

# Welcome

- 1) Please **mute** your microphone.
  - 2) Make sure your correct **name** is correct and visible on screen - feel free to also add your location to this.
  - 3) If your **connection is poor**, try switching off your camera.
  - 4) If you **lose connection**, use the **same link** to connect again.
- 
- 5) **Introduce yourself** by sharing your name and where you are joining us from in the chat area.





## Humanist SACRE & SAC REPS

### Induction Session

**Trevor Dobson** - Volunteer SACRE/SAC Rep Coordinator

**Luke Donnellan** - Director of Understanding Humanism

**Bethan Fowler** - Education Networks Manager

*curious*

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# What are the aims of this session?

1. Introduction & key points
  - What are SACREs/SACs, and what is my role?
  - How do the meetings work, and what should I remember?
  - What is an agreed syllabus, and what do I need to know?
2. How can SACRE/SAC reps work effectively to help us achieve our aims?
  - An outline of written guidance that supports you in your role, and ensures we are working together effectively to achieve our aims.
3. Moving forwards - where else can I get support?
4. Q&A



# SACRE Rep Area

## SACRE/SAC Rep Area

Welcome to the humanist SACRE/SAC reps area.

Here you can find information about **SACREs** (Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education) in England, **SACs** (Standing Advisory Councils on Religion, Values and Ethics) in Wales, and **ASCs** (Agreed Syllabus Conferences), guidance on the role of being a humanist SACRE/SAC rep, and links to other helpful documents.

- Humanists UK website
- Login using Humanists UK details
- Drop down menu - right hand side
- **Everything you need:**
  - Upcoming CPD
  - Guidance documents inc. legal guidance, agreed syllabus materials, Code of Practice document we'll be mentioning later
  - Resource request form e.g. promotional flyers for schools/teachers
  - CPD library



# INTRODUCTION

Who's who?



# Who's who?

**Trevor Dobson** - Volunteer SACRE/SAC Rep Coordinator

**Luke Donnellan** - Director of Understanding Humanism

**Bethan Fowler** - Education Networks Manager

**Mentors**



# How do SACRE/SACs work?

Trevor Dobson - Volunteer SACRE/SAC Coordinator





# Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education (SACs in Wales)

- **Role and duties**
- **Constitution - The Group Structure**
- **Top 3 tips for new SACRE/SAC Reps**



# Role of SACREs

- **Every 5 Years - review the syllabus - ASC**
- **Advise on collective worship in School Assemblies**
- **Support Schools with delivery of RE including Teacher Training and Teaching Methods**
- **Consider issues relating to individual parents wishes**
- **Not all Schools are covered - Faith Schools and Academies**



# SACRE Constitutions

- **Constitution is determined by the LA - this varies across the country**
- **The SACRE can only make recommendations to the LA - It remains their decision**
- **Most SACREs meet 3 times a year - once a term**
- **Decision making varies across the Country - Group voting, individual votes or decision by consensus**



# Membership of SACREs 1

- **The 4 Groups - determined by the 1996 Act**
  - Group A - Christian and Other Religions (Numbers to reflect the religious make up of the Area)
  - Group B - Church of England - Because it is the 'Established Church'
  - Group C - Teachers Representatives
  - Group D - LA elected councillors



## Membership of SACREs 2

- **Also Co-opted Members and Observers appointed by the SACRE - No Vote**
- **In attendance - Clerk to the SACRE, RE Advisors and if necessary Legal Advisors**
- **SACRE Chairs -sometimes elected by SACRE Members, or appointed by LA (Often a Councillor)**
- **There are several SACREs where the Chair is a Humanist - Bristol, Doncaster, LB Hounslow, York**
- **Size of SACREs vary widely**



# Top Tips for new Humanist Reps

- **Don't rush in - Take your time and assess how the SACRE works**
- **Try to build bridges - talk to other Members**
- **You are not on your own - HUK support - SACRE Rep Code of Practice  
- Group C and D Members**



# **AGREED SYLLABUS MATERIALS & CONFERENCES**



# What is an agreed syllabus for RE?

- Every 5 years
- Membership
- Wales
- Not used by all schools





# What supports the case for an inclusive syllabus

- The law (Fox, Bowen)
- Data
- The RE community
- Demand from teachers
- The rewards: academic value, social cohesion, personal development



# Our aims on ASCs

- Inclusion
  - Humanism included to same extent as non-Christian religions
  - Inclusion in more than just the introduction - in examples/units too
  - Inclusive language throughout
- Other important things
  - Making no assumptions - e.g. that a god exists
  - Humanism rather than general non-religious worldviews
  - Avoiding misconceptions about non-religious worldviews
  - Framing humanism positively
  - Not just using humanism to learn more about religion
  - Link to Understanding Humanism

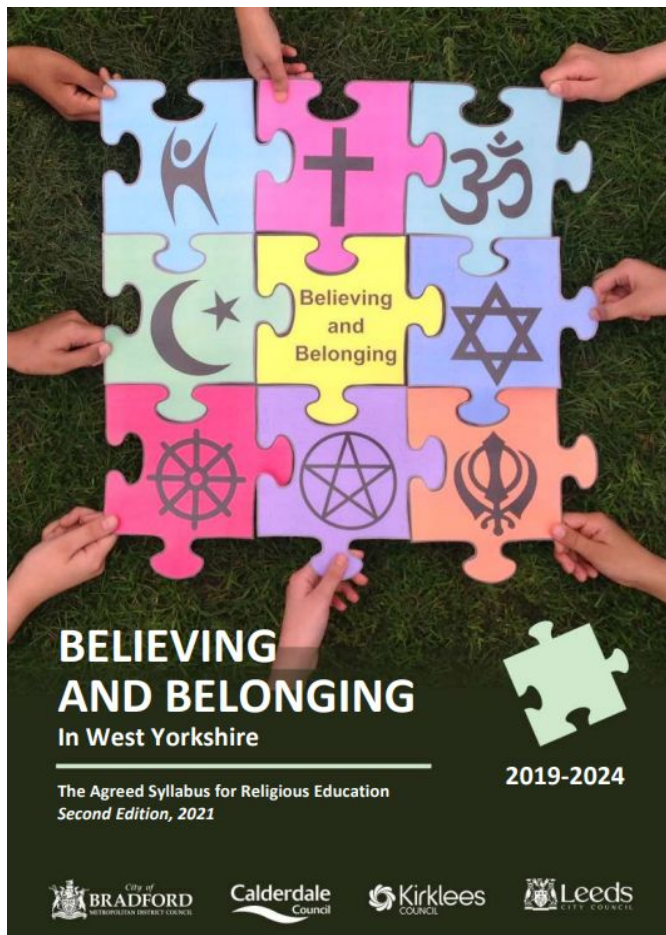


# Support with content

- Understanding Humanism core knowledge guide
- Example syllabuses: West Yorkshire, Cambridge, Peterborough and Rutland, Hounslow
- RE Today syllabus - edit or add appendices

[understandinghumanism.org.uk/core-knowledge](https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/core-knowledge)





# LOCALLY AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2023-2028

RE is a part of the basic curriculum, to be taught alongside the National Curriculum. This Locally Agreed Syllabus details the statutory requirement for all schools in Cambridgeshire as set out in the Education Act 1988 and confirmed by the Education Acts of 1996 and School Standards and Framework Act 1998.



Cambridgeshire  
County Council



Rutland  
County Council



# HOW CAN SACRE/SAC REPS WORK EFFECTIVELY TO HELP US ACHIEVE OUR AIMS?



# Code of Practice & communications guidance

- Code of Practice
- Communications guidance – key things to remember
- Dialogue network/training



**WHAT NEXT?**



# Moving forwards - where to get ongoing support

- Speak to your mentor if you haven't yet, or email [sacres@humanists.uk](mailto:sacres@humanists.uk) if you would like to be matched up with local rep/s for support and networking
- Check in with us ([sacres@humanists.uk](mailto:sacres@humanists.uk)) or your mentor after your first meeting - what went well? Do you have any questions?
- Look out for upcoming CPD opportunities - these happen termly and will be advertised:
  - in the SACRE Rep Area;
  - via email.
- Check out some of the previous CPD in the SACRE Rep Area - there are videos and presentations from past webinars and Education Days
- Termly newsletter
- Facebook group – 'Humanists UK SACRE Reps'





## Q&A

