



Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

MINUTES

04.03.2021 Virtual Meeting . Face to face meetings not allowed due to Covid- 19

Attendance

Committee A

Members representing the “Free Churches”

Mrs Sue Cox (Baptist)

Members representing the Roman Catholic Church

Sister Stella Kelly

Mrs Alison Burt

Members representing non-Christian faiths

Dr. Lionel Alexander (Jewish faith)

Mr. David Downer (Buddhist)

Mrs Anne Sechiari (Buddhist)

Mr Simon Bligh (Humanist)

Mrs Norma Corney (Baha'i)

Committee B)

Representing the Church of England

Mrs Beryl Miller

Mrs Liane Chalmers

Committee C

Representing the teachers of the Isle of Wight

Secondary Miss Beth Feltham Sandown Bay Academy

Headteacher Mrs Nicki Mobley St Blasius Academy

Mrs Kirstie Thomas Cowes Primary

Committee D

Representing the Local Authority.

Cllr Debbie Andre

Cllr George Cameron

Mr Alex Augustus Principal St Francis Academy

Mr Stuart Brenchley Christ the King College

In attendance

Claire Slade-Carter (St George's Special School)

Harry Kirby Clerk

Dr. Patricia Hannam: SACRE Professional Adviser. County Inspector/ Adviser RE, History & Philosophy. HIAS

Justine Ball: General Inspector/Adviser RE (primary). HIAS.

1.Reflection by Alison Burt (copy attached)

2. Apologies for Absence

Rev. Mike Hackleton (Methodist)

Mrs Kirsty Thomas (Teacher.)

The Venerable Peter Leonard (CE)

3. Chairman's Correspondence

- email from Jane Kelly introducing herself as the Diocesan RE and Children's Spirituality Lead for Winchester and Portsmouth. She outlined her role.

4. Declaration of Members' Interest and Chair's correspondence

- JB Part time NATRE role

5. Minutes of the Previous meeting held on 05.11.2020

- Accepted as true record. Proposed SC seconded NB

6. Matters Arising from the minutes of 05.11.2020

- Determinations sub-committee had met.
- Development Plan sub-committee will be held

7. Membership update

- Mary Clarke has informed SACRE that she is retiring.
- Claire Slade-Carter (St George's) will share that reps. role with Hannah Bowkis (Medina House) subject to approval.

8. Monitoring Report

- Justine B reported on the training for Primary schools. The December meeting was attended by 15 teachers and next week's one will have a similar number. These meetings are in addition to the Diocesan training sessions.
- 2 school visits are planned for next week. Members were asked for volunteers to accompany JB on the visits. Members to contact her direct or via HK.
- PH Reported that the secondary meetings are held via Teams. Subjects include the Agreed Syllabus and assessment. She reported on the challenges of assessment of RE without the GCSE exams. She reminded members that students will not have received the same amount of tuition due to individuals' circumstances.
- PH reported on good progress in schools where concerns over the RE provision had been previously expressed.
- SACRE members who are also teachers of RE reported on the situation in their schools.

- PH reported that OFSTED are not currently carrying out Section 5 inspections but are doing Section 8 monitoring visits. RE is not being reported on. Stuart B reported that his school had recently had such a visit which had a positive outcome.

9. Agreed Syllabus Review of LD111 2020-2021

- JB reported that much detailed and wide-ranging consultation has been taking place involving experts from religious and non-religious groups. There had been 2 teacher consultation sessions.
- There was much discussion concerning the Purpose Statement which it has been decided to retain in the 2016 format.

- The subject of 'Worldviews' was debated with an emphasis on 'the lived experience' rather than one, perceived as correct view of a given faith. It was intended that progress in RE will be like a "spiral" rather than linear.
- There was a growing feeling that students needed the opportunity to explore concepts based on their own interest. It is being discussed how curriculum time might be allocated to "own interests" with the teacher acting as a mentor and likely to be called 'Ponder Time'.
- PH and Justine B would welcome consultation with IoW Early Years specialists and Special school staff.
- BF reported that she is trialling a form of 'ponder time' in which the students complete a cycle of enquiry independently on a topic of their choice. This has been based on the cycle found in Living Difference III and experience of the Extended Project Qualifications (EPQ). She has designed a booklet to take students through the process from selecting a 'concept' to a final piece of work, possibly a piece of written work and a presentation. This is to be trialled with year 10 and 11 classes before the Easter holiday. The booklet designed to help them will be forwarded to SACRE members. This pioneering work with 'ponder time' will be shared as a case study linked to the new syllabus.

10. Determinations Policy

- The 4 constituent committees of SACRE voted on the draft Determination Policy and application form. The 4 coordinators of each group reported that their committee was in favour of recommending that the LA adopt the policy. HK to forward to the LA for inclusion on SACRE website.

11 Activities of National and Regional bodies including SC Hub meeting

- Further discussions took place regarding the current national discussion on 'Worldviews' and the process of the Religious Education Council to bring this to discussion with its constituent members. There was much discussion on the actual meaning and interpretation of the title. PH and JB both talked about a set of principles which enable it to be acknowledged that what it means to live a religious life is complex and may mean different things for different people. Teaching in schools should include how the religion or non-religious tradition has changed and developed over time as a result of changing demographic and social circumstances.
- Justine B reported on the South-Central Hub meeting held in November. Meetings continue to be held virtually and are attended by representatives from a range of SACREs. This gives an opportunity for SACREs to compare and share current challenges and also good practice. Justine also reminded members of the forthcoming meeting on 11th March.
- NC and NM had attended the SW Region NASACRE conference, held virtually. NC reported that she had found it a full and interesting day. She "attended" a session on the different ways the figure of Jesus is presented in different cultures. She appreciated being given an insight into the different perspectives of other backgrounds and groups. Similarly she valued the key note presentation regarding Islam, how it exists in different parts of the world and how the current western view of that faith has developed. She commented on how young people's views of others were influenced by their teachers, presenters and leaders. This included the impact of the "Colonial" period on the perceptions of individuals on different faiths.

12. Date and venue of the next meetings

- 9 June 2021 16.00-18.00
- 5 October 2021 16.00-18.00 – Agreed Syllabus Conference (to adopt new syllabus) followed immediately by full SACRE
- 1 March 2022 16.00-18.00

This was the final meeting that HK would attend in his role as Clerk, having held that position for 17 years. The Chairman and members expressed their appreciation of his service to SACRE. Members were also pleased to hear that he would continue to attend SACRE as a CE representative.

This was also the final meeting that Pat Hannam, Professional Advisor to SACRE, would be attending. She was thanked, by the Chairman and members, for her much-appreciated support, advice and guidance of SACRE and for her input to ensuring quality teaching of RE on the Island.

<p>What is a candle? A statue with a wick That stands to attention Tall, like a stick</p> <p>It brings strength to many When you kindle the spark A beacon of hope Or a light in the dark</p> <p>When lit, many colours From orange to red Sometimes blue or white When the fire is fed</p> <p>An image of love And light in this World To champion the evil that around us does swirl</p> <p>A symbol of faith</p>	<p>A tearful reminder Of those passed away A time to remember and think of happier days</p> <p>A mark of respect To all that we know To thank them for all That they did high or low</p> <p>It has many meanings A symbol that's known A sign that your loved That your never alone</p> <p>But the light of that candle Can also reside As a beacon of talents Deep down inside</p> <p>So what could it be</p>
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As a guiding light
As a mark of respect
As a pillar of delight

A happy momentum
Of singing and cheer
To celebrate joy
Of each passing year

If you let it ignite?
What could it become
If you let it take flight?

So look deep inside
And find your light
Show your pride
And let it shine bright