
SACRE briefing 19

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National Association of
Standing Advisory Councils
on Religious Education

SACRE BRIEFING

Issue: 19

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Welcome from the Chair

Hello SACRE Members!

Welcome to this additional brief summer SACRE Briefing. We had an amazing Silver Jubilee Conference and AGM, of which you can read more below. Everyone who I have spoken to, and who has sent feedback to me, has commented on what a fantastic venue and thought-provoking speakers we were able to provide!

There were two books which inadvertently disappeared from the sharing table – a copy of the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus and Religion for Today and Tomorrow. If you have discovered these in your conference papers and wish to return them, please get in touch.

You will find below details of the new members of the Executive Committee, and the Westhill Award winners. Watch out very early in September for the publication of the Commission on RE's final report. Your SACRE may wish to set aside time to consider what it has to say. The NASACRE Exec has scheduled an additional meeting to do just that. Also think about attending - and encouraging others to attend - the 20:20 RE conference that we are holding in October (details below). Finally, please do encourage your schools to complete the newly updated survey on **withdrawal** and, for Primary colleagues, the **NATRE Survey**.

Do keep us informed about how your SACRE is holding schools to account for poor (or non-) provision of RE, and any cuts to your SACRE funding, as highlighted in previous Briefings. Don't forget we're always glad to hear your news - what you consider ordinary, may well inspire another SACRE!

Introducing new members of the NASACRE Executive

At the NASACRE AGM at our annual conference on 24th May, elections were held for: VICE CHAIR (to serve for two years) with automatic progression to Chair after 2 years and members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (to serve for three years).

We are delighted that Robert Morgan was elected as Vice Chair, and that Linda Rudge and Sheila Gewolb were automatically elected to the Executive. Here they

say a little more to introduce themselves:

Robert Morgan:

When I am not working as a lecturer, training primary trainee teachers at the University of Greenwich, I am volunteering at Royal Borough of Greenwich's SACRE and ASC as a member of Committee C. I am Vice Chair of the SACRE and the Chair of the RBG Agreed Syllabus Conference. I have been a member of SACRE since 2014. I think this enables me to see all perspectives and to look for ways of improving pedagogy.

In my spare time I like to read a lot and run and train for half marathons. I like sports, especially rugby, football and cricket. I think reading is a healthy way of trying to come to terms with political and religious events in the world and the better informed we all are as citizens of a diverse country, then the brighter the future for everyone.

Sheila Gewolb:

I have just been elected as Senior Vice President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Previously I was Vice President and Chair of the Community and Education division.

I represent the Jewish voice on Cumbria SACRE. I have been speaking in schools about my faith and way of life for over 35 years, and my role on the Board of Deputies has allowed me to expand this outreach work.

I am excited to be on the NASACRE Executive as a development officer. I look forward to working with the rest of the team to improve our effectiveness and that of all SACREs in these uncertain times when RE is being challenged as a fundamental core curriculum subject.

Linda Rudge:

I am a member of Cornwall SACRE, and I am looking forward to working on the Executive committee. My background is in initial and continuing education of teachers, especially in RE. I have worked as a teacher, an LA adviser (Essex) and a university lecturer (UEA, Norwich) Most recently I have worked to establish the **Learn Teach Lead RE** networks in the south-west and the north of England, and I am also the project manager for the **RE Quality Mark**. My particular interests are in curriculum and professional development for RE.

25th Jubilee Conference and AGM - 24th May 2018

Stronger Together - Celebrating the power of Community

We were thrilled to be at the stunning Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City of London for our 25th Annual NASACRE **Conference** on 24th May. We had a great turnout from SACREs all over the country, and it was also wonderful to see many of NASACRE's previous Chairs join us for this Silver Jubilee occasion.

There were thought-provoking **keynote speeches** from Dr Vanessa Ogden of the Mulberry Schools Trust, and David Hampshire of the Inter Faith Network. A panel discussion covered topics such as whether there should be a national entitlement for RE, the recruitment of RE teachers and funding of SACREs.

We heard from 3 SACREs – Newham and Bradford (both Westhill award holders) and Hampshire, about the different projects they had undertaken over the last year. We then learnt **who had been awarded a Westhill grant for the coming year.**



The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

On 25th May the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force. You'll no doubt know this already as you will have received numerous emails on the subject. The GDPR gives you more control of your data and puts the onus on companies and organisations to ensure they only collect and store data that's necessary for their operations.

NASACRE uses data from member SACREs in two ways:

- We have a mailchimp list of member SACRE Clerks to whom significant notifications are sent. This list does not enable anyone to see anyone else's information.
- We also maintain the SACRE Directory, which is forward-facing and shows the data you give us to the public, including other RE organisations. This data should not include personal information that you or your SACRE officers do not want in the public domain. It is recommended for example that email addresses are Local Authority or educational establishment addresses where possible.

All SACREs are 'affiliated' to NASACRE in some sense; they receive SACRE Briefing and we work to promote and support their interests at a national level. We

provide a higher level of support to paid-up SACREs in full current membership of NASACRE, including reduced rates for events and downloadable resources.

When SACREs renew their membership annually they will be asked in future to confirm the data they wish us to hold on the Directory. This is an opportunity for members to check that the information on the Directory is up to date. This will also be giving us permission to place the confirmed data on the public-facing Directory.

Where SACREs do not renew annual subscription to NASACRE we will not have permission to publish their data. If after a period of three months or a school term we have not received your membership renewal, your SACRE's data will be removed from the Directory in order that we are GDPR compliant. We will replace any data on the Directory with a statement directing people to the local authority that appoints the SACRE.

Lapsed, or currently not-paid-up, affiliated SACREs can re-activate their full membership at any time merely by the payment of the Annual Subscription. We will retain your Clerk's or LA details securely in order to communicate with important SACRE-related information and to offer membership in future.

In relation to your own use of data, SACREs must ensure they work within the protocols of their Local Authority as the appointing body.

Increase in the Annual Subscription to NASACRE

At the recent AGM, there was a unanimous vote in favour of increasing the Annual Subscription to NASACRE from £95 p.a. to £105 p.a., by SACREs represented at the AGM and by SACREs which had already registered their vote prior to the AGM. This increase takes effect immediately. During the next few weeks SACREs will therefore receive an invoice for £105 to cover membership of NASACRE during the next academic year, September 2018 to August 2019.

20:20 RE Practice, Policy and Powerful Words in Religious Education

In the Autumn, we are collaborating with 3 other professional RE associations (AULRE, AREIAC and NATRE) to produce an exciting RE Conference. We were overwhelmed with the quality and quantity of offers to come and lead a breakout session at the conference, but managed (with difficulty!) to whittle it down to 40 top quality breakout sessions with a balance of policy, theory and practice, including some sessions aimed particularly at Primary and some at Secondary, with others

relevant to all.

20:20 RE – Practical, Policy, Powerful Knowledge will be held on Saturday 13 October – Sunday 14 October 2018 in Crewe.

Book on: www.natre.org.uk/20-20-re/

Follow: [@20_20RE](https://twitter.com/@20_20RE) on Twitter for the latest information.

Youth Voice

At the AGM, Elizabeth Jenkerson spoke about Hampshire's experience with a Youth SACRE or Youth Voice to SACRE.

Find out more about how this works, and what the impact of the project has been [here](#).

The Awards Panel for the Westhill/NASACRE Awards

Congratulations to this year's award winners:

Bedford Borough SACRE - A range of schools trialling methods and materials to deliver a course based on Pilgrim's Progress (John Bunyan being a major local celebrity), which will feed into the local Agreed Syllabus.

Cheshire East SACRE - A pilot project to enable pupils from largely mono-cultural schools to meet with pupils from culturally diverse schools in nearby Manchester, after a rise in parental negativity towards visits to places of worship.

Cheshire West and Chester SACRE - Pupils from schools in two parishes taking part in conferences to develop a model transition project for inclusion in a revised Agreed Syllabus, exploring diversity and religious literacy.

Cumbria SACRE - Pupils from Years 6, 7 and 8 taking part in a day event approaching sacred texts as explorers and creating a treasure chest of "gems" to be shared with others and available as a lasting resource.

Waltham Forest & Newham SACREs - Newham's expertise will be drawn upon to develop support for RE and SACRE itself in Waltham Forest, through a series of one-day conferences for Year 5 pupils and setting up a Youth SACRE.

Each SACRE will receive £4,000 to undertake their project. We look forward to hearing about the outcomes at our next conference!

Commission on RE Report Publication Date

The final report from the **Commission on RE (CoRE)** is due to be published on **Wednesday 12th September**. The NASACRE executive will be meeting shortly afterwards to discuss the findings and disseminate discussion pointers to SACREs for their Autumn Term meetings

Items for your Summer Term SACRE meeting

- Ensure that your **Annual Report** has been completed and sent to the DfE and NASACRE
- Take action on non-compliant Secondaries in your area:
 - Request the School workforce data from Deborah Weston and review
 - Write to schools and academies who are not meeting their statutory duties
 - Follow the procedure in Deborah's guide
 - Tell us of any good news, or contact us if schools are not responding to a formal complaint
- Email chair@nasacre.org.uk with details of any events you are holding
- Consider whether your SACRE has any training needs that might be met by using the NASACRE **resources** on the website
- Check out the **FAQs** revised sections and give us feedback
- Look at the **NASACRE guidance on GDPR** and check that your SACRE is acting in accordance with this new legislation.



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