools was expected in 2022 but to date nothing has been published. However, we continue to encourage schools to actively review their curriculums.

3. STATUTORY INSPECTION OF ANGLICAN AND METHODIST SCHOOLS (SIAMS) REPORTS

All church schools will be additionally inspected under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005. These SIAMS reports are not the responsibility of SACRE or the Local Authority so there is no requirement to report on them in the Rutland SACRE Annual Report.

4. RE TEACHERS' NETWORK

During the academic year 2022-2023, it was noted that attendance at the network meetings was not as high as expected and that the format of the meetings needed to be revised.

The Rutland SACRE agreed that the RE Adviser would undertake a review of the network meetings. The review included a meeting with representatives from Rutland's schools to ascertain what schools wanted to achieve from the network meetings. It also included an investigation into the possibility of holding twilight sessions as well as changing the meetings from 'in-person' to 'virtual'.

As part of the review, the RE Adviser also met with the Diocese of Peterborough to discuss the possibility of inter-county meetings with Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.

Further discussions were planned for September/October 2023 regarding the way forward before the RE Adviser reported back to the Rutland SACRE with the results of the review regarding the network meetings.

5. KEY STAGE 4 AND 5 RESULTS

Religious Studies results – GCSE's and A-levels 2023

Fewer pupils had undertaken GCSE religious education (140 pupils in the academic year 2021-2022 compared to 105 for the academic year 2022-2023) but more pupils had undertaken 'A' level religious studies (45 pupils in the academic year 2021-2022 compared to 50 for the academic year 2022-2023).

Data was taken from:

- [Key stage 4 performance 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/key-stage-4-performance-2023)
- [Infographics for A level results, 2023 \(accessible\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/infographics-for-a-level-results-2023)
- <https://www.ncer.org/Home.aspx>

2023	Year group total	Cohort entry size	% of children sitting RE	GCSE 9 %	GCSE 5 or above %
Casterton College	177	16	9%	12.5%	44%
Catmose College	202	26	13%	7.7%	65.2%
Uppingham College	173	20	11.5%	10%	50%
Local Authority	552	62	11%	10.1%	53.1%
National results (ALL SCHOOLS)	5,543,840	201,590	4%	7.7%	61.3%

2023	Cohort entry size	A-levels A*- A	A-levels A*-B	A-levels A*-E
Harrington	20	15%	40%	100%
National results (ALL)	14,055	6%	55.9%	98.1%

6. AGREED SYLLABUS 2023-2028

Each local Authority's Agreed Syllabus must be revised every five years as per Section 375 and Schedule 31 of the Education Act 1996. Rutland's Agreed Syllabus was last reviewed in 2018 so an Agreed Syllabus Conference was formed in 2022 to undertake its revision.

All the religious groups in the area were represented on the Agreed Syllabus Conference as were the Rutland County Councillors appointed to SACRE. All contributed to the new Agreed Syllabus including the SACRE school representatives. Schools were also invited to send participants to contribute to the working groups formed as part of the process.

Rutland is in a tri-county agreement with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and one adviser works across all three Local Authorities. The total cost for the Agreed Syllabus preparation was £20,888 for all three Local Authorities and this included the cost of the launch, which was held jointly so reduced the overall cost. Rutland's share of this was 6% based on the number of schools compared to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The new Agreed Syllabus for 2023-2028 was formerly approved by Rutland County Council's Cabinet on the 7 March 2023. It was officially launched on the 15th June 2023 and was published to the [Rutland SACRE](#) website on the same day.

The Agreed Syllabus for 2023-2028 became effective from the 1st September 2023 and further events to support the introduction of the Agreed Syllabus in schools will take place during the academic years 2023-2025 for all schools in Rutland.

The Agreed Syllabus is broadly Christian in nature and reflects the religious and non-religious makeup of the local community. However, there will be a much

greater emphasis on Worldviews and ensuring that the three different types of knowledge (Substantive Knowledge, Ways of Knowing and Personal Development) are being used in all curriculums. The new syllabus provides some units of work and a list of suggestions for all key stages.

The Rutland SACRE will monitor and support the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus over the next 5 years.

7. COMPLAINTS ABOUT COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

There were no complaints about Collective Worship made to the Rutland SACRE by parents in the period of this report.

8. APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Rutland SACRE Constitution
- Appendix B - Membership and Meeting Details of SACRE Meetings
- Appendix C – SACRE Development Plan 2020-22

APPENDIX A

Rutland Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

CONSTITUTION 2022-2023

A SACRE is required by the Education Reform Act of 1988 to be established by the local authority (cf. also DFE Circular 1/94, para.89: 1 and 2; The Education Act 1996, Chapter 111; and RE in English Schools Non-Statutory Guidance 2010, pages 10-16). The Local Authority (LA) must provide SACRE with a suitable annual budget to ensure that SACRE can carry out its statutory responsibilities effectively.

The LA is Rutland County Council.

Rutland SACRE is an independent body which exists to advise the local authority on matters concerned with the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in state-maintained schools.

'Member' means a member of Rutland SACRE, usually appointed, but includes a substitute or co-opted member.

A meeting will only be quorate if all four of the following groups are represented:

- Group A - Representatives of other Churches and faiths
- Group B - Church of England Representatives
- Group C - Teacher Representatives
- Group D - Local Education Authority Representatives

A Member can only represent one group. Rutland SACRE has the power to co-opt members as agreed by the majority of its members. All members are entitled to speak and vote on any issue, but substitute or co-opted members may speak but not vote at any meeting. Rutland SACRE will always seek to reach decisions on a consensus basis but in the event of a vote being taken only one vote is allowed from each of the FOUR groups. In the event of a tied vote on any issue the Chair may exercise the casting vote.

Membership

Group A	Number of representatives
Baptist Church	1
Humanist UK	1
Jewish Community	1
Methodist Church	1
Muslim Community	1
Quakers	1
Roman Catholic Church	1
Sikh Community	1

United Reform Church	1
Group B	
Rutland Deanery	2
Peterborough Diocese	2
Group C	
Teacher Representatives	5
Education Support Staff	1
Group D	
Local Authority County Councillors	2

Rutland SACRE can co-opt members when it is deemed a person's expertise is required to help inform SACRE's work. Co-opted members do not have voting rights.

In addition, there is a Local Authority SACRE Officer or Adviser and a Local Authority SACRE Clerk. Both are appointed by the Local Authority but neither have voting rights.

The Responsibilities of Membership

All Members shall be committed to education and to respecting the views of others. Members shall remain until such time as they will have resigned or fulfilled their duties of membership under the rules dictated by their Governing Body e.g.co-opted temporarily because of a specific expertise in Religious Education. There can be a substitute Member nominated by an absent Member. Notice of this substitution should be received by the LA SACRE Clerk at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

If a Member is absent for 3 or more consecutive meetings for any reason not acceptable to the LA, it shall be assumed that a vacancy now exists. The matters will be referred to the sub-group of Members responsible for Membership.

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be chosen from the Members of the Rutland SACRE and shall be elected at the first meeting in each academic year. In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair at any meeting the LA can elect one of its members to act as the Chair for that meeting.

Rutland SACRE has the power to co-opt people as agreed by the majority of its members.

All Members are entitled to speak and vote on any issue, but substitute or co-opted Members may speak but not vote at any meeting.

The Duties of the Rutland SACRE

Rutland SACRE's main function is to advise the LA on matters related to RE, which follows the locally agreed syllabus, and on collective worship in schools. This means Rutland SACRE:

- can require the LA to review its agreed syllabus;

- must consider applications from a head teacher that the school be released from the requirement for collective worship to be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.” (A determination.); and
- must publish an annual report of its work.

Further Rutland SACRE is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools/colleges through. This means Rutland SACRE shall:

- provide advice on methods of teaching the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education;
- advise the LA on provision of training for teachers;
- gather feedback and evidence from inspection reports and exam entries and results on Religious Education, Collective Worship and Personal Development;
- consider complaints about the provision and delivery of Religious Education and Collective Worship referred to SACRE by the LA;
- ask the LA to review its Agreed Syllabus; and
- contributing to Community Cohesion and Safeguarding of young people and children.

The Agreed Syllabus Conference

An Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) is a statutory body brought together in order to produce an agreed syllabus for RE. It is a separate legal entity from a SACRE. An ASC:

- has the same committee structure as the SACRE; and
- can be made up of SACRE members but need not be so. There is no provision for co-opted members.

The Chair of the ASC can be appointed by the LA, or the LA may allow the ASC to choose its own chair. The LA’s responsibility to convene the ASC implies a duty to provide funds and support for its work. Rutland County Council uses Rutland Agreed Syllabus and works in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council SACRE’s.

Procedures for SACRE

Dates

The Rutland SACRE meets four times a year.

Agenda

Matters for the agenda of any meeting shall be sent to the clerk at least ten days in advance of the meeting. The clerk shall agree the agenda with the chair and the agenda shall be distributed to each member seven days in advance of the next listed meeting.

Minutes

The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated to members within one month of the meeting taking place.

Notification

Rutland SACRE is a public meeting, and the clerk shall ensure public notice is given as with any Rutland County Council meeting and arrangements made for the public to attend should they so wish. Minutes will also be made public once approved.

Approved: 6th September 2022

APPENDIX B - MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING DETAILS OF SACRE MEETINGS

The Rutland SACRE met on the following occasions in 2022-2023:

DATE	VENUE
Tuesday, 6 September 2022	Council Chamber, RCC, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
Tuesday, 29 November 2022	Virtual via Zoom
Tuesday, 14 March 2023	Virtual via Zoom
Tuesday, 6 June 2023	Council Chamber, RCC, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

Group A – Representatives of faiths (other than Church of England) and world views

Name	Representing	Eligible Attendance	Actual Attendance
Andrew Hull	Humanists UK	3	3
Julia Ewans	Humanists UK	1	1
Rhoda Gibson	The Baptist Church	2	2
Madeleine Gilbert	The Baptist Church	2	2
Sheila Gewolb	The Jewish Faith	4	3
Bjoern Finke	The Roman Catholic Church	4	3
Gurdev Singh	The Sikh Faith	4	4

Group B – Church of England Representatives

Name	Representing	Eligible Attendance	Actual Attendance
Rev P Holmes	Peterborough Diocese	1	1
Daniel Alfieri	Peterborough Diocese	4	4
Fiona Wilce	Peterborough Diocese	1	1
Mary-Anne Marples	Peterborough Diocese	1	1
Rev J McWhirter	Rutland Deanery	4	3

Group C – Teacher Representatives

Name	Representing	Eligible Attendance	Actual Attendance
Megan Davis	Primary Teacher Representative	4	3

Mary-Anne Marples	Primary Teacher Representative	3	1
Cara Topping	Primary Teacher Representative	4	0

Group D – Local Education Authority Representatives

Name	Representing	Eligible Attendance	Actual Attendance
Councillor Rosemary Powell	RCC Councillor	3	2
Councillor David Blanksby	RCC Councillor	3	0
Councillor Sue Webb	RCC Councillor	0	1
Councillor Christine Wise	RCC Councillor	1	1
Councillor Steve McRobb	RCC Councillor	1	1

Local Education Authority Officers

Name	Representing	Eligible Attendance	Actual Attendance
Amanda Fitton	SACRE/RE Adviser for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Council	4	4
Elizabeth Papworth	Service Manager – Learning and Skills, RCC	4	4
Jane Narey (Clerk)	Scrutiny Officer, RCC	4	4

APPENDIX C – DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-22

Due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic during 2021-2022, some progress against the development plan had been delayed so tasks had been carried forward into 2022-23.

STRATEGY	TASK	GROUP	PROGRESS
Management of SACRE & partnership with LA	<p><u>Scheme</u> The LA and SACRE are mutually dependent upon each other and ensure statutory requirements are met.</p> <p><u>Analysis</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All four committees are represented fully from the local community consistently attending the meetings. 2. Produce annual report & follow up. 3. Constitution, Development Plan, Engagement Plan 	SACRE members	Ongoing
Incorporation of Commission on RE Report recommendations into the work of SACRE	<p>Form a view on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Name 2) National entitlement 3) Impact of the broader OFSTED framework 4) Parental / guardian right to withdraw children from RE 5) Share view formally with the commission 	SACRE	Production of recommendations to be sent to NASACRE
Raise the profile of RE within schools in Rutland	<p>1a) <u>Monitoring:</u> Survey to identify what, when and how RE is currently taught to include the teachers' view and the view of the pupils.</p> <p>1b) <u>Evaluating:</u> To determine what 'good' is and to develop a consensus of what 'good' looks like in practice.</p> <p>2) Ensure full schools' involvement and belief in the value of the subject by sharing best practice, access to training (including insight into choosing a curriculum that best suits our schools and delivers / on – line teaching resources)</p>	Head Teachers' Forum / RE network / teacher representatives on SACRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring to include noting patterns of attendance at various of the network meetings (specifically by non-denominational schools) and SACRE. - On-going reviews so more specific dates can be set and to include cross – curricular considerations as is appropriate
New Agreed Syllabus	Develop action plan for new agreed syllabus and work with other neighbouring authorities	SACRE	New Agreed Syllabus launched 15 th June 2023 for commencement from the 1 st September 2023.

A large print version of this document is available on request



Rutland County Council
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RE Network Meetings for 2023-24

For

Primary RE Co-ordinators, Teachers of RE and Teaching Assistants

Led by: Amanda Fitton (*RE & SACRE Adviser*)

There will be three network meetings over the coming year and the themes will be:

- **What are RE leads looking for and time effective ways to teach RE**
- **What are world views, how to use different approaches in RE**
- **Books v Floor books the evidence trail for RE leads and Ofsted**

This is also an opportunity to meet with other RE teachers and share ideas.

Thursday 30th November 2023 3.45– 4.45pm Via Teams

Tuesday 5th March 2024 3.45– 4.45 Via Teams

Wednesday 12th June 2024 3.45 –4.45 Via Teams

To book a place please contact Amanda Fitton at amandafitton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Rutland SACRE Work Plan: 2023/24 v4

Meeting Date	Description	Lead
Standing Agenda Items for every meeting	A Moment for Reflection	
	Welcome and Apologies	Chair
	Record of Meeting	Chair
	Actions from the Previous Meeting	Chair
	Rutland SACRE Development Plan 2023-28	Chair
	Update on Network Meetings	Amanda Fitton
	Training Attended by SACRE Members	All
	Monitoring of RE in Schools & OfSTED Inspection Reports	Elizabeth Papworth
	Work Plan	
	Any Urgent Business	
	Date of Next Meeting	

6th June 2023	SACRE Membership	
	a) Election of a New Chair	
	b) Election of a New Vice Chair	
	c) Appointment of New Members	
	NASACRE Conference/AGM: Update	
Agreed Syllabus Launch: Update		
Draft Development Plan 2023-28		

12th September 2023	SACRE's Role and Engagement with Schools	
	Rutland SACRE Constitution	
	Rutland Exam Results	

5th December 2023	SACRE Annual Report 2022-2023 <i>(publication after January 2024)</i>	
	SACRE's Role and Engagement with Schools	
	A) Schools inspected by Ofsted B) Ofsted Annual Report 2022-23 C) SACRE Sub-Group	Amanda Fitton Amanda Fitton Rev McWhirter

12th March 2024	SACRE Agreed Syllabus Schools' Questionnaire: Schools' questionnaire to be approved prior to sending to schools for completion.	Amanda Fitton
	Rutland SACRE Constitution	
	Rutland Exam Results: Verified Data	

11th June 2024		

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