

# Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Supporting Rutland Schools in delivering Religious Education

Rutland
Standing Advisory Council
For
Religious Education
(SACRE)

Annual Report for the Academic Year 2014-2015

"Philosophy and Ethics gives me essay writing skills in order to progress and help me with essays and lectures at university."

Post 16 Student, Rutland

**Version 4** 

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This information can be made available in other languages and formats on request.

#### 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 has an important role working on behalf of the local authority to advise on the provision of Religious Education 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: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/religious-education-guidance-in-english-schools-non-statutory-guidance-2010">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/religious-education-guidance-in-english-schools-non-statutory-guidance-2010</a>

SACREs were established by the 1944 Education Act and their functions set out in the 1988 Education Act. The main functions are to advise the Local Authority 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.

This Annual Report indicates how these functions and duties have been discharged during the year. 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 developments in RE and Collective Worship in Rutland and be an effective support for school improvement.

The local SACRE congratulates those primary schools who received good grades in this year's OFSTED inspection reports for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their pupils and also the schools who have achieved good 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.

I should like to commend this report.

Cllr Gale Waller Chair of SACRE

#### 2 THE ROLE OF SACRE

"RE means learning about other religions as well as our own. I enjoy hearing stories that have been passed down the ages and I want to find out why there are lots of religions in the world."

Year 5 Pupil, Rutland School

## 2.1 Background

The 1988 Education Reform Act confirmed the statutory requirement for all LAs to reform 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 Local Authority (LA) on matters concerned with the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship.

## 2.2 By law the SACRE comprises of four groups:

Group One: Representatives of Christian denominations

and other religions, reflecting the principal religious traditions of an area (Rutland in our

case)

Group Two: Church of England Representatives

**Group Three: Teacher Associations** 

Group Four: LA Representatives

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

- 2.3 The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in maintained schools / community colleges through:
  - Advise 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 Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (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.
- 2.4 The Rutland SACRE meets at least three times each 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

"RE is inspiring and interesting. I love to learn about different religions, different places and different people and make drawings. I like to sit in a circle and reflect on stories like Islam's "creation story" and stories about God."

Year 5 Pupil, Rutland

3.1 There is a legislative requirement that a Local Authority should undertake a review of its Agreed Syllabus every 5 years. Since 1997, when Rutland became a unitary authority, Rutland has adopted the Northamptonshire Locally Agreed Syllabus. This is now called "Growing Together" and Rutland County Council agreed to adopt this Syllabus in February 2011.

#### 4 OfSTED INSPECTION REPORTS 2014-2015

"I enjoy RE when it is really active, such as acting out scenes from the Bible because you can have fun whilst learning. I love to learn about RE in different ways, like visiting different religious buildings on school trips to help us understand about different cultures."

Year 5 Pupil, Rutland school

- 4.1 The following Rutland Primary Schools were inspected by Ofsted in the 2014-2015 academic year:
  - Leighfield Primary School
  - Brooke Hill Academy
  - Uppingham C of E Primary School

## 4.2 Leighfield Primary School

Section 5 Inspection: March 2015

Inspection findings:

The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good. The academy is a happy, harmonious community, where relationships are excellent between pupils and with staff.

Pupils behave well. They are safe and feel safe, because they are confident that their friends and the adults will take care of them.

## 4.3 Brooke Hill Academy

Section 5 Inspection: February 2015

Inspection finding:

Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good.

Behaviour in school is good and pupils have a positive attitude to learning. The school's work to keep the pupils safe is good.

There are insufficient opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of the diverse society in which they live. The senior leadership team is developing the range of subjects effectively to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils. The pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is

good. However, although the pupils know about other religions and cultures, opportunities to fully understand the diverse society in which they live are limited.

## 4.4 Uppingham CofE Primary School

Section 5 Inspection: April 2015

Inspection finding:

Behaviour is good. The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively and prepares them well for the next stage in their education.

#### 5 SIAMS INSPECTION REPORTS 2014-2015

"Philosophy and Ethics gives a different outlook on all aspects of life. It allows you to look through the eyes of others seeing their opinions and views in relation to views and concepts we share today. I feel these skills will be useful later in life when in a work environment, co-operating with others and making moral and ethical decisions."

Post 16 Student, Rutland

### 5.1 Langham CofE Primary School

SIAMS Inspection December 2014 Inspections findings:

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is good at meeting the needs of all learners.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is good.

A copy of the full report is attached at **Appendix B.** 

## 5.2 Oakham Church of England VC Primary School

SIAMS Inspection March 2015 Inspections findings:

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is satisfactory at meeting the needs of all learners.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is satisfactory.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory.

A copy of the full report is attached at **Appendix B.** 

## 5.3 Uppingham Church of England VC Primary School

SIAMS Inspection February 2015 Inspections findings:

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is satisfactory at meeting the needs of all learners.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is satisfactory.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory.

A copy of the full report is attached at **Appendix B.** 

## 5.4 Whissendine Church of England VC Primary School

SIAMS Inspection January 2015 Inspections findings:

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is outstanding at meeting the needs of all learners.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is outstanding.

A copy of the full report is attached at **Appendix B.** 

#### 6 KS4 and KS5 RESULTS 2014

"At GCSE level I enjoyed the ethics side, arguing and discussing current ethical issues such as the euthanasia." Post 16 Student, Rutland

- 6.1 Validated KS4 and KS5 data for 2015 attainment outcomes was provided to SACRE in Spring 2016 and is provided at **Appendix C.**
- 6.2 SACRE members were particularly pleased to note the high achievement levels of students taking GCSE RE. We were pleased to see the numbers entering from Catmose College for the Full Course GCSE programme and the success those students had. We also celebrated the success Uppingham Community College and Casterton College had for the Short Course programme. The Short Course provides the opportunity for young people, particularly those who do not wish to study a full GCSE programme, to achieve a qualification in RE. RE is compulsory to age 18 for students in state schools and colleges.

#### 7 REPORTING TO PARENTS

7.1 Standards at all key stages are regularly reported to parents in the annual report of each pupil's work at the end of the summer term and during the year at parents' evenings.

# 8 LINKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES

"Philosophy and Ethics is a very varied subject in terms that it is useful in any career path. The subject enables you to think critically and open your judgement to ethical decisions which are relevant not only in the past but in the present society." Post 16 Student, Rutland

- 8.1 The inspection reports for both S5 and S48 present a sound baseline for the monitoring of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education in Rutland schools and colleges.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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.

#### 9 COMPLAINTS ABOUT COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

9.1 There have been no complaints about Collective Worship made to the Rutland SACRE by parents in 2014-2015.

#### 10 SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-15

10.1The SACRE reviewed its Development Plan for 2013-15.

The Development Plan aimed to address the following issues over the two years:

- Identifying common strengths and areas for development in RE.
- Identifying the required professional development for raising standards in RE and providing quality Collective worship.

- Contributing to the priorities of the Local Authority strategic partnership in relation to community cohesion.
- 10.2A new Development Plan will be developed in 2015/16.

#### 11 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAMME

11.1The SACRE agreed to review the potential for creating a RE cluster in Rutland led by schools.

#### 12 LINKS WITH PARTNERS AND OTHER BODIES

"I love RE because it is extremely interesting and I get to learn about different gods and religions." Year 5 Pupil, Rutland

- 12.1 Rutland SACRE is actively involved in the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) and has been represented at its meetings and conferences.
- 12.2Rutland Local Authority works closely with both the Anglican and Roman Catholic Diocese and with Northamptonshire's Religious Education Advisory Team in the support of Religious Education teaching in its Church of England, Community, Foundation schools and academies.
- 12.3SACRE considered the highlights of the NASACRE conference which were:
  - The importance of young people being taught the facts about different faiths rather than, as adults, being reliant on the misinformation provided by the popular press;

- The need for SACREs to capture 'the voice of the child';
- The risk that free schools will not teach RE;
- The need for the children's scrutiny panel to consider SACRE's annual report:
- The value of SACRE having a web presence;

#### 13 SACRE BUDGET

13.1SACRE has a small budget. This has been allocated for clerking of meetings, the taking up of SACRE business by the clerk, taking forward special projects and to maintain the links with and the support of NASACRE, including sending a delegate to the Annual Conference.

## **APPENDIX A**

## **Rutland SACRE Membership and Attendance 2014-2015**

The Rutland SACRE has met on the following occasions in 2014-2015:

Date	Venue
26 June 2014	St Joseph's RC Church,
	Station Road, Oakham
18 November 2014	Voluntary Action Rutland,
	Land's End Way, Oakham
3 February 2015	Council Chamber, RCC
17 March 2015	Oakham CofE Primary School
15 July 2015	Council Chamber, RCC
13 October 2015	Council Chamber, RCC

<b>GROUP A – Representatives of other Churches and Faiths</b>			
Name	Representing	Actual attendance	Eligible attendance
Mr Andreas Menzies	The Roman Catholic Church	5	6
Mrs Eileen Ray	The Methodist Church	4	6
Vacancy	The United Reform Church	0	6
Vacancy	The Baptist Church	0	6
Vacancy	Other Faiths	0	6
Vacancy	The Congregational Fed	0	6
Vacancy	The Quakers	0	6

GROUP B – Church of England Representatives			
Name	Representing	Actual attendance	Eligible attendance
Mr Michael Kee	Peterborough Diocese	1	6
Mrs Barbara Crellin	Peterborough Diocese	2	6
Rev Jane Baxter	Rutland Deanery	0	5
Mrs Joanna Harley	Rutland Deanery	0	5

GROUP C – Teacher Associations			
Name	Representing	Actual attendance	Eligible attendance
Mr David Sharpe	ATL	3	6
Mr Carl Smith	ASCL	0	5
Mrs Megan Davis	NAHT	2	5
Mrs Sue McGrath	Secondary Consortium	0	6
Mrs Mary-Anne Marples	Co-opt Primary Head	0	0
Mrs Rebecca Grey	Co-opt Primary Head	2	6
Vacancy	NASUWT	0	6
Vacancy	Voice	0	6

GROUP D – Local Education Authority Representative			
Name	Representing	Actual attendance	Eligible attendance
Miss Gale Waller	Rutland County Council	6	6
Mrs Lucy Stephenson	Rutland County Council	0	1

Rutland LA Officer Supporting the Rutland SACRE
Dr Rashida Sharif, Specialist Education Officer
Clerk to the Rutland SACRE
Jane Narey, Corporate Support Officer

#### **APPENDIX B**

## **SIAMS Inspection Reports**

Langham CofE Primary School



Oakham Church of England VC Primary School



• Uppingham Church of England VC Primary School



• Whissendine Church of England VC Primary School



## **APPENDIX C**

**Key Stage 4 Results 2015 (Validated January 2016)**