

## Barnet SACRE Report September 2014 –August 2015

Three meetings were held. These meetings took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 & the 10<sup>th</sup> March & 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The first meeting was held at the North London Business Park & the other two at Hendon Town Hall.

### Chair's introduction

This year there have been a number of publications that have implications for the teaching of Religious Education. These included the guidance on the teaching of British Values, the proposed changes to the examination syllabi in Religious Studies and the Clarke/Woodhead discussion paper '*A New Settlement: Religion & Beliefs in Schools*' with huge implications for SACREs. In the last few years there has been a decline locally in the numbers of students taking examinations in Religious Studies. We are pleased that the bursary for trainee RE teachers has been reintroduced. It was decided at one of the meetings that SACRE needed its own webpage & it is hoped that this will be in place in the next academic year. SACRE made a presentation to the Scrutiny committee to inform it of SACRE's work. It was an excellent opportunity to make new contacts & explain the work that it has by law a responsibility to complete. A training programme for new & established SACRE members is in place & joint visits to places of religious interest have continued by teachers & SACRE members in London. The Directory of Places of Worship has been updated & is used by teachers to build links with faith groups in their locality. Faith presentations continue to be part of some meetings & this year Rabbi Mark Goldsmith outlined the diversity within Judaism & his presentation was shared with schools. A pilot session of visitor training in preparation for school visits has taken place in Alyth synagogue. A joint bid for a Westhill grant was written by Barnet & Enfield SACRES & was successful. It was entitled '*Faith Ambassadors in Schools: Encounters & Understandings*' & involves secondary school students from 2 schools who will prepare presentations for 3 of their local primary schools. The young people will discuss with their faith communities the materials that they are producing & these would be tailored to the relevant primary school agreed syllabus for each of the boroughs. This project hopes to address the needs that primary schools have expressed for high quality speakers & those of faith communities who have voiced concerns about how they can best support religious education in their locality. The students will attend SACRE meetings in the Summer Term to share their findings & receive certificates. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of SACRE Members, to express a huge and heartfelt thank you to Dr. Anna Sallnow for all that she does for and on behalf of Barnet SACRE and Religious Education.

### Support for the Agreed syllabus

Termly half day meetings have been held for primary coordinators & a termly meeting open to all teachers in Barnet & Enfield has been arranged. A new in post RE co-ordinators course was held in the autumn term after requests from teachers. Visits were made to schools & staff meetings & inset provided under the Barnet for School Improvement Programme. A Holocaust pack was written with the support of Rev Bernd Koschland. The Report was circulated to all schools in Barnet & Enfield & SACRE members. Young people from Mill Hill County, who had taken part in the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) were invited to speak at the Holocaust Commemoration in Barnet. A termly newsletter is circulated to all schools in Barnet & Enfield.

**A suggestion : I have noticed that other SACRE reports include membership details. Should we do this? If so we could briefly write the following: it needs to be checked for accuracy**

### **Membership Academic year 2014-5**

#### **Group A**

Mr Alae & Mrs Golesanah Baha'i, Mr Gonewardene, Buddhist, Mr C O'Halpin Catholic, Mrs Karaolis Greek Orthodox, Mr Bose & Mr Saha Hindu, Mr E. Barbour Humanist, Mrs Amreena Husain-Ali Islam, Mr Levin Jewish & Rabbi Mark Goldsmith Jewish, Mrs J Smith Free Church, Mr Attariwala & Mr Chada Sikh, Dr Shah Jain, Major Paul Hilditch Salvation Army

#### **Group B**

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mrs Jane Pavlou        | London Diocese                  |
| Rev Dr Gregory Platten | London Diocese (from June 2014) |
| Mrs Mel Adams          | Diocese of St Albans            |
| Rev Tristan Chapman    | Diocese of St Albans            |

#### **Group C**

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Mr Kevin McSharry         | ASCL   |
| Ms Anne Dyas/Neil Enright | NASUWT |
| Ms Alice Miller           | NUT    |

#### **Group D**

For the November & March meetings Cllr Brian Coleman, Cllr Brian Gordon, Cllr Catherine Salinger, Cllr Joan Scannell, Cllr Mark Shooter, Cllr Agnes Slocombe.

From June 2014 Cllr Alison Cornelius, Cllr Claire Farrier, Cllr Brian Gordon, Cllr Sury Khatri, Cllr Joan Scannell, Cllr Mark Shooter & Cllr Agnes Slocombe.

Also in attendance: Mr Neil Marlow (LA representing the Assistant Director & Interim Director of Children's Services), Mrs Janet Robinson (clerk to SACRE) & Dr. Anna Sallnow RE consultant.

### **Examination Results**

A full analysis of all the examination data will be circulated at the next meeting when all the data is available.

The Barnet unconfirmed data is as follows:

**A level** 165 entries 6 A\*, 37 A, 58 B, 27 C **A/S** 64 entries nearly 50% A-C

**GCSE** 1409 entries 86.17% A-C passes