**SACRE Meeting – Thursday 3 October 2024**

**Microsoft TEAMS, Virtual Meeting**

**Report to the committee:**

**LA Officer Report:**

**Ofsted:** There have been 29 Ofsted inspection reports published for schools in the county since the last SACRE meeting held on 20 June 2024. Twenty of these inspections were in primary schools, six in secondary schools, one in a nursery school, and two in alternative provision or specialist provision.

More references were made to Religious Education in these reports with three deep dives being completed in the following schools: Mendham Primary School, Edgar Sewter Primary School, and Westbourne Academy. A further two schools contained references, with the Felixstowe Academy report containing an inclusion about their curriculum offer, and East Bergholt CEVCP school including a comment about pupils being taught about ‘tolerance through the teaching of Religious Education and assemblies.’

Again, as previously reported, there has been much more of a focus on personal, social, health education. In addition to this, there continues to be a heightened focus on educational provision for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Many of the schools were Church of England primary schools, and they will have inspections carried out through Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools which are now scheduled every eight years following Covid lockdowns.

Changes to the Ofsted School Inspection Handbook came into force on Monday 16 September. As before, schools will either have a graded or ungraded inspection. Ofsted will use risk assessments to make sure their approach to inspection is balanced, and to focus their efforts where they can have the greatest impact. The risk assessment model helps them to identify schools previously graded as good that may potentially decline at their next inspection in any of the four ‘subcategories.’ This also helps them to allocate graded and ungraded inspections. For example, schools at greater risk of decline are more likely to receive a graded inspection.

Graded inspections under section 5 of the Education Act 2005, previously called section 5 inspections, evaluate schools using Ofsted's education inspection framework. They also receive judgments for early years or sixth-form provisions if relevant.

Ungraded inspections, previously known as section 8 inspections, now focus on determining if a school has maintained its previous standards but do not result in individual graded judgments. This is a shift of focus from checking if a school maintains its overall rating. Deep dives are no longer completed.

From September 2024, Ofsted will pilot a new schedule for notifying schools of routine graded and ungraded inspections, where they will notify leaders on a Monday. However, if a bank holiday falls in the same week, notifications may occur on Tuesday, with inspections on Wednesday and Thursday. Graded inspections will start from the w/c 23 September and ungraded from w/c 7 October.

Removal of the Overall Effectiveness Grade

From September 2024, graded inspections will not include an Overall Effectiveness grade. Instead, there will be an individual judgement of either Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement or Inadequate made for each of four ‘sub- categories’:

Quality of Education

Behaviour and Attitudes

Personal Development

Leadership and Judgement.

**Finance update:**

The spend to date is £1146.32. The full year forecast spend is £2826.32. The current surplus for SACRE until 31 March 2025 is £2414.68. The full year budget is £5,241. The current spends for this year is £105 for membership to NASACRE and payment for the KS3 work completed to date. This means that the funding is available for the additional KS3 work to be completed.

Any work conducted for SACRE would be at £210 per day. Travel expenses would be paid at 45p per mile. All claims should be submitted to myself and Linden as between us we will be able to approve them. I would kindly ask for claims to be submitted in a timely manner.

**Simon Nortcliffe, 3 October 2024.**