

Minutes



STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 7.00pm

held at North Cheam Baptist Church, Ridge Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9LY

Present: (Groups in brackets)	Miss V M Stone (C) (Chair)	Mrs Rosey Johnson (A)
	Mr Vince Burke (A)	Mr Lewis Owens (B)
	Mr Abhinav Kant (A)	Ms Karen Hewitt (B)
	Mr Sal Uddin (A)	Mr S Ellingham (C)
	Mr Paul Solomon (A) <i>to 8.40pm</i>	Mrs Uzma Mobin (C)
	Mr Chris Lynch (A)	Councillor Patrick Ogbonna (D)

In attendance: Mrs Penny Garry (Clerk)
Mrs Penny Smith-Orr (Consultant)
Ms Claire Ramalli (RE Consultant)

Apologies:	Miss Rebecca Bishop (C)	Mrs Uzma Hussein (A)
	Ms Megan Morgan (B)	Councillor Christopher Woolmer (D)

Absent: Ms Pia Longman (B)

	ITEM	ACTION BY
1.	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and Miss Ramalli, who will be the new RE Advisor, to her first Sutton SACRE meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Miss Rebecca Bishop, Ms Megan Morgan, Mrs Uzma Hussein and Councillor C Woolmer and were consented.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27TH FEBRUARY 2024</p> <p>The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA</p> <p>Outstanding Actions: (From November meeting)</p> <p>Item 7 – WIRE Award Logo – Mrs Smith-Orr was to send the documents to Mrs Johnson for her to look at converting to a logo/kitemark to go on letterheads. Mr Burke said that he has an editing programme and would be happy to do this.</p>	VB

	<p>(From February 24 meeting)</p> <p>Item 5 – SACRE representatives. Councillor Ogbonna, Mr Ellingham and Mrs Smith-Orr had not found any potential representatives.</p> <p>Item 7 – Ofsted Required Standards in Education – Mrs Smith-Orr had not yet written to Ofsted to ask them what they would expect to see.</p> <p>Item 12 – Agreed Syllabus – Mrs Smith-Orr had not sent a survey but had spoken to RE Co-ordinators at the summer meeting (update later in these minutes).</p> <p>Grill a Faith – Mr Ellingham confirmed that the event had taken place on 30th April and was attended by Christian and Muslim representatives.</p>	SE
5.	<p>APPOINTMENT OF SACRE MEMBERS</p> <p>Southwark Diocese had appointed a new representative, Pia Longman. The clerk has sent the information to her but has not had a response.</p> <p>Action: Miss Stone will write to Ms Long and the Diocese.</p>	VS
6.	<p>REPORT ON SACRE MEMBERS TRAINING</p> <p>Miss Stone advised that she had been due to do two training sessions attached the annual conference. She has completed one and will be doing the other shortly.</p> <p>Ms Ramalli and Mrs Smith-Orr attended the AREIAC conference last week and around 70 people attended. It will be interesting to see the feedback as this was the first “combined” conference where university lecturers of RE joined. There were lots of papers on different aspects of RE and Ms Ramalli presented an item on “What Secondary RE Teachers Can Learn from Primary Teachers”.</p> <p>Ms Hewett had attended an online NASACRE session on “Convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference” in March 2024.</p> <p>Action: Ms Stone will share some notes by email.</p>	VS
7.	<p>SACRE 2023-2024 DEVELOPMENT PLAN</p> <p>2023-2024 Plan</p> <p>Ms Stone went through the development plan and noted that many of the items had, or would be, discussed in the meeting.</p> <p>There were some additions to be made:</p> <p>1a) Miss Stone had attended the NASACRE AGM and Conference. 1b) Training is available through NASACRE (SACRE buys an annual package) and also on the RE Hubs (London) website there is free online training. There is also a facility to list your place of worship on the website (once you have done the associated training) or register as a speaker.</p> <p>Governors agreed to purchase the annual NASACRE training which costs approximately £50 for the year.</p>	

8.	<p>SELF-EVALUATION</p> <p>SACRE members went through the Self-Evaluation sections 1 and 2 and discussed whether there had been any change from the previous year.</p> <p>The following observations were made against some of the sections:</p> <p>2b) Ms Ramalli said that there should be someone from the School Improvement Team or LA to attend SACRE and it is really important that SACRE members know how pupils are doing in RE.</p> <p>2c) SACRE does not currently have any pupil voice. We could ask SACRE members to visit schools and talk to pupils about their RE learning.</p> <p>Action: Items 3 to 5 of the self-evaluation will be considered at the November 2024 meeting.</p>	Clerk
9.	<p>MONITORING RE AND CW IN SUTTON</p> <p>WIRE Award Mrs Smith-Orr said that she had not received any applications or evidence submitted this term. Mrs Smith-Orr will be sending the documents to Ms Ramalli and to Mr Burke to produce a logo. Her name will need to be changed on the document.</p> <p>Action: WIRE Award application form to be reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Collective Worship It was agreed that the website checks will be carried out between now and the next meeting and that every member of SACRE will be asked to check 2 or 3 school websites.</p> <p>Action: The Clerk will draw up a Form for members to complete and will allocate a couple of schools. Full instructions will be sent in an email.</p>	CR/VB Clerk
10.	<p>RE CO-ORDINATORS MEETINGS AND SCHOOL VISITS</p> <p>A meeting took place by Zoom recently and around 18 Primary RE Co-ordinators attended. Mrs Smith-Orr updated them with some information on how to use pictures for different activities and also talked about the Ofsted Deep and Meaningful Report. A discussion took place around the new syllabus and the main things teachers were concerned about was assessment. It is now not expected to be around levels and some were still using them and other schools were not assessing other than in the core subjects. Mrs Smith-Orr talked through some assessment activities which will enable teachers to see if the children have grasped the learning.</p> <p>The other thing mentioned was around “world views” and that they wanted information on the mix of religions and non-religions and how this had changed.</p> <p>There had been no further progress on growing the RE resources in the borough but this will be re-visited once the new syllabus has been completed.</p>	

	<p>School Visits There had been no school visits this term.</p>	
11.	<p>UPDATE ON SUTTON FAITH & BELIEF FORUM</p> <p>It was agreed that this item will be removed from the agenda for the time being.</p>	
12.	<p>THE OFSTED DEEP AND MEANINGFUL REPORT</p> <p>Miss Stone talked through the five key findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DfE should urgently update their guidance and make sure that every school knows RE laws and that their children must be taught. Schools should be strengthened to do it. 2. School's curriculum was often insufficient for a complex world (they should reflect religion and world views). 3. Pupils are taught exam skills too prematurely – they should be taught in years 10 and 11. 4. There are long gaps between lessons which hinder recall. Ms Ramalli added that it is interesting because a lot of advisors have been saying that a lot of schools only have 30 minute lessons and they have said it could be better to have a longer session less often. 5. Teachers need professional development and training and regular help and support (and this is why RE Hubs are in place and local authorities have an RE advisor). 	
13.	<p>REC NATIONAL STANDARDS GUIDANCE</p> <p>Miss Stone highlighted another long document which is of interest to SACRE members or others creating a syllabus or curriculum. It provides a baseline for what should be in the syllabus. Ms Ramalli said that what this (and the Ofsted) report is saying should be reflected in the new syllabus.</p>	
14.	<p>NASACRE AGM</p> <p>This year's AGM took place in York and Miss Stone attended. She will circulate her report and some other interesting information by separate email.</p> <p>One thing that she highlighted is that SACRE members should sign up the NASACRE website individually.</p> <p>Miss Stone wants to reflect on how Sutton SACRE can be more active and engage with schools and children.</p> <p>The constitution of NASACRE is changing to a charitable status and there is an online session discussing this on 9th July.</p>	
15.	<p>ANALYSIS OF SACRE ANNUAL REPORTS</p> <p>This item will be removed from the agenda. There was a session run by NASACRE recently but no-one from Sutton SACRE attended.</p>	

<p>16.</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>SACRE members thanked Mrs Smith-Orr for her support of Sutton SACRE over the past ten years. She will be greatly missed. SACRE members presented her with a card and some flowers.</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS</p> <p>Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 6.45pm</p> <p>Venue: St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School, London Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9DL</p>	

Closing Time of Meeting: 9.05pm

Chair's Signature Date.....