



Doncaster
Council

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**DONCASTER STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019 AND
DRAFT SACRE ACTION PLAN FOR 2019-2020.**



CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT.

Doncaster has a vibrant and dynamic community which is becoming increasingly diverse. Amongst our community we have members with a wide range of religious beliefs and none. According to the last annual census undertaken in 2011, a high percentage of Doncaster's population, as is the case nationally stated that they had no religion. Christianity was the most practised faith in Doncaster, followed by Islam, Sikhism, Other religious groups, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Judaism. As a result it is imperative that the citizens and especially the young people of Doncaster have the opportunity to practise their faiths, where relevant, and also learn about one another's religions in an open and informed manner, free of stereotypes and ignorance. The work of SACRE is an important vehicle to achieve a more cohesive society in which there is the opportunity for people to share their experiences and learn from one another's religious and beliefs.

Our key priority this year has been to prove a new locally agreed syllabus for religious education for all Doncaster schools which was launched successfully in November this year. In addition, we have focused on ensuring that training and support has been made available to teachers in successfully implementing the syllabus effectively in their schools and for them to deliver high quality teaching in RE to pupils.

Doncaster SACRE along with other SACREs nationally has a number of statutory responsibilities namely:

- Advise the LA on such matters connected with agreed syllabus religious education and collective worship either in response to a referral from the LA or as it see fit;
- Publish an annual report on its work and on actions taken by its representative groups, specifying any matters on which it has advised the LA, broadly describing the nature of that advice, and set out reasons for offering advice on matters not referred to it by the LA;
- Send a copy of the report to the relevant government agency;
- 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" for some or all of their pupils (this is known as a determination);
- Meet in public unless confidential information is to be disclosed; and

Produce minutes of its meetings available for inspection at the LA's offices and on the Council's Website (so far as the minutes relate to the parts of meetings that were open to the public).

This annual report outlines the activities that Doncaster SACRE has undertaken in the last academic year 2018-2019 in relation to the above statutory responsibilities and to make Doncaster a more open and understanding place in which its citizens can live together in harmony and peace. This report also provides further information on our key priorities for the new academic year 2019-2020.

Rev Mc Cready to insert any other personal reflections and change the above wording if not deemed suitable

Reverend Tom McCready

Chair of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education and of the Doncaster Agreed Syllabus Conference.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE ACDEMIC YEAR 2018-2019

MEETINGS OF SACRE

Doncaster SACRE met once a term on the following dates:

- Wednesday 7th November 2018
- Wednesday 20th March 2019
- Wednesday 26th June 2019

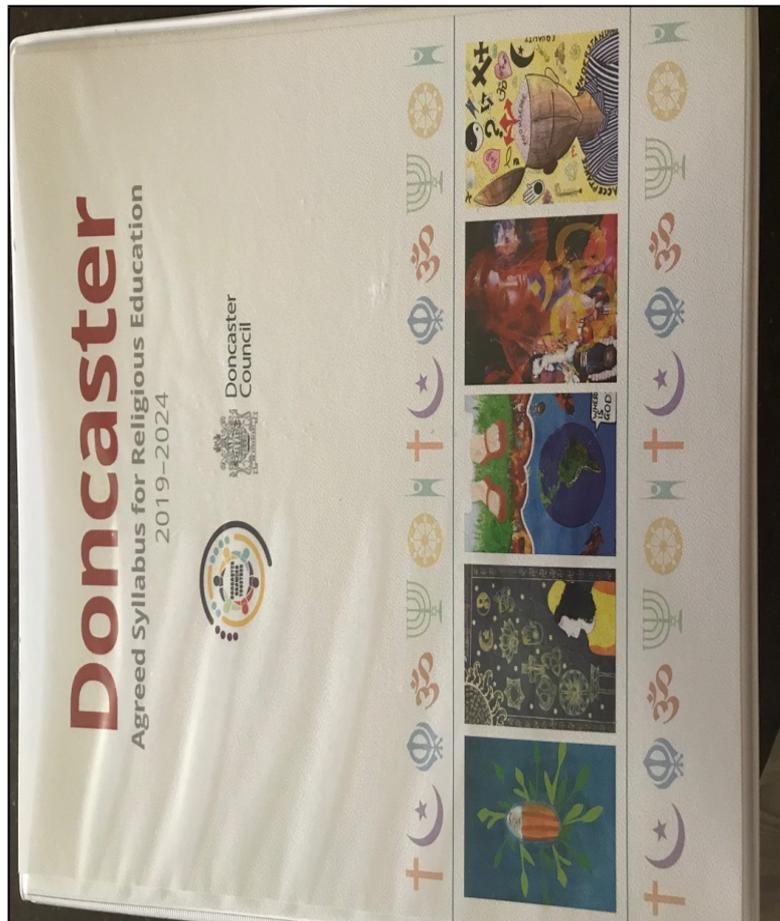
The agenda and minutes of all these meetings are available to read on the SACRE page of the Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) website

<http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-sacre>

Whilst attendance at SACRE meetings was reasonable it is recognised by SACRE that further work needs to be undertaken to ensure that there is good representation from all the four constituent groups of SACRE (Group A Christian denominations and other religions (and their denominations), Group B The Church of England, Group C Teacher Associations, Group D The local authority) and to ensure that it is quorate as outlined in SACRE's Constitution, Terms of Reference and Governance Arrangements. As a result further action is currently being undertaken (See SACRE Action Plan for 2019-2020) in this area. It is hoped that the meetings in 2019-2020 will have good representation from all four groups, especially Groups A and C).

THE LOCALLY AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND ITS LINKS WITH DONCASTER STRATEGIC PRIORTIES

Doncaster SACRE has produced a locally agreed syllabus for religious education for all its schools in partnership with RE Today. It covers the full five year period from 2019-2024.



Need a better picture of the cover

The syllabus reinforces the importance of RE as an academic discipline. It will enable understanding of concepts and the development of skills and attitudes so that our pupils can explore wider issues of religion and belief in religiously literate ways. The syllabus prepares the children and young people of Doncaster for active citizenship in a diverse and rapidly changing world, exploring some aspects of British values In relation to religions and world views.

Doncaster is a vibrant and unique community in a region of wide diversity of religion and belief. The population of Yorkshire and Humberside includes large communities of Christians, Hindus, Muslims, Jewish people, Buddhists and Sikhs. Many children come from families that hold non-religious life stances such as Humanism. RE taught using this syllabus will allow all learners to share their experiences and learn from one another and the religions and beliefs In our community.

The '**Doncaster Children and Young People's Plan 2017-2020**' makes a priority for 'a broad and balanced curriculum equipping them (all pupils) with the life skills they need to be independent

and successful'. This syllabus continues in the tradition of ensuring that RE is responsive to the changing nature of schools and education. The syllabus enables schools to respond effectively to the Government's Prevent Strategy and to the new Ofsted framework for inspection, which requires schools to teach a broad and balanced curriculum that will ensure high standards of achievement, learning and behaviour for pupils, as well as contributing to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Furthermore, *Doncaster's 'Growing Together'* prospectus asserts that 'everyone has a part to play in recognising and valuing the benefits of diverse and inclusive communities. RE and this locally agreed syllabus plays an important part in achieving this priority.

Doncaster's Opportunity Area Delivery Plan priorities brilliant teaching for all our pupils.

Following the agreed syllabus means that RE makes a positive contribution to pupils' learning, knowledge and skills. This will also contribute to pupils' readiness to participate in life in modern, diverse Britain and in a plural world. The syllabus enables young people to make informed choices about how they want to live their lives, whilst also understanding more about the beliefs of other people they meet. As such it is very relevant to every pupil and citizen of Doncaster.

By producing a quality locally agreed syllabus for the next five years Doncaster SACRE has fulfilled its responsibility in this respect and will continue to support the effective implementation and high quality delivery of teaching in our schools in partnership with RE Today.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO DONCASTER SCHOOLS

- **LAUNCH OF THE LOCALLY RE AGREED SYLLABUS AND ASSOCIATED TRAINING. 7th November 2018**

NEED PICTURE OF THE TRAINING COURSE SCREEN SHOT

This was a full day's training event entitled 'Introducing the new Doncaster RE Agreed Syllabus Making the most of RE: Better teaching, better learning, better outcomes' delivered by RE Today.

It had a balance of practical ideas and inspiration covering the following areas:

- Planning great RE
- Achieving more in RE with outcomes-led assessment
- Spiritual and Moral Development + British Values
- Developing questioning
- Making progress in RE

The aims of the full day event were:

- To introduce the new Agreed Syllabus for RE: it is up to date, uses the current EYFS, National Curriculum style, with increased flexibility and extra support for planning RE, assessment after levels, British Values work and SMSCD
- To provide practical strategies, guidance and resources for teachers and in planning creative, challenging, thoughtful RE to promote the personal development of pupils
- To inspire teachers and help them to develop their confidence in planning and delivering RE, whether in the context of cross-curriculum themes, RE days or discrete RE lessons.
- To model examples of thoughtful RE, challenging all pupils and promoting deeper thinking.

The programme for the day was as follows:

Programme for the day

From 9 am **Registration and refreshments**

9.30 am **Planning great RE using the new syllabus**

This session will consider the place and value of RE for pupils, highlighting the developments and opportunities in the new syllabus. It will demonstrate how to use the syllabus to plan and teach engaging, thoughtful RE

11.00 am **Break – refreshments**

11.30 am **Excellent teaching and learning**

This session will offer six high quality teaching and learning ideas, based on the syllabus,

to deepen pupils' understanding and skills, and explore spiritual and moral development and British Values through RE.

1.15 pm Lunch

2.00 pm Achieving more in RE

This session will look at setting high standards with the new syllabus and explain methods of assessment and provide examples of ways to enable pupils to make good progress in RE using the learning outcomes of our new syllabus.

3.30 pm Evaluation and close

On the day delegates receive a hard copy of the syllabus, plus exemplar units of work. Copies of all resources were also available to take away and electronic copies of all resources are also available for delegates to download. . A full set of units of work to support the syllabus were also available to order at a reduced rate on the day.

Approximately 50 delegates had attended the launch event. Although the launch event was well attended it was noted that attendance from secondary schools was missing and this is an area that SACRE will be focusing on next academic year. As a result a decision has been made to offer training targeted at primary and secondary colleagues separately and also look into using one of the local secondary schools to hold the training on site as a way of encouraging better engagement and participation.

Evaluations? plus more details on which schools attended etc.

- **Training for schools on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development - 20th March 2019**

Flyer pic

The event had been attended by representatives from 17 primary schools.

- **FUTURE DIRECTIONS WORKSHOP ON RE?**

Details required

FORWARD PLANNING

On the meeting on 26th June 2019 SACRE revisited its role and statutory responsibilities and discussed its future priorities for the forthcoming academic year now that a locally agreed syllabus for RE is in place for all schools in Doncaster. Three key priorities with a number of actions against each one of these has been agreed for the new academic year.

These three key priorities are:

1. To ensure SACRE is fully constituted in terms of membership and is able to undertake its statutory duties effectively as outlined in its terms of reference and governance arrangements.
2. To provide training and support to Religious Education (RE) teachers in schools so that they can deliver high quality teaching to pupils.
3. To build up a bank of useful resources and materials to support RE Teachers in their teaching and develop a strategy for the identification and sharing of good practice in the teaching of RE in Doncaster schools.

A copy of the Action Plan for the academic year 2019-2020 is available on request.

FURTHER DETAILS

Further details of SACRE and its work are available from:

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DONCASTER STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

DRAFT ACTION PLAN 2019-2020

Priority Area 1:

To ensure SACRE is fully constituted in terms of membership and is able to undertake its statutory duties effectively as outlined in its terms of reference and governance arrangements.

ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?	COSTS	SUCCESS CRITERIA
1.1. Write to the Group A (Faith groups), B (Church of England) and C (Teacher Associations) for nominations from their groups	SC to draft letter and AS to send letters out	End of Summer term	Officer time	SACRE has the required balance of membership as set out in its constitution and terms of reference and is quorate enabling it to make requisite decisions.
1.2. Provide induction training for new members on the role of SACRE and the priorities for the forthcoming year	SC with the chair of SACRE	Before the 21.11.19 SACRE meeting	Officer and chair time	All new members are clear about their roles and responsibilities as a member of SACRE and are able to contribute to ensuring the priorities set by SACRE are achieved.
1.3. Ensure DMBC SACRE website page is up to date and has the necessary information.	SC and AS with Elisabeth Burrows	Before the 21.11.19 SACRE meeting	Officer time	SACRE information on DMBC website is fully complaint, up to date and easily accessible to all interested parties.
1.4. Publish annual SACRE report detailing work undertaken in 2019-2019	PR and SC	End of the summer	Officer time	Draft annual report written and shared with SACRE on 21.11.19 for approval.

		term		
Priority Area 2:				
To provide training and support to Religious Education (RE) teachers in schools so that they can deliver high quality teaching to pupils.				
ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?	COSTS	SUCCESS CRITERIA
2.1. Identify a teacher of RE for all of Doncaster schools (Primary and Secondary) and develop a database of contacts.	SC and LB to share existing contacts	End of autumn term 2019	Officer time	An update to date address is available to identify who the teacher responsible for teaching RE is in each school in Doncaster.
2.2. Provide at least one specific training event for both primary and secondary colleagues each term based on national changes and training needs of RE teachers	LB and SC	21.11.19 27.02.20	RE Today consultancy costs, officer time and venue costs (where relevant)	Three successful training events delivered termly for both primary and secondary colleagues with positive feedback received from delegates
2.3. Publicise the training events on the DMBC webpage and through Buy Doncaster to encourage good attendance by Doncaster schools and with a particular focus on secondary	SC	21.11.19 27.02.20	Officer time and flyers	Active engagement with the training programme for RE teachers in Doncaster as published on Buy Doncaster and publicized elsewhere where needed.
2.4. Work in partnership with the South Yorkshire RE Hub to deliver a conference in Doncaster	LB and SC to support	25.06.20	RE Today and officer time	The conference in June is well attended and well received by delegates attending from Doncaster schools
2.5. Undertake a survey of the teaching of RE in schools as well as continuing professional development (CPD) needs of RE teachers for the academic year 2020-2020	LB and SC	June 2020	Officer time and Survey Monkey	Analyse the Monkey Survey results to get a good understanding of the teaching of RE in Doncaster schools and have a good understanding of CPD needs for RE Teachers for the forthcoming academic year.
2.6. Use the findings of the survey and feedback received from training delivered	LB and SC	End of July 2020	RE Today and Officer time	Training planned and ready to be publicized for the new academic year.

so far to develop a programme of training ready for 2021-2021				
Priority 3:				
To build up a bank of useful resources and materials to support RE Teachers in their teaching and develop a strategy for the identification and sharing of good practice in the teaching of RE in Doncaster schools.				
ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?	COSTS	SUCCESS CRITERIA
3.1. Develop a central place on a website or 'Buy Doncaster' where useful resources and materials, including password protected access to Doncaster's locally agreed RE syllabus is held	LT and SC	End of summer term 2010	Officer time	High quality RE Resources and links are held together in a central website with password protected access to the RE syllabus.
3.2. Pull out relevant comments for RE from the new Ofsted reports published from September 2019 and share these with members of SACRE	SC	Ongoing	Officer time	Comments on the teaching of RE are collated and shared with SACRE to identify which schools are teaching RE well and where there is still need of further development.
3.3. Identify schools where the teaching of RE is good through a range of ways e.g. feedback through training, Ofsted reports, Senior Officer intelligence, StEP reports etc.	SC and SEOs	End of summer term 2020	Officer time	A number of primary and secondary schools are identified as having good or outstanding teaching in RE and these are quality assured by learning Standards and Effectiveness Team
3.4. Look into possibility of incorporating an end of year celebration for RE as part of the Civic Mayor's Awards	PR and SC	End of summer term 2020	Officer time and award	Schools are rewarded for good practice in the teaching of RE and incentivized to share their good practice with other schools.