

WANDSWORTH SACRE - CODE OF CONDUCT

General principles

Wandsworth SACRE encourages all its members to:

- Attend all SACRE meetings and take a full and active part in its work
- Participate in and review the work of SACRE for the benefit of the whole community
- Listen with respect to the views of other members and where a situation of disagreement occurs, disagree respectfully
- Express views and opinions openly, honestly and sensitively, always recognising others may have different views to one's own
- Assume at all times that other members of SACRE are honourable and concerned with the best interests of SACRE
- Seek reasoned consensus where views diverge and never disrespect the views of other SACRE members or seek to convert them to a different belief stance
- Actively consult with, and report back to, the membership body which they represent so that debate is fully informed
- Actively challenge and resist stereotyping

Remember that the central aim for the SACRE is to improve the quality of provision in RE and collective worship for all pupils in Wandsworth.

Visiting schools as a member of SACRE

From time to time, SACRE members may have the opportunity to visit schools. SACRE members should remember that it is a privilege to visit a school. They are there as invited guests, not to make judgements about the school or to "inspect" RE and collective worship.

Members should:

- Only visit a school when invited
- Inform the Clerk of SACRE and the SACRE's RE Officer of any invitation received and visits made
- Ensure that they do not say or do anything which could be viewed as denigrating any religion or ethical belief system
- Avoid being critical of others or imposing their own views
- Not pass on any confidential information disclosed but should discuss any possible concerns or confusion about what may have been seen with the LA Officer and RE professional before reporting back to the SACRE

Visiting schools as a representative of a faith community

Some faith community representatives may be more regular visitors to schools and be invited to support RE and/ or collective worship.

Visitors should be well-supported by the class teacher who should always be present, taking an active role in question and answer sessions, and ensuring visitors are well-briefed before a visit.

SACRE members visiting a school to share their beliefs, values and experiences should:

- Have a clear, mutually agreed understanding of the purpose of the visit before it takes place
- Appreciate that they are not there to convert or proselytise, be critical or impose their own views
- Be familiar with the school's aims, ethos and policies in RE and collective worship
- Have an understanding of where the lesson will fit into the unit of work from the Wandsworth Agreed Syllabus and what the learning objectives are
- Use a variety of teaching and learning methods and approaches, but at no time touch pupils or behave favourably towards pupils or particular faiths, ethnic groups or genders
- Ensure that pupils understand that the visitor is representing a particular faith views and their own personal interpretation of it and therefore that others from the same faith may not always interpret ideas in exactly the same ways
- Ensure that they do not say or do anything which could be viewed as denigrating
- Communicate at an appropriate level for the age group concerned.

Signed _____

Full name _____

Date _____

