



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



A Meeting of the **SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)** will be held in David Hicks 1 - Civic Offices on **MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 6.15 PM**

Manjeet Gill
Interim Chief Executive
Published on 2 November 2018

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

Group A

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Christine Morgan | Free Church |
| Catherine Jinkerson | Free Church |
| Anju Sharma | Hinduism |
| Shahid Younis | Islam |
| Shira Solomons | Judaism |
| Sukhdev Bansal | Sikhism |
| Beth Rowland | Free Church |

Group B

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Lisa Cornwell | Church of England |
| Linda Galpin | Church of England |
| Rev Philip Hobday | Church of England |

Group C

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Michaela Watters | Secondary RS Teacher |
| Stephen Vegh | Chairperson Secondary RS Teacher |
| Celia Thatcher | Primary Headteacher |
| Michael Freeman | Representative for the ATL section of NEU |

Group D

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| David Hare | Wokingham Borough Councillor |
| Philip Houldsworth | Wokingham Borough Councillor |

Clerk to the SACRE

Anne Coffey

RE Adviser and LA Representative

Alison Harris

| ITEM NO. | SUBJECT | PAGE NO. |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | WELCOME AND APOLOGIES The Chairman will welcome members, guests and new members. The clerk will extend apologies received. Stephen/Anne (2mins) | |
| 2 | ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR The Clerk will report any email nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair. Members will vote in the event of multiple nominations. (5 mins) | |
| 3 | LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD A presentation by Sherrie Newell, Local Safeguarding Children Board Manager. (15 mins) | |
| 4 | MINUTES To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 th June. | 5 - 8 |
| 5 | MATTERS ARISING | |

- 5a Membership - amendments to constitution accepted by WBC
- 5b Revised Syllabus launch
- 5c Letter to NASACRE

6 FEEDBACK FROM RE SUBJECT LEADER TRAINING AND NETWORK MEETING 9 - 12

- 6a KS4 and KS5 discussion

7 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

8 DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND BUDGET FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

9 NEXT MEETING

The next SACRE meeting will be on Monday March 4th, 2019.

10 AOB

Congratulations.

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Agenda Item 4

SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2018 AT 6.15 PM

Committee Members Present

Group A

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Catherine Jinkerson | Free Church |
| Anju Sharma | Hinduism |
| Shahid Younis | Islam |
| Shira Solomons | Judaism |

Group B

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Lisa Cornwell | Church of England |
| Linda Galpin | Church of England |
| Rev Philip Hobday | Church of England |

Group C

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Stephen Vegh | Chairperson Secondary RS Teacher |
| Celia Thatcher | Primary Headteacher |
| Michael Freeman | Representative for the ATL section of NEU |
| Sue Cresswell | Trade Union Representative NAS/UWT |

Group D

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| David Hare | Wokingham Borough Councillor |
| Philip Houldsworth | Wokingham Borough Councillor |

Clerk to Sacre

Anne Coffey

RE Advisor and LA Representative

Jan Lever and Alison Harris

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed members with a special welcome to new member Councillor David Hare from WBC. Beth was no longer a councillor but attended the meeting as an observer.

Apologies were received from Christine Morgan.

2 MEMBERSHIP

Stephen suggested amending the current membership groups in the constitution. Group A currently has 3 spaces for Christian faiths other than the Church of England (2 members representing Free Churches and a vacancy for the Roman Catholic Church). Stephen proposed that the SACRE change this to 4 spaces for a variety of Christian denominations other than the Church of England. This was agreed unanimously.

Stephen also proposed that Group C be amended to be less specific, especially as the Secondary Federation could not provide a representative. He suggested amending the group to cover teacher representatives or teaching union representatives or any person with relevant experience related to teaching. This was also agreed unanimously.

3 MINUTES

Philip proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be approved; Michael seconded the proposal, all agreed.

4 MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising from the February meeting were all listed on the agenda along with progress / outcomes as follows:

- Julian Bushell (Chair of Secondary Federation) had been sent a link to the SACRE page on WBC website.
- Anne is organising CEO signature for the revised syllabus.
- Stephen has not yet drafted a letter to NASACRE but will do so for the November meeting.
- Michael advised that Reading are organising their own launch event.

5 REVISED SYLLABUS REVIEW

Jan thanked everyone who had contributed to revising the syllabus, explaining that the new succinct version covers what are the statutory requirements. The information in the supporting appendices will be retained and will be updated to make it clearer how the information supports the new syllabus.

Jan pointed out that there are now four outcomes for each key stage from KS1 to KS3. It has been an achievement to reduce the information to the important basics of the statutory requirements. These, plus outcomes and notes, will all now be on one page for each stage; teachers will be able to look online for the support material. They can 'tweak' the questions as long as the outcomes still match expectations.

The next steps are to gather and include the different forewords from each Berkshire SACRE before presenting the final versions to each Council for ratification. Jan pointed out that it was important that teachers were able to have the syllabus this term, so Wokingham's copy will be launched on July 9th, which is before the syllabus is ratified at the WBC meeting on July 19th, but teachers will be apprised of this. She referred to Paper 2 on page 9, which lists all the launch events.

Jan will be inviting all the people in the Crossing the Bridges Directory to all the launches. Michael asked if SACRE members would be receiving invitations; this was confirmed.

Michael advised the group that the Reading SACRE's meeting is the next evening (June 12th) and the new Director of Education will be attending as she is keen to know what is happening and who is doing what. The Reading syllabus launch will be on July 19th at the Civic Centre in Reading from 5.30pm to 7.30pm, with refreshments. It will be discussed at the Reading SACRE meeting.

Shahid asked if there could be guidance around what books teachers use in RE as he has had feedback from some parents. Discussion followed over whether this was a simple matter to address as there is a difference between something being factually incorrect or educationally unsuitable, and people have differing views over what is acceptable. Stephen will suggest to the Hub that this could be looked at, perhaps noting which books

appear useful but without endorsing them. Shahid pointed out that if all six SACREs give a consistent message it could be useful. Stephen said if the Hub does not take it up maybe Wokingham SACRE could decide to look at as a project later on.

Jan replied to a query from Michael that the advisory sections of the original syllabus are still fine for teachers to use.

Rev Philip Hobday asked if the file could be produced in a different format as it is 14MB which is very large to download. **Action: Jan to investigate a different format.**

6 SACRE HUB REPORT AND DISCUSSIONS

Jan summarised the Hub's activities since the first project, Crossing the Bridges. This was successful but was put in abeyance in order to focus on the revised syllabus. All six SACREs have been discussing the future of the Hub and if it should continue. If it does, has each SACRE managed to gain funding to support it? If it continues with funding, what should be the priorities for the coming year?

Wokingham has the funding to support the Hub and it was unanimously agreed that it should continue. David felt it would be odd to stop now. Jan quoted costs as detailed in the notes provided and asked how it should be spent to gain maximum use, assuming all SACREs contribute. David also felt that extending the Crossing the Bridges project would be an appropriate use of the funds. Michael asked Jan if she had anyone in mind for Hub Manager; she explained that it made sense for it to be one of the RE Advisers. Michael proposed that we support the Hub and that we have an RE Adviser as Hub Manager. David seconded this. Votes were 10 in agreement and 1 abstention. (Shahid left at 7pm).

Jan spoke of the autumn conference which is listed on the proposed Hub budget plan and suggested it would be a better use of funds to focus on support materials for teachers. This was unanimously agreed.

7 FEEDBACK FROM TEACHER NETWORK

Jan introduced Alison Harris who will be taking over as RE Adviser. Alison reported on the Primary RE Network meetings which she has been running. SACRE members are encouraged to attend these meetings as they are an opportunity for them to meet teachers and hear first-hand of any news or issues from teachers themselves. Stephen and Anne have both attended network meetings and Stephen commented how good it is as a secondary school teacher to see how keen the primary teachers are. He asked that if anyone has ideas on how to get secondary schools more involved, please let him know.

Alison advised that the meetings for the next academic year are already planned; October 4th and February 7th.

8 DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND BUDGET

Jan spoke about the development plan and passed around a copy of the latest budget plan for April 2018 to March 2019, which is self-explanatory. The autumn conference is listed but it was agreed earlier that this will not take place.

9 NASACRE UPDATE AND FEEDBACK FROM AGM/CONFERENCE

Jan's colleague, David Rees, attended the NASACRE AGM/Conference and provided notes. Michael attended on behalf of Wokingham SACRE and praised David's notes as outstanding. Michael said the conference was one of the best he had attended; Charles Clarke was a very good speaker; Dr Vanessa Ogden was also impressive and has turned around failing schools. Michael told of how he had taken various items of Wokingham

SACRE literature for a 'sharing table' at the conference, (some of which were not returned!) He reported that Dr Ogden had emphasised that SACREs needed to do more than just sit in meetings, instead 'get out and up your game!'

Michael passed around an inter-faith calendar which another SACRE had produced as well as various literature from other SACREs for the group to peruse. He reported that some SACREs even had a Junior SACRE.

10 CC2020 PROJECT AT ALL SAINTS PARISH CHURCH

Michael had arranged for an invitation to be sent to members regarding an event at All Saints' Church in Wokingham. There is a plan to refurbish the church as a place of worship but also as a focus of the town for Wokingham citizens. It is an opportunity to find out what the plans are for the future of the building. Doors open at 5.30pm; there will be presentations at 6pm repeated at 7.30pm and refreshments in between. The event will close at 8.30pm. Michael encouraged everyone to attend.

11 AOB

- 1) Jan reported that Anne had provided information regarding school trips where the main or secondary purpose was RE. The last year to date had 77 trips with RE as the purpose, compared to the previous year which had 65. This was encouraging; however, there were some destinations which are not included in the Crossing the Bridges Directory so it is worth approaching those venues and suggesting they subscribe to the Directory.
- 2) Stephen noted that we used to invite teachers to SACRE meetings where they could give a presentation on their RE work with pupils. This has not happened for a while, so it needs considering again. It was also suggested we could invite children to a meeting or hold a meeting at a school. Stephen could bring secondary school students next year. There is a small amount of funding which could cover that.
- 3) Stephen gave thanks to Jan for all her hard work and support to the SACRE for the last few years; the group has achieved a lot under her guidance and expertise. He presented a gift and flowers to her and she expressed her thanks and best wishes to the group, reminding members that Alison will be taking over her role from now on.
- 4) Stephen also gave thanks to Sue Cresswell who was also leaving. Sue was one of the longest-serving members, having been with the SACRE since it began in the 1990s. He presented a gift and flowers to her. Members applauded both Jan and Sue.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Agenda Item 6

Notes from Subject Leaders' training and Subject Leaders' network 4th October 2018

Subject leaders' training covered the following:

14 attendees – mostly new or fairly new. A couple who were longer standing who wanted a refresher and one who had thought it was a training on the new syllabus. Her disappointment has been rectified by another meeting at her school – AH to go in 6th November to go through it with her.

Most concerns centred about how to boost the profile of the subject, what and how much needs to be recorded and assessment.

The agenda for the training was to cover their concerns, look at the ideal subject leaders' folder and how that can help to raise the profile through events, staff meetings, reporting to governors etc and then to spend some time going through the enquiry model in depth to ensure they understood the Ofsted recommended pedagogy for teaching RE in detail. We worked through a unit on the symbolism within the Christmas story so that they all had a relevant and timely unit and experience to take back into school. The new syllabus was discussed and the mapping document that David Rees had produced to show where existing Discovery RE units matched it was also demonstrated. (All but one school present uses Discovery RE).

Subject Leaders' Network

16 attended (including DH and CJ from SACRE – thank you).

Agenda:

1. Intros: any wows or worries?
2. National Updates
3. Farmington Report
4. Hub/Syllabus Update and request for support
5. Focus on Islam
6. AOB

Item 1: No real concerns or issues to note: most just eager to get on with new syllabus

Item 2: Updated the group on the CORE report, RE online facilities such as the newly updated “ask a believer” and the RE Definitions, and a request from AREIAC for great work or lessons to be submitted to their website.

Item 3: Julie Easton gave a presentation on her Farmington Fellowship report and project: all about helping autistic children reach the more empathetic and intrinsic targets in RE. She had found it a joy to put down teaching for 6 weeks and concentrate on her own professional development. She reported that the research had thrown up interesting ideas which affected all children due to their emotional development. Theory of Mind had a large impact on her studies and shows that creative

teaching is very necessary to enable all children to access the less factual aspects of RE. She shared that giving the children alternate points of view to discuss and evaluate really helped as they could then agree or disagree and support their arguments when previously they might have struggled to come up with their own ideas.

She shared that the assessment levels for the empathetic levels for RE were really important because it may not be that autistic children can't access it, it is more like that they can't access it YET. Thinking time is really important and helps them achieve these expectations. She finished by saying that details really matter to these children such as timetabling within a lesson and that they also like to read out loud to process their thoughts so be creative in allowing them to do this.

Item 4: Updated the group on the Hub chairs and potential actions for the future and made them aware that a request for help and support will be coming from Ann Andrews. This group more than happy to work on this within our networks too- see below.

Item 5: At the request of the teachers in the previous network, we looked at a number of questions from the syllabus and matched them to Islamic units previously available. We looked at the guidance from the old syllabus and whether that would answer the question or needed changing, then we looked at any new resources and the nearest Discovery RE unit to the question. Teachers worked in groups on KS1 or KS2 and completed a proforma based on the question. This will be kept by AH and passed to DR for the Hub guidance revision. DR is also doing the same activity with Reading and AH with West Berks teachers.

AOB: We discussed what teachers would like to cover in the next meeting and all felt the same activity on Sikhism would be useful.

Meeting finished at 5.30pm

| Key Stage 1 Expected outcomes - Enquiry and Impact | |
|--|--|
| Exp.A | Recognise and give simple accounts of the core beliefs. |
| Exp.B | Retell a range of religious stories and explain how they link to the core beliefs and practices. |
| Exp.C | Describe some festivals, celebrations and practices and say how they reflect the core beliefs. |
| Exp.D | Recognise the roles of religious leaders and sacred texts. |

Key Stage 1:

Question 1:

These outcomes should be achieved through exploration of the following Key Questions:

| Key Stage 1 - Key Questions | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Qu.1 | How do some religions demonstrate that everyone is special? | (Believing/Belonging) |
| Qu.2 | Why are religious celebrations important to some people but not to others? | (Believing/Belonging/Behaving) |
| Qu.3 | Does everyone believe the same things about God? | (Believing) |
| Qu.4 | Why do symbols and stories play important roles in religions? | (Believing/Belonging/Behaving) |
| Qu.5 | Why do some people follow religious leaders and teachings? | (Believing/Behaving) |
| Qu.6 | How do some people's religious beliefs encourage them to care for the world? | (Believing/Behaving) |

| | |
|---|--|
| What starter activities could you have? | |
| What subject content do you need to cover? | |
| What resources will you need? (Refer to those provided and to what extent they will support the learning. What else would you need?) | |
| What activities might the children do? Visits? (Crossing the Bridges materials?) | |
| Which outcomes will be met through this enquiry? | |
| Any other information needed? | |

Resources provided: front page of Discovery RE plan for Yr2 summer 2, old syllabus guidance.

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