



Title of meeting: Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Date of meeting: 28 March 2023

Subject: SACRE National and Local RE Matters Report

Report by: Justine Ball, SACRE Advisor

1. **Purpose of report:** The purpose of this report is to enable SACRE to consider key national and local RE developments.

2. **Recommendations:**

That SACRE notes the report.

3. **Executive Summary:**

This report seeks to update and inform SACRE of key national development, for example the work of the Religious Education Council (REC) and NASACRE as well as the Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education (AULRE) and initiatives being led by the Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

4. Culham St Gabriel's Trust initiatives: Portsmouth SACRE members will be interested in several initiatives that are being funded by the Culham St Gabriel's trust; the largest grant giving body supporting religious education [Homepage - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk) .

These include:

- (i) The National RE Leadership programme: for RE teachers who are beginning on their journey of RE advising. The deadline for this is the end of March 2023 and the link for stage 1 and for stage 2 of the programme is here: [Leadership Scholarship Programme - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk)
 - (ii) Promotional films for RE events, such as parents' open evenings, teacher CPD and SACRE work. The link for the films is here: [Promotional film collection - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk)
 - (iii) Parental survey on RE: Parent's views on RE can be found here: [Parent Survey - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk)
 - (iv) REONLINE: a significant website for teachers offering among other things support for subject knowledge enhancement: [Home - RE:ONLINE \(reonline.org.uk\)](https://www.reonline.org.uk)
5. The National RE Hubs Project is a new national project that aims to create a national RE website to link Local Authorities, Universities, SACREs, Museums, ITT providers, RE groups and RE advisors across England and Wales. The website will have 9 English regions and 1 for Wales. Each area will have events, regional RE



news, RE blogs, job vacancies, resource centres, places of interest and school speakers and space for local groups. The project has offered free places of interest and school speaker training with dates throughout the year and further information can be found here [RegionalREHubs training \(natre.org.uk\)](https://natre.org.uk). The Primary RE adviser is the South East lead for this project.

6. The Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education (AULRE) is still leading on the matter of issues in relation to Secondary Initial Teacher Education (ITE). Recruitment for 2022/23 is considerably reduced and efforts are ongoing to ensure increased recruitment for 2023/24 intake. AULRE is raising awareness of this issue nationally and working with a range of groups to increase numbers on RE and ITE courses.
7. National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). NASACRE is the national body representing and leading on SACREs interests. A regular newsletter is circulated to SACRE members through their SACRE. In addition, a series of training sessions are offered for SACRE members to attend. The NASACRE Annual Conference and AGM will be held on 22 May 2023 in London. SACRE members are invited to consider whether they would like to attend.