

Introduction

Purpose of the Bromley Agreed Syllabus

To establish entitlement

This syllabus sets out the entitlement to learning Religious Education for all pupils in community and voluntary controlled schools in the borough, whatever their background, culture, race, religion or belief, gender, academic or learning ability.

To establish standards

This syllabus sets out for the benefit of parents, teachers, governors, employers and the public the expectations for learning requirements and standards of attainment in Religious Education that are explicit. These standards should be used to plan, sequence and monitor learning, to support assessment for learning and to set targets for improvement and evaluate the progress towards them.

To promote continuity and coherence

This Syllabus seeks to contribute to and support a coherent curriculum. The learning in this syllabus has been set out to support the transition of pupils between phases and stages of education and between schools, and can provide a foundation for further study and lifelong learning.

To promote public understanding

The Syllabus aims to increase public understanding of, and confidence in, the work of schools in Religious Education. It recognises the extent to which local stakeholders (religion and belief communities, teachers, local Councillors and the Local Education Authority) are already involved in defining, monitoring and advising the Religious Education curriculum in schools through the Bromley SACRE and the Bromley Agreed Syllabus Conference. ***see members in Bromley RE section.** It also encourages those who are interested to participate in enriching the provision of Religious Education, for example through contributing to visits to places of worship and providing speakers from belief and faith communities.

A note from the Bromley SACRE Chair

During the drafting process there was extensive consultation with the principal stakeholders, who included representatives from the local religion and belief communities, Bromley teachers, local Councillors and the Local Education Authority. All are supportive of the central principle of this syllabus: that Religious Education in schools using the syllabus, whilst recognising that the majority religion in the UK is Christianity, should not advocate or promote any particular religion or belief but should extend pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions, beliefs and worldviews. Religious Education taught in accordance with this syllabus contributes strongly to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, whether or not they are from a religious background.

The process of syllabus development has made significant contribution to religious and racial harmony and promoting a better understanding of our community, as well the nature of Religious Education. It has also been purposefully designed to celebrate the effective teaching and learning of Religious Education in our Bromley schools, as well as the cultural and religious and worldview diversity in Bromley, and the terminology used has been carefully selected to be respectful and inclusive of all and in accordance with Section 10 Equality Act 2010.

The syllabus was enthusiastically and unanimously adopted by the Agreed Syllabus Conference, in accordance with the Bromley SACRE's vision statement:

“The members of Bromley SACRE seek to ensure that all pupils in our schools are educated to develop spiritually, academically, emotionally and morally in a way that enables them to understand and value themselves and others and to better cope with the opportunities, challenges and responsibilities of living in a rapidly changing, multicultural world.”

It is the responsibility of the Local Education Authority to convene and support the Bromley Agreed Syllabus Conference and Bromley SACRE. SACRE and the Bromley Agreed Syllabus Conference have established effective working relationship with the Bromley Learning Trust and look forward to continuing to work together in partnership for the benefit of Bromley children and young people. On behalf of the Local Authority, Bromley SACRE and Agreed Syllabus Conference, I commend this Religious Education Syllabus to *all* Bromley’s schools, irrespective of their individual status within the education landscape of our borough.



Rev. Roger Bristow
Chair of Bromley Agreed Syllabus Conference and Bromley SACRE

Draft