

# HSACRE

**HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**



## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020**

The current HSACRE was inaugurated on 22 February 1989 and this is its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, in accordance with its constitution and statutory obligations.

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**1. FOREWORD BY THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES 2019/20  
COUNCILLOR DAVID SIMMONDS CBE**



*It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of Hillingdon's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education [HSACRE].*

*I am very pleased to note that the first half of this year saw further RE Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training sessions, specifically the Key Stage 1 pupil conference in June. The sessions were positively received and play an active role in improving the religious literacy of pupils in the Borough. My thanks go out to all those who took the time to attend these training sessions, and to those who helped arrange the training and make them such a resounding success.*

*Unfortunately, HSACRE's work in 2019/20 was significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted plans for a teacher training conference and temporarily put a stop to HSACRE meetings. Religious Education continues to make a huge contribution to the Council's commitment to developing community cohesion, and I hope to see HSACRE reconvene as soon as is feasible in 2020/21.*

*I would like to conclude by, once again, thanking the whole membership of the SACRE, and those who work with and support it, for all their efforts over the 2019/20 academic year. Particular thanks go to Carole Jones, Chair of HSACRE, and Elenor Paul, Hillingdon SACRE's advisor, who has driven forward the CPD training sessions. I look forward to the year ahead, where I hope Hillingdon SACRE will be able to resume its activities following a pandemic that has significantly disrupted teachers and students academic progress.*

## **2. MEMBERSHIP**

HSACRE members are from four distinct groups and the Committee is only quorate when representatives from every group are present:

**GROUP A** – Representatives of all faith groups in Hillingdon, including representatives from the Christian community, but not members of the Church of England. HSACRE works to ensure that along with representatives from all the major world faiths, it works with all communities within the Borough and welcomes their representation so long as they recognise the emphasis placed on inclusion by HSACRE.

**GROUP B** - Representatives from the Christian Church of England.

**GROUP C** - Representatives from each of the teachers' professional associations.

**GROUP D** - London Borough of Hillingdon Councillors.

A list of members of each group is included as Appendix A.

**Chairman** - Carole Jones, Headteacher, Yeading Junior School

**Advisor** - Elenor Paul

**Clerk** - Luke Taylor and Steve Clarke (Democratic Services) served as clerks during 2019 – 20.

## **3. ACTIVITY REPORT**

During the first half of the 2019/20 year, Hillingdon SACRE continued to hold RE training sessions with a pupil conference for Key Stage 1 children held in June 2019, the series of CPD sessions for students and teachers began in June 2017. Over the two years of CPD sessions, between 45 and 50 schools had engaged with the training sessions, the training has proved to be a huge success. HSACRE had agreed to continue with these training sessions, although the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 effectively paused the HSACRE's activities and a planned teacher training conference was unfortunately cancelled.

HSACRE also agreed their advice to the Local Education Authority in response to the new Education Inspection Framework for OFSTED's inspections of primary schools. This improves the way in which schools are held accountable for the provision of Religious Education and to recognise best practice.

HSACRE were only able to meet once during the 2019/20 academic year, on 07 November 2019. Meetings in March and June of 2020 were understandably cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of HSACRE's activities were put on hold during the pandemic but advice and support was still given to RE coordinators and teachers where possible on matters relating to Religious Education.

Praise should be given to all of the members of the Hillingdon SACRE for their contributions throughout the 2019/20 academic year, and to the Advisor to HSACRE, Elenor Paul for their hard work in preparing and delivering the CPD training sessions and pupil conference.

## **4. MEETINGS OF HSACRE IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/20**

Full meetings of HSACRE were held on:

- 07 November 2019 - Civic Centre, Uxbridge

The following meetings were scheduled but were unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- 24 March 2020 - Cancelled
- 04 June 2020 - Cancelled

## **5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

HSACRE had a budget available of £4,900 for the 2019/20 financial year.

## **6. ADVICE GIVEN TO THE AUTHORITY BY SACRE**

Advice is given annually to the authority on Religious Education and Worship paragraphs in its information booklets for families entering a particular phase of education.

## **7. PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS**

- Hillingdon SACRE's RE Key Stage 1 Pupil Conference took place in June 2019.
- Issued Ramadan Guidance to schools in the Borough April/May 2020.
- HSACRE sent a representative to attend the 2019 NASACRE Conference.
- The HSACRE Advisor attended a conference held by the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education.

## **8. MONITORING AND REVIEW**

Comments on this report are welcomed. These should be sent to:

Democratic Services, Phase II, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 1UW, or by emailing [democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk)

# APPENDIX A – Members of HSACRE throughout the 2019/20 Academic Year

## GROUP A

Bahai	Sina Rohani
Baptist	Vacant
British Humanist Association	Alavari Jeevathol
Buddhist	Vacant
Hillingdon Area Salvation Army	Vacant
Hindu	Balmukund Prasad Joshi
Jewish	Ruth Freedman
Methodist	Angela Lount
Muslim	Amir Ahmed
Quaker	Vacant
Roman Catholic	Vacant
Sikh	Jasvir Singh Rayat
United Reform Church	Vacant

## GROUP B

Church of England	Father Desmond Banister (Vice-Chair)
	Joan Beavington
	Pauline Byles
	Melanie Dring
	Keith Lunn

## GROUP C

Association of Secondary School and College Leaders	Vacant
National Association of Headteachers	Carole Jones (Chair)
National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers	Vacant
National Union of Teachers	Simon Wallace

## GROUP D

Local Authority	Councillor Shehryar Ahmed-Wallana
	Councillor John Hensley

	Councillor Carol Melvin
	Councillor June Nelson
	Councillor Jagjit Singh

### **OFFICER SUPPORT**

London Borough of Hillingdon Committee Services	Luke Taylor / Steve Clarke Democratic Services, Phase II, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 1UW
Consultant for Hillingdon SACRE	Elenor Paul