

**Bristol Standing Advisory Council on religious education
(SACRE)
Constitution**

Revised November 2005

1. Background

- 1.1 Bristol SACRE was established following the Education Committee decision on 22 February 1996.
- 1.2 In accordance with the statutory requirements of the 1988 Education Act the SACRE is to comprise five groups representing respectively;
- a. Such Christian and other religious denominations as, in the opinion of the authority, will appropriately reflect principal religious institutions in the area;
 - b. The Church of England;
 - c. Such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the authority, ought to be represented, having regard to the circumstances of the area;
 - d. The Local Education Authority;
 - e. Co-opted members if desired.
- 1.3 It was agreed that the membership of the Bristol SACRE be as follows:
- a. Christian and other religious denominations;
Bristol free church council x 3;
Muslim community x 3;
Buddhist community x 2;
Hindu community x 2;
Jewish community x 2;
Roman Catholic community x 2;
Sikh community x 2;
Black-led churches x 1;
Rastafarian community x 1;
Orthodox community x 1
Bahai community x 1
Society of Friends x 1
Total 21
 - b. Church of England x 4
 - c. Teacher Association representatives x 5
 - d. local education Authorities x 3
 - e. Co-options (of whom one must be a humanist) x 4
Total 16
- SACRE total 37

2. SACRE Constitution

- 2.1 The SACRE is free to arrange its own rules for the conduct of business, except that voting must take place in groups; each representative group has one vote. However, SACRE should conduct most of their business by indications of opinion around the table, member by member.
- 2.2 SACRE meetings are public, and public notice of a meeting must be given a minimum of two weeks in advance.
- 2.3 The SACRE is free to arrange other rules for the conduct of business.
- 2.4 The Chair of SACRE to be elected by the SACRE membership, voting in groups if necessary. The Chair should be elected at the beginning of the first meeting of each academic year. A vice chair should be similarly elected.
- 2.5 Two weeks in advance of each meeting, the Chair should meet with the LEA School Improvement Officer and Consultant Adviser to agree the agenda. SACRE members can propose agenda items by contacting the Chair or one of the LEA Officers. Agendas for each meeting will be distributed at least a week in advance, by the clerk to SACRE.
- 2.6 Attendance of members should be noted at every meeting. If members miss more than three consecutive meetings, without submitting apologies, they will be deemed to have resigned. SACRE will seek to find an alternative representative.
- 2.7 A substitute can be permitted but members of SACRE are encouraged to use this facility infrequently in view of the need to maintain continuity.
- 2.8 Notes of each SACRE meeting should be taken by the Clerk to SACRE, who is responsible for their typing and distribution within one calendar month of the meeting.
- 2.9 SACRE membership is a three year term of office, subject to reappointment.