Public Document Pack





A Meeting of the SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION) will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 6.15 PM

Susan Parsonage

Chief Executive

Published on 10 February 2023

Note: Non-Committee Members and members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting virtually. If you wish to participate virtually via Microsoft Teams please contact Democratic Services. The meeting can also be watched live using the following link: https://youtube.com/live/7lf RK1rZ64?feature=share

Please note that other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting. The use of these images or recordings is not under the Council's control.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

Group A

Catherine Jinkerson Free Church
Beth Rowland Free Church
Nigel Harman Free Church
Anju Sharma Hinduism
Shira Solomons Judaism
Sukhdev Bansal Sikhism
Shahid Younis Islam

Group B

Linda Galpin Church of England

Group C

Stephen Vegh Chairperson Secondary RS Teacher

Julie Easton Primary RE Teacher
Paris Finnegan Primary RE Teacher
Philip Theobald Primary Headteacher
Samantha Lawless Primary RE Teacher

Nick Barnett Soulscape

Group D

Adrian Mather Wokingham Borough Council Jackie Rance Wokingham Borough Council

Clerk to the SACRE

Luciane Bowker

LA Link / RE Advisor

Angela Hill and Emily Waddilove

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
NO.	SUBJECT	NO.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

To elect a Chair for the 2023/24 academic year.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect a Vice-Chair for the 2023/24 academic year.

3 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman will welcome members, guests and new members. The clerk will extend apologies received.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

5 - 12

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2022.

4a Matters Arising

5 HOW ARE THINGS IN WOKINGHAM SCHOOLS?

Verbal

	To receive a verbal update on the current situation in Wokingham schools, to provide context for the SACRE's discussions about support for schools.	Report
6	RELIGIOUS STUDIES EXAM ENTRIES/OUTCOMES To receive information about Religious Studies exam entries and exam outcomes.	Verbal Report
7	DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND BUDGET To discuss the Development Plan and Budget for the current financial year.	13 - 20
8	ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE To receive and consider the Annual Report Update.	21 - 42
9	FEEDBACK FROM TEACHER NETWORKS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES To share feedback from teacher networks and training opportunities.	Verbal Report
10	BERKSHIRE SACRES HUB UPDATE To share feedback from Hub meetings.	Verbal Report
11	DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2023/24 To discuss the Development Plan for 2023/24.	Verbal Report
12	RELIGION AND BELIEF IN WOKINGHAM: CENSUS 2021 DATA To share the 2021 census data.	Verbal Report
13	NATIONAL UPDATES RELATING TO EDUCATION AND RE, INCLUDING NASACRE UPDATES To receive national updates relating to education and Religious Education.	Verbal Report
14	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS To confirm the dates of next meetings: 12 June 2023 – in person (David Hicks1, Shute End, Wokingham) 6 November 2023 – via Teams (To be confirmed) 19 February 2024 – via Teams (To be confirmed)	Verbal Report
15	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	



SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2022 AT TIME NOT SPECIFIED

Committee Members Present

Group A

Catherine Jinkerson Free Church
Beth Rowland Free Church
Nigel Harman Free Church
Anju Sharma Hinduism
Shahid Younis Islam

Group B

Linda Galpin Church of England

Group C

Stephen Vegh Chairperson / Education Officer

Philip Theobald Primary Headteacher Samantha Lawless Primary RE Teacher

Group D

Adrian Mather Wokingham Borough Council

Clerk to Sacre

Catharine Newport

LA Link / RE Advisor

Angela Hill and Emily Waddilove

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Nick Barnett, Linda Galpin and Jackie Reece.

Philip Theobald, who was replacing Philippa Chan in Group C as a representative of Wokingham Primary Headteacher's Association was welcomed to the meeting.

Clare Walsha, representing the Humanists UK was welcomed as an observer, she was considering joining SACRE following a request from Anne Coffey, (our previous SACRE clerk) some time ago.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR - CLERK

As the meeting was not guorate, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were proposed by Beth Rowland as being an accurate reflection of the meeting and seconded by Adrian Mather.

4 MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising were dealt with as the meeting progressed.

5 HOW ARE THINGS IN WOKINGHAM SCHOOLS? - EW

During the pandemic, Ofsted published a series of reports about how schools nationally were responding to and recovering from the pandemic. Their last report, in the summer term, recognised the excellent work schools had done to help children catch up on their learning. Many children have caught-up, but many have not, not just academically but in terms of wider skills such as behaviour and social interactions. There also seems to be a higher level of anxiety and lower self-confidence among pupils. All schools, including those in Wokingham, are working hard to address these issues. In addition, some issues which schools experienced prior to the pandemic have been exacerbated. These include children's absenteeism, staff shortages and difficulties accessing specialist support for children. There has been an increase in applications for special needs assessments. All of this resulting in higher workloads for staff.

Schools are now also having to cope with rising costs squeezing their already tight budgets. Additionally, even though our schools are full in some year groups, there is a need to accommodate additional children from Ukraine and Honk Kong.

So, although in theory schools have now returned to their normal provision, the issues they experienced before the pandemic have been exacerbated by the pandemic, the financial crisis and other world issues.

6 DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND BUDGET UPDATES - EW AND AH

The development plan at the last meeting was shared as follows:

Development plan

SACRE Membership

We urgently need at least one new member of Group B - the 'Church of England' - to ensure we can have quorum. We currently have only one member and we should have three.

We also have two vacancies In Group A – 'Christian denominations other than C of E, and other religions'. We need to recruit a Buddhist member and a non-C of E Christian.

We have been actively trying to fill these roles but without success. If anyone has a person in mind for any of these roles, we would very much appreciate hearing from you. As always, the best way to approach someone is by personal invitation so please speak to your contacts about considering joining us.

Other points to note

Please note, there is a typo on the document included in the pack. On the first page, the last column states 2019 to 20. This has been corrected but, unfortunately, the wrong version has been included in the pack. The correct version will be forwarded to you.

We have been making a lot of effort to engage with the secondary teachers. Having online meetings has been helping with this. We continue to make efforts to find out about their CPD needs and to provide the support they are wanting.

Budget update

Please note that the blue font indicates spending that's happened since you were updated at the last SACRE meeting. You will see that the total spent is roughly half of our allocated budget for the year and, as we are roughly halfway through the financial year, it appears we are on track. We have just over £100 in the budget that isn't allocated to anything yet. There is an ongoing item from the last meeting for anyone to contact Emily if they have any ideas for things that we could usefully spend that money on.

The following actions from the previous meeting were ongoing.

ACTION: Beth Rowland and Emily Waddilove to work together on budget for 2022-23 and include a wish list - ONGOING

ACTION: Everyone to contact Emily Waddilove with 'wish list' proposal if you have one - ONGOING

7 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT ON PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR - EW AND AH Emily Waddilove and Angela Hill had been working on the Annual Report and the draft wording will be emailed to members shortly.

There are just a few points that need to be addressed prior to it being ready for submission to the Department for Education by 31 December 2022 but we are on track to meet that deadline.

The report highlights the fact that we are a vibrant SACRE who are strong in many areas, particularly in respect of how much support we provide teachers in the borough and the ease with which teachers can contact us and be involved in networks etc. It shows that we are not just fulfilling but going beyond our statutory duties for the benefit of pupils and teachers in the borough.

Stephen thanked Emily and Angela, on behalf of the SACRE, for all their hard work in completing the report, which has been made more difficult since the required format has been changed.

8 FEEDBACK FROM TEACHER NETWORKS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES - AH

Since our last meeting on 20th of June we have had one cross-phase face-to-face network which was very exciting as it was the first face-to-face event with teachers for quite some time following the pandemic. It was reasonably well attended with nine participants but only two were secondary teachers. There was a very collaborative atmosphere, and it was clear that teachers were grateful to actually be in the same room as other colleagues which allowed for informal chats and support in contrast to the rather formal online training.

St Crispin's School hosted the event for free and kindly provided refreshments. Feedback from the attendees was that it was a good location and so we have booked them again for March 2023. We will have some input with Secondary Schools before then so, hopefully, we will be able to encourage additional attendees from their schools.

The focus of the cross-phase meeting was 'Worldviews' and updating them on what is new in the world of RE.

So far, this Autumn term we have had the Primary subject leader training and a primary network meeting.

Normally the subject leader training is not run until later in the year, but we listened to feedback from Primary subject leaders last year who suggested that their training would be more valuable earlier in the school year. We had good feedback from that session and had 9 participants some of whom were new to the RE coordinator role and some of them were returning after some time.

The Primary Network Meeting - 4th of October - focused on 'ways of knowing' in RE which is something that's come out of the 'Ofsted Research Review into RE'. This session allowed teachers to engage with the latest thinking from Ofsted and gave them some practical strategies on how they can focus on 'ways of knowing' in the classroom. 17 teachers attended and the feedback was very positive.

Coming up, we have the secondary network meeting on 22nd of November and we will be looking at how to engage learners in RE KS3 in particular. The secondary twilight meeting on the 14th of December will be focused on KS4 provision in RE.

We have a cross-phase network coming up in in the spring term and then there are two further networks to come (one primary, one secondary) in summer 2023. The training focuses for those networks have yet to be decided because we decide them meeting by meeting to ensure they are relevant and are meeting the needs of the teachers.

9 BERKSHIRE SACRES HUB UPDATE - AH

Neither Angela nor Stephen were able to attend the SACRE Hub meeting but the focus of the meeting was the syllabus development. Those of you who are in Group A or Group B will have received an email recently asking for feedback on what you feel are the most important aspects of your faith for inclusion in the new syllabus.

The 'Real people, real faith' a project is still ongoing. Further funding has been made available meaning additional filming has been gone ahead to include different faith communities showing the diversity across communities with notes being prepared to accompany those films. Feedback from teachers indicates that they are finding the films very useful.

As the syllabus review has been postponed, allowing schools to recover from the Covid pandemic, Stephen asked whether there is any time constraint on funding. Emily confirmed that our Finance department are happy to make the funding available whenever we need it. The amount agreed is the same as for the previous review. Stephen pointed out that we are, as always, very grateful to Wokingham for making this funding available.

ACTION from previous meeting:

Stephen to discuss relaunching the 'Crossing the bridges' directory at the hub and raise the issue of whether places of worship are set up for online visits - ACTION ONGOING

10 NATIONAL UPDATES RELATING TO EDUCATION AND RE

There are a lot of updates, so we recommend you read the National updates for further details but here are some highlights.

Nationally we are seeing a rise in the number of pupils who are taking a GCSE full or short course in religious studies but, conversely, we are also seeing a fall in numbers for A levels. The National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) are looking into the reasons why that might be. RE is still very much the poor subject in terms of national spending. There has been some campaigning about this and last week there was a parliamentary debate - a link can be sent to you if you would like to take a look.

There is a proposal in Wales that the GCSE qualification will be constituted of 30% coursework and 70% exam and they will no longer offer the short course. Very often what happens in Wales has a knock-on effect in England, and vice-versa, so it would be good to be involved with the consultation.

The 'In conversation' series from Culham St Gabriel's is a series of conversations with people who are experts in a particular area of religion or worldviews. There is a programme of these events and you can go as a SACRE member. They are all free, online and last about 45 minutes. There are recordings available as well.

There are lots of new resources coming out. One very good example is the Jewish Museum in London. They have an inclusive Judaism package that really engages with Judaism and diversity within Jewish traditions.

'Strictly RE' is national conference for RE teachers. There could be an opportunity if any SACRE members wish to attend, please contact Emily and she will look into arranging this. This is a huge conference with keynote speakers and 21 workshops about many different aspects across all key stages. Most of the workshops are run by teachers who are in the classroom and are intended to not only help other teachers but foster understanding of what goes on in the RE classroom.

'Spirited Arts' continues and is NATRE's national competition for pupils to express their creativity and produce a piece of art.

ACTION from previous meeting
Angela to share Spirited Arts entries from Wokingham Schools at next meeting ONGOING

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ACTION from previous meeting
Angela to share Spirited Arts entries from Wokingham Schools at next meeting ONGOING

11 NASACRE UPDATES

NASACRE have an online training programme and it would be great if SACRE members can engage with those training opportunities. Please contact Emily if you want to attend so she can make the arrangements.

We mentioned in our previous meeting about the NASACRE analysis of SACRE annual reports 2020-21, and we can see from this that the Wokingham SACRE is in a really strong and secure position funding wise.

12 WORLD VIEWS - AH

Angela presented on this at the cross-phase network meeting. Teachers were very enthusiastic on the whole about moving towards a worldviews paradigm but felt that they needed to have more clarity about what that means in practice within the classroom. This is something that we will bear in mind as we move forward with the syllabus review.

The draft resource will be reviewed by SACRE when there is more clarity over its status and purposes.

13 SELF-EVALUATION TOOL DISCUSSION - AH

The self-evaluation tool is intended to help SACREs fulfil their statutory duties and to perform strongly, making sure they are effective and beneficial to pupils in every local authority. It is a lengthy document and it would take a lot of time and resources to really engage fully with it in its entirety. We decided in a previous meeting that a good way forward would be to arrange a meeting between Angela, Emily, Stephen and Beth to discuss the document in greater detail and pick out the elements of the tool which we think would help drive the Wokingham SACRE forward. Anyone else wishing to join this meeting will be more than welcome. We will let the SACRE know of the meeting date when it has been arranged.

ACTION: Stephen, Beth, Emily and Angela to arrange a meeting before the next SACRE meeting in February.

14 AOB

Stephen reminded the SACRE of an action from a previous meeting for Emily to review the SACRE leaflet in connection with a symbol for the Christian faith as every other faith seemed to have a symbol. Emily explained that there are symbols representing three of the six major religions, and pictures relating to the other three religions.

It was agreed that, as the leaflet is updated every year, the pictures used would be considered next time it is reviewed.

15 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

6.15pm - 20 February 2023 - via TEAMS

6.15pm -12 June 2023- in person - David Hicks 1, Shute End



7

Agenda Item

Wokingham SACRE action plan April 2022-March 2023

(See budget sheet for costings)

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Summer 2022	Autumn 2022	Spring 2023
A. CORE BUSINESS	1. Fill membership	ongoing	SACRE Chair		Current vacancies:	
	vacancies if/when		SACRE Clerk		Christian	
To be a supportive	they arise		SACRE members		denominations	
and proactive SACRE	Work proactively with				other than Cof E –	
enjoying full and	SACRE members, faith				1 vacancy;	
well-informed	communities and other				Buddhism; C of E –	
membership	partners to ensure				1 vacancy	
	representation on all					
	SACRE committees.					
	2. SACRE members	Termly SACRE	SACRE Chair/SACRE	Meeting Quorate	Meeting	Meeting
	attend termly	meetings:	Adviser			
	SACRE meetings (3	Summer 2022	SACRE members			
	per year) and,	Autumn 2023	SACRE Clerk			
	when possible,	Spring 2023				
	teacher termly					
	network meetings	Termly teacher				
	and training events	network meetings				
	e.g. annual SACRE	and occasional				
	conference	training events				
	3. SACRE member	Aim for one person	SACRE Chair	Member	Member	Member
	attendance at	to visit a school by	SACRE Clerk	participation at	participation at	participation at
	networks and	the end of the	SACRE members	least 1 event/or	least 2 events/or	least 3 events/o
	training events/and	2022-2023	RE teachers and	at least 1 school	at least 2 school	at least 3 schoo
	or visit local	academic year, and	school leaders	visit	visits in total	visits in total
	schools	one each term				
		thereafter		1 SACRE member		
				attended the		
				Three Religions Q		

						and A on 23/06/2022		
		4.	Produce annual SACRE Report	Autumn Term 2022	SACRE Adviser and clerk	Draft report prepared	Present draft for members' approval during Autumn term Submit report by 30th December 2022	Present final, submitted report at Spring 2023 meeting and to Councillors on Date tbc
		5.	Review the action plan at each meeting and update for next year	At each SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser and SACRE	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
			Subscribe to NASACRE Representation at annual NASACRE conference, NASACRE AGM	Ongoing	1 SACRE member and SACRE Adviser to attend annual AGM. SACRE adviser to provide updates on NASACRE business at meetings and, where appropriate, through the SACRE clerk via email	This year's conference and AGM online on 23 rd May 2022 – Wokingham represented	NASACRE updates discussed at Autumn meeting. Invitation opened to members to attend the AGM in 2023	Spring 2023 SACRE meeting to finalise who will attend NASACRE AGM in 2023 to represent Wokingham SACRE
В.	To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE learning in their school, ensuring that the agreed	1.	Provide two termly primary network meetings, two termly secondary network meetings and one crossphase network	Ongoing, network meetings meeting each term plus feedback at each termly SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser	Cross-phase network took place at St Crispin's School, Wokingham on 29 th June	Primary network took place on 4 th October 2022. Secondary Network to take place on 22 nd November 2022	Cross-Phase Network planned for 7 th March, St Crispin's School (face-to-face)

Pan-Berkshire syllabus is understood, and teachers are equipped to deliver it effectively	meeting for Wokingham teachers				Extra CPD session for secondary schools on 14 th December All online	
	2. Primary Subject Leader Training - twilight session online (may be joint with Reading or Bracknell)	Autumn term 2022	SACRE Adviser	To be advertised in the summer term and booking to be made available	Training took place on 22 nd September 2022. 10 attendees. Feedback to SACRE	Prepare to advertise September 2023 session.
	4.Support RE teachers and leaders in secondary schools with an annual twilight CPD in addition to network meetings	Ongoing	SACRE advisor, Chair and clerk	Advertise secondary CPD opportunity – teachers asked for input on content	As well as secondary network meeting on 22 nd November 2022, there will also be a twilight CPD for secondaries on 14 th December 2022	Secondary teachers will also have the opportunity to attend the face- to-face cross- phase network on 7 th March 2023 at St Crispin's School.
Pan-Berkshire Hub	Consolidate and develop the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub. Syllabus review	Ongoing	SACRE members SACRE advisers and the 6 Chairs from all Berkshire SACREs	The Real People: Real Faith Project is complete but work extended with extra funding to develop films	Work with Hub to aid extensions of the Real People: Real Faith project Liaise with SACRE members and Hub	Begin to establish, in earnest, the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

		and recources on	to consider the	
		additional faith	feasibility of	
		communities.	further projects,	
			but prioritising the	
		The Hub	syllabus review	
		continue to seek		
		contributions	Teacher survey re	
		from faith	agreed syllabus	
		communities to	has now been	
		demonstrate	considered and	
		diversity within	next steps relating	
		as well as across	to the syllabus	
		religions	review being	
		J	discussed	
		Syllabus review:		
		it has been		
		agreed that the		
		review will be		
		postponed for a		
		year due to the		
		pandemic and		
		new thinking		
		emerging around		
		RE. Discussion of		
		ways forward will		
		continue this		
		year.		
		year.		

SACRE budget April 2022 - March 2023

BUDGET PLAN	Spending	Spending	Spending
	Apr-June 22	July – October 22	November 22 – January 23
CORE COSTS			
Planned spending = £2,850 Professional fees: NASACRE subscription Attendance at NASACRE conference IT support for webcasting virtual SACRE meetings Refreshments for in person SACRE meeting Annual report design LA link/RE advisor: 3 x SACRE meetings (preparation and attendance) Annual report writing Attendance at NASACRE conference Emails, admin Travel expenses (RE advisor)	£40 NASACRE conference fee £55 Webcasting March SACRE meeting £114 Annual report 2020-21 design £500 Advisor attendance at NASACRE conference and AGM – May £500 Advisor attendance at June SACRE meeting, including preparation and follow up £102 Advisor travel expenses – June SACRE meeting	£500 Advisor writing of annual report 2021-22 £105 NASACRE subscription £38 WBC design service – creating 'accessible' version of SACRE leaflet	£37 webcasting November SACRE meeting £20 new clerk attendance at NASACRE clerk training £250 Advisor attendance at November SACRE meeting, including preparation and follow up £500 Advisor annual report writing £250 Advisor analysis of school inspection reports and write up

PROJECT COSTS			
Planned spending = £1,920	£72 SACRE leaflet design	£250 Advisor Primary Subject	£250 Advisor Secondary Network
Consultancy:		Leader CPD prep and delivery -	and CPD, planning and delivery -
- 5 x network meetings	£250 Advisor - In person cross	22.09.2022	23.11.2022
- Twilight primary subject	phase network		
leader training	meeting and preparation – June	£250 Advisor Primary Network	£125 Advisor ad hoc responses to
 Twilight secondary training 		prep and delivery – 04.10.2022	emails from schools/ responding to
- Travel costs x 1 network	£102 Advisor travel expenses –		queries/ providing advice
meeting	in person network meeting		
 Updating of SACRE leaflet – 			
design costs			
BERKSHIRE SACRE HUB ACTIVITIES			
Planned spending = £1,900	£900 Wokingham contribution	£125 Advisor attendance at hub	£250 Advisor attendance at Pan
- Termly Hub meetings (Hub managers'	to SACRE hub	meeting, prep and follow up – July	Berkshire Hub meeting November
prep and attendance)			/syllabus review planning
- <u>H</u> ub manager travel costs			
C dub activities:			
'Real People: Real Faith' Project			
Syllabus review			
- RE advisor attendance at hub			
meetings			
- RE Advisor time to support hub			
activities			
Total planned spending = £6,670	Total spends to end of June:	Total spends to end of October:	Total spends to end of January:
	£2,635	£3,903	£5,585
Budget allocation = £6,800			

Funds remaining = £1,215

Spending to come this financial year:

3 x network meetings = £750

Travel expenses for in person network meeting = approx. £100

Secondary CPD session = £250

Annual report design = approx. £120

Advisor attendance at hub meetings/ syllabus review work = £125?

= £1,345

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Wokingham Borough Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Annual Report September 2021 - July 2022

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SECTION 1: Introduction

1.1 Words from the Chair of SACRE

I would like to begin by offering my thanks to all members of the Wokingham SACRE, who freely give up so much of their time to support the RE community across Wokingham. I would also like to extend my thanks to our LA link officer, Emily Waddilove, who provides stability to our SACRE and finally, Angela Hill, our RE advisor.

We must acknowledge that it has been another extraordinary year, in light of the pandemic. Over the course of the year the SACRE continued to fulfil its duties, and in the summer term we had our first face to face meeting since before the pandemic. Despite the challenges Covid-19 has presented, as a SACRE we have continued to look forward and embrace new opportunities. The Autumn term was exciting, as we held a 'Festival of RE CPD,' whereby schools were gifted FREE resources and twilight training sessions, which were well received. Our termly primary network teacher meetings have continued and are always well attended by our dedicated colleagues. Finally, we continue to support the Pan-Berkshire Hub and have supported in the production of a collection of films to be used in the classroom, 'Real People, Real Faith.'

As we look to the future, we will continue to work with our friends across Berkshire SACREs to review the locally agreed syllabus. We will also begin to review the work we do as SACRE so we can continue to improve and ensure the very best RE provision for children and young people in Wokingham.

I have great pleasure in commending this report to you.

Stephen Vegh

Chair: Wokingham SACRE

1.2 SACRE Overview

The Wokingham SACRE met once each term during the academic year to progress its work, structuring this through an agreed action plan. Two of the meetings for the academic year 2021 – 2022 took place online, via Microsoft Teams; the summer term meeting took place in person. The meetings were livestreamed in accordance with protocols for public council meetings. All meetings were quorate.

Brief overview of meetings, showing main items discussed

Standing items for all three meetings:

Welcome and apologies
Approval of minutes of previous meeting
Matters arising
Update on Wokingham schools
Development plan and budget
Feedback from teacher networks and training opportunities
National updates relating to education and RE
NASACRE updates
SACRE projects/Pan Berkshire Hub Updates
AOB

Monday, 29th November 2021

Dates of next meetings

As well as standing items, the following agenda items were discussed:

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair SACRE Membership

Monday, 7th March 2022

As well as standing items, the following agenda items were discussed:

Final annual report on previous academic year

Monday, 20th June 2022

As well as standing items, the following agenda item was discussed:

Worldviews

1.3 Working Groups Overview

The SACREs of the six unitary authorities across Berkshire, namely, West Berkshire, Reading, Bracknell Forest, The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham, have a well-established working group, called the Pan Berkshire SACRE Hub. Wokingham SACRE is an active member of the Hub. Wokingham SACRE's Chair and Vice Chair as well as its RE Advisor, attend Hub meetings, representing the SACRE. Hub meetings are usually held termly.

During the academic year 2021 to 2022, there were three Pan Berkshire Hub meetings.

Brief overview of meetings, showing main items discussed

Monday, 6th September 2021

Minutes from previous meeting were agreed

Syllabus Review:

- Timeline
- Survey

AOB: None

Monday, 7th March 2022

Minutes from previous meeting were agreed Update on Westhill Project Syllabus survey – results and ways forward

AOB: None

Thursday, 14th July 2022

Minutes from previous meeting were agreed

Update on Real People: Real Faith

Pan-Berkshire Blogspot

NASACRE Self Evaluation Tool

Draft Handbook on Religion and Worldviews

AOB: None

SECTION 2: RE (statutory responsibilities)

2.1 The locally agreed syllabus and RE in schools

The SACRE believes that most, if not all, academies in the borough are using the Pan Berkshire Locally Agreed Syllabus. The syllabus is regularly discussed at teachers' network meetings, with the training elements of these meetings often focussing on aspects of the syllabus. The Pan Berkshire Hub Westhill Award project, 'Real People: Real Faith', produced videos and resources directly linking to key questions in the syllabus, and teachers have access to extensive resources, freely available, to support them to teach the syllabus effectively. The Hub continues to produce these resources, to enable engagement with a broader range of faiths in the local communities of Berkshire.

Review of the locally agreed syllabus has been postponed due to the impact of the pandemic in schools, and also to enable proper consideration of the new thinking and debates around RE. Teachers were encouraged to complete a comprehensive survey, giving the SACRE greater insight

into the extent to which the Pan Berkshire Locally Agreed Syllabus is being utilised to create RE curricula in Wokingham's schools, and this will inform the development of the new or revised locally agreed syllabus for RE.

2.2 Standards and monitoring of RE

At the time of writing this report, GCSE and A Level Religious Studies outcomes data for summer 2022 are not available; information about outcomes will be added to the report when the data becomes available.

As part of the SACRE's development plan, members are encouraged to visit schools. Members have been mindful of the ongoing pressures in schools due to the impact of the pandemic and did not undertake school visits during 2021-22.

Monitoring of Ofsted Inspection Reports

The SACRE monitors Ofsted reports for any comments about collective worship and RE. Our annual reports enable us to share any comments identifying good practice in Wokingham schools. During the academic year 2021-2022, a total of 16 Wokingham schools were inspected by Ofsted:

- 14 primary schools (**)
- 1 secondary school
- 1 maintained nursery

** Four of the primary schools that were inspected are Church of England schools. We are aware that SACRE is not obliged to report on Religious Education or Collective Worship in Church of England schools as this comes under SIAMS, Section 35. However, Church of England schools are invited to participate in all of the support provided by the Wokingham SACRE, so it seems appropriate to include these schools in our monitoring of inspection reports.

All inspections during the year were Section 8 inspections, so there were no 'deep dives' into Religious Education. Seven of the inspection reports mention Religious Education or refer to learning closely connected to Religious Education. Where RE is mentioned, comments are overwhelmingly positive. There are two comments highlighting the need for better planned provision for RE, alongside other subjects in the curriculum. Where there are comments about the need for improvements relating to Religious Education, SACRE contacts schools to ensure they are aware of the support available. None of the inspection reports indicate non-compliance in terms of Religious Education or Collective worship.

Comments relating to Religious Education include:

"Pupils benefit from carefully planned opportunities to study different cultures and religions."

"The curriculum promotes topics that capture the imagination of pupils and inspire creativity. Teachers plan topics carefully so that pupils can link different areas of learning. For example, in art, pupils make Diva lamps to link with their religious education study of Diwali. Learning is sequenced across the curriculum so that pupils learn the right skills and knowledge in the right order"

"Pupils enjoy the chance to learn about, and celebrate, difference... Pupils are fascinated by different lifestyles and religions".

"Leaders make sure that pupils learn about different cultures and religions."

"Speakers visit to talk to children about different cultures and faiths, and children learn about festivals, such as Diwali and Christmas."

Two of the reports mention collective worship, and both in a positive light:

"The provision for pupils' personal development is shaped by the school's values. These values, including ownership, determination, kindness and self-belief, are woven through lessons and assemblies."

"The daily collective worship provides an opportunity for pupils to explore topical issues around equality. They are encouraged to reflect on the school's values, including this term's focus on 'thankfulness'. This is demonstrated in the prayers that the pupils write and share with the school community." (Report for a Church of England School)

2.3 Teacher training and materials and advice for schools

Training and networking opportunities for teachers provided by Wokingham SACRE

Please see the summary of training opportunities provided by Wokingham SACRE to the Local Authority's teachers in an appendix to this report (7.2). In addition, news of training opportunities from a range of respected providers is shared in weekly Local Authority newsletters and at network meetings.

Teacher network meetings

Primary teachers have continued to attend termly network meetings online. In addition, a network for secondary teachers was held in the spring term. The summer term network meeting was crossphase. It was held, face-to-face at St Crispin's School and was attended by primary and secondary teachers. At this network, teachers from both phases had the opportunity to discuss the Wokingham 'Conceptual Understanding' document. This document was co-constructed by primary and secondary teachers during the previous academic year and is intended to aid pupils' transition from primary to secondary school by clearly and concisely articulating the key concepts that pupils should understand before moving on to secondary education. All network meetings offer updates on both national and local developments in RE, as well as providing a training focus for teachers based on their present needs and priorities. Teachers continue to appreciate the network meetings which are well attended.

The training focus for each meeting continues to be decided democratically by the teachers attending the previous network meeting. Teachers attending the network meetings are always enthusiastic. They openly share good practice with one another as well as exchanging ideas and discussing concerns. Teachers of varying experience continue to participate at network meetings, which provide a constructive and supportive forum for teachers to develop their practice in the teaching of RE and engagement with collective worship.

Primary RE Subject Leader training

Training for Primary RE subject leaders was very well-attended, with 13 teachers participating in March 2022. Teachers reported that the training was of a high standard and equipped them with

useful information and resources for embarking upon or developing their role as RE subject leader at their school, or as a reminder of the main responsibilities of the role. Some teachers expressed the view that this training would be even more useful nearer the start of the academic year. In the following academic year, the training will be held on 23rd September 2022.

Autumn 'Festival of RE CPD'

At the end of the previous academic year, Wokingham SACRE provided all schools in the Local Authority with highly regarded RE resources published by RE Today for its schools. These were the resources, provided free of charge:

- The 'What Happens In...?' primary RE resource was provided to all primary schools
- The 'Picturing Islam, Picturing Muslims' resource was provided to all secondary schools

This year, an Autumn Festival of RE was made available to all teachers in the local authority. This consisted of a series of twilight webinars. Some of these webinars specifically explored practical strategies for employing the resources provided to schools by the SACRE to the best effect in RE lessons. In addition, a series of live and recorded webinars, aimed at secondary school teachers, were made available later in the year. A Q and A session was provided in the Summer term for teachers who had engaged with the pre-recorded webinars on Buddhism, Hinduism and Sikhism.

2.4 Other information

The SACRE is not aware of any complaints regarding RE in the Local Authority's schools.

2.5 Advice to the Local Authority

The SACRE has not provided any advice to the local authority regarding Religious Education this academic year.

SECTION 3: Collective Worship (statutory responsibilities)

3.1 Standards and monitoring of CW

Ofsted have not raised any concerns with regards to the compliance with the law or standards in relation to collective worship in Wokingham's schools.

3.2 Determinations

Wokingham SACRE has not received any applications for determinations.

3.3 Teacher training provided (locally, or national training circulated to schools)

Wokingham SACRE provides extensive training and networking opportunities its schools. Training requirements are determined by teacher requests at network meetings. As teachers have indicated

that their training needs relate to RE, no specific training has been provided this year relating to collective worship.

Please see the summary of training opportunities provided by Wokingham SACRE to the Local Authority's teachers in an appendix to this report (7.2). In addition, news of training opportunities from a range of respected providers is shared in termly Local Authority newsletters and at network meetings.

3.4 Materials and advice for schools

The SACRE has distributed all relevant information relating to supporting collective worship in schools via termly network meetings, and via the Local Authority's newsletter for schools.

3.5 Other information

The SACRE is not aware of any complaints regarding collective worship in the Local Authority's schools.

3.6 Advice to the LA

The SACRE has not provided any advice to the Local Authority regarding Collective Worship this academic year

SECTION 4: Links with other bodies

4.1 National bodies

Wokingham SACRE is an active member of NASACRE. SACRE members are given the opportunity each year, paid for by SACRE, to attend the NASACRE Conference and AGM, as well as NASACRE's programme of online training events. The SACRE's RE Advisor, Angela Hill, represents Wokingham SACRE at NASACRE's Annual Conference and AGM.

Wokingham SACRE has worked closely with RE Today to provide a varied and extensive programme of training to teachers. It actively encourages teachers and schools to become members of NATRE (National Association for Teachers of RE).

Wokingham SACRE supports Stop Ecocide International. This campaign is led by a group of international lawyers, researchers and diplomats who are working to make ecocide (damage or destruction of ecosystems) an international crime.

4.2 Local bodies

The Wokingham SACRE has established and active links with the Pan Berkshire SACREs Hub.

SECTION 5: Other areas of SACRE involvement locally

Through its members, in addition to links with places of worship and faith groups, schools and the Local Authority, the SACRE has links with the local Primary Headteachers' association; with 'RE Inspired', a local organisation teaching Christianity in schools; and 'Soulscape', a charity working in partnership with local schools to give young people the space to reflect, and to ask big questions.

SECTION 6: SACRE's own arrangements (statutory responsibilities)

6.1 Professional and administrative support and how the LA supports the SACRE

The LA provides the SACRE with an annual budget to fund its work, enabling it to fulfil its statutory duties as well as deliver training and network meetings free of charge to teachers, and contribute funding to the Berkshire SACRE Hub. The LA provides a clerk to the SACRE, who does much work to support the committee between meetings, including sharing useful information with teachers of RE; helping to recruit new members to the SACRE; and keeping the SACRE/RE area of the Wokingham Schools Hub website updated with training materials and guidance documents. An LA officer who is part of the school improvement team also provides much support to the SACRE and liaises with the RE advisor to support her work. The RE advisor is recruited by the LA in partnership with the SACRE chair and vice-chair. Our current adviser, Angela Hill, is a national adviser for RE Today and a highly experienced and knowledgeable RE teacher and teacher trainer. Two elected councillors, ClIr Jackie Rance and ClIr David Hare, have been proactive members of the SACRE this year, and have wholeheartedly support the SACRE's work. ClIr Hare was replaced by ClIr Adrian Mather in June of this year.

6.2 Membership, representation & recruitment

The SACRE is active in recruiting members to represent all groups. It also considers co-opting those with skills, knowledge and experience who can help to develop its work.

Membership vacancies are discussed at meetings alongside the SACRE development plan. At the start of this academic year there were three vacancies in Group A: two for Christian denominations other than the Church of England and one for a Buddhist member. During the year the SACRE recruited a member to represent Christian denominations other than the Church of England, but was not successful in filling the other two vacancies in Group A. At the start of the year there was also one vacancy in Group B — The Church of England. Unfortunately, another member of Group B moved away from the area in March, leaving two vacancies in this group. At the start of the year there were also two vacancies in Group C — educationalists; however, two new members were recruited to the group.

All SACRE meetings during the year were quorate, with all groups represented according to the terms of the SACRE's constitution at each meeting.

6.3 Training for SACRE (and ASC) members

All new SACRE members receive a guide to SACRE and the responsibilities associated with SACRE membership. The SACRE Clerk, LA Officer and RE Advisor are on hand to advise SACRE members.

All members are invited to attend all training provided for schools (see Section 7.2 below). They are also offered a place at the NASACRE Conference and AGM, paid for by the SACRE, and are also encouraged to attend the online training events provided by NASACRE throughout the academic year. In addition, SACRE meetings sometimes incorporate presentations from the SACRE's RE advisor, as in the case of the Summer 2022 meeting, where there was an item on 'worldviews'.

6.4 Finance given to SACRE for its work

The LA provides an annual budget to the SACRE. Members shape the use of this funding, and are provided with budget updates by the LA Officer at each SACRE meeting. The budget plan for the financial year 2021-22 can be found in appendix 7.4.

SECTION 7: Appendices

7.1 Results of External Religious Studies examinations: short and full GCSE, A/S & A Level RS

These data are not currently available for the period of this annual report.

7.2 Details on CPD provided to schools

Training and networking opportunities for teachers provided by Wokingham SACRE

All training events have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from teachers. All events took place online, as twilight sessions, between the hours of 4pm and 6pm, with the exception of the cross-phase RE network, which was a face-to-face meeting (4pm to 5:30pm). All sessions were provided by Wokingham SACRE, free of charge to schools.

Autumn 2021: Wokingham Autumn Festival of RE CPD

SACRE funded the gift of a classroom resource to all Wokingham schools. Primary schools received the 'What Happens in...? pack and secondary schools received the 'Picturing Islam, Picturing Muslims' pack. A training package was also created to support teachers, with some sessions directly linked to the free resources, to enable teachers to make great use of them.

Training/networking opportunity	Date	Description	Number of participants
Picturing Islam, Picturing Muslims led by Lat Blaylock, RE Today Cross-phase (Key Stages 2-4)	20 th September	Lat Blaylock, National RE Adviser at RE Today and editor of <i>RE Today</i> magazine, presented 8 engaging and dynamic visual learning approaches to Islam which are suitable for pupils aged 7-14. All teachers, primary and secondary, were welcome to attend. The webinar was designed to help support the use of the <i>Picturing Islam: Picturing Muslims</i> resource, which secondary schools received as gift from Wokingham SACRE in the summer term.	15
Ofsted and RE: The Research Review and the 3 'I's led by Angela Hill, SACRE adviser Cross-phase	4 th October	The session discussed the implications for RE of the recent Ofsted Research Review on RE in primary and secondary schools. Focusing on this, and the 3 'I's (intention, implementation and impact), ideas were presented to make RE in Ofsted-ready. There were also opportunities for discussion between teachers.	36 (including 2 SACRE members)
What happens in? Led by Julia Diamond- Conway, RE Today Primary	18 th October	This session presented ideas for creative and effective teaching of how to use 'lived faith' approaches in primary RE, including the use of the 'What Happens In?' resource which primary schools received as a gift from Wokingham SACRE in the summer term. As one of the authors of this resource, and with a passion for helping pupils to understand religions from the point of view of followers, Julia made connections with other resources.	15
Primary Network Meeting: Creative RE for the foundation stage led by Fiona Moss, RE Today Primary (EYFS)	30 th November	Story, subject knowledge, and creative strategies, with lively discussion and examples of pupil work.	22 (including 1 SACRE member)

Spring 2022

Training/networking opportunity	Date	Description	Number of participants
Secondary Teachers' Network led by Angela Hill, RE Today with contributions from Sarah Whiteread, Head of RE at the Forest School	17 th January	Discussion focused on how SACRE can support future training and development needs for secondary RE. Outline and discussion of the national picture for RE and Ofsted developments, with input from a secondary Head of RE who has experienced a recent Ofsted inspection.	4
Primary RE Subject Leader Training led by Angela Hill, SACRE Adviser	21 st March	CPD for new RE subject leaders, those returning to the role or those wanting a refresher. Exploring the role of the subject leader, using practical activities to develop understanding of RE and your leadership and management skills. Tips on establishing and developing a vision for RE, planning a scheme of work, and effective and manageable monitoring and self-evaluation.	13
Non-Religious Worldviews for Secondary RE led by Stephen Pett, RE Today	28 th March	Introduction to teaching about non- religious worldviews in secondary RE	7
Primary Network Meeting led by Angela Hill, SACRE Adviser	29 th March	Thoughts on future network meetings NATRE membership benefits RE updates for primary practitioners Reflection and feedback from the Autumn festival of RE CPD Discussion: syllabus review	14

Summer 2022

Training/networking opportunity	Date	Description	Number of participants
Three Religions Q and A led by Adam Robertson, RE Today and Angela Hill, SACRE Adviser Cross-Phase	23 rd June	Adam and Angela, both National RE Advisers, were online to answer questions relating to three pre- recorded subject knowledge webinars provided to Wokingham's teachers on dharmic traditions. These were: Buddhism (Angela Hill) Hinduism (Adam Robertson) Sikhism (Lat Blaylock)	6 (including 1 SACRE member)
Cross-Phase Teachers' Network led by Angela Hill, SACRE Adviser Face-to-face at St Crispin's School	29 th June	National and local updates Discussion of training needs and dates for CPD 2022-2023 Training focus: A Worldviews Paradigm for RE	9

7.3 LA/SACRE policy statements on Religious Education or Collective Worship

The Local Authority does not have a policy statement on Religious Education or Collective Worship.

7.4 Development plan tied to funding

Wokingham SACRE action plan April 2021-March 2022

(See budget sheet for costings)

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022
A. CORE BUSINESS	1. Fill membership	ongoing	SACRE Chair			
	vacancies if/when		SACRE Clerk			
To be a supportive	they arise Work proactively with		SACIL CICIK			
and proactive SACRE	SACRE members, faith		SACRE members			
enjoying full and	communities and other					
well-informed	partners to ensure					
membership	representation on all					
membersinp	SACRE committees.					
	SACKE COMMITTEES.					
	2. SACRE members	Termly SACRE	SACRE Chair/SACRE	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
	attend termly SACRE meetings (3	meetings:	Adviser			
	per year) and, when possible,	Summer 2021	SACRE members			
	teacher termly network meetings	Autumn 2021	SACRE Clerk			
	and training events	Spring 2022				
		Termly teacher				
		network meetings				

	3. Encourage SACRE members who are not involved	and occasional training events Aim for one person to visit a school by the end of the	SACRE Chair SACRE Clerk	1 visit or contact	2 visits or contacts in total	3 visits or contacts in total
	directly in schools to contact or visit a school or schools and, where possible, to observe RE in action and feed back to SACRE	2019-20 academic year, and one each term thereafter	SACRE members RE teachers and school leaders			
in the second se	Due to the pandemic, in person visits will not be undertaken until Spring 2022. Before then, contact with schools can continue to be made virtually.					
	4. Produce annual SACRE Report	Summer Term 2021 (delayed this year due to new NASACRE DfE framework, but will	SACRE Adviser and clerk		Present draft for members' approval during Autumn term	Present final, submitted report at Spring meeting and

		be submitted on schedule by 30 th December 2021)			Submit report by 30 th December 2021	share with Councillors
	5. Review the action plan at each meeting and update	At each SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser and SACRE	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
	6. Subscribe to NASACRE Representation at annual NASACRE conference, NASACRE AGM	Ongoing	1 SACRE member and SACRE Adviser to attend annual AGM. SACRE adviser to provide updates on NASACRE business at meetings and, where appropriate, through the SACRE clerk via email	This year's conference and AGM will take place online on 24th May 2021 Pan Berks Hub will present the Real People: Real Faith NASACRE Westhill project at this meeting.		
B. To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE learning in their	1. Provide a termly primary RE network meeting for Wokingham teachers, and on	Ongoing, a primary network meeting each term (on a Tuesday near the	SACRE Adviser	Network meeting on a Tuesday near the	Network meeting	Network meeting on a Tuesday near the

school, ensuring that the agreed Pan-Berkshire syllabus is understood, and teachers are equipped to	occasions where it is appropriate, involve secondary teachers also. 4-5pm online or hosted by volunteer school.	beginning of term) plus feedback at each termly SACRE meeting		beginning of each term Online or face- to-face	on a Tuesday near the beginning of each term	beginning of each term
deliver it effectively	Feedback to SACRE	Online or face-to- face				
	SACRE members are welcome to attend these meetings					
	2. Primary Subject Leader Training x 1 half-day sessions (joint with Reading or Bracknell)	Spring term 2022	SACRE Adviser			Feedback to SACRE
	3. Provide annual CPD session for secondary RE teachers/heads of RE		SACRE Adviser	Secondary colleagues attended summer primary network meeting, which included items relevant to	Delivered training appropriate to secondary teachers/leaders: Ofsted and RE (cross-phase) Picturing Islam, Picturing Muslims	

	4.Support RE teachers	Ongoing	SACRE advisor, chair	secondary schools: Conceptual understanding project and Real People: Real Faith project.	Autumn CPD
	and leaders in secondary schools		and clerk		appropriate to secondary teachers delivered
Pan-Berkshire Hub	Consolidate and develop the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub. Syllabus review Completion of Real People: Real Faith project	Ongoing	SACRE members SACRE advisers and the 6 Chairs from all Berkshire SACREs	The Real People: Real Faith Project is nearing completion. An online conference to showcase this work took place on 28 th April 2021	Work with Hub to aid any final steps towards completion of Real People: Real Faith Project Liaise with SACRE members and Hub to consider the feasibility of further projects, but prioritising the syllabus review

		Syllabus review early discussion at Hub around commencing th syllabus review	and next steps will be issued to teachers	Analysis of survey and discussions on next steps at hub.
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SACRE budget plan April 2021- March 2022

CORE COSTS	
Professional fees	
- NASACRE subscription	105
- Attendance at NASACRE conference (RE advisor + members)	60
IT support for webcasting SACRE meetings OR meeting refreshments	100
Annual report design/ printing	150
LA link/RE advisor – 5 days:	2,500
- 3 x SACRE meetings (preparation and attendance)	
- Annual report writing	
- Attendance at NASACRE conference/ AGM	
?Travel expenses (RE advisor) x 1 SACRE meeting	75
Sub-total budget core costs	£2,990
PROJECT COSTS	
Consultancy – 3 days:	
- 3 x primary network meetings	750
- Half day primary subject leader training – 1 day advisor time	500
- Twilight secondary training	250
- Travel costs (?1 x network meeting)	75
Updating of SACRE leaflet – design and printing	100
Sub-total budget Wokingham project costs	£1,675
SPECIAL PROJECT COSTS – use of funds carried forward from last year	
-3 x twilight training sessions £795	
-Resource for every school + postage £2,037	
Sub-total budget Wokingham special project costs	£2,832
BERKSHIRE SACRES HUB	
- Termly Hub meetings (Hub managers' prep and attendance)	Wokingham contribution:
- Hub manager travel costs	500
- Hub activities:	
Completion of Westhill 'Real People: Real Faith' Project	
Syllabus review	
Consultancy:	
-RE advisor attendance at hub meetings - 1.3 days	650
-RE Advisor time to support hub activities – 0.5 day	250
-RE advisor travel costs	75
Sub-total budget Hub activities costs	£1,475
Total budget plan	£8,972
Budget allocation	£6,800
+ funds carried forward from 2020-21	£2,800
TOTAL funds available	£9,600

7.5 Circulation details for this Annual Report

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the Wokingham Local Authority and NASACRE websites for interested parties to download.

- Director of Children's Services, Wokingham Borough Council
- Lead member for Children's Services, Wokingham Borough Council
- The Department for Education (Central Government)
- NASACRE (National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education)
- Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all Wokingham Borough schools
- All members of Wokingham SACRE