

Dear Headteacher,

A Standing Advisory Council on RE is a permanent statutory body which must be established by each local authority. Local authorities must appoint representatives to each of four committees, representing respectively:

- Group A: Christian denominations and such other religions and religious denominations as, in the authority's opinion, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- Group B: the Church of England
- Group C: teacher associations
- Group D: the local authority

The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education has a statutory remit to advise the Local Authority on RE to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus. A SACRE also has within its powers to discuss any matter related to its functions as it sees fit and can therefore include the provision of RE in Academies in its discussions or address such matters as may be referred to it.

At a recent meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on RE members reviewed several pieces of evidence about the level of provision for Religious Education in schools and academies in [name of LA]

In relation to [name of school] we noted that:

1. The school workforce data (Nov 2015) includes no hours of teaching of RE in years 8 and 9;
2. only 9% of students on roll were entered for GCSE RE in 2016;
3. the data on your school website makes no mention of provision for RE in years 9 through to 11 and might possibly imply that only some of years 9 through to 11 are being taught RE.

We appreciate that it is not possible to draw any firm conclusions about the curriculum of a school from these sources of data alone, however this information leads us to question whether or not the terms of your funding agreement are being met in relation to RE. We understand that under these terms you are under contract to the Department for Education to make provision for RE for **all** of your pupils in each school year; Religious Education being a compulsory part of a broad and balanced curriculum.

We are of course keen to support you in developing your provision for RE so we would be grateful if you could reply to this letter to inform SACRE whether or not it is your understanding that you are currently meeting the terms of your funding agreement in relation to RE and if you have plans to make changes to your curriculum in this respect.

SACRE meets again [date], so I would appreciate a response to this letter before xxx please. I am attaching a document produced by the Department for Education about the requirements for Religious Education in Free Schools and Academies.

I look forward to hearing from you

[name]

Chair

xxx SACRE

[Link to DfE](#) document