



Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

ANNUAL REPORT 2013/2014

This report covers the work of the Cumbria SACRE
for the period September 2013 to August 2014

SACRE Responsibilities

To advise the Local Authority (LA) on matters connected with:

1. Collective Worship in community schools

This year SACRE considered what constitutes Collective Worship with a view to advising schools on ways they might improve their statutory responsibility to deliver it.

2. Religious Education (RE)

This year SACRE has

- Updated the Cumbria SACRE Exemplar EYFS RE Plans to be used in schools.
- Six units of work from Lat Blaylock (RE Today) have been made available to schools.
- Updated the SACRE Development Plan.
- Began updating SACRE's guidance on Collective Worship

3. Determinations - To allow any exception to the law that Collective Worship be broadly Christian

- SACRE has received no requests for a determination for exemption from the law

4. To hear any complaints

SACRE hears any complaints brought to the LA about RE and collective worship. No complaints from parents were received this year.

5. To publish an annual report on its work

- This paper is the annual report for the academic year 2013-2014.
- Anyone wishing to receive the minutes of termly meetings can contact Sue McGaw by email sue.mcgaw@cumbria.gov.uk or visit SACRE's website <http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childreancesservices/schoolsandlearning/lis/sacre.asp>

Who was on Cumbria SACRE in 2013-2014

Chair: *Wendy Ridley*

Committee A: Christian denominations (other than Church of England) & other faiths

Dai Cowles (Free churches)

David Pitkeathly (Churches Together)

Jacqueline Hampson (Catholic)

Sheila Gewolb (Jewish)

Richard Teal (Methodist)

Wendy Ridley (Buddhist)

Vacancies:

Baptist; Bahai; Hindu; Muslim; Sikh; Orthodox Churches; Pentecostal Church; Salvation Army; Society of Friends; United Reformed Church

Committee B: Church of England (1 vacancy)

Bert Thomas

Penny Hollander

Rachel Notman

Rachel Cowper

Susan Davies

Committee C: Teacher Associations

Brian Eaton (VOICE)

Carolyn Reade (NATRE & AULRE)

Irene Roberts-Green (Vice Chair) (NAHT)

James Douglas (NUT)

Jane Yates (NASUWT)

Rob Martin (ATL)

Committee D: Local Authority

Brenda Gray (Liberal Democrat)

Roger Bingham (Conservative)

Whillie Whallen (Labour)

Liz Mallinson (Conservative)

Co-opted Members

Georgia Prescott (University of Cumbria)

Karen Shankland (Primary Academy Rep)

LA Support Officers

Richard Cox

David Salmon - Clerk to SACRE

Sue McGaw – Admin for SACRE

When & where did SACRE meet?

SACRE usually meets once a term. In 2013-2014 the following meetings took place:

15 October 2013 at St Margaret Mary's Community Hall, Carlisle

Attendance: 19 members present (Committee A – 4; Committee B – 3; Committee C – 5; Committee D – 2; Co-opted – 2, LA Officers – 3) This meeting was quorate.

The main agenda items were:

- EYFS Scheme of Work
- National Update
- Guidance on Collective Worship
- SACRE Development Plan
- LA Support for RE

5 March 2014 at Penrith Fire Station

Attendance: 14 members present (Committee A – 3; Committee B – 4; Committee C – 3; Committee D – 2; Co-opted – 0; LA Officers - 2). This meeting was quorate.

The main agenda items were:

- EYFS Scheme of Work
- Guidance on Collective Worship
- Performance of RE National Update
- National Update
- Ofsted Reports
- Mark Chater challenging SACREs

10 June 2014 at Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary, Maryport

Attendance: 14 members present (Committee A – 5; Committee B - 2; Committee C – 3; Committee D – 1; Co-opted – 1 LA Officers – 2) This meeting was quorate.

The main agenda items were:

- EYFS Scheme of Work
- Guidance on Collective Worship
- SACRE Development Plan
- Performance of RE

Separate working group meetings were also held on 24 February and 29 April 2014

When are future meetings?

SACRE meetings have been arranged for 2014 – 2015 as follows:

1 December 2014 at Church House, Carlisle

25 February 2015 at Penrith Fire Station

16 June 2015, to be advised

The SACRE Development plan identifies that the main areas of focus for 2014-2015 will be: To revise and develop the SACRE constitution.

Non members are welcome to attend, to observe SACRE meetings. Please contact Sue McGaw (email sue.mcgaw@cumbria.gov.uk) to receive advance information about the meetings and confirmation of times and venues.

Religious Education Quality Mark - REQM

There are three levels of award that schools can apply for. The school's evidence and provision are assessed by an external assessor, against nationally recognised criteria. SACRE believes that schools could greatly benefit by accessing the assessment materials to use as an audit tool, even if they feel the cost of full accreditation is not an immediate priority.

Congratulations to the following Cumbrian schools who have achieved awards:

The Bishop Harvey Goodwin, Carlisle - Silver, 2013

The Queen Katherine School, Kendal - Gold, 2014

Dowdales School, Dalton-in-Furness - Gold, 2014

What is the SACRE Budget?

SACRE's budget covers the cost of meetings, venue expenses, supply cover costs for teacher members, postage, photocopying, travel expenses, and subscription costs for membership of national organisations for RE. Additional resources are obtained from the County Council when necessary for the review, development and publication of the revised Agreed Syllabus.

In the financial year 2013-2014 the total amount spent was £4199: Supply cover £1600; Travel expenses £1431; Venues/Catering £363; Conference fees £595; Publications and Subscriptions £210.

What is the RE and Collective Worship support for schools?

For Secondary and Primary Schools:

Richard Cox, Senior Adviser

Tel: 01964 505538, email: richard.cox@cumbria.gov.uk

Useful Websites

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/>

<http://www.cumbriagridforlearning.org.uk/>

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lis/sacre.asp>

What Continuing Professional Development Opportunities have there been?

Cumbria Continuous Professional Development Courses (CCPD)

The following one day courses for RE ran:

Improving RE in your School with the new Primary RE Units of Work,

provider Wendy Ridley

14 October 2013 - A total of 18 teachers attended.

Teaching about Religions – Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Judaism,

provider Wendy Ridley

11 June 2014 - A total of 18 teachers attended.

A number of RE Teacher Network meetings took place each term around the county.

A total of 53 teachers attended.

SACRE is pleased to receive photographic, written or anecdotal evidence of good work in RE and Collective Worship in Cumbria's schools if you have anything you wish to share please contact Sue McGaw on 01228 226805, email sue.mcqaw@cumbria.gov.uk

Many thanks to the following schools for sharing these photographs with us.



Children from Langdale CE Primary on their visit to Rydal Hall, Ambleside. (Rydal Hall is the Diocese of Carlisle Conference, Retreat and Holiday Centre and Home to the Rydal Hall Community)



Year 1/2 pupils at Selside CE School working on the Christian Values forgiveness storybag



Children from Beetham CE School created a display on trust. Part of the work the whole school did on a Christian Values day in school



This stained glass cross is based on designs submitted to an artist by the children of Cartmel Primary CE School and is now erected in their school hall.

Do you have any comments on this SACRE Report?

Responses to this Annual Report from school governors, elected members, headteachers, teachers or members of the public are welcomed by SACRE. Please write to:

David Salmon, Clerk to SACRE, 5 Portland Square, Carlisle, Cumbria CA1 1PU -

david.salmon@cumbria.gov.uk