



The WIRE Award: What is it?

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

- works on an annual basis
- requires schools to complete four simple elements
- is free to schools
- supports British Values

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 'Widening Inclusivity in RE'.



SACRE: Who are we?

The WIRE award is being run by SACRE – the Standing Advisory Council for RE- made up of Representatives from the faith communities, teachers and Councillors. This statutory body holds responsibility for producing the Locally Agreed RE Syllabus and advising the Local Authority on matters to do with RE and Collective Worship in Community and VC schools, while maintaining its desire to offer support to all schools.

SACRE wants to encourage all schools to develop their RE provision in positive 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.

- *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*

1



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



inclusive.

To achieve the award, you must complete 4 activities:

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 which worships there
3. 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 to welcome someone of a non-Christian faith to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith

4. 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’ or one arranged by Croydon SACRE)

● *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*

Explanation of the criteria for the WIRE Award:

<p>1. Attend an RE conference/ RE course/ RE Network meeting.</p>	<p>This could be an RE conference run in Croydon, or a national one run by Culham St Gabriel or by NATRE. It could be a locally run RE course but should be one run outside your own school, not a staff meeting. An RE network meeting would be one run locally each term where schools meet to share RE ideas and news or work together on a project.</p> <p>There is a Primary RE Coordinators network each term. Contact penny.smith-orr@croydon.gov.uk</p>
<p>2. Take a group of pupils to visit a Christian place of worship and meet members of the Christian community which worships there</p>	<p>This visit could be to a local parish church or chapel but 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 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. It could be an 'experience' trail at Southwark cathedral.</p>
<p>3. 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 to welcome a non-Christian to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith</p>	<p>This visit could be to any place of worship from another faith e.g. Sikh Gurdwara, Hindu Temple, Jewish Synagogue, Muslim Mosque. The visit could involve taking pupils but could also be a staff trip to improve teacher background. It must involve interaction with one or more community members and conversation about key beliefs and practices.</p> <p>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 their learning further. A 'flying' visit with no preparation or follow-up will not count. Croydon SACRE can help with finding a visitor.</p>
<p>4. 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') and submit a brief report to SACRE on it.</p>	<p>This may be a World Religion Day, an Arts and RE Week, an RE competition, a significant display of RE work or a presentation on RE work by children which involves parents or community members in some way. SACRE would like a short report on the event, preferably written by pupils or recorded in pictures, a scrapbook or as a video. You could also invite a member of SACRE to attend.</p> <p>NATRE (National Association of RE) run an annual 'Spirited Arts' competition, there is also a poetry competition. A short report on the school's involvement plus examples of work submitted would be suitable evidence for WIRE.</p> <p>Croydon SACRE run a competition on the theme of the Holocaust.</p> <p>Alternatively, schools might design and report on their own RE competition provided it draws on more than one religion.</p>

- *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*



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

Croydon 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.

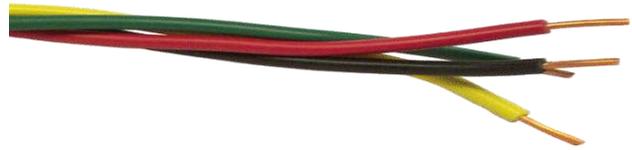
All four elements have to be completed within a 12-month period and must be supported by the required evidence at the conclusion of that time. The 12 months commences once notification of intention to apply has been registered (see form at the end of this). Schools may apply for an award on an annual basis, and the award would endure for 2 years.

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



- ***The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACRES and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.***

The Wire Award - Evidence Form



Please note: SACRE is looking for evidence not essays.

Element	Evidence required
<p>1. Attend an RE conference/ RE course/ RE Network meeting.</p>	<p>Title and venue of course / conference</p> <p>Copy of course certificate with appropriate name shown OR signature of course leader OR headteacher.</p> <p>I certify that _____ attended the above conference / course / meeting.</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p>
<p>2. Take a group of pupils to visit a Christian place of worship and meet members of the Christian community which worships there</p>	<p>Name of Christian Place of Worship visited</p> <p>Date of visit</p> <p>Class details – year group and numbers</p> <p>Brief details of what took place i.e. RE context of visit / link to report on school website</p> <p>Signature of a member of the community:</p> <p>Signature of headteacher:</p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
<p>3. Take a group of pupils (or staff) to visit a</p>	<p>Name of Place of Worship visited</p>

● **The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.**

<p>place of worship of another faith and meet at least one community member</p> <p><i>OR Arrange for pupils to welcome someone of a non-Christian faith to school as part of a series of lessons on that faith</i></p>	<p>Date of visit</p> <p>Class details – year group and numbers (or, if a staff visit, numbers and year groups taught)</p> <p>Brief details of what took place i.e. RE context of visit /link to details on school website</p> <p>Signature and brief comment from member of the community present / or email / or head’s signature</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Name of visitor</p> <p>Date of visit</p> <p>Class details – year group and numbers</p> <p>Brief details of what took place and the RE context of the visit / link to details on school website</p> <p>Signature and brief comment from member of the community / or email / or head’s signature</p> <p><i>Additional information e.g. photo or brief report or copy of thank you letter from a child is welcome. Photos of children’s follow-up work or sharing of children’s questions also welcomed.</i></p>
<p>4. Arrange an RE event in school, or locally, which includes aspects of more than</p>	<p>Brief description of the event:</p>

● *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*

<p>one faith, or focuses on a religion or worldview not held by most of the school</p> <p><i>Or Enter a Competition to do with RE (such as 'Spirited Arts')</i></p>	<p>Please attach a short report on the event, preferably written by pupils or recorded in pictures, a scrapbook or as a video / or provide website link to such details.</p> <p>Alternatively you could invite a member of SACRE to attend.</p> <p>Signature and comment from SACRE Member:</p> <p>If you entered 'Spirited Arts', 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!</p> <p>Name of lead teacher for this activity:</p> <p>How the school organised its involvement:</p> <p>Number of pieces of work submitted to the competition:</p> <p>Children's work attached to this application? Y / N</p>
<p>Headteacher's signature</p>	<p>I agree that this application for a WIRE award is accurate and representative of our commitment to widening inclusivity in RE.</p>

The Wire Award – Application Form

Widening Inclusion in Religious Education in Croydon Schools

- *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*

Please complete the following and send before starting the activities:

This application is for the year: _____ to _____

Date of submission:

Name and full postal address of school School e-mail address.	
Name of Headteacher	
Name / role of staff member of applying for the WIRE award	
Email address of RE Coordinator	

Please send this application form to

penny.smith-orr@croydon.gov.uk

Final submissions of evidence will be looked at during the next termly SACRE meeting. (SACRE meets once a term)

- *The WIRE award was initiated by Bristol and South Gloucestershire SACREs and has been used, and adapted, with thanks by Croydon SACRE.*

8