**The WIRE Award: What is it?**

The WIRE award is a SACRE-led project which seeks to encourage all Kent schools to be increasingly proactive with their RE, to widen their doors, and become more inclusive. The award:

* works on a tri annual basis
* requires schools to complete four simple elements
* is free to schools
* supports British Values
* Should impact RE in your school

We want all schools to feel they can apply for and achieve this award. All schools should be able to achieve the award and receive a certificate confirming their commitment to ‘**W**idening **I**nclusivity in **RE**’.

Full details from: pennysmithorr@gmail.com

**SACRE: Who are we?**

The WIRE award is being run by Kent SACRE – the Standing Advisory Council for RE. This statutory body holds responsibility for advising the Local Authority on matters to do with RE and Collective Worship in Kent Schools and can offer support to all schools.

SACRE wants to encourage all schools to develop their RE provision in positive, impactful and outward-looking ways. The WIRE award is one way in which it hopes to do this.

OFSTED view the provision of quality RE as vital in realising the potential of a child and this award will undoubtedly assist a school in clearly demonstrating the high standard of their delivery.

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**The Wire Award – How to apply**

Widening Inclusion in Religious Education

This project seeks to encourage and support good practice in Religious Education through rewarding schools which

* take students / staff on visits to places of worship and ensure they meet members of a variety of faith communities
* encourages members of staff to attend and benefit from further training through Religious Education CPD
* go the extra mile in RE by entering an RE competition or arranging an RE- related event during the school year
* Show impact and inclusivity in Religious Education

Kent SACRE looks forward to hearing from RE Subject leaders or headteachers whose schools meet the criteria. SACRE is happy to award multiple certificates to a school where class teachers can show they have met all the criteria individually.

All four elements must be completed within an academic year and must be supported by the required evidence at time of application. Schools may apply for an award at any time of year, and the award would endure for 3 years.

***Where possible a SACRE member would like to present certificates personally in school.***

**The Wire Award – Application Form**

Widening Inclusion in Religious Education

To register your interest and intention to apply for this award please complete the following:

**This application is for the 12 months period between**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date of submission:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name and full postal address of school**  |  |
| **Name of Headteacher** |  |
| **Name and role of staff member applying for the WIRE award** |  |
| **Contact e-mail address of above** |  |

**Please send this application form- before you start on the activities, so we know you are taking part, to Penny Smith-Orr, RE Consultant to Kent SACRE:** **pennysmithorr@gmail.com**

**Final Submissions will be seen at the next termly SACRE meeting.**

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This is a free award offered by Kent SACRE\* for schools and teachers dedicated to ensuring that their RE provision is broad and inclusive.

**To achieve the award, you must apply to Kent SACRE via** **pennysmithorr@gmail.com** **before you start, complete 4 activities and then send in the proofs as below. :**

1. Attend an RE conference / RE course / RE Network meeting.
2. Take a group of pupils to visit a Christian place of worship and meet members of the Christian community who worships there
3. Take a group of pupils to visit a place of worship of another faith and encounter members of the community who worship there

*Or* Arrange for pupils to welcome someone of a non-Christian faith to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith

1. Arrange an RE event in school, or locally, which includes aspects of more than one faith, or focuses on a religion or worldview not held by most of the school

*Or* Enter a Competition to do with RE

SACRE meets once a term and final submissions from a school will be looked at during the next SACRE meeting after they are sent.

Each year Kent SACRE will decide on the entry with the most impact on pupils that year for a special excellence award.

**Explanation of the criteria for the WIRE Award:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Attend an RE conference/ RE course/ RE Network meeting.** | This could be an RE conference run in Kent, or London, or a national one, such as those run by NATRE.It could be a locally run RE course but should be one run outside your own school, not a staff meeting. |
|  | **Take a group of pupils to visit at least 2 different Christian places of worship and encounter members of the Christian community that worship there.** | This visit could be to a local parish church or chapel. A visit to name parts of the church, or hunt for historical items, is **not** sufficient, neither is a visit for a service e.g. Harvest or Christmas Carols. The visit must be arranged to involve meeting a Christian minister or member of the community using the place for worship. It should involve engagement with the key beliefs and practices of Christians.  |
|  | **Take a group of pupils (or staff) to visit a place of worship of another faith and meet at least one community member.*****OR*****Arrange for pupils towelcome someone of a non-Christian faith to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith.** | This visit could be to any place of worship from another faith e.g. Sikh Gurdwara, Hindu Temple. Jewish Synagogue, Muslim Mosque, Buddhist Temple. The visit could involve taking pupils but could also be a staff trip to improve teacher background knowledge and share good practice. It must involve interaction with one or more community members and conversation about key beliefs and practices. An alternative is to invite a member of a faith community to come and share a lesson with pupils. This should involve pupils sharing their learning about the visitor’s faith so far and asking questions which take the impact of their learning further. A ’flying’ visit with no preparation or follow-up will not count. Schools are recommended to use the services of Kent SACRE and any local Interfaith group contacts to assist them in identifying suitable places of worship in their area.  |
|  | **Arrange an RE event in school, or locally, which includes aspects of more than one faith, or focuses on a religion or worldview not held by most of the school.*****Or*****Enter a Competition to do with RE and submit a brief report to SACRE.** | This could be any RE focused event in which the pupils are invited to explore aspects of faith as expressed locally and nationally. Particularly the diversity of faiths found in Kent.The impact on pupils and evidence of learning needs to be evidenced.This might be the Spirited Arts competition run by RE today.Alternatively, schools might design and report on their own RE competition provided it draws on more than one religion.  |

Any member of SACRE would be available to attend any award ceremony the school hosts that recognises pupil involvement and achievement in Religious Education

**The Wire Award - Evidence Form**

***Please note: SACRE is looking for evidence of the impact on pupils understanding in RE, not essays.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Element** | **Evidence required** |
| 1. **Attend an RE conference/ RE course/ RE Network meeting.**
 | * Title and venue of course / conference
* Impact of the course on the leader.
* Describe how what was learned was shared back in school.
* Copy of course certificate with appropriate name shown OR signature of course leader OR headteacher.

**I certify that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attended the above conference / course / meeting.****Name:****Signature:** |
| 1. **Take a group of pupils to visit a Christian place of worship and encounter members of the Christian community which worships there.**
 | * Name of Christian Place of Worship visited.
* Date of visit
* Class details – year group and numbers
* Brief details of activities undertaken and what the learning focus of the visit was.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the pupils in relation to their RE learning.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the leader.

**Signature of headteacher:****Signature of the minister:***Additional information e.g. photo or brief report from a child is welcome, or a copy of child’s thank you letter, or link to school gallery pictures of the visit.* |
| 1. **Take a group of pupils (or staff) to visit a place of worship of another faith and encounter at least one community member**

***OR*****Arrange for pupils to welcome someone of a non-Christian faith to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith** | * Name of Place of Worship visited
* Date of visit
* Class details – year group and numbers (or, if a staff visit, numbers and year groups taught)
* Brief details of activities undertaken and what the learning focus of the visit was.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the pupils in relation to their RE learning.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the leader.
* Brief comment from member of the community present.

**Signature of headteacher:****----------------------------------------------------------------------------*** Name of visitor
* Date of visit
* Class details – year group and numbers
* Brief details of activities undertaken and what the learning focus of the visit was.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the pupils in relation to their RE learning.
* Describe the impact of the visit on the leader.
* Brief comment from member of the community

**Signature of headteacher:***Additional information e.g. photo or brief report or copy of thank you letter from a child. Photos of children’s follow-up work or sharing of children’s questions.*  |
| 1. **Arrange an RE event in school, or locally, which includes aspects of more than one faith, or focuses on a religion or worldview not held by most of the school**

***Or*** **Enter a Competition to do with RE (such as ‘Spirited Arts)** | * Brief description of the event
* RE learning focus of the event
* Please attach a short report on the event, preferably written by pupils or recorded in pictures, a scrapbook or as a film / or provide website link to such details.
* Describe the impact of the event on pupils.

**Signature of headteacher:***Alternatively, you could invite a member of SACRE to attend.***Signature and comment from SACRE Member:**If you entered ‘Spirited Arts’ competition:* please complete a short report below on the school’s involvement plus 3 examples (copies / scans) of work entered
* or provide a link to the school’s website where the work can be seen. *These do not have to be winning entries!*
* How the school organised its involvement:

**Name of lead teacher for this activity:****Number of pieces of work submitted to the competition:** **Children’s work attached to this application? Y / N** |
| **Headteacher’s signature** | I agree that this application for a WIRE award is accurate and representative of our commitment to widening inclusivity and impact in RE.**Signature of headteacher:** |