

Mrs K Winrow  
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30 July 2008

Dear Kathy

**Religious Education resources for Bracknell Forest schools**

At the most recent meeting of Bracknell Forest's Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) members were made aware of an article in the summer 2008 edition of *Curriculum Update*, which informed readers of the availability of a range of religious artefacts at Ranelagh School.

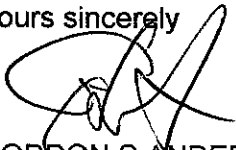
Members were somewhat surprised at this apparent duplication within the borough and wondered if those involved in creating this resource were aware of the RE Resources Centre based in the Teachers' Centre at Easthampstead Park Mansion.

As one of the original members of the Bracknell Forest SACRE representing SHA you might recall that by 1999 we had already acquired an initial supply of artefacts for schools to borrow. Since then we have usually managed to add to the collection each year, using some of the budget allocated to SACRE by Bracknell Forest Council, and there has been steady use over the years, albeit mainly by primary schools. The project has been led most ably by Samantha Hunt, assistant headteacher at Sandhurst School. She has prepared detailed guidance on the correct handling and use of all the artefacts and the catalogue has been available both in hard copy and on the internet for quite some time.

Clearly SACRE welcomes any efforts to further the teaching and understanding of all the major faiths and sees this new initiative at Ranelagh as a useful addition in the borough, particularly as we understand it is aimed at community organizations, rather than just schools. Perhaps it might be sensible if SACRE could be made aware of exactly what artefacts are in the Ranelagh collection with a view to working together and to greater co-ordination. No doubt you will mention this to your colleagues, Mark Amos and Anna Lu.

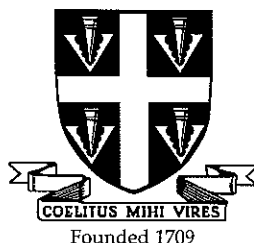
I look forward to receiving your comments accordingly.

Yours sincerely



GORDON S ANDERSON  
Chairman  
Bracknell Forest SACRE

K.M.Winrow, M.A. B.Ed. (Hons)  
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13 August 2008

15/8

Gordon Anderson  
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Dear Gordon

Thank you for your letter in your role as Chairman of SACRE.

I am pleased the resource was brought to your attention.

The artefacts have been purchased for use by schools but particularly by community associations – including local parishes and other faith organisations. Before this project was undertaken, it was discussed with local clergy, the LEA and the Diocese. Since the resource has been purchased suggestions for use have been produced and details have been circulated by the school – as agreed with the LEA. I also spoke to personnel at the Teachers Centre to make them aware of the resource.

I will ask the RE department to let you have further details.

Obviously, this resource supplements and supports the materials available through the work of SACRE.

You may be interested to know that we have also just agreed to purchase a labyrinth – again requested by the Deaneries – and available for community use. I assume you are aware that we are also putting our own funds into the resources as well as extended funds.

Yours sincerely

K M Winrow (Mrs)  
Headteacher

