



**Oversight and Governance**

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## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

Thursday 18 July 2019

1.30 pm

Warspite room, Council House

### Membership

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Drean, Mrs Johnson, Morris, Tuffin and Tuohy.

Bakari Arabi, Dr Judith Beckman, Dr Cathy Bowness, Emma Butler, Martin Edmonds, Katie Freeman, Liz Hill, Gwen Hughes, Malc Halliday, Jayesh Bhagat, Jono Madeley, Helena Mitchell, Ed Pawson, Mirella Paganuzzi, Margaret Thompson, Louis Efthymiou, Claire Linden, Sara Wells, Ben Kerr and Barbara Wintersgill.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

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**Tracey Lee**

Chief Executive

# **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

## **1. Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair**

SACRE will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for the forthcoming year from Groups B and D.

## **2. Apologies**

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by SACRE Members.

## **3. Declarations of Interest**

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

## **4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2019.

## **5. Matters arising from previous minutes:**

## **6. Chair's Urgent Business**

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

## **7. SACRE Constitution: (Pages 5 - 8)**

## **8. SACRE Membership - Verbal Update:**

## **9. Annual Report 2018/19: (Pages 9 - 20)**

## **10. Plymouth RE Hub and Learn Teach Read - Verbal Update:**

## **11. Local and National Developments - Verbal Updates:**

1.1. The RE Commission

1.2. OFSTED and RE

1.3. AREIAC and NASACRE Membership

## **12. Proposals for Holocaust Memorial Day 2020 - Verbal Update:**

## **13. Collective Worship - Verbal Update:**

**14. Agreed Syllabus Update - Verbal Update:**

**15. Update from Members - Verbal Update:**

**16. Date and venue of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11 November 2019 at 1.30pm in the Council House.

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## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

**Monday 25 March 2019**

### **PRESENT:**

Martin Edmonds, in the Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Drean, Mrs Johnson, McDonald, Morris and Tuohy.

Margaret Thompson, Liz Hill, Katie Freeman, Dr Judith Beckman, Dr Catherine Bowness, Emma Butler, Sara Wells, Claire Linden

Apologies for absence: Gwen Hughes, Malc Halliday and Jono Madeley.

Also in attendance: Heather Ogburn (Senior Leadership Adviser) and Helen Rickman (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 1.00 pm and finished at 1.45 pm.

*Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

60. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the code of conduct.

61. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.

62. **Chair's Urgent Business**

Under this item, Heather Ogburn (Senior Leadership Advisor), advised Members that the Home Secretary had made £1.6m of funding available to faith communities in reaction to possible security concerns after the recent attack at a New Zealand Mosque.

Members noted the update.

63. **Welcome to new Members**

There were no new members to welcome to SACRE.

64. **Draft Annual Report 2018/19**

Members noted the Draft Annual Report 2018/19.

65. **Plymouth RE Hub and Learn Teach Read - verbal update**

Katie Freeman advised Members that the Plymouth RE Hub had met four times and was due to run a session on creative story telling.

Members noted the update.

66. **Local and National Developments - verbal update**

Heather Ogburn (Senior Leadership Advisor) provided Members with a brief update on the Local and National Developments, OFSTED - The New Curriculum, and the Agreed Syllabus Update.

Members were advised that –

- (a) the working party were in favour of joining Devon and Torbay in using RE Today for the Agreed Syllabus – the Agreed Syllabus launch was scheduled for Monday 8 July 2019. The syllabus and training would be free for all maintained schools (one place per school) however academies, free schools and public schools could opt in for £65;
- (b) there was no funding for free places for the Agreed Syllabus Conference for schools other than the maintained schools noted in (a) above; it was considered that £65 was a good price for a day's training;
- (c) the new proposals from Ofsted didn't focus upon RE specifically; it was highlighted that schools had the opportunity to see what was most appropriate for them in terms of RE;
- (d) Ofsted had not undertaken subject inspections for a number of years however the emphasis on the current curriculum included a focus on subjects.

Members noted the update and agreed with the decision of the working party to use RE Today for the Agreed Syllabus.

67. **OFSTED - the new curriculum**

This item was discussed above at minute 66.

68. **Agreed Syllabus Update - verbal update**

This item was discussed above at minute 66.

69. **Student Voice - verbal update**

Students were not present at the meeting however it was hoped that some would be able to attend SACRE in the future or provide written submissions for Members to consider.

70. **Update from Members - verbal update**

Under this item Members discussed the following:

- (a) the valuable work provided by the Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity (CFCD) and the necessity for a new office space to be identified by the summer (at low cost);
- (b) that the CFCD was urgently looking for more Christian and Buddhist faith speakers due to high demand;
- (c) there was an excitement around the new curriculum which was focused around reading – it was considered that this was of significant benefit to RE;
- (d) that SACRE needed to consider, in the next municipal year, their role in monitoring collective worship; it was discussed that in some schools RE was being taught in assembly time and this was of concern;
- (e) It was highlighted that a briefing note on collective worship was provided to schools previously; it was agreed that the document would be sent to Liz Hill and Katie Freeman to check if the information needed to be refreshed. Print outs would be available on the day of the Agreed Syllabus Launch to help raise awareness of best practice;
- (f) the examination statistics contained within the draft annual report highlighted the trend that fewer students and schools were entering exams for RE however those that did participate did well;
- (g) the benefits of the GCSE RE short course and the concern that students were not given enough time to adequately learn RE in schools;
- (h) that student participation at SACRE and the voice of the child could be presented by either student presence at the meeting, or by students submitting written work or pictures. Members discussed the benefit of SACRE setting a question or topic for students to be able to respond to in order to give some focus to responses; it was agreed that this idea could be discussed at the Hub and the CFCD.

Members noted the updates provided.

71. **Dates of future meetings for 2019/20**

Members noted the future SACRE dates as listed below:

- 8 July 2019; to be changed due to a clash with the syllabus launch;
- 11 November 2019;
- 23 March 2020.

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## PLYMOUTH STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RE - CONSTITUTION

### TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1. To advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious education, in accordance with the local agreed syllabus and matters of collective worship. The main areas of SACRE's work in Plymouth will include:-
  - a) the monitoring and improvement of the standards, quality of teaching and provision in RE.
  - b) the partnership between the SACRE, the LA and other key stakeholders.
  - c) the effectiveness of the locally agreed syllabus
  - d) the monitoring and improvements of the provision and quality of collective worship
  - e) the contribution of SACRE to the promotion of social and racial harmony.
  
2. In particular the advice must cover methods of teaching, the choice of materials available and the provision of access to training for teachers.
  
3. In each year to publish a report as outlined in legal requirements and uploaded to the NASACRE site. And shared with Plymouth schools.
  
4. When appropriate to require the Authority (on a vote of three groups representing the Church of England, other denominations, and teachers' associations) to review the agreed syllabus by convening a statutory conference for this purpose.
  
5. In accordance with legal requirements, on receipt of an application, to make a determination about whether the requirement for mainly Christian collective worship is appropriate in that community school.
  
6. To receive reports on any complaints made under the Authority's complaints procedure which relate to collective worship or RE and to provide advice about such cases to the Authority and governing bodies.
  
7. To draw up and periodically review guidelines for the regulation of its business.

### MEMBERSHIP:

8. The Authority is responsible for constituting SACRE and for confirming the appointment of nominated members other than co-opted members. It must take reasonable steps to be assured that persons appointed are representative of the denominations or associations in question and may remove an appointed member if in the opinion of the Authority they cease to be so representative.
  
9. The legal requirements for a SACRE are that four groups should be appointed. In order to reflect the requirements of the agreed syllabus in Plymouth and the religions taught in Plymouth schools the membership of each group shall be as follows:

**Group A** Christian and other religions (with the exception of the Church of England)

#### Christian denominations

Baptist Church	- 1
Methodist Church	- 1
Roman Catholic Church	- 1
United Reformed Church	- 1

Sub-total - 8

#### Religions

Buddhist Community	- 1
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**Group B** The Church of England - 5

Sub-total - 5

**Group C** (teachers associations)

NAS UWT	- 1
NAHT	- 1

NEU	-	1
Prospect	-	1
NATRE	-	1
ASCL	-	1
VOICE	-	1
Sub total	-	7

**Group D** - 6 (The Authority, in total)

10. There shall be up to 6 further places which SACRE, in partnership with the LA, may fill by co-option.
11. In making appointments the Authority will encourage the denominations and associations to nominate teachers with experience of teaching RE. The authority hopes Group C would consist of active, serving teachers who are able to consult with colleagues on issues of RE and collective worship. All members of Plymouth SACRE are encouraged to take an active interest in RE and collective worship, particularly in provision, practice and standards in Plymouth schools. SACRE members, in addition to attending SACRE meetings, are encouraged to develop their involvement in RE and collective worship through attending INSET courses and visiting schools.

**TERMS OF OFFICE:**

12. "On any question of formal matters to be decided by the council only the representative groups on the council shall be entitled to vote and each such group shall have a single vote. The authority group (D) may not vote on a proposal to require the Authority to review the agreed syllabus. It is actively encouraged however that Plymouth SACRE will conduct its normal business by consensus. At least one member from each group a,b,c and d should be present and decisions cannot be made unless there is at least one person present from each group to cast each group's single vote.
13. Although co-opted members do not have a vote on issues requiring formal vote (such as the revision of the Agreed Syllabus) they are encouraged to take a full and active part in SACRE meetings and express their views and preferences on SACRE matters.
14. The Authority shall ensure that all groups are represented and that all nominated places are filled. Temporary substitution is permitted, following consultation with the RE Adviser.
15. The appointment of the members of all four groups will usually be for a period of four years when the Authority may renew or discontinue an appointment.

**FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:**

16. The Council shall hold a scheduled meeting at least once each term, one of which will be the annual meeting. At that meeting the annual report will be agreed (usually the summer term meeting).

**CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE:**

17. The Authority can alter this constitution but must consult SACRE before doing so.

## **GUIDELINES FOR SACRE PROCEDURES**

### **COMPOSITION:**

1. The composition of SACRE is for the Authority to determine, but SACRE should make recommendations in the light of experience.

### **CHAIRING OF MEETINGS:**

2. The offices of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be open to any member of the representative groups and shall be appointed for a minimum of one year, and may serve a second year as Chair, subject to the approval of the meeting and the designated groups. Elections will usually take place at the Annual meeting. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will take the chair and in the absence of both of these a member will be elected for one meeting. The Chairperson and Vice-chair person will be entitled to a briefing by officers prior to meetings. It is the expected practice for the role of Chairperson to be rotated around the four groups.

### **ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS:**

3. Meetings will normally be held in the Council House but meetings in faith communities will also be considered. All members may claim travelling expenses; supply cover for teachers from LA schools will be funded. In the case of a member who, without consent of SACRE, has failed to attend SACRE meetings for a continuous period of twelve months SACRE may remove a co-opted member or may recommend to the Authority the removal of a representative member.

### **VOTING:**

4. In the interests of achieving consensus SACRE should only take a vote of the four groups when it is necessary to make a formal record of a decision, or if there are opposing views.
5. In the event of a formal vote being necessary, an officer shall designate adequate spaces for each group to meet, normally in the same room and there shall be an agreed time limit for deliberation.
6. At the annual meeting each group should elect a spokesperson who should also act as Chairperson of the group. The spokesperson must allow all members of the group to express an opinion and to vote. A record of this vote shall be reported to the full meeting, but the single vote of the group must be cast in favour of the simple majority in the group. In the case of a tied vote, the whole group vote must be presented as an abstention.

### **SUB-GROUPS AND WORKING PARTIES:**

7. SACRE may appoint members to working parties which may include non-members with expertise to contribute. The terms of reference of a working party will normally involve exploratory work rather than decision making. The composition of a working party will normally include members from all groups.
8. Where a sub-group of the Council is established with a brief to take action its membership and decisions must reflect the single vote system of the four groups.
9. There shall be a permanent sub-group of the Council able to give immediate guidance to officers (especially the RE adviser) and to deal with urgent business between meetings. This sub-section shall consist of the Chairperson and the spokesperson of each of the three groups other than the one to which the chairperson belongs. Members may meet or consult informally by letter or telephone.

**CO-OPTIONS AND OBSERVERS:**

10. Up to six co-options may usually be made but more are possible if required. Co-opted members may discuss any item including co-options but may not vote on formal matters requiring votes from each of the four groups.
11. The terms of office of a co-opted member will usually be four years.
12. This requirement is designed to give SACRE greater flexibility in balancing interests on the Council. In making co-options SACRE should have regard to representation of the areas of Plymouth, types and phases of school and of minority interests.
13. SACRE must take reasonable steps to be assured about that the co-opted member is genuinely representative. The procedure for co-options should normally include a period between meetings for enquiries to be made. An invitation to become a co-opted member and to attend a meeting may be made for the chairperson by an officer but the invitation to attend SACRE on a full basis will usually be taken by the whole meeting.
14. In addition to an administrative officer or officers appointed by the Authority there should be in attendance the RE Adviser or facilitator with teaching experience in RE.
15. It shall be open to SACRE to invite people of expertise or special interests to attend on an occasional basis.

**AGENDA:**

16. The agenda of a meeting must give priority to items raised by the Authority. Members may, with three weeks notice, raise other matters which lie within the scope of the terms of reference. SACRE can only give advice to the Authority. It cannot take independent action.
17. The annual report will cover a school year and will be agreed at an annual meeting to be held in the Summer Term. The annual report should include:-
  - Any specific matters on which SACRE has advised the LEA
  - A broad description of the nature of that advice.

Arrangements should be made for the annual report to be distributed to Plymouth schools and other interested groups.

**REPRESENTATION / COMMUNICATION:**

18. All SACRE members should ensure they are fully representative of their membership group and seek to consult colleagues as widely as possible on relevant issues.
19. Members of Plymouth SACRE should direct any press enquiries to the RE Adviser/facilitator and/or the Chair.
20. Communication with national organisations e.g. the DfE, STA, Ofsted and NASACRE should normally be through the Chair and RE Adviser. Such communication should make it absolutely clear whether the views being expressed are on behalf of Plymouth SACRE or purely an individual perspective.

**SACRE REPORT**



**STANDING ADVISORY**

**COUNCIL on**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

***Annual Report***  
**2018 - 2019**

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## **FOREWORD**

The strong results achieved by Plymouth schools in this year's Religious Education GCSE are to be celebrated as evidence of the commitment of our students and the skills of the city's teachers.

This year has also seen the launch of the new Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Plymouth. This was chosen following extensive consultation with teachers and school leaders from the primary, secondary and special schools sectors. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the unstinting work of the individual members of SACRE, and that of our other colleagues and partners across the city's schools and faith groups, who have worked hard to ensure that high quality RE resources can be made available to every Plymouth school. The syllabus offers valuable support to teachers who may feel less confident about how to approach this complex subject, whilst also providing a suitable level of challenge for those who are more experienced.

I also wish to record our thanks to Helen Rickman and Jamie Sheldon for the sterling work they have undertaken this year in providing administrative support to SACRE. Helen and Jamie have ensured that our meetings have run smoothly and were recorded efficiently so that the good work being undertaken in Religious Education across the city's schools can be shared more widely.

Martin Edmonds  
Chair of Plymouth SACRE

## **INTRODUCTION**

Plymouth SACRE is pleased to produce this report as a summary of its work in religious education and collective worship. It provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on its deliberations over the last year and to inform others of its work.

SACRE is a unique organisation and amidst the profound challenges and issues we face, concerning the place of religion in schools and society, there has never been a more important time for the teaching and learning of good quality RE in schools.

## **I RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **I.1 The Agreed Syllabus**

In late 2018 and during the first two terms of 2019 SACRE representatives from Devon, Plymouth and Torbay SACREs liaised and Plymouth SACRE members met as an Agreed Syllabus Conference to agree a new, revised syllabus. Across the three Local Authorities, the RE Today syllabus was agreed and adopted.

In Plymouth, the syllabus was made available to all Plymouth schools: maintained, academies, free and public schools, free of charge. In addition, all were invited to the launch of the syllabus, that included high quality training. 64 schools attended (85 delegates) and have adopted the syllabus so far. SACRE will seek feedback on this syllabus over the academic year 2019/20

As we continue to move forward, our flexible approach, reflected within the syllabus will allow teachers to take account of relevant national influences and developments in Religious Education.

## **2 STANDARDS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **2.1 Background to exemplification of standards.**

**2.1.1** For several years now the absence of specific Ofsted comments during Inspection on Religious Education has meant that SACRE has lost a major “intelligence gathering” tool.

**2.1.2** SACRE continues to encourage all schools to use the excellent resources now available, nationally, through websites such as RE Today; The Religious Education Council and NATRE. Links to these and other sites can be found on our local SACRE/RE website on Plymouth City Council’s School Room page.

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability>

### **2.2 Examination Results in Religious Studies**

**2.2.1** This year 12 Plymouth Secondary Schools entered a total of 597 candidates for the full GCSE examination in Religious Studies. Plymouth’s entry represents just over 24% of the year groups, in these schools. 50.9% of students achieved grades 9-4, (27% nationally). Fewer students were entered for GCSE, this year, a fall of 224 students on 2017/18.

**2.2.2** Short course and Entry Level data was not available to be included in this report.



- 2.2.3** 11 Secondary Schools entered a total of 89 students for the Advanced Level Religious Studies examinations and 98% achieved grades A\*-E (97.9% nationally).
- 2.2.4** 6 Secondary schools entered a total of 36 students for AS level and 80.5% achieved grades A\*-E (90.9% nationally).
- 2.2.5** SACRE congratulates all the candidates and their teachers on their hard work and achievements at this academic year's examinations in Religious Studies.

### **3 COMPLAINTS ABOUT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

No complaints about religious education have been received by SACRE.

### **4 TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

#### **4.1 Plymouth Centre for Faiths & Cultural Diversity (PCFCD)**

SACRE continues to support the innovative work of the Centre that is seen as a unique and major resource for schools, to support and enhance the development of high quality RE at all levels.

The central aim of the Centre is to promote education and understanding of world religions and cultural diversity. Through the exploration of different beliefs and cultures, the common thread of human and spiritual values is explored. These are the values that may help to ensure the future security and well-being of our local and international community. These values are therefore at the heart of the centre's promotion and development of community cohesion and well-being in schools.

The Centre continues to provide opportunities to children and young people across Plymouth to meet representatives from a variety of faiths and cultural backgrounds, either in their schools or in other settings, and is, currently, supported by 44 active faith and cultural speakers.

During the last financial year, over 90 schools accessed the Centre's services either on a subscription or pay-as-you-use basis.

PCFCD provided these schools with sessions and workshops covering a wide range of faiths, the most requested of which were: Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, Sikhism & Humanism, and cultural speakers brought alive the Japanese, African, Chinese, and Aboriginal cultures. Storytelling, Meditation/Mindfulness, HMD and British Values workshops were also delivered.

In total, PCFCD's faith and cultural speakers spent more than 400 hours engaged in classroom-based sessions during this period.

PCFCD also provides students with the opportunity to bring their classroom-based learning to life by arranging speaker-led visits and faith trails to places of worship in the city including Plymouth's famous Synagogue, PIETy Islamic Centre, Ashoka Buddhist Centre and many local Churches, including the Greek Orthodox Church, the Minster Church of St. Andrew, Methodist Central Hall and Plymouth Unitarian Church.

During the last financial year, students spent more than 90hrs undertaking these visits and again, the Centre has received positive feedback from its clients.

In total, PCFCD received booking requests that equated to nearly 600 hours of speaker time in the last financial year and, annually, the Centre sees the demand for its services grow with the number of bookings dealt with across the last three years having more than tripled. As a small charity, funding and staffing, both of which have reduced during the same period, have placed pressures on PCFCD to deliver their services to schools.

## **4.2 Courses, Conferences, Meetings**

Plymouth SACRE was represented at the South West SACRE Conference at Dillington in March that always provides practical support and encouragement for members.

## **4.2 Plymouth RE Hub**

### **4.3**

Plymouth RE Hub remains active and meets six times a year to update current thinking in and to share training with teachers from schools across the city. This year two members of the hub were invited to the House of Commons to attend the launch of the Core Commission final report of Religious Education. Katie Freeman, one of the Plymouth SACRE members, was also invited to the House of Commons in February to talk about 'Excellent RE' in , with Lords and MPs at the APPG for RE. In March, the hub held its annual conference, led by Fiona Moss from REToday. This conference was carefully costed to support schools to attend valuable CPD for RE leaders.

## **5 Collective Worship**

### **5.1 Monitoring and offering guidance on Collective Worship**

Ofsted reports rarely mention Collective Worship and despite national concerns about non-compliance the Government have no current plans to revisit the issues. As part of their Safeguarding review offer to schools, Plymouth City Council Schools Health and Wellbeing Team includes a review of RE provision and Collective Worship, offering advice and guidance, should it be required, as a result of any relevant findings.

### **5.2 Complaints**

No complaints about collective worship have been received by SACRE this year.

## **6. LINKS WITH OTHER BODIES**

### **6.1 Devon and Torbay SACREs**

As stated under 1.1 above, SACREs across the three Authorities have liaised regarding the new Agreed Syllabus and this continues at an informal level. Informal liaison is also undertaken by the Plymouth SACRE facilitator and the SACRE lead for Devon and Torbay

The new syllabus is common to all three Authorities and in Plymouth we continue to encourage schools to develop a unique, local approach based around the key themes relevant within their unique communities.

The annual South West SACRE Conference also provides an opportunity for representatives to meet, share ideas and concerns in an atmosphere of mutual support.

The RE Adviser for Devon and Torbay is a serving member of Plymouth SACRE.

## **6.2 NASACRE**

SACRE acknowledges the essential role of NASACRE in providing support, representation and guidance for local SACREs in the vital role they perform. The Annual Conference provides an opportunity for SACRE representatives to meet and consider best practice and ways forward.

## **7. SACRE ARRANGEMENTS AND PRIORITIES**

SACRE meets once per term and is supported by staff from Plymouth City Council: a Senior Education Adviser and a Democratic Support Officer.

Priorities have continued to be guided by SACRE's responsibility to monitor and review standards within Religious Education and Collective Worship.

### **7.1 Developments across 2018 - 2019**

Priorities during this period have taken account of the limited Education Adviser time and the need to launch the new syllabus.

**APPENDICES****A Religious Studies Examination Statistics 2001-2018**

<b>Examination - GCSE Full Course</b>	<b>Number of schools (including KS4 schools from 2016 onwards)</b>	<b>Number of candidates</b>	<b>% of year group entered in these schools</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>% A*-C (9-5 from 2018)</b>	<b>% A*-G (9-1 from 2018)</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>96.5</b>
2017	13	821	32.6	397	424	63.8	97.0
2016	13	659	25.0	295	364	74.0	99.0

<b>Examination - A Level</b>	<b>Number of schools (Total = 15 secondary schools, 2010 onwards = 16 from 2016=18)</b>	<b>Number of candidates</b>	<b>% of year group entered in these schools</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>%A-E (A*-E from 2011)</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>98</b>
2017	11	106	5.3	33	73	99
2016	10	93	4	35	58	100

<b>Examination - AS Level</b>	<b>Number of schools (Total = 15 secondary schools, 2010 onwards = 16)</b>	<b>Number of candidates</b>	<b>% of year group entered in these schools</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>%A-E</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>80.5</b>
2017	10	37	2	14	23	67.6
2016	10	68	3	27	41	90

## **B LIST OF ORGANISATIONS TO WHICH REPORT IS SENT**

Our report will be published, in electronic form, on the Plymouth schoolroom website and sent to the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) for publication on their website. It will be made available to teachers and parents on request.

## **C THE DUTIES OF SACRE**

SACRE primarily gives advice to the Local Authority about religious education in Community and Voluntary Controlled schools. It can give advice even if the Local Authority does not seek it, but the Local Authority is not obliged to act upon it. In two areas, however, SACRE's decision is binding.

### **Worship 'Determinations'**

It has a duty to make a 'determination' if a community school applies for complete or partial exemption from the requirement that most acts of worship in a school term shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character reflecting the broad tradition of Christian belief in a manner appropriate to the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils. (For example, there may be a preponderance of pupils of a faith other than Christianity.) It is important to note that SACRE cannot exempt a school from the requirement to provide some form of worship (even if not Christian worship) for all pupils on every school day. The act of worship need not be in the morning or for the whole school at one time and it is open to individual parents to withdraw their children by arrangement.

There have been no applications of this kind to Plymouth SACRE this year.

### **Review of Agreed Syllabus**

At the end of 2018 Plymouth SACRE asked a representative from each of the four houses, together with the SACRE facilitator, to serve on the Plymouth Agreed Syllabus Conference. This work took place and with further input from all Plymouth SACRE members, the launch of the new Revised Agreed Syllabus, as noted in the report above, was held at Plymouth Council House in July 2019.

### **Why a Report?**

An Annual Report has been a legal requirement since the 1988 Education Act. The Education Act 1996, section 391.6 states:

'The Council shall in each year publish a report as to the exercise of their functions and any action taken by representative groups on the Council under Sub-Section 3 above during the last preceding year.

(Sub-Section 3 refers to the procedure for requiring a review of the Agreed Syllabus). The Council's report shall in particular:

- a) specify any matters in respect of which the Council has given advice to the Authority;

- b) broadly describe the nature of the advice given; and where any such matter was not referred to the Council by the Authority, give the Council's reason for offering advice on that matter’.

**D SACRE MEMBERS 2018 - 2019**

**Group A: Christian and other religious denominations, not including Church of England.**

Eight places

Malc Halliday	Baptist Church
Jayesh Bhagat	Buddhist Community
Vacant	Hindu Community
Bakari Arabi	Muslim Community
Dr Judith Beckman	Jewish community
Helena Mitchell	Methodist Church
Vacant	Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth
Vacant	United Reformed Church

**Group B: The Church of England, appointed by the Exeter Diocesan Board of Education**

Five places

Catherine Bowness	Diocesan Board of Education, Exeter
Ed Pawson	Diocesan Board of Education, Exeter
Katie Freeman	Bickleigh Down Church of England Primary School
Emma Butler	Diocesan Board of Education, Exeter
Vacant	University of St. Mark & St. John

**Group C: Teachers’ Associations, who should nominate RE teachers**

Nine places (three vacancies)

Martin Edmonds	NASUWT
Gwen Hughes	NUT
vacant	PASH
Vacant	NATRE
Vacant	VOICE
Vacant	UCU
Elizabeth Hill	PAPH (NAHT)
Vacant	ATL
Mirella Paganuzzi	Special Schools

**Group D: The Local Authority**

Six places

Councillor Aspinall	Plymouth City Council
Councillor Morris	Plymouth City Council
Councillor Drean	Plymouth City Council
Councillor McDonald	Plymouth City Council
Councillor Mrs Johnson	Plymouth City Council
Councillor Tuohy	Plymouth City Council

**Co-opted Representatives**

Seven places

Sara Wells/Claire Linden	Centre for Faiths & Cultural Diversity
Margaret Thompson	Quaker Community
Louis Efthymiou	Greek Orthodox Community
Vacant	Plymouth Association of Governors
Ben Kerr	Humanist
Dr. Barbara Wintersgill	RE Consultant
Mr Jono Madeley	Pagan Community

**Officers**

Heather Ogburn	Senior Education Adviser
Michael House	Education Associate
Helen Rickman	Democratic Advisor
Jamie Sheldon	Democratic Advisor

**E. NUMBER OF MEETINGS, RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF MAIN ISSUES DISCUSSED AT EACH MEETING**

Plymouth SACRE meets once per term and has met on three occasions in the academic year 2018 – 2019.

The Autumn Term meeting was held on 12 November 2018 and 12 members and three officers were present and the issues discussed included: -

- Student Voice
- Religion and World Views
- Agreed Syllabus Group Update
- Budget Update

The Spring Term meeting was held on 25th March 2019 at the Council House, Plymouth. 15 members and three officers were present, and the issues discussed included:

- Welcome to new members and membership issues
- SACRE Annual Report
- Plymouth RE hub and the Learn Teach Lead RE Project
- Local and National RE issues and developments
- BIG NASACRE survey
- Feedback on HMD and future plans
- South west SACRE conference - feedback
- Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity
- Agreed Syllabus

The Summer Term meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at the Council House XXX members and two officers were present and the issues discussed included:

- Welcome to new members and membership update
- Future development of RE in Plymouth
- LearnTeachLead RE project – Plymouth Hub news
- Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity – developments

Clerks to SACRE – Helen Rickman and Jamie Sheldon – Democratic Support Officers  
Consultant Education Advisers to Plymouth SACRE – Heather Ogburn and Michael House