



Rutland SACRE



**Standing Advisory Council on
Religious Education**

Supporting Rutland Schools in delivering Religious Education

Rutland

**Standing Advisory Council
For
Religious Education
(SACRE)**

Report April 2018 – March 2019

“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 and 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.”*

*Words of reflection said before each SACRE meeting

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1. INTRODUCTION

Rutland Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) is a statutory body which has a key role in monitoring of Religious Education in schools in Rutland. It works on behalf of the Local Authority (LA) to advise on the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in all forms of schools and educational establishments in the local area.

The roles and responsibilities of a SACRE are clearly set out in Section 3 of *Religious Education in English schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010* published by the Department for children, schools and families. This guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/religious-education-guidance-in-english-schools-non-statutory-guidance-2010>

SACREs were established by the 1944 Education Act and their functions set out in the 1988 Education Act. The main function is to advise the LA on matters related to Collective Worship in community schools and the Religious Education to be given in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

The SACRE also has the duty to require that the Locally Agreed Syllabus be reviewed every five years to keep it relevant and appropriate, and to ensure that schools comply with the legislation. Rutland joined with Northamptonshire, Peterborough and Cambridgeshire to convene an Agreed Syllabus Conference and Katy Walker, headteacher of Ryhall CE Academy, represented Rutland at this. Whilst Academies are not required to follow the Locally Agreed Syllabus they are required to provide an RE curriculum and most Academies in Rutland do use the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

This Report indicates how the functions and duties of SACRE have been discharged in Rutland. The Report also aims to provide wider information about the provision for RE and the standards that students are achieving; about the provision for Collective Worship, and about SACRE's own activities.

We hope that the Report will inform the continuing developments in RE and Collective Worship in Rutland and continue to be an effective support for school improvement.

The local SACRE congratulates those primary schools who received good and outstanding grades in this year's Ofsted inspection reports for the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils and also the schools who have achieved good and outstanding judgements in their Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) reports. The SACRE will continue to encourage schools to broaden knowledge and understanding of all cultures and faiths.

Thank you to Rutland County Council for their assistance in the support and running of the Rutland SACRE and for staff in our schools who have ably supported our work.

This report covers a financial, rather than academic, year. This is because public examination results are normally verified in early spring and we wish to incorporate these in SACRE's Annual Report.

I should like to commend this report.

Cllr Gale Waller
Chair of SACRE

2. THE ROLE OF SACRE

- 2.1 The 1988 Education Reform Act confirmed the statutory requirement for all LAs to form a permanent body for Religious Education – The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). The Rutland SACRE is an independent body which exists to advise the LA on matters concerned with the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship.
- 2.2 The world of education has been, and is continuing, to change and successive governments strive to find ways to improve educational outcomes. Over recent years the role of the Local Authority in relation to schools has reduced but SACRE continues to be a statutory body. The Government's stance is that British Values and an understanding of others' cultures and faiths can best be taught through RE. The subject contributes significantly to meeting the Government's Prevent agenda.
- 2.3 By law the SACRE comprises of four groups:

Group A: Representatives of Christian denominations other than the Church of England, and other religions, reflecting the principal religious traditions of an area (Rutland in our case).

Group B: Church of England Representatives

Group C: Teacher Associations

Group D: Local Authority Representatives

Each group has equal status and voting rights. See **Appendix A** for membership.

Rutland SACRE is supported by a clerk and a professional officer. The professional officer we have supports both SACRE and The Agreed Syllabus Conference. She is a part-time appointee for Rutland and also supports SACREs in Northamptonshire, Peterborough, and Cambridgeshire. Rutland's Head of Learning and Skills also actively supports SACRE.

- 2.4 The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in maintained schools / community colleges through:
- Advising the LA on methods of teaching the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education;
 - Advising the LA on the provision of training for teachers;
 - Monitoring inspection reports on Religious Education, Collective Worship and SMSC development of pupils;
 - Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of Religious Education and Collective Worship referred to SACRE by the LA;
 - Obtaining support from the LA to review its Locally Agreed Syllabus;
 - Contributing to community cohesion.
- 2.5 The Rutland SACRE meets at least three times each academic year and, since July 2015, this has been at Rutland County Council's Catmose building reflecting SACRE's position as a committee of the Council. SACRE meetings are open to the public who may attend as observers and minutes are published on Rutland County Council's website.

3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- 3.1 There is a legislative requirement that a Local Authority should undertake a review of its locally Agreed Syllabus every 5 years. This Agreed Syllabus was last reviewed during 2017/18 and this year has been introduced to our schools. English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy follows 'Come and See', the RE syllabus for schools within the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese.

4. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

"We have worked hard to develop our Collective Worship. We now have incorporate the school's 5R's, British Values and our Christian values. Through doing this we now feel our Collective Worship is much more representative of our individual school. We now feel that it's our own school's Collective Worship."

Emily Potter, Lead Teacher, Uppingham CofE School

- 4.1 Rutland primary schools all have whole school collective worship but it is far more difficult for secondary schools to have whole school collective worship because of the demands of timetabling large numbers of young people and the space that is required for all young people in a secondary school to meet together. It does happen but more frequently collective worship takes place in smaller groups such as Year Group or House Assembly.
- 4.2 In addition to collective worship faith schools also offer the opportunity for morning/end of day/lunchtime prayer. Pupils in these schools regularly recite the Lord's Prayer and children themselves write, and lead, prayers. Church of England schools use the Bible to support worship and pupils also have opportunities to worship in church.
- 4.3 In secondary schools in Rutland there is an emphasis on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education and British Values during collective worship.

5. OFSTED INSPECTION REPORTS 2018-2019

- 5.1 For schools which have a religious character, that is are not linked to a specific faith, Ofsted is not responsible for inspecting RE and collective worship* but can use evidence gathered from RE and collective worship to evaluate pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, personal development and/or behaviour and attitudes. For those schools without a religious character Ofsted is responsible for inspecting religious education and collective worship. Despite being a compulsory curriculum subject there is scant mention of religious education in Ofsted reports which SACRE members consider a deficit in the inspection model. During this year we considered the proposed draft framework for Ofsted inspections. Religious education is a compulsory subject in England and this is explicitly stated in the draft framework. SACRE hope this will encourage Ofsted to reference the subject more in their inspection reports.

5.2 The following Rutland schools received either two day or short Ofsted inspections between April 2018 and April 2019:

- St Mary and St John CofE VA Primary School (May 2018)
- Cottesmore Primary Academy (September 2018)
- Uppingham Church of England Primary School (November 2018)
- Brooke Hill Academy (December 2018)
- Leighfield Primary Academy (December 2018)

“Pupils told me they get on well together. Newcomers said they feel welcomed. Pupils spoke knowledgeably about the values of respect and tolerance, and the importance of fairness. As one pupil put it, ‘It’s not just about faith. Everyone is different and should be treated fairly.’ Pupils help each other and play their part in school life. They learn about different geographical regions, British and world history and major religions, with a positive effect on their understanding of those beyond the school community”

St Mary and St John CofE VA Primary School Ofsted Report

“At the time of the previous inspection, leaders were asked to provide more opportunities to improve pupils’ understanding of cultural diversity beyond the school. You have addressed this well. You have revised the teaching of religious education in order to deepen pupils’ knowledge of a range of faiths. Your links with a partner primary school within the academy trust enable pupils to work alongside others from backgrounds and faiths that are different to their own. When I asked pupils about important values, such as respect and tolerance, they showed good understanding, illustrated by this comment, ‘Our appearances and personalities may be different but, basically, we are all the same.’”

Brooke Hill Academy Ofsted Report

“Staff promote pupils’ social and cultural awareness by helping pupils to value and celebrate their experiences as service children from a wide range of cultural backgrounds.”

Cottesmore Primary Academy Ofsted Report

5.3 Links to the full reports can be found in **Appendix B**.

6. SECTION 48 INSPECTIONS

6.1 Schools with a designated religious character have specific inspections of religious education and collective worship as defined by Section 48 of the Education Act 2005. These are known as Section 48 Inspections. Within Church of England schools in Rutland these are generally SIAMS (School Inspection Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspections. English Martyrs school in Oakham, currently the only designated religious character school in Rutland which is not Church of England, has their Section 48 Inspection undertaken by the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service.

6.2 In April 2019, St Mary and St John Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School received an overall grade of Excellent from their SIAMS inspection.

- 6.3 In April 2019, Uppingham Church of England Primary School received an overall grade of Good from their SIAMS inspection.

7. RE TEACHERS' NETWORK

- 7.1 One of SACRE's objectives for 2018/19 was to support a network for RE co-ordinators.
- 7.2 Network meetings for all primary schools in Rutland are held once a term, are facilitated by the RE Adviser Amanda Fitton and are open to all heads, teachers and TA's of RE. There is always a focus to each meeting that was agreed at the previous meeting. These topics have included;
- Enquiry approaches to RE
 - The new agreed syllabus
 - Training needs in Rutland primary schools
 - Collective worship
 - Stories and art in RE
 - Assessment
- 7.3 As well as being part of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) the meetings are also an opportunity for teachers of RE to share good practice and resources with each other and the RE adviser and to be able to address any issues or concerns.
- 7.4 SACRE would like to thank all the teachers who have attended and contributed. Also to thank Whissendine Church of England Primary School and Oakham Primary School for hosting the meetings.

8. KS4 AND KS5 RESULTS 2018

- 8.1 SACRE would like to congratulate all Rutland pupils who achieved success in their public examinations in RE, and Philosophy and Ethics in 2018. For full details see **Appendix C**.

9. REPORTING TO PARENTS

- 9.1 Legally, schools are required to report to parents annually on pupils' progress in RE.

10. LINKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES

- 10.1 The inspection reports for both Section 5 (Ofsted) and Section 48 present a sound baseline for the monitoring of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education in Rutland schools.
- 10.2 The SACRE endeavours to respond to the proposed priorities of the Local Authority 'Children and Young Peoples' Plan'; for example, the extent to which the RE Syllabus meets the needs of the community.
- 10.3 The SACRE also endeavours to promote and develop the importance of resilience in young people through relevant areas of the curriculum in school including Religious Education.

- 10.4 RE also contributes to the Government's PREVENT agenda and in 2019/20 SACRE will be considering this aspect of the curriculum.

11. COMPLAINTS ABOUT COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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

12. SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018/19

- 12.1 SACRE continues to review its Development Plan but its focus continues to be the RE network and the opportunities this provides to share good practice. In reviewing the Development Plan in 2018/19 we have agreed to include a focus on resilience and mental health and explore RE and Prevent. From September 2020 all schools will be required to adhere to new Government guidance on relationships and sex education in their Curriculum. SACRE will consider any implications for RE and collective worship arising from this guidance.

13. LOOKING FORWARD

- 13.1 The commission on Religious Education report (published May 2018) presents various recommendations that this SACRE should consider and in so doing it may wish to alter the current development plan to incorporate current thinking to ensure that schools do 'prepare children and young people for living in an increasingly diverse world in which they find themselves'. *
- 13.2 With eleven recommendations in total, covering all aspects of Religious Education from initial teacher education to measuring success for pupils, it is prudent to reach agreement on the fundamental principles of Religious Education:

13.2.1 A change of name for Religious Education to 'Religion and World Views' so as to reflect the nature of the world today.

To some extent there is still confusion as to the purpose of RE: some still see it as 'Religious Instruction' as opposed to offering pupils the opportunity to consider a broad variety of views regarding faith and non – faith and in so doing developing tolerance and understanding of people who may hold different views to themselves.

13.2.2 National Entitlement: does this SACRE support the requirement for a National Entitlement in all publicly funded schools?

The OFSTED review of Religious Education in 2013 showed there was considerable variance in the quality of teaching; 50% of secondary schools and 6 out of 10 primary schools observed were considered to have RE lessons that were 'less than good'.

13.2.3 The need for OFSTED to incorporate clear reporting on this subject in its reports.

As shown by successive SACRE reports, the teaching of RE has not been explicitly mentioned in OFSTED reports. Whilst the new inspection framework (2019) mentions the need to make 'cultural capital' in order to deliver a broad and

a balanced curriculum, it still does not explicitly recognise the important role RE has in delivering this key aim.

13.2.4 Supporting the removal of the right to withdraw children from RE lessons.

This right has been entrenched in successive education acts since the Education Act of 1870. It is widely acknowledged that the right to withdraw can result in those children who most need a balanced and holistic education regarding faith and non – faith in order to become balanced and tolerant citizens is denied them.

*From CORE report 05/18

14. APPENDIX A – RUTLAND SACRE MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE 2018-2019

The Rutland SACRE has met on the following occasions in 2018-2019:

DATE	VENUE
Tuesday 17 th April 2018	Council Chamber
Tuesday 10 th July 2018	Council Chamber
Tuesday 30 th October 2018	Council Chamber
Tuesday 15 th January 2019	Council Chamber
Tuesday 19 th March 2019	Council Chamber

Group A – Representative of other Churches and Faiths

Name	Representing	Actual Attendance	Eligible Attendance
Mrs Julia Barnwell	The Baptist Church	1	5
Ms Aga Cahn	The Jewish Faith	2	4
Mr Andreas Menzies	Roman Catholic Church	3	5

Group B – Church of England Representatives

Mrs Sara Barrett	Rutland Deanery	4	5
Mrs Barbara Crellin	Peterborough Diocese	1	2
The Revd Dr Peter Holmes	Peterborough Diocese	4	5
Rev Rachel Watts	Peterborough Diocese	1	3

Group C – Teacher Associations

Mrs Megan Davis	National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT)	4	5
Mr Patrick Toner	National Education Union	2	5

Group D – Local Education Authority Representatives

Miss Gale Waller (Chair)	RCC	4	5
Mrs Lucy Stephenson	RCC	4	5

Co-opted Groups

Ms Julia Ewans	Humanist	5	5
Mr Andrew Hull	Humanist	1	1
Ms Katy Walker	Rutland Headteachers' Forum	1	5

Rutland LA Officers Supporting the Rutland SACRE

Ms Gill Curtis	Head of Learning and Skills
Mrs Amanda Fitton	SACRE/RE Adviser – Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Peterborough, and Rutland
Mr Kit Silcock	Governance Officer (Clerk to the Rutland SACRE)

15. APPENDIX B – OFSTED INSPECTIONS DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2019

The following Ofsted Inspection Reports for 2018-2019 can be found on the following website:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Please quote the Unique Reference Number (URN) as follows:

Cottesmore Academy Unique Reference Number (URN): 142401

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50035401>

Brooke Hill Academy Unique Reference Number (URN): 137358

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50041848>

Uppingham Church of England Primary School

Unique Reference Number (URN): 146428

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50041972>

St Mary and St John CofE VA Primary School Unique Reference Number (URN): 120229

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/2773273>

Leighfield Primary School – Unique Reference Number (URN): 139481

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50041737>

16. APPENDIX C – KEY STAGE 4 AND KEY STAGE 5 RESULTS 2018

Religious Education/Studies GCSE Short and full course results: 2018

Catmose College

Full Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Full Course	All	78.3%	93.5%	100%	46	6.20	6
Summary for RE Full Course	Female	83.9%	96.8%	100%	31	6.61	7
Summary for RE Full Course	Male	66.7%	86.7%	100%	15	5.33	5
Short Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Short Course	All						
Summary for RE Short Course	Female						
Summary for RE Short Course	Male						

No students entered for short-course RE GCSE in 2018. The College doesn't enter any short-course GCSEs.

Religious Education/Studies GCSE Short and full course results: 2018

Casterton College Rutland

Full Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Full Course	All	100%	100%	100%	8	7	7
Summary for RE Full Course	Female	100%	100%	100%	7	7.14	7
Summary for RE Full Course	Male	100%	100%	100%	1	6	6
Short Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Short Course	All						
Summary for RE Short Course	Female						
Summary for RE Short Course	Male						

The last Y11 group to study the short course were the 2015/16 cohort.

Religious Education/Studies GCSE Short and full course results: 2018

Uppingham Community College

Full Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Full Course	All	58.3%	66.7%	100%	36	4.8	4.8
Summary for RE Full Course	Female	52.0%	60.0%	100%	25	4.6	4.6
Summary for RE Full Course	Male	72.7%	81.8%	100%	11	5.3	5.3
Short Course	Gender	9-5 %	9-4 %	9-1 %	Student Count	Average Pts	Average Grade
Summary for RE Short Course	All						
Summary for RE Short Course	Female						
Summary for RE Short Course	Male						

No students entered for short-course RE GCSE in 2018.

A-Level Results 2018

Harington College

Full course	Gender	A* - A %	A* - B %	A* - C %	A* - E %	Student Count
Summary for PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS	All	7	57	57	100	14
Summary for PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS	Female	7	43	43	100	11
Summary for PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS	Male	0	14	14	100	3