



Constitution for Hackney SACRE

Name

The name of the group is the Hackney SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education).

Hackney SACRE'S Duties

The Education Act 1988 requires every Local Education Authority to appoint a SACRE.

Hackney's SACRE:

- Can require the Local Authority to review its agreed syllabus;
- Must consider requests for determinations from a head teacher for a variation in its application of collective worship; and
- Must publish an annual report on the delivery and attainment of Religious Education and the Hackney SACRE's work to support this

Aims, Vision and Objectives

The aim of the Hackney SACRE is to promote, support and encourage good practice in the teaching of Religious Education in Hackney schools. In addition, Hackney SACRE aims to:

- a) Keep under review the provision for Religious Education and Collective Worship in all the LA's schools and to make recommendations to the LA as necessary
- b) To advise the LA on aspects of collective worship and the teaching of Religious Education in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus
- c) Ensure that there is an agreed syllabus which is reviewed at least once every five years.

The members of Hackney SACRE seek to ensure that all pupils in our schools are educated to develop spiritually, academically, emotionally and morally in a way that enables them to understand themselves and others and to cope with the opportunities, challenges and responsibilities of living in a rapidly changing, multicultural world.

The Hackney SACRE may seek to implement its aim through the following **objectives**:

1. To hold meetings (one each academic term) to plan actions, to monitor progress of these and consider future developments
2. To produce materials, guidance and resources to support the teachers in Hackney schools to deliver Religious Education which meets the agreed vision *and complies with the Hackney Agreed Syllabus*
3. When convened as an Agreed Syllabus Conference, to provide a Hackney Agreed Syllabus to all community and voluntarily controlled schools in the borough (and to other schools for their information)

4. To monitor adherence to the guidance contained within the Agreed Syllabus by community and voluntarily controlled schools within the borough
5. To run a statutory conference to review the Hackney Agreed Syllabus when necessary
6. To consider any complaint referred by the LA to Hackney SACRE with respect to provision for Religious Education or Collective Worship.
7. To carry out any other actions that are deemed appropriate

Membership

There will be four committees within the Hackney SACRE:

1. **Committee 1** – Such Christian and other religious denominations, not including the Church of England, as in the opinion of the Local Authority broadly reflect the proportion of those denominations or religions represented in the area. Hackney SACRE considers that this committee should comprise of representatives from local faith communities, with a minimum of at least one member from each of the six world-faiths (Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism) with a view to including representation from other faiths and religions
2. **Committee 2** – The Church of England – should comprise of at least 3 representatives from the Church of England
3. **Committee 3** – Teachers and Head teacher Association – should comprise of teacher representatives from the main teaching unions and should have representation from both Hackney primary and secondary schools
4. **Committee 4** – Local Authority (LA) – should comprise of representatives selected by the Local Authority, the Local Authority appointed Religious Education Advisor and at least one representative from the British Humanist Association

Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy on Hackney SACRE the Clerk shall:

- a) Advise the relevant appointing body of the vacancy;
- b) Where appropriate, refer any nomination to the LA; and
- c) Where such nominations are agreed, record the person as a member of SACRE.

In the absence of nominees from a representative group, the LA may nominate and appoint any person that it considers to be representative of that group and deems appropriate to fill the vacancy.

Term of Office:

While there is no fixed term of office for members, Hackney SACRE shall review the membership annually at the first meeting following receipt of the annual report.

End of Membership

A member shall cease to be a member of the SACRE if:

- a) They write to the SACRE or the Clerk and tender their resignation;
- b) They were appointed by virtue of being representative of the religion, denomination or associations which they were appointed to represent, but in the opinion of the LA, they cease to be such a representative, or to be representative of the authority;
- c) The other members of their representative group notify the LA that the member should no longer act as one of its representative on the SACRE, and the LA agrees to their removal;

- d) The LA determine, on reasonable grounds, that the member is unable, unwilling or an unsuitable person to continue these duties
- e) Failure to attend three consecutive meetings without a valid reason is prima facie grounds for removal.

Chair of Hackney SACRE

The Chair and Vice Chair of the SACRE can be drawn from any of the committees (see Membership) and will be elected annually upon individual SACRE member votes.

The Chair shall be responsible for:

- a. The management of meetings
- b. Representing the SACRE to other bodies
- c. Such other duties as the SACRE considers appropriate.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair for a meeting, SACRE members will elect a member to act as chair for that meeting.

The Clerk:

The LA shall appoint and supervise a Clerk to:

- a) Attend meetings of Hackney SACRE
- b) Take appropriate minutes and notes at the meetings
- c) Maintain and update the records of Hackney SACRE and its meetings.

The Clerk will have no voting rights.

Conduct

Each member will be required to comply with Hackney Council's [Members' Code of Conduct](#) and have regard to the [Seven Principles of Public Life](#).

Each member will have equal voting rights within each committee appointed by the Local Authority, and each committee will have one vote, except in the case of elections for Chair and Vice Chair (please see above).

In the event that an appointed member is absent, a substitute person is allowed to attend in their place however their vote will not be counted as part of the quorum.

The quorum will consist of 8 members from at least 3 of these committees.

Arrangements of meetings

At least one meeting should be held each term. The dates of the meetings for each academic year should be proposed in the spring term and agreed in the last meeting of the academic year, following consultation with the Local Authority.

Matters for the agenda should be raised with the Local Authority appointed Religious Education Advisor at least 28 working days in advance of the meeting, with a final agenda being sent to the clerk at least 14 days in advance of the meeting.

The agenda shall be distributed to members at least 7 working days in advance of a meeting.

Draft minutes of the meeting shall be sent to the Local Authority appointed Religious Education Advisor and Chair for approval within 14 days after the meeting was held.


Alteration to the Constitution

Any proposed changes to the Constitution must be notified in writing to the Clerk and placed on an agenda to be discussed in a meeting.

Changes to the Constitution will be agreed by majority decision based upon individual SACRE member votes.

This Constitution was adopted by SACRE on 14/10/20

Signed: Chairperson - Sandra Hall

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Hall". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Signed: Local Authority appointed Religious Education Advisor - Stacey Burman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to be "SB". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Signed: Clerk - Justin Feltham

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to be "JF". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.