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# SACRE BRIEFING

## Issue: 3 revised

*Apologies for broken links in Issue 3. Issues should now be resolved.  
Ed*

**SACRE BRIEFING** is issued at the beginning of every half term and provides updates, briefing notes and links.

*This issue includes:*

- *important information about the AGM*
- *the Westhill /NASACRE Awards*

*and other key information to support your SACRE.*

To access certain links in this newsletter, you will need to be logged in to the NASACRE website. Log in information was sent to Officers of your SACRE in September. Please contact them if you require these details.

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## AGM 2014

**Location:** London

**Venue:** Methodist Central Hall, Westminster

**Date:** May 22nd 2014

**Time:** 10:00-3:30

**Cost:** £90

**Theme:** *RISING TO THE CHALLENGE*

**Keynote speaker:** Mr Stephen Lloyd, MP. Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on RE

**Outline of the day:**

- 10.00 am: Arrival, registration and coffee;
- 10.30 am: Welcome and introductions
- 10.40 am: Keynote Address: Stephen Lloyd, MP
- 11.10 am: Question time
- 11.45 am: Business Meeting
- 12.30 pm: Lunch
- 1.15pm: Rising to the Challenge: SACRE presentations/working groups showcasing effective practice
- 2.45pm: 'Re SACREs' – reflections from John Keast
- 3.00 pm: Westhill/NASACRE Awards: Report and announcement of 2014/15 awards;
- 3.10 pm: Feedback and final thoughts:  
'How we make a difference' Chair Lesley Prior
- 3.25 pm: Evaluations and close of meeting

Many were impressed and stirred by Mark Chater's erudite [challenges to SACREs](#) at last year's AGM. This year's AGM will be looking at the state of play in RE and education more generally from the perspective of Stephen Lloyd, Chair of the APPG and John Keast, who will then be the retired Chair of the REC and will provide his frank and perceptive overview to end proceedings.

Sandwiched between these two keynotes, we want to showcase the work of SACREs in rising to some of the challenges raised. We would like to have about 4-6 brief presentations by SACREs on work they are doing in any of the following areas, that show innovation, engagement and challenge:

1. Work to support teachers to provide meaningful and challenging RE
2. Involving wider representation (faith/belief/universities/academies)
3. Pupil/student involvement
4. Meeting the challenges of the new curriculum settlement

We know there is really good work going on and this needs to be shared, so please volunteer to do so at the AGM by emailing Bill Moore: [bmoore@learningtrust.net](mailto:bmoore@learningtrust.net) by March 31st 2014.

Simply send in your SACRE name, a contact, which of the above areas you are addressing and a brief outline of what you are doing.

## BOOKING FOR THE AGM

To book for the AGM, [click here](#) for details and to use our simple online booking form.

**It is not possible to accept bookings in any other formats.**  
**All bookings MUST** be received by **Wednesday 23rd April**.

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## NOMINATIONS FOR NASACRE OFFICER POSTS

The posts of **SECRETARY** and **TREASURER** will become vacant at the next AGM. A document with information about these important roles together with a nomination form can be found [here](#).  
Nominations should be received by **Friday 9th May 2014**.

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## Westhill/NASACRE Awards

The 2014/15 cycle of the Westhill/NASACRE Awards scheme, for RE projects submitted by SACREs is now open.

The deadline date for receipt of applications is **March 31st**.

Click [here](#) to find details and download documents.

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## Westhill/NASACRE Awards

### New panel members needed

- Do you have the time, experience, skills and motivation to help us with the Westhill/NASACRE AWARDS to SACREs?
- Could you become a Panel Member for the Awards?

This work (which usually has an inter faith dimension) will involve you with schools, young people and local communities, as well as with professional colleagues, in a most interesting and rewarding exercise. Where appropriate, panel members may be invited to become co-opted members of NASACRE's Executive Committee.

The Awards, which have come to be greatly valued by SACREs, NASACRE and Westhill alike, have been an annual feature since 2005. Currently the Westhill Trustees graciously make £20,000 available each year. Panel members read submissions from SACREs (perhaps a dozen, perhaps as many as twenty each year), and meet at Westhill, Birmingham for a few hours on a day in Spring to decide the winners. Each panel member then serves as the NASACRE link person to one or more award-winning projects. The link-person's role is to encourage and affirm the progress and achievements of the project, and to help monitor its operation for the Westhill Trustees and for NASACRE – with special attention to its reporting, publicity and evaluation. Most link-persons have visited the project on location (with reasonable expenses reimbursed). The arrival of NASACRE's "human face" has been greatly appreciated by the project-workers.

If you would like to know more, or to express an interest in joining the Panel, please email Michael Metcalf, Panel Convenor, at [prebmetcalf@hotmail.com](mailto:prebmetcalf@hotmail.com)

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## **Westhill/NASACRE Awards**

### **NASACRE coordinator of the Awards process**

Before long, someone will be required to fill this vital role, at present carried out by Michael Metcalf.

The co-ordinator:

- is the chief negotiator and correspondent with the Westhill Trustees
- prepares the documentation each year which goes out to the SACREs inviting their bids
- collates applications for an Award, and convenes and chairs the Panel
- informs Award-winners and NASACRE's AGM of the results
- corresponds with unsuccessful applicants when required
- coordinates the link-persons
- works with the Treasurer to supervise the payment of grants under Westhill's terms
- reports to NASACRE's Executive at intervals, and is a member of that Committee, co-opted as necessary.

Without this leadership, these Awards would, quite simply, be impossible to administer and sustain.

If you think you might be able and willing to take on this role, or would like to discuss it or find out more, please contact Michael Metcalf via:

[prebmetcalf@hotmail.com](mailto:prebmetcalf@hotmail.com)

Phone 01785 600260

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## SACRE Induction

We always need to be prepared for membership changes to SACRE. Many SACREs have found it helpful to have a mechanism for supporting new members so that they understand how a SACRE functions and are able to participate positively as soon as possible.

Although current copies are still branded with our previous logo, the handbook, *So You are Joining your local SACRE* remains a core element of any induction pack. It is therefore useful for SACRE Clerks to have some of these to hand in order to send to new recruits with their first papers and whatever else your SACRE has as an induction pack/process. Copies may be purchased at £1 per copy plus postage and packing by emailing [admin@nasacre.org.uk](mailto:admin@nasacre.org.uk)

Your induction process could include meeting the Chair, Adviser or Deputy Chair to ask any niggling questions, having a 'buddy' who is an old hand for the first meeting or two and some bespoke training using elements from the NASACRE Training CD. Copies of the CD are also still available from NASACRE for £5.00

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## Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

The [FAQ section](#) of the website is frequently reviewed and updated. It is worthwhile re-visiting [this section](#) from time to time.

Recently added FAQs include [membership of SACRE](#) and [RE in the curriculum](#).

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## Your next SACRE agenda

*A brief summary about the latest items to be added to the "[Your next](#)*

*[agenda](#)" section of the website.*

*Click on any of the orange links to find out more.*

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## **Young Ambassadors for RE**

The Religious Education Council's scheme for Young Ambassadors for RE is open to new applicants. Click [here](#) for more details.

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## **Ofsted: *Releasing the potential***

Information about latest religious education report from Ofsted which was released on October 6th. In response, NASACRE released a [press statement](#).

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## **RE Review Report**

The RE Review report is now published. It has been produced by the RE Council in consultation with a wide variety of RE professional organisations and individuals, as well as members of the public. From the link, you will find further information about the report and links to the full report and a summary.

In addition, NASACRE has produced a briefing paper to support SACREs with the non-statutory guidance and the writing of an agreed syllabus.

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## **A Practice Code for Teachers of RE**

Drawn up by an RE Council working group with representation from NATRE, AREIAC, NASACRE, this code aims to complement the GTCE's general code for teachers.

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## **School Governors: responsibilities for RE**

Two briefing papers (primary and secondary) produced for governors by Dr Barbara Wintersgill. These outline schools' responsibilities with regard to RE, give an overview of the problems identified by the report [RE: The Truth Unmasked](#) published in March and suggest some actions governors might undertake to bring about improvement in their schools.

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### **ARE YOUR SACRE's DETAILS CORRECT AND UP TO DATE?**

Click [here](#) to check.

Click [here](#) to email new details.

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# SACRE Annual Reports

Thank you to those SACREs who have already submitted [reports](#) for the year 2012-13.

Please email your SACRE report as **one** document in **PDF format** with a **maximum size** of approx **3Mb** to:  
[memsec@nasacre.org.uk](mailto:memsec@nasacre.org.uk)

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## Holocaust Memorial Day Poster packs

Secondary schools may be interested to know that the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust still have some sets of Holocaust Memorial Day posters available. They are free. Email [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk)

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