



Notice of a public meeting of

SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education)

To:

Group A

Such Christian denominations and other religious denominations as, in the opinion of the Authority, will approximately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area.

Karen Vincent (Faith/Catholic)

Penny Coppin-Siddall (Faith/ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints)

Imam Amar (Faith/Muslim)

Ben Rich (Vice Chair) (Faith/Jewish)

Mark Jones (Faith/Buddhist)

Fleur Kennedy (Faith/Bahai'i)

Colin Lewisohn (Faith/Humanist)

Dee Boyle (Faith/Unitarian, Buddhist, Pagan).

Group B

A groups of persons representing The Church of England.

Sue Bland (CoE)

Joseph Everdell (CoE)

Group C

A group of persons to represent such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the authority, ought to be represented, having regard to the circumstances of the area.

Taco Michiels (Joseph Rowntree School)

Andy Tod (Ralph Butterfield Primary School)

Diane Norton (York St John University)

Group D

A group of persons representing the City of York Council. In this case of Elected Members appointment to this

group should ensure political balance and state which political group they represent. As an alternative, the Council may appoint representatives such as a governors association.

Cllr Robert Webb (Chair) (City of York Council)

Cllr Emilie Knight (City of York Council)

Cllr Martin Rowley BEM (City of York Council)

Cllr Sarah Wilson (City of York Council)

LA Officer

Maxine Squire (Assistant Director Education and Skills,
City of York Council)

Date: Thursday 15 May 2025

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: West Offices

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest (Pages 5 - 6)

To receive and note apologies for absence.

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

[Please see attached sheet for further guidance for Members]

2. Minutes and matters arising from the minutes (Pages 7 - 20)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 15 October 2024, 3 February and 24 February 2025.

- 3. School Survey 2025**
To receive an update on the 2025 school survey.
- 4. Update from Interfaith**
To receive an update from Interfaith.
- 5. RE Hubs Update** (Pages 21 - 24)
To receive an update on the RE Hubs.
- 6. Review of SACRE development plan**
To review the SACRE development plan. The plan is shaped around the five key functions of SACREs contained in the NASACRE Self-Evaluation Toolkit.
- 7. NASACRE Update**
NASACRE Briefings 41 and 42 can be found at <https://nasacre.org.uk/sacre-briefing/>
- 8. Correspondence on complaints/determinations**
A verbal update will be given on complaints received and the determinations in respect of those complaints.
- 9. Any other business**
- 10. Future meeting dates**
15 July 2025 at 6pm at West Offices

Democracy Officer

Angela Bielby

Contact Details:

Telephone – (01904) 552599

Email – a.bielby@york.gov.co.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

Alternative formats

To request reasonable adjustments or to provide this document in an alternative language or format such as large print, braille, audio, Easy Read or BSL, you can:



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We can also translate into the following languages:

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی میا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

Declarations of Interest – guidance for Members

- (1) Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:

Type of Interest	You must
Disclosable Pecuniary Interests	Disclose the interest, not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)	Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Affects) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)	Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being: (a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interest or well-being of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward; and (b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest. In which case, speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.

- (2) Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.
- (3) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations,

and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

City of York Council	Committee Minutes
Meeting	SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education)
Date	15 October 2024
Present	<u>SACRE members</u> <u>Group A</u> Karen Vincent (Faith/Catholic) Penny Coppin-Siddall (Faith/ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) Ben Rich (Vice Chair) (Faith/Jewish) <u>Group B</u> Sue Bland (CoE) <u>Group C</u> Andy Tod (Ralph Butterfield Primary School) Diane Norton (York St John University) <u>Group D</u> Cllr Webb (Chair) (City of York Council) Cllr Knight (City of York Council) Cllr Wilson (City of York Council)
In Attendance	<u>LA Officer</u> Maxine Squire (Assistant Director Education and Skills, City of York)
Apologies	Daryoush Mazloun, Joseph Hepplestone and Cllr Rowley

The Chair updated Members on the health of Daryoush Mazloun. The Chair reported that Ian Hodgson, Humanist representative (Group A) had resigned and had asked for SACRE to be put in touch with a Humanist. It was also reported that Mark Jones (Buddhist) would be attending the next meeting.

77. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest (6.08pm)

Apologies for absence were received and accepted for Joseph Everdell, Daryoush Mazloun and Cllr Rowley. There were no declarations of interest.

78. Minutes and matters arising from the minutes (6.08pm)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2024 be approved subject to West Offices being amended as the location for future meetings.

Matters Arising:

- Minute 66: Maxine Squire had requested a link to for a link to the RE Hub on the SACRE webpage.
- Minute 67: Maxine Squire had circulated the Ofsted 'Deep and meaningful? The religious education subject report and national standards' to Members.
- Minute 67: There had been no feedback to the Chair what could be provided to schools between the syllabus conferences.
- Minute 68: The Development Plan was on the agenda.
- Minute 68: Members were reminded to write a sentence or two about themselves for the SACRE website regarding who they were and why they were on SACRE.
- Minute 70: Maxine Squire had spoken to Taco Michiels who had indicated that it should be fine for SACRE to visit Joseph Rowntree School. She had also spoken with the Headteacher at Huntington School and was going to speak with the Headteacher at Fulford School. Maxine undertook to circulate dates for the school visits.
- Minute 71: The 'Activist SACREs in 2024 - 35+ things a good SACRE can do!' had been circulated to Members.
- Minute 71: Members discussed the possibility of a yearly SACRE conference and agreed that it would be good to hold one. It was suggested that it would be good to use previously released material at the conference. Diane Norton was asked and agreed to contact a university colleague about doing a lecture at a possible SACRE conference. A Member noted that James Holt, a member of My Faith had spoken at York Interfaith and that he may be useful as a guest speaker.
- Minute 75: Cllr Wilson noted that she would host a zoom meeting during Interfaith Week regarding the work of SACRE. Penny Coppin-Siddall noted that work was almost finished on finalising the programme, which celebrated 35 years of Interfaith York.
- It was agreed that Diane Norton would arrange a visit to the maintained schools RE group with Maxine Squire.
- Update on Interfaith week: Penny Coppin-Siddall reported that work on Interfaith week was in progress. In York, Interfaith Week was to begin on 9 November 2024 with the opening activity to be an informal breakfast on from 9.00 – 10.00am on 9 November. This would be followed by an

activity at Clifton Ings at 10.30am. Penny Coppin-Siddall undertook to share the Interfaith Week Plan with SACRE Members. It was noted that it was the 35th anniversary of Interfaith Week in York.

- Request for information for schools: The Chair and Maxine Squire had received two requests from external organisations to send information to schools. They suggested that SACRE put together a catalogue of events from different organisations to send to schools. It was suggested that the RE Hub could be accessed to support the information in the catalogue. It was acknowledged that it was not SACRE's role to promote different faiths. Following discussion it was;

Resolved: That Maxine Squire would arrange for a link to the RE Hub on the SACRE webpage and that Members would feedback comments on this to her.

Reason: In order to direct schools to the RE Hub for further information.

79. Analysis of SACRE Annual Reports (6.21pm)

Members considered the NASACRE Analysis of SACRE Annual Reports 2022-2023 for the National Association of Standing Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE) and the new SACRE Annual Report framework. Maxine Squire noted that some points in the analysis of Annual Reports were common to York SACRE such as quoracy and membership and the context of SACREs changing to having no RE Advisors and ways that SACREs monitor Collective Worship as SACRE approached the review of the Agreed Syllabus. She added that SACREs also needed to advise Local Authorities.

During discussion, a number of points were made:

- Membership was an issue.
- There was a strong parliamentary group that advised SACREs.
- Thought needed to be given to how the report fed into the national narrative.
- It would be interesting to look at how SACRE could advise the LA. Maxine Squire noted that some SACREs had subject advisors and that some SACREs advised the LA around issues raised in school surveys, for example professional development. She noted that in the past, York SACRE had looked at the delivery of Collective Worship.

Resolved: That Members noted the NASACRE Analysis of SACRE Annual Reports 2022-2023 for the National Association of Standing Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE) and the new SACRE Annual Report framework.

Reason: In order to be updated on the new SACRE Annual Report framework.

80. Update on SACRE development plan (6.30pm)

Maxine Squire reported that it would be good to look at future priorities for the development plan and identify mechanisms for the priorities, for example three areas where SACRE could input into, for example working with York Interfaith on a joint competition or event twice a year. She also noted that SACRE also needed to think about continuous professional development (CPD) in schools. It was reported that the Chair, Vice Chair and Cllr Rowley had RAG (red, amber, green) rated the development plan and Maxine Squire suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair RAG rate the current development plan to identify priorities that emerge. It was then:

Resolved: That the Chair, Vice Chair and Maxine Squire meet to examine the development plan.

Reason: To review and identify priorities for the development plan.

81. School Survey 2024 (6.36pm)

Maxine Squire reported that a school survey was undertaken the previous year that used the survey by Olivia Hargreaves at North Yorkshire Council. She asked Members if a brief pupil voice survey should be undertaken. Members were asked to think about five questions they would like to ask young people to take to the RE teachers group to use with their pupils. Maxine Squire noted that RE subject leaders could be contacted to find out what top CPD topics they would like and then SACRE could commission training on those topics.

Maxine Squire was asked and explained the 2023 school survey and undertook to send it to the Vice Chair. A Member gave feedback on the 2023 survey and may be some themes that SACRE may like to track. A Member asked if it would be useful to ask teachers about their knowledge of SACRE, along with CPD. Maxine Squire agreed to add this into the survey. A Member noted that the previous year's survey was onerous for teachers and it was suggested that some of those questions be kept in the 2024 survey to track responses along with asking what SACRE could do for teachers. Maxine was asked and explained that feedback on the survey results was provided to schools via the published papers. A Member noted that during SACRE school visits, pupils raised a number of points for

example, what they would like to learn about different religions and that they liked discussions in RE. Regarding pupil voice, it was suggested that pupils could be asked what their favourite thing in RE was.

Resolved: That Maxine Squire would send out the previous year's questions via the Democracy Officer to forward onto Members for feedback.

Reason: To update the school survey.

82. Collective Worship Guidance (6.47pm)

Members considered the Appendix 4: Collective Worship- Self-evaluation toolkit from the York SACRE Collective Worship Guidance 2017. Maxine Squire noted that the current guidance was put together in 2017 and that it was a good opportunity to revisit the guidance. Members were asked if there was an areas of the guidance they would like to revisit. A Member noted that the toolkit had not been looked at the RE network meetings and suggested that a relaunch was due. Maxine Squire noted that Collective Worship Guidance was a statutory document and that it was important that SACRE remind schools about it.

A Member noted that Collective Worship was not RE and Maxine Squire added that it would be a good idea to promote good practice in RE. The Vice Chair noted that it would be useful to promote good practice in RE. The Chair asked how examples of good practice could be found and suggested that it might be useful to contact Headteachers regarding Collective Worship good practice and suggested that there could be an online event for the relaunch of the Collective Worship Guidance. A Member suggested that the guidance could be put online for parents to view.

The Chair asked Diane Norton if it would be useful to look at Collective Worship with trainee RE teachers. Diane Norton noted that it would be good to look at the pastoral part of Collective Worship and that it may be good to look at the RE Hubs. Following discussion it was;

Resolved: That when feedback on good practice had been received, there would be an online relaunch of the Collective Worship Guidance.

Reason: To update Collective Worship Guidance.

[Ben Rich and Maxine Squire left the meeting at 7.00pm]

83. Correspondence on complaints/determinations (7.00pm)

It was reported that there had been no complaints to SACRE.

Resolved: That Members be updated on complaints.

Reason: In order to be kept updated on complaints to SACRE and determinations of complaints.

84. Any Other Business (7.01pm)

Cllr Knight reported that she had put together a SACRE newsletter and would send it to SACRE Members and York Interfaith for feedback. Following feedback, she would produce the newsletter on a monthly basis.

85. Future meeting dates (7.03pm)

27 January 2025 at 6pm at Wet Offices

11 March 2025 at 6pm at West Offices

15 July 2025 at 6pm at West Offices

Cllr Webb, Chair

[The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.03 pm].

Meeting	SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education)
Date	3 February 2025
Present	Karen Vincent (Faith/Catholic) Penny Coppin-Siddall (Faith/ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) Ben Rich (Vice Chair) (Faith/Jewish)

Group C

Taco Michiels (Joseph Rowntree School)
Andy Tod (Ralph Butterfield Primary School)
Diane Norton (York St John University)

Group D

A group of persons representing the City of York Council. In this case of Elected Members appointment to this group should ensure political balance and state which political group they represent. As an alternative, the Council may appoint representatives such as a governors association.

Cllr Robert Webb (Chair) (City of York Council)
Cllr Emilie Knight (City of York Council)
Cllr Martin Rowley BEM (City of York Council)
Cllr Sarah Wilson (City of York Council)

In Attendance	Fleur Kennedy (Faith/Bahai'i)- Mark Jones (Faith/Buddhist) Colin Lewisohn (Faith/Humanist) Dee Boyle (Faith/Unitarian, Buddhist, Pagan) Tony Lawton (Faith/Catholic)
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LA Officer

Maxine Squire (Assistant Director Education and Skills, City of York Council)

Apologies	Councillor Webb, Imam Amar, Sue Bland, Joseph Hepplestone and Andy Tod
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Ben Rich (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Webb (Chair) who had given apologies for the meeting. The meeting was inquorate.

86. Membership Update (6.01pm)

The Chair welcomed Fleur Kennedy, daughter of former SACRE Member Daryoush Mazloun as the representative of the Bahai'i faith. He noted that SACRE was sorry for the loss of her father and noted his work for SACRE. New Members Mark Jones (Buddhist), Colin Lewisohn (Humanist), and Dee Boyle (Unitarian, Buddhist, Pagan) were also welcomed. Potential new Member Tony Lawton (Catholic, retired Solicitor for the Diocese of Leeds and Middlesbrough) was also welcomed to the meeting. It was noted that the appointments would be formally made at Council.

87. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest (6.05pm)

Apologies for absence were received and noted for Cllr Webb, Imam Amar, Sue Bland, Joseph Everdell and Andy Tod. There were no declarations of interest.

88. Minutes and matters arising from the minutes (6.06pm)

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2024 be approved at a future meeting and would be amended to include apologies from Cllr Rowley.

There were no matters arising. As the meeting was inquorate Maxine Squire noted that there would need to be a separate meeting to approve the Annual Report.

89. Annual Report 2023-24 (6.08pm)

Maxine Squire explained that the Annual Report followed a set template.

[Mark Jones joined the meeting at 6.09pm]

Maxine Squire explained that she would circulate the report with the exam results included. She reported that RE in York schools remained a strong subject and there wasn't a disadvantage gap at A Level, which was showing the subject to be very well taught. She added that there were high levels of take up in York secondary schools and the percentage of good passes remained strong. She noted the findings of the 2024 Ofsted subject review and noted that two Members from Groups B and C had attended the

NASACRE conference. She explained that 2026 would mark the review of the Agreed Syllabus. Members were asked for comments on the report.

A Member asked whether there was any scope for understanding why boys were doing better than girls and Maxine Squire undertook to contact subject leaders about it. A Member noted the difference between GCSE and A Level syllabuses. A Member noted that at her school, more girls than boys took RE and Maxine Squire noted that it would be useful to see the difference in take up at faith schools with sixth forms and other sixth form colleges. Members noted that it would be interesting to see if there was a three year trend in results.

A Member noted that at their school there was two girls and four boys doing RE and Philosophy A Level and he explained how students were encouraged to take up the A Level through taster sessions. He noted that the GCSE and A Level were completely different courses. A Member noted her son attended a school where the GCSE was not compulsory.

A Member asked if there was a reason why GCSE RE was Christianity focussed and Maxine Squire explained that this was related to the Education Act. The Annual Report would be approved an extra meeting.

90. School Survey (6.24pm)

Maxine Squire reported that the school survey had gone out in November and was a different format to previous survey and that it had produced more responses. She noted that 17 schools had completed the survey, and of this 14 were primary and 3 were secondary. She noted examples of good practice from different schools and primary schools development priorities, adding that a SACRE development priority was the development of a resource bank. She detailed examples of good practice in secondary schools and noted that the Agreed Syllabus helped with the delivery of RE. She noted secondary schools priorities for development.

From the results of the school survey, Maxine Squire asked Members to consider the SACRE development plan. The Chair suggested that Members focus first on what schools were doing, and then the development plan. A Member was encouraged by the results of the school survey and the mix of schools that had responded and noted that he would encourage different groups to visit schools. Regarding the results, a Member noted that it was useful to have in depth answers. A Member advised that York Interfaith did not see schools approaching them and she added that they would be visiting Woldgate School in Pocklington. Members gave different examples of contact from schools.

It was suggested that as part of the development plan, individual schools could have visits from all faiths. It was suggested that the presentation on the school survey results could be sent to all schools and Maxine Squire undertook to send it to all schools. A Member asked if York Interfaith could be mentioned in the SACRE newsletter and Cllr Knight noted that it would be included in the newsletter.

91. Monitoring of Standards (6.46pm)

This agenda item was an error on the agenda.

92. Review of SACRE development plan (6.46pm)

Maxine Squire advised that the development plan would be on the agenda for every meeting and that it would be sent to Members. Members discussed the development plan and a Member asked if SACRE could have a city wide meeting for RE teachers. It was suggested there could be a focus on CPD and the using schools as examples of good practice. Maxine Squire noted the five key functions of SACRE. It was noted that there was a need to focus on priority 2 and that priorities 3 and 4 had been met. It was noted that the review of Agreed Syllabus would form part of the 2025-27 development plan. Maxine Squire was asked and confirmed that the syllabus was agreed at the syllabus conference. It was noted that it had been agreed that consideration would be given to the Humanist part of the syllabus.

It was suggested that work on the agreed syllabus could begin through subject leaders and that teachers could be invited to an event with SACRE on the agreed syllabus. Maxine Squire was asked and confirmed that resources were signposted through the RE Hub.

93. Correspondence on complaints/determinations (7.00pm)

It was noted that there had been no complaints to SACRE.

94. Any other business (7.00pm)

School visits

Maxine Squire noted that she would arrange a SACRE visit to Fulford. Taco Michiels agreed there could be a SACRE visit to Jospeh Rowntree School.

New Member induction

The Democracy Officer undertook to send the Constitution, Development Plan and NASACRE documents to new Members.

SACRE membership to York Interfaith

A Member asked if SACRE was a member of York Interfaith. Maxine Squire advised that it would need consideration.

95. Future meeting dates (7.05pm)

Additional meeting to be arranged for approval of Annual Report

11 March 2025 at 5.00pm at West Offices

15 July 2025 at 6.00pm at West Offices

Cllr Webb, Chair

[The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.06pm].

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City of York Council	Committee Minutes
Meeting	SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education)
Date	24 February 2025
Present	<u>Group A</u> Karen Vincent (Faith/Catholic) Penny Coppin-Siddall (Faith/ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) Ben Rich (Vice Chair) (Faith/Jewish) <u>Group B</u> Sue Bland (CoE) <u>Group C</u> Taco Michiels (Joseph Rowntree School) Diane Norton (York St John University) <u>Group D</u> Cllr Robert Webb (Chair) (City of York Council) Cllr Emilie Knight (City of York Council) Cllr Martin Rowley BEM (City of York Council) Cllr Sarah Wilson (City of York Council)
In Attendance	Dee Boyle (Faith/Unitarian, Buddhist, Pagan) <u>LA Officer</u> Maxine Squire (Assistant Director Education and Skills, City of York Council)
Apologies	Jospeh Everdell, Imam Mirazam and Andy Tod

The Chair thanked the Vice Chair for Chairing the meeting on 3 February 2025 as he was on paternity leave. It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate. Cllr Rowley congratulated the Chair and his wife on the birth of their child.

96. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest (5.10pm)

Apologies for absence were received and noted for Imam Amar, Joseph Everdell and Andy Tod. There were no declarations of interest.

97. Annual Report 2023-24 (5.11pm)

Maxine Squire explained that the report followed the NASACRE template and that it included the unvalidated Key Stage 4 (KS4) data apart from the KS4 data from Joseph Rowntree School and Vale of York Academy, which would be added when available. She explained that there had been an improvement in the quoracy of meeting which NASACRE had identified as being problematic for SACREs nationally in their annual report. She added that KS5 outcomes remained successful and participation at KS4 was strong. She explained that there had been some reduction in the numbers taking RE at KS4 but KS4 had achieved well at Grade 4 or above.

The Chair thanked Maxine Squire for the report. It was then unanimously:

Resolved: That approval be given to the 2023-24 SACRE Annual Report.

Reason: In order for the report to be submitted to NASACRE and the DfE.

98. Any other business

None.

99. Future meeting dates

11 March 2025 meeting to be rearranged due to clash with Executive
15 July 2025 at 6.00pm at West Offices

Cllr Webb, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.08 pm and finished at 5.17 pm].



Summer term news 2025

Features on the RE Hubs Website

RE Local Groups

In our [local groups](#) section, you can find all the local groups in our region. These groups enable teachers to meet, share good practice in RE and support one another over a cup of tea and a piece of cake! Meetings are run by a mix of teachers, RE advisers, school improvement officers or independent consultants. Some Local Groups meet within their key stages, whilst others are cross-phase. There are also Local Groups for teachers of children with special educational needs. The engagement offered by these groups can be invaluable to teachers who feel isolated, and the networks provide support to all teachers who come along.

RE Hubs works alongside AREIAC and NATRE to support all those who lead Local Groups.

If you run a local group and it is not on our website you can add it here [Register your Local Group](#)

If you are a local group leader don't forget you can update your group and add your next meeting date on the website via our form [Register your next Local Group Meeting](#)

And do not forget our Jobs noticeboard!

This website section is a noticeboard advertising current RE jobs across England & Wales. If you would like to advertise a job [click here](#)

RE Hubs training

Local Group Leadership Training

Brought to you by NATRE and RE Hubs, this CPD is a fantastic opportunity for you as a RE Local Group Leader to explore how to deliver engaging and Impactful meetings that support high-quality RE in schools. [Access flyer](#)

Our next meeting is on 15 May 2025 - 4 PM - 5.30 PM with a focus on AI – Friend or Foe. **BOOK YOUR PLACE [HERE!](#)**

"Attending this CPD has enhanced my skills in adapting my own practice to ensure my meetings improve."



Places of Interest and School Speakers - Reaccreditation

The RE Hubs Kitemark assures teachers that the School Speakers they invite into school, or the Places of Interest they take children into, are quality assured. Over 500 individuals have undergone national training to enable them to present their religious or non-religious worldview in an educational context. Now many have been re-accredited after two years service. Look for the KiteMark (in English and in Welsh) or visit <https://www.re-hubs.uk/get-involved/school-speakers/>



Places of Interest and School Speakers – Video for Schools

We have been busy reaccrediting over 170 School Speakers and Places of Interest on the RE Hubs website. As part of this training, we listen carefully to feedback from those with our accredited kitemark. From the 139 reaccredited so far one of the most common pieces of feedback is around expectations when booking a school speaker or visiting a place of interest. To support schools in making this process as smooth and fruitful as possible RE Hubs has created a 28-minute video guide for schools. The idea is it will offer schools relevant guidance on getting the most from their encounter with a school speaker or place of interest. It will cover things such as sharing questions, risk assessment guidance, respectful behaviour, and negotiation of content / specific coverage. The video is great for ECTS, those in initial teacher training or as a reminder to those schools experienced in engaging with school speakers and places of interest as part of their RE curriculum. [NEED LINK](#)

Places of Interest and School Speakers training in partnership with the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Do you work or volunteer at a Synagogue, Jewish museum, education centre, or are you a Jewish school speaker?

If so, join our kitemark accreditation online training to get tips on how to work well with schools. Whether you are hosting visits, visiting schools, or delivering a speech, this training can give you the confidence to ensure you are providing the best experience for schools. This webinar will be led by professionals in RE RE Hubs Director Claire Clinton, RE Hubs Leads and Anna Silver from the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Monday 12th May 2025 5 PM - 6:30 PM Book your place here: [Board Of Deputies Place Of Interest & School Speaker Training booking form](#)



Virtual tours

Virtual Tours			
A selection of virtual tours available online			
A virtual tour website for RE and SMSC (Cumbria DEC)	Buddhism, Warwickshire SACRE, Religions of the world	Christian Canterbury Cathedral - Canterbury	CI
Christian Westminster Abbey - London	Christian, Newark Salvation Army - Nottingham SACRE & Barnby Road Academy	Christian, The Friary, Nottinghamshire SACRE & Lowdham CoE Primary School	CI W Ri
Gurdwara Places of Worship Tour -	Gurdwara Places of Worship Tour -	Hindu ISKCON Mandir - Newcastle upon Tyne	H - I

Visits are a wonderful way to prepare children to encounter a new religious or non-religious worldview but some schools cannot accommodate a visit in the real. In that case - go online! As an introduction, a post-visit debrief or a way of extending learning, virtual visits are really valuable. The RE Hubs has a wonderful collection from diverse worldviews, and from all over the country here: <https://www.re-hubs.uk/upskill/virtual-tours/>

New material is being added all the time. Look out for the Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Newcastle upon Tyne, the Progressive Synagogue in Darlington and a new collaborative project 'Religion and Worldviews through Objects' from the North East Religious Resources Centre and the Oriental Museum in Durham.

AREIAC/AULRE Conference 2025

AREIAC/AULRE are excited to be jointly hosting the 'To Boldly Go' Religious Education conference on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th June 2025 at the University of Exeter.

There are so many reasons to join the conference this year!

The conference brings together those with an interest in religious education (including researchers, teacher educators, advisers and teachers).

This year's conference theme is 'To Boldly Go'.

In addition to the fabulous network opportunities with our wonderful RE community, the inspiring presentations and opportunities for dialogue, delegates will celebrate with a drinks reception and Gala dinner.

Anna Strhan will be giving the "Robin Shepherd Endowed Lecture" that will be on Thursday evening before our Gala Dinner. <https://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/people/dr-anna-strhan/>

You can book your place here <https://store.exeter.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/faculty-of-humanities-arts-and-social-sciences/school-of-education/aulreareiac-conference-2025>



New Resource: Human Nature, Human Potential



'Human Nature, Human Potential', is a new animation exploring humanism, from [Understanding Humanism](#).

This resource explores questions at the heart of humanism: 'What are we?', 'What are we capable of?' and 'How should we make best use of our capacities?'. Accompanied by resources, it will support teachers in illustrating a humanist approach to life.

SAPERE P4C Name Change

SAPERE is the Society for the Advancement of Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education. They are the UK's national charity for Philosophy for Children (P4C).

Now in their fourth decade they are becoming Thoughtful – a name that reflects their purpose, their mission, and their values. Listen to their Patron Stephen Fry say more about their name change <https://www.sapere.org.uk/about-us/#Thoughtful>

Project Free

Project Free provide free online training and learning opportunities for teachers and other educators who wish to enhance the traditional curriculum, challenge racism and discrimination and improve their knowledge of specific histories or topics and build their confidence in teaching this content to others.

Their recent events have included;

- Windrush Resources for Teachers
- Challenging Islamophobia in the Classroom
- Disrupting Disinformation

You can view the recordings and resources for each session: [Learning Events — Project FREE](#)
The next event is titled **"Education as Resistance."** on September 17th at 4pm to 5.30pm

REChatUK

NATRE's monthly Twitter forum, #REChatUK takes place on the first Monday of the month, from 8-9pm. These fast-paced, fun and informative discussions are a great way to discover new ideas, resources and conversations. The forum is also an effective place to network and meet new people on Twitter. Follow [@NATREupdate](#) on Twitter, and the hashtag #REChatUK.

