

Sutton SACRE

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education



Annual Report 2023-24

**The report is produced in accordance with the Education Act 1996 and
forwarded to the DfE via NASACRE**

Sutton SACRE members approved this report on 12.11.2024

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1. Chair's Introduction

It is my privilege to, once again, record my thanks to my fellow members of Sutton SACRE. We have been a largely stable membership, which has helped us find our way through all we have achieved.

Thanks also to all our committed RE Co- Ordinator's and Head Teachers in our schools.

While the report reflects on the past year, I am very much looking forward. After many years of faithful service from Penny Smith-Orr, we welcome Claire Ramalli as the new RE Advisor for Sutton. She has many skills and talents and until recently was in the classroom, which puts her in a good position to support our RE teachers in their schools.

As required every 10 years, we are in the midst of reviewing and updating the Sutton Agreed Syllabus for our schools- something to be excited about! I've attended training and discussion - never too old to learn - and we are on track, at this time, to launch our new syllabus before the end of next year.

Here's to 2025!

Veronica Stone
SACRE Chair

2. Overview of academic year 2023-24

Sutton SACRE met three times during the academic year 2023-24. All meetings were quorate.

All agendas and approved minutes of these meetings are saved regularly and made accessible via the SACRE pages on London Borough Of Sutton's website.

Agenda items for these meetings included (in no particular order):

- Sutton SACRE development plan
- Self-evaluation toolkit
- SACRE Training/NASACRE Virtual Training sessions
- WIRE Award
- ASC/LAS update
- Sutton school website review of RE and Collective Worship
- Sutton Faith & Belief Forum

3. Standards and quality of provision in RE

The Agreed Syllabus for RE was updated in 2020 so is due for a review in 2024 in preparation for a new locally agreed syllabus launch in 2025.

In June 2024 an Agreed Syllabus Conference was held prior to the SACRE meeting and discussion was held on reviewing the locally agreed syllabus.

The Locally Agreed Syllabus curriculum review process will commence in Autumn 2024 with the launch due in Autumn 2025. This review will be led by Sutton's new RE Advisor who has been in post since October 2024. The review will include circulating a survey to Sutton RE Leads and Headteachers and gaining feedback from RE practitioners through the network meetings.

The 2022-23 annual report stated most Sutton primary schools and academies are using the current locally agreed syllabus and some secondary schools also use it.

Public Examination Results

No public examination results had been made available to the RE Advisor at the time of writing this report.

4. Collective Worship

SACRE has discussed Collective Worship during the year and there is a guidance document on the Sutton Council website advising schools of different ways they can treat Collective Worship. A Member attended the NASACRE training on collective worship. Members have been trained in this process and have a document to use in case of need.

Determinations: There have been no applications for determination during 2023-24.

Sutton SACRE have procedures for schools to apply for a determination, and guidance has been approved by Sutton Council and has been made available to schools.

5. SACRE work with other agencies

Sutton subscribes to NASACRE and members attend the training sessions. A rep goes to the Sutton Faith and Belief Forum and reports back to the committee. Southwark Diocese has arranged for three teachers to represent them on SACRE. The annual report goes to the Diocese. A Guidance for schools on Ramadan was sent out, the Muslim members and the RE Consultant liaised to make sure this was correct for Sutton schools. There has been no Governor training this year. The RE Consultant sends out a news sheet to schools and the Sutton Council website have documents written by and for SACRE on it

6. Contribution of SACRE to the wider LA agenda

In the last year Sutton has:

- Sent out guidance for schools on Ramadan
- Three SACRE members attended a 'Peace Symposium Dinner' at the Morden Mosque
- Created a resource bank that can be borrowed from Victor Seymour Infants school and shared a list of current resources to schools.
- Simon Ellingham runs Sutton Schoolwork and spreads the word about SACRE and Sutton RE syllabus to schools.

7. Management of the SACRE and partnership with the LA (Local Authority) and other key stakeholders

Sutton Council pays for:

- An adviser for SACRE and RE (up to 14 days per year)
- A clerk for SACRE
- CPD support including attendance at national events/conferences
- NASACRE subscription and training open to all SACRE members

The Councillor members of SACRE are proactive in linking with the Council. Membership of SACRE has improved during this year with recruitment of different faith representatives. The Chair has managed SACRE management and contacted members to ensure that meetings are quorate. There was a lot of training and advice given when looking at the self-evaluation toolkit. Sutton Council have a dedicated SACRE page on their website where agendas and minutes of meetings are published, together with the agreed syllabus and other key documents.

Cognus, who run the CPD for Sutton schools are extremely accommodating and helpful to the RE Consultant and run the booking scheme for courses.

8. Summary

Thank you to Penny Smith-Orr who advised Sutton SACRE for ten years. Penny stepped down from this role in June 2024.

A key focus for the next academic year will be selection and implementation of the new locally agreed syllabus.

9. Members of SACRE 2023-24

Name	Group	Attendance Sept 2023-to July 2024
Veronica Stone (Chair)	C	3 out of 3
Rosey Johnson	A	2 out of 3
Abhinav Kant	A	1 out of 3
Chris Lynch	A	2 out of 3
Kareen Hewitt	B	3 out of 3
Megan Morgan	B	1 out of 3
Lewis Owens	B	3 out of 3
Vince Burke	A	3 out of 3
Uzma Mobin	C	2 out of 3
Paul Solomon	A	3 out of 3
Saleem Uddin	A	2 out of 3
Uzma Hussein	A	1 out of 3
Rebecca Bishop	C	0 out of 3
Simon Ellingham	C	3 out of 3
Cllr Christopher Woolmer	D	0 out of 3
Cllr Patrick Ogbonna	D	2 out of 3
Pia Longman (joined March 24)	B	0 out of 2