

## **Meeting Minutes: SACRE - Torbay**

Date: 9 June 2025

Time: 08:51 AM

Location: Hybrid (Torbay Town Hall and Online)

Chair: Laura Twamley (on behalf of Jeremy Roberts)

### **1. Attendees**

- Hannah Baker – Strategic Lead for Education, Torbay Council
- Angela Sumner – Church of England, NHS Foundation Trust
- Maia Miller – Pagan Community Representative
- Sheila Gewolb – Jewish Faith Representative
- Mark Witchell – RE Lead, Sherwell Valley Primary
- Laura Kendell – Headteacher, Tor Primary
- Christine Carter – Councilor, Torbay Council
- Nick Bye – Councilor, Wellswood Ward
- Nikki Boone – South Devon College
- Lisa Robillard Webb – Humanists UK
- Lyndsay Thomas – St. Michael's Academy
- Katy Burns – Headteacher, Galmpton Primary
- Abdullah Thomson – Muslim Representative
- Ed Pawson – Adviser, RE Hubs Lead
- Louise Willmott – PA to Divisional Director of Children's Services

### **Apologies for Absence**

- Claire Bird
- Margaret Douglas Dunbar
- Kim Moore Cullen
- Liz Kilkelly
- Jeremy Roberts
- Sivita Harrison
- Belinda Twiggs
- Martin Brook
- Helen Brown
- Ras Virdee
- L Thomas

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Maia Miller queried whether the donation to LITRA was completed – confirmed by Hannah Baker that it had been actioned.

### **3. Items requiring urgent attention**

None

### **4. Membership Updates**

Welcomed new members: Abdullah Thomson (Muslim Rep) and Mark Witchell (Teacher Rep).

One Church of England vacancy noted.

### **5. Standard: Schools monitoring and Ofsted Reports**

Only one inspection noted (Roselands not Redlands).

Positive mention of assemblies and religious education.

### **6. Devon and Torbay SACRE: agreed syllabus survey results (report)**

30 responses received (28 analyzed).

96% of schools use the new syllabus; 71% is fully implemented.

96% of RE taught by class teachers; some support from HLTAs.

Confidence in delivering the syllabus is moderate; training needs identified.

Humanism and diversity units well received.

Concerns raised about limited engagement from academies.

### **7. Training and CPD**

Learn Teach Lead Hub meeting rescheduled to 10 July (online).

Focus: Maximising visitors and visits for RE.

Sheila Gewolb shared details of Board of Deputies' Q&A sessions for teachers.

Lisa Robillard Webb and others offered to support virtual visits.

### **8. Regional and National Developments: RE Hubs, Curriculum and Assessment review**

Curriculum and Assessment Review: RE is one of three subjects under detailed review.

National Content Standard for RE gaining traction.

Concerns over RE teacher recruitment and training bursaries.

Ed Pawson highlighted the need for systemic support and funding.

### **9. AREIAC/AULRE conference on 26/7 June at Exeter University**

Positive feedback on recent conferences.

Sheila Gewolb noted structural changes at NASACRE and upcoming training.

Lord Karan Bilimoria's video message on the importance of RE was shared.

### **Future Events**

October RE Conference in St. Mellion.

Next SACRE meeting: 19 November 2025.

Jewish Culture Month announced: 16 May – 14 June 2026.

### **10. Robin Shepherd Memorial lecture: Anna Strhan lecture 26<sup>th</sup> June**

### **11. Young Ambassadors: visit to Parliament (report)**

### **12. Faith and Belief schools' visitors**

### **13. NASACRE/SACRE conferences feedback**

### **14. NASACRE training sessions**

### **Action Points**

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Circulate Jewish calendar to avoid future meeting clashes	Sheila Gewolb	Before next meeting
Share flyer for Board of Deputies Q&A session (17 June)	Sheila Gewolb	ASAP
Follow up with academies on RE engagement and training	Ed Pawson, Hannah Baker	Ongoing – to discuss
Circulate PowerPoint and survey links	Louise Willmott	Post-meeting

### **15. Future Meetings**

Wednesday 19th November

Monday 9th February

Wednesday 17th June