

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON & CHELSEA Annual Report 2018 to 2019

Introduction

The Royal Borough's **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)** is required, in accordance with Section 391(6) of the Education Act 1996, to publish an annual report on its activities. This is its twenty-eighth report and it is divided into three parts.

Part one

Records the terms of reference of the Kensington and Chelsea SACRE and the occasions on which it met in 2018 to 2019.

Part two

Reports the matters dealt with by the SACRE during the year.

Part three

Notes the composition and membership of the SACRE.

Part one

The establishment, terms of reference and meetings of the SACRE

1. The Royal Borough's SACRE was established by the Education Committee (Shadow) on 14 June 1989. Its current terms of reference, as laid down by the Education Reform Act 1998, are: "to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit."
2. In particular, the SACRE is charged with the following responsibilities:
 - It can require the authority to review the Agreed Syllabus on religious education.
 - It may determine, on application by the headteacher that the requirement for collective worship in community schools to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character shall not apply to the collective worship provided for some or all of its pupils in a particular school.
 - With the authority, to review the support offered for RE teaching, the methods of teaching employed, and teachers' in-service professional development.
3. In addition, the Education Committee (Shadow) decided to give a direct role to the SACRE in the consideration and disposal of complaints related to the curriculum or religious worship. The SACRE will be asked to advise where complaints relate to religious education

given in accordance with an agreed syllabus or to religious worship in county schools.

4. The SACRE met on three occasions in 2018 to 2019:
 - 27 September 2018;
 - 14 March 2019;
 - 4 June 2019.
5. The SACRE usually meets at the Royal Borough's Town Hall. Secretarial assistance and a budget for the discharge of its duties is provided to SACRE by the Royal Borough. The SACRE is grateful to the Royal Borough for making this support available.

Part two

Matters dealt with by the SACRE in 2018 to 2019

Membership

6. This year the SACRE bade farewell to two members Cllr Robert Thompson who stood down as a Councillor and has left to become Vicar at St James' and St Mary's West Hampstead and Rev Gilleen Craig, a long-standing SACRE member and Vicar at St Mary Abbot's Church, who has retired. The SACRE is appreciative and grateful for the time and effort that they put into their time as SACRE members. In Cllr Thompson's place Cllr David Lindsay was welcomed to his first SACRE meeting in the Summer term.
7. The SACRE is constantly looking to recruit new members and regular contact is made with the appropriate appointing bodies to remind them that there are vacancies on the Royal Borough's SACRE. Appeals for new members are also made whenever information is sent out by the SACRE in school communications. In spite of the efforts made it is proving increasingly difficult to attract and retain new members. There is particularly difficulties in recruiting to Group B and Group C (teacher representatives). Regular requests are made directly to staff and via the teaching unions. Membership in each category needs to be maintained to ensure that meetings of the SACRE are quorate. There are a number of occasions during the year when SACRE meetings are not quorate and this will be particularly troublesome when the SACRE looks to review the Agreed Syllabus in the Autumn term of 2019.
8. Matters discussed during the year included –

- The RE Commission's Interim Report on RE.
 - The legal requirement of secondary schools to teach RE.
 - Ofsted Consultation on its new framework for 2019.
 - Discussions on the Agreed Syllabus which will be reviewed in the Academic Year 2019 to 2020.
9. The SACRE has refreshed and updated its information on the web and has links to the community engagement area of the Borough's website – access is via the Royal Borough's website, the link is www.rbkc.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/sacre.aspx
 10. SACRE meetings usually take place at Kensington Town Hall, the meetings which are open to the public are advertised on the SACRE area of the Borough's website. Occasionally SACRE members kindly offered different venues for the meetings to take place.

The requirement for Collective Worship

11. The SACRE received no requests in 2018 to 2019 from headteachers seeking a determination to lift or modify the requirements for collective worship in their schools. The procedures for making such a request are set out in Appendix A of this report. Information about the procedures can also be obtained from the Clerk to the SACRE at the Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX.

Complaints

12. The SACRE was not in 2018 to 2019 asked to deal with any complaints about the RE curriculum or about religious worship in community schools.

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Part three

Composition and members of the Royal Borough's SACRE in 2018 to 2019

Chairman of the SACRE Mr Javid Djalili

Clerk to the SACRE Mrs Julie Farmer (*Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea*)

GROUP A – up to 10 members – (*inc two Roman Catholic vacancies*)

Representing Christian and other religious denominations

Ms S. Jaff	Islamic Faith (V-C)
Mr J. Djalili	Baha'i Faith (C)
Rev Ken Persaud	Notting Hill Community Church
Ms Darcy Biddulph	Buddhist Faith
Mr Narif Sheikh	Islamic Faith
Ms Karen Wyatt	Roman Catholic Representative
Mr Laurence Julius	Jewish Faith

Group B – up to 8 members

Representing the Church of England

Mrs Kathryn Kane

Mr G. Marriner (London Diocesan Board for Schools)

Mrs Katrina Quinton

Revd Prebendary Gilleen Craig (*retired November 2018*)

Group C - up to 8 members

Representing teachers (including teachers of RE) and teachers' associations

Ms Celia Garth Rodriguez (Colville Primary School)

Group D - up to 4 members (*two vacancies*)

Representing the Royal Borough

Cllr Robert Thompson (left Summer 2018)

Cllr David Lindsay (joined Spring 2019)

Ms Lucy Nutt Principal Lead Adviser

Consultant to the SACRE

Ms Lesley Prior (*Autumn term 2018 meeting*)

Mr Roger Butler (*Spring and Summer 2019 meetings*)

Appendix A

The requirement for Collective Worship

Introduction

1. Section 7 of the Education Reform Act 1988 lays down that the collective worship required in community schools shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. DES circular 3/89 states that, in the Secretary of State's view, an act of worship which is 'broadly Christian' need not contain only Christian material provided, taken as a whole, it reflects the traditions of Christian belief. Any such worship should not be distinctive of any particular Christian denomination. It is not necessary for every act of worship to be of this character but within each school term the majority of acts must be so.
2. How collective worship is organised is for the headteacher to decide after consultation with the governing body, having regard to the following considerations:
 - any relevant circumstances relating to the pupil's family backgrounds, for example the faith of the family;
 - their ages and aptitudes.
3. These considerations should inform:
 - the extent to which (if at all) any acts of collective worship in the school are not of a broadly Christian character;
 - the extent to which the broad traditions of Christian belief are reflected in those acts of worship of a broadly Christian character; and
 - the ways in which those traditions are reflected.

The role of the SACRE

4. If the headteacher of a community school considers that the requirements for collective worship described in paragraph two could conflict with what is required by paragraph three, he or she can apply to **the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) to lift or modify the requirements**. Before doing so the headteacher must consult the school's governing body who in turn may wish to seek the views of parents. **The headteacher's application does not need to apply to the whole school**. It can be limited to any class or description of pupils at the school, and might relate, for example, to a particular group or year group(s) in the school in which there were many pupils of a particular faith or religion.
5. The purpose of this procedure is to allow for acts of collective worship according to a faith or religion other than Christianity where, for some or all of the pupils in a school, the requirement that worship should be of a broadly Christian character is inappropriate. One factor which may inform a headteacher's decision to make an application to the SACRE is the extent of withdrawals from Christian collective worship.
6. In considering whether to grant a headteacher's request, the SACRE must take account of any relevant circumstances relating to the family backgrounds of the pupils concerned. When it has made a **determination** on the request – which can only take the form of acceptance or rejection without modification – it must communicate this in writing to the headteacher and state the date from which it will take effect. It is for the headteacher to decide what

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form the alternative worship will take, although the SACRE should be informed of the proposed arrangements.

7. The headteacher will wish to take appropriate steps to notify the governing body and parents of the new arrangements. Where such a determination is made in respect of all or some of the pupils in the school, daily collective worship must still be provided for them. Where a determination has been granted in respect of a class or description of pupils of a particular faith or religion, the alternative collective worship may be provided for those pupils as a whole. It may not be distinctive of any particular **denomination** of any faith or religion, but may be distinctive of a particular faith or religion. Parents continue to have a right to withdraw their children from this collective worship.
8. Any determination made under these arrangements ends after five years, unless renewed by the SACRE. There must be a review by the SACRE no later than five years after any determination was introduced; and subsequently within five years of each review. The headteacher can request an earlier review at any time, after consulting with the governing body. The headteacher must be given an opportunity to take part in any review

and, in turn, is required to consult the governing body who may wish to seek the view of parents.

9. It has been a legal requirement since 1944 that all pupils attending a maintained school should take part in daily collective worship. Section 6 of the Education Reform Act provides for flexibility in timing and organisation of daily collective worship. It needs no longer be held at the start of the school day. There may be a single act of worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age groups or school groups. For this purpose, a 'school group' means any group or combination of groups in which pupils are taught or take place in other school activities; it does **not** mean a group reflecting particular religious beliefs.
10. If a headteacher considers that changes of the sort described in paragraphs four and five of this appendix are justified, he or she should:
 - consult with the governing body,
 - after that, make application to SACRE on the attached form.

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education



Application for a variation in the requirement of the Education Act 1988 that collective worship be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

1. **Name of school**.....
2. **Address of school**.....
3. **Name of headteacher**.....
4. **Pupils for whom the application is made**
(Is the application being made on behalf of the whole school or part of it? If a part, state which group and their numbers.)
5. **On what grounds is the application made?**
(State why you consider the requirement that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' to be inappropriate for pupils. Give any relevant information, including numbers, on the family background and faith of all pupils who would be affected.)
6. **Has the Governing Body been consulted?**
(By law it must be. Please state the view the Governing Body gave. Did the Governing Body consult parents? What was their view?)
7. **Have Parents been consulted?**
(What were their views?)
8. **What form would the proposed alternative form of collective worship take?**
(Give as much information as possible.)

SACRE Members 2018.

Javid Djalili

Born and raised in Kensington and attended St Mary Abbots Primary School and Westminster City School, Javid then went to Kingston Polytechnic to study Civil Engineering, and the University of Colorado at Boulder for a double-major BA in Economics and World Religions. He lived in Denver, Colorado USA for approximately 25 years. He often represents the Bahá'í Faith on interfaith councils and he is a trained schools speaker for the Faith & Belief Forum and an Assistant Chaplain at the Multifaith Centre at Imperial College.

For further information on the Bahá'í Faith: www.bahai.org.uk

Laurence Julius.

Active member of the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue in Holland Park with a passion for education. Responsible for starting a nursery at the synagogue. He is also a Local resident enjoying retirement.

Katrina Quinton

I have been a member of the SACRE since 2016 representing the Church of England. I am a member of the congregation of St Mary The Boltons and have lived in Earl's Court since 2001. Married with two children, both of whom are now in secondary education.

Karen Wyatt

Karen has taught in London since 2002 and has been appointed in headteacher roles since 2011. In September 2013, she took up a substantive headship at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School which has been judged to be 'Outstanding' in all areas by both Ofsted (November 2013) and the Diocese of Westminster (October 2017). As of September 2017, Karen has taken on the role of Executive Headteacher of both St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School in Fulham. She has been on the RBKC SACRE committee since September 2015

Celia Garth Rodriguez

Celia has been the RE Lead at Colville Primary School for three years. She also teaches Reception at Colville. As part of her role as RE Lead, she is a member of the SACRE. She finds the SACRE meetings very informative and a great platform to meet representatives of different religions. Through her SACRE membership, she has been able to arrange trips and visitors as well as invite fellow SACRE members to observe RE at Colville. She would encourage all RE Leads to become members of their local SACRE as it is a real opportunity to be directly involved in how the RE syllabus is then implemented in schools.

GCSE Religious Studies 2019 Results

LA	School type	School name	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	Entry	No entry
RBKC	Secondary	Cardinal Vaughan Memorial RC	19.5%	16.8%	13.3%	18.6%	17.7%	3.5%	6.2%	0.9%	0.9%		97.3%	2.7%
		Chelsea Academy	11.3%	11.3%	12.5%	20.8%	13.1%	6.0%	10.1%	8.3%	1.8%		95.2%	4.8%
		Holland Park School	5.7%	6.6%	4.0%	3.1%	2.2%	0.4%	0.4%		0.4%	0.4%	23.3%	76.7%
		Kensington Aldridge Academy	1.8%	1.8%	5.5%	3.0%	1.8%	1.2%		1.2%			16.5%	83.5%
		Saint Thomas More Language College	3.6%	6.3%	21.6%	16.2%	18.9%	10.8%	9.0%	7.2%	5.4%	0.9%	100.0%	
		All Saints Catholic College	15.7%	21.4%	18.6%	11.4%	12.9%	8.6%	4.3%		1.4%		94.3%	5.7%
	Secondary Total		8.4%	9.1%	10.7%	11.0%	9.4%	4.1%	4.5%	2.9%	1.4%	0.2%	61.8%	38.2%
	Special	Parkwood Hall School												100.0%
	Special Total													100.0%
Total			8.3%	9.0%	10.5%	10.8%	9.2%	4.0%	4.4%	2.9%	1.4%	0.2%	60.8%	39.2%

GCE A Religious Studies (AA)

LA	School type	school name	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Total RS entries	Total KS5 pupils
RBKC	Secondary	Cardinal Vaughan RC		2	1	1				4	166
		Chelsea Academy		5	4	4	2	2		17	137
		Holland Park School		1	1			1		3	111
		Kensington Aldridge	1	7	11	4				23	124
	Secondary Total		1	15	17	9	2	3		47	538
RBKC Total			1	15	17	9	2	3		47	538

GCE AS Religious Studies (AS)

LA	school type	school name	A	B	C	D	E	U	Total RS entries	Total KS5 pupils
RBKC	Secondary	Cardinal Vaughan RC	1						1	166
		Chelsea Academy	2		3		1		6	137
		Holland Park School			2	1			3	111
		Kensington Aldridge	5	2	1				8	124
	Secondary Total		8	2	6	1	1		18	538
RBKC Total			8	2	6	1	1		18	538