

Time commenced – 7.20pm
Time finished – 8.51pm

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7 NOVEMBER 2012

Present:

Group A – Christianity and Other World Faiths

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| Raj Bali | Hindhu Faith |
| Phil Royle | Methodist Church |
| Joan Price | Pentecostal Church |
| Lucy Care | Religious Society of Friends |
| Wendy Jordan | Salvation Army |
| Rev Roy Ninkovic | Serbian Orthodox Church |
| Mair Bradley | United Reformed Church |
| Ruth Dolby | Jewish Faith |

Group B – Church of England

Rosemary Wibberley
Viv Lawrence
Alison Brown

Group C – Teachers' Associations

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Kate McRae | NAHT |
| Ash Venkatesh | ASCL |

Group D – Local Education Authority

Councillors Campbell, Turner, Whitby, F Winter, Wood

Co-opted Members

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Laura Connolly | The Open Centre |
| Peter Harvey | British Humanist Association |

20/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Hardial Singh Dhillon, Maxine Bull, Jane Oldershaw, Kelly Bradley and Dr Phil Henry.

21/12 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

22/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

23/12 Introductions

All Members introduced themselves.

24/12 Appointment of the Chair of Group C

The Chair of Group C was not appointed.

25/12 Appointment of the Vice-Chair of the SACRE

The Vice-Chair of the SACRE was not appointed.

26/12 Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

27/12 SACRE Membership and Vacancies

The Clerk to the SACRE spoke to Members on SACRE membership and vacancies.

It was reported that the SACRE constitution stated that all Members of Groups A, B and C shall be appointed for a period of 4 years and shall thereafter be eligible for re-nomination by their nominating body. It was proposed that the Clerk contact all nominating bodies to re-nominate all Members.

Members noted that the SACRE had five vacancies:

Group A (Christianity and Other World Faiths)

Afro-Caribbean Council of Churches
Baptist Church
Buddhist Faith
Sikh Faith

Group C (Teachers' Associations)

NASUWT

It was proposed that Members be appointed to fill the vacancies.

It was reported that the Constitution stated that Group A should “represent such Christian denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions as,

in the opinion of the Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area other than the Church of England.” Members discussed whether the composition of Group A should be altered. It was reported that the Office of National Statistics was due to release information from Census 2011. Members noted that the Council’s Research and Intelligence Team would undertake analysis of that information and that could provide useful data with regard to the composition of Group A.

Resolved to agree that the Clerk to the SACRE meets with the Chair of the SACRE to consider:

- **re-nomination of all Members by their nominating bodies;**
- **appointing Members to fill the current vacancies; and**
- **whether the composition of Group A should be altered.**

28/12 SACRE Action Plan

The Inclusion Manager reported that the school visits training planned to take place at St Chad’s Infant School on 19 October 2012 had been postponed, due to a low number of SACRE Members able to attend. Members agreed a new date of 24 January 2013.

Resolved to agree that the Clerk to the SACRE writes to all Members to offer the 24 January 2013 date for school visits training at St Chad’s Infant School.

29/12 All Party Parliamentary Group for Religious Education Update

The Inclusion Manager provided an update on the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Religious Education. It was reported that approximately 50 MP’s had joined. Members noted that Ruth Dolby had provided a draft letter that could be sent to local MPs’ requesting that they consider joining the APPG for Religious Education. It was agreed that Members should contact the Clerk to the SACRE if they wanted to get a copy of the letter to send to their local MP.

Members discussed the possibility of inviting a local MP to the school visits training on 24 January 2013. Members agreed that the Inclusion Manager would approach Maxine Bull as Head Teacher at St Chad’s Infant School to check before inviting Margaret Beckett MP.

Resolved to agree that the Inclusion Manager approach Maxine Bull as Head Teacher at St Chad’s Infant School to see if it would be possible to invite Margaret Beckett MP to the school visits training on 24 January 2013.

30/12 RE National Updates

It was reported that the Religious Education Council had launched a subject review of RE and that the review would focus on:

1. The Aims of RE
2. The RE Curriculum
3. Exemplification of Good RE
4. Assessment Arrangements

Members noted that SACREs' would be part of the subject review consultation and that the Inclusion Manager would send out the consultation document when it arrived.

It was reported that Members needed to look at the locally agreed syllabus in 2013.

Members received an update on Ofsted subject inspections. It was reported that subject inspections took place every three years and a detailed subject report would be produced. Members noted that the next RE subject inspection may, or may not happen, as Ofsted inspection reports for RE had ceased.

It was reported that an RE Quality Mark (REQM) was being piloted. It was explained that the REQM was an accreditation system that recognised good practice in religious education. The Inclusion Manager suggested that the SACRE could do something similar at a local level, as part of the school visits programme.

It was reported that the Department for Education had issued Circular number 1/94 – Religious Education and Collective Worship. Members noted that the circular provided guidance.

Members received an update on the Al-Madinah free school from Fasal Hussain, a governor at the school. It was reported that the school opened on 3 September 2012 and the first term had just been completed. Members noted that the school was still in temporary accommodation and would be until approximately April 2013. Members were invited to visit the school in small groups. It was agreed that any Members who wanted to go, would contact the Inclusion Manager.

Laura Connolly reported that the Open Centre had secured Heritage Lottery funding for an exhibition around "Our Heritage". Members noted that the exhibition was at the planning stage and Laura would make a presentation at the next meeting of the SACRE.

Ruth Dolby reported on the Jewish Conference that took place on 14 October 2012. Members noted that an offer was being made to teach Judaism to non-Jewish schools. It was also reported that there was a travelling exhibition on what it means to be Jewish, that was looking for hosts in Derbyshire. It was agreed that The Inclusion Manager and Ruth Dolby would look into possible venues to host the exhibition.

Resolved:

1. **to agree that the Inclusion Manager will send out the consultation document to Members for the Religious Education Council subject review of RE when it arrived;**
2. **to agree that Laura Connolly will make a presentation on the "Our Heritage" exhibition at the next meeting of the SACRE; and**

3. **to agree that Members who wanted to visit the Al-Madinah school would contact the Inclusion Manager.**

31/12 Draft Annual SACRE Report

Members considered the draft annual SACRE report.

Resolved to agree the annual SACRE report, subject to:

- **the words “once again” being removed from the last paragraph on page 5; and**
- **an appropriate amendment being made to the Free Schools paragraph on page 7.**

32/12 Determinations

Members considered an application for Determination (Section 394, Education Act 1996) received from Dale Community Primary School.

Members agreed to grant the application for determination.

Resolved:

- **to grant the application for determination received from Dale Community Primary School; and**
- **to agree that the Inclusion Manager provides the Head Teacher of Dale Community Primary School with written notification of the decision, specifying the effective date for the purpose of review.**

33/12 Presentation to the SACRE

Members considered re-introducing regular presentation to the SACRE meetings. Formally, presentations had been given by Members on their own religion, or denomination. Members agreed to invite a representative from a school to each meeting, to give a 10 minute presentation on a religious education project they had undertaken.

Resolved to agree to invite a representative from a school to each meeting, to give a 10 minute presentation on a religious education project they had undertaken.

34/12 Appointment of a Co-opted Member

Members were asked to consider the appointment of a new co-opted Member to the SACRE, as it was reported that Mike Lake had submitted his resignation as a co-opted Member representing the British Humanist Association.

Members were introduced to Peter Harvey, who was also a Member of the British Humanist Association. Members agreed to appoint Peter Harvey as a co-opted

Member representing the British Humanist Association.

Resolved:

- to agree to appoint Peter Harvey as a co-opted Member of the SACRE representing the British Humanist Association; and
- to agree that a letter of thanks be sent to Mike Lake for his work as co-opted Member of the SACRE representing the British Humanist Association.

35/12 Local Authority Budget and Restructuring and Support for the SACRE

The Inclusion Manager gave an update on the Local Authority budget, restructuring and enhanced voluntary redundancy policy.

Resolved to note the update.

36/12 Future Meeting Dates

It was confirmed that the next meeting date would be 28 February 2013.

37/12 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

MINUTES END