

Accord Inclusivity Award Report

Briefing: May 2017

1st Place– BRENT

- Granting determinations that allow schools to provide multi faith assemblies that draw upon material and practice that hold special meaning for different religions and non-religious views. Schools encouraged to provide multi faith assemblies –stating that Collective Worship laws are unpopular, unenforced and widely ignored. *"Rather than watching assemblies wither on the vine, Brent SACRE's approach helps secure for local pupils a valuable opportunity to communally explore and forge shared values, in a way that is respectful and workable."* Brent Council's approach to Collective Worship is further explained by the authority at https://www.brent.gov.uk/media/946260/collective_worship_model_approach.pdf

2nd Place – NEWHAM

- Guidance on providing assemblies that are inclusive and respectful of those with different beliefs and draw on the teachings from different religions and non-religious traditions.
- Organising separate Infant, Youth and Student SACRES. Student SACRE members contributing to Adult SACRE meetings.

3rd Place – LEICESTER

- RE advisor sits on the Mayor's Faith and Community Forum
- Building links with the more ethnically homogenous Lincolnshire
- SACRE members visiting local academies despite no longer being accountable to the LA.
- Encouraging schools to provide inclusive assemblies and forge shared beliefs between those of different religious and non-religious beliefs.

Special Commendations

- Suffolk SACRE Teaching controversial Issues Toolkit (Prevent, SMSC, British Values)

(Suffolk SACRE has kindly allowed Accord to share a link to its toolkit and associated resources, which are available at <http://www.suffolklearning.co.uk/11-19-learning-teaching/religious-education/sacre/prevent.>)

Other Commended Practices

- SACRE membership that reflects the major denominations in non-Christian World Faiths (Lancashire, Hertfordshire, Newham and Brent)
- Including teaching about non-religious world views e.g. humanism so that the RE curriculum is impartial and is conveyed in a pluralistic manner.
- Inviting a representative from the LA ethnic minority service to serve on the SACRE.
- Encouraging councillors to serve on the SACRE thereby sending a strong signal about the Council's prioritisation of inclusive RE.
- Establishment of a Youth SACRE (Staffordshire and Milton Keynes)
- Joint working between local authorities to pool funds
- Providing teaching resources to supplement the agreed syllabus.
- Producing regular newsletters and organising training/ conferences
- Providing training for Governors (East Sussex)
- "Responding to Crises" guidance – Greenwich.
- Faith Centres established (Lancashire)
- Holocaust memorial Events (Newport and Hertfordshire, Luton Peace Walk)
- North Yorkshire – guidance on visiting places of worship.
- Swansea SACRE – " Religious Database of Contacts for Educational Visits 2016"
- Cambridge SACRE "Teaching about Gender Identity and Sexuality in Religious Education: Advice for Headteachers and Governors'
- Southend and Milton Keynes – monitoring via school survey.
- Sending letters of commendation to celebrate success and reward good practice.
- Lobbying Central Government e.g. Northumberland and Southend about the lack of training for RE teachers/ impact of being excluded from key performance indicators.

