

# Public Document Pack

MEETING	<b>(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>
DATE	<b>MONDAY, 7 MARCH, 2011 4.00 pm</b>
VENUE	<b>THORNHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL, BYRON ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON SO19 6FH</b>
ENQUIRIES	CLAIRE HEATHER 023 8083 2412 Email: <a href="mailto:claire.heather@southampton.gov.uk">claire.heather@southampton.gov.uk</a>
MEMBERS	SEE ATTACHED LIST

## A G E N D A

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**
3. **MEMBERSHIP**
4. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
5. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING**

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> October and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010, attached.

6. **FEEDBACK AND UPDATES ON EVENTS**

To receive feedback and updates from all members of the SACRE:

- Interfaith Week, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010
- Celebrating RE, month of March 2011
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7. **FEEDBACK ON LAUNCH OF AGREED SYLLABUS**

To receive a verbal update from Sue Langdon, Secondary Phase Inspector, on the launch of the Agreed Syllabus.

8. **OUTSTANDING RE**

To receive a presentation from Sue Langdon, Secondary Phase Inspector, and Teacher Representatives regarding Outstanding RE.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

To address any other business which may arise at the meeting.

Monday 21 February 2011

SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL

# STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## MEMBERSHIP

### GROUP A

#### **Christian Denominations\***

*(\* Religions and other bodies listed in the SACRE Constitution)*

The Roman Catholic Church	Rev David Sillince
The Baptists	Rev Andy Mills
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Bridget Goom
The Greek Orthodox Church	Gregory Hadjikyriacou
The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches	Margaret Blake
The Methodist Church	Gail Ratcliffe
The United Reformed Church	Vacancy
The Assemblies of God	Peter Howard
The Salvation Army	Major Ruth Hill

#### **Other Religions**

*Religions other than Christianity (as listed in the SACRE Constitution) – Baha'i, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism = 6*

Baha'i	Jeff Lynn
Buddhist	David Vane (VICE-CHAIR)
Hindu	Priti Dave
Jewish	Ms Mag Kushner
Muslim	Anas Al-Korj
Sikh	Bharpoor Singh

### GROUP B

*(Four representatives of the Church of England)*

#### **The Church of England**

Tony Blackshaw  
Anne Steele-Arnett  
Vacancy  
Vacancy

## **GROUP C**

*(Six teachers representing associations recognised by the Authority for the purposes of consultation and negotiation)*

National Union of Teachers (NUT)	Jackie Meering
The National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)	Mr D Parrott
Voice	Mr R Palmer
The Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL)	Julian Bryant
Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)	Ruth Evans
National Association of Headteachers (NAHT)	Ellen Humphries

## **GROUP D**

*(4+substitute) - Four representatives of the Southampton City Council, at least two of whom shall be elected members of the City Council)*

### **Southampton City Council**

Councillor Edward Daunt (CHAIR)

Councillor Carol Cunio

Councillor Brian Parnell

Councillor Peter Marsh-Jenks

### **GROUP D SUBSTITUTE**

Mrs. K. Martin

## **OTHERS (Non-voting)**

### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

South Hampshire Humanists

Ms. Chris Robinson

Primary School RE Teacher

Anna Adams

Representative of Teachers' Subject  
Network/Advanced Skills  
Teacher (RE)

Sian Roberts

### **OBSERVERS**

Central Baptist Church

Rev. David Masters

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(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 October 2010

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Present:

Members of the Council

Daunt (Chair) and Parnell

Independent Members

David Vane (Vice-Chair), Bridget Goom, Mrs Margaret Blake, Mrs Gail Ratcliffe, Tony Blackshaw, Jackie Meering, David Parrott, Julian Bryant, Chris Robinson and Sian Roberts

Apologies

Rev David Sillince, Rev David Turner, Peter Howard, Anas al-Korj, Ruth Evans, Ellen Humphries and Kate Martin

1. **WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND CHANGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

**ACTION**

The Chair welcomed the Group and introduced Rev. Andy Mills the SACRE meeting.

Apologies were received from:-

Group A

Rev David Sillince	The Roman Catholic Church
Rev David Turner	The Baptists
Peter Howard	The Assemblies of God
Anas al-Korj	Muslim

Group C

Ruth Evans	Association of School and College Leaders Ruth Evans (ASCL)
Ellen Humphries	National Association of Headteachers (NAHT)

Group D

Mrs. K. Martin	Southampton City Council (substitute)
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2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

In accordance with accepted practise, a statement was made by the Chair who thanked members for their input to the Agreed Syllabus this year. The Chair went on to inform members of the letters of thanks he had written to Councillor Damani and Bishop Geoff Annas for their input to the SACRE. Members were also informed that the final Agreed Syllabus Conference for the year was not going to be held today and that a date would be agreed later in meeting.

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

**ACTION**

The Chair explained that it was important for all members to complete the personal interests form and requested that this was completed and returned to the SACRE clerk before the next meeting of the SACRE.

**ALL**

4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2010 be approved as a correct record. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

**Matters Arising**

**9. DEVELOPMENT PLAN** It was noted that the Chair had made contact with the Executive Director of Children's Services and Learning, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Learning and the Head of Service: Standards and that the matter of collective worship and whether or not school visits would be appropriate would be investigated further. The Secondary Phase Inspector noted that the SACRE were to be "assured" about the quality of RE and alternative ways to get involved were available. The following suggestions were given as alternatives:-

**ACTION**

- Getting involved in interfaith week;
- Watching "Ethical Action", a video produced by pupils at Cantell School. It was AGREED this would be presented at the next SACRE meeting;

**JB, ED  
and KS**

**11. VISIT TO SCHOOL BY GAIL RATCLIFFE** The representative for the National Union of Teachers (NUT) noted the opportunities for Primary School teachers to assist observations for SACRE members.

A discussion ensued on ways in which members could increase their involvement in schools and the Chair asked that members contact himself and/or the clerk to the SACRE with suggestions.

**ALL**

5. **MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE**

The Chair outlined the current membership of the SACRE, drawing attention to the membership list at the front of the reports pack.

Changes to the SACRE membership were noted as follows:-

- Reverend Andy Mills was appointed to represent The Baptists (Group A), replacing Rev David Turner. The Chair proposed Reverend Andy Mills' nomination and Councillor Parnell seconded this.
- The Chair announced that the remaining membership vacancies were noted as:-
  - x1 The United Reformed Church (Group A)
  - x2 Church of England (Group B)

## 6. MATTERS RELATING TO TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP

### ACTION

The Chair introduced a number of issues for discussion:-

- ***Code of Conduct – members' attention was drawn to 13.1 of the SACRE constitution and members were asked to sign and return the forms attached with agenda item 6. It was AGREED that members of the SACRE could receive copies of the SCC Code of Conduct.*** KS
- Updating information regarding appointments to SACRE (4 years) – a discussion took place addressing 9.4 of the SACRE constitution. It was suggested that members of the SACRE need to be re-nominated every four years. Regular attendance to meetings was also encouraged.
- Humanism – the Chair lead a discussion addressing the possibility of Humanist membership on the SACRE with full voting rights. After a full discussion, the Chair concluded that a vote would not be appropriate in this instance and it was AGREED that the South Hampshire Humanists would remain co-opted members.

## 7. FEEDBACK FROM EVENTS FROM INDIVIDUAL FAITH GROUPS

### ACTION

The SACRE received and noted verbal updates from various members on the following events:-

#### Buddhists

- Interfaith Week – Conference to be held on 23 November 2010
- Prayer at Medina Mosque – 21 November 2010
- ***Graffiti event – 27 November 2010***

#### Church of England

- Bishop at St. Paul's

## Humanists

- Ofsted diary report
- South Hampshire Humanists – one law for all (Shea Law)
- Training on how Autism is perceived
- Liz Mizon’s verbal report on being a secular Mayor

The Chair thanked members for their comments and reminded them that, in future, items under this heading should be given to the clerk or himself prior to meetings.

## 8. INITIAL FINDINGS OF THE AUDIT OF RE TEACHING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

### ACTION

Sian Roberts, AST, reported back on her Audit of RE teaching, explaining that the research was based in secondary schools and was centred around Self Evaluation Forms (SEFs).

***The group heard that the audit investigated ways to monitor the provision of RE in schools. It focussed on secondary school subject leaders and considered qualitative and quantitative forms of methodology.***

Sian hoped to explore the opportunities relating to the RE network panels which met twice a year to share best practise.

Upon request, Sian was able to clarify that, unfortunately, Academies were not included in the research.

The Chair thanked Sian for her input.

## 9. DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

***RESOLVED that the proposed dates for future SACRE meetings be agreed.***

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### ACTION

Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC)

***The Secondary Phase Inspector introduced members of the SACRE to the draft version of the Agreed Syllabus.***

The importance of the final ASC was explained and members were requested to send substitutes if they were unable to attend.

***RESOLVED*** that the ASC would be held on Monday 22 November at 4pm.



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(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 November 2010

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Present:

Members of the Council

Councillors Daunt (Chair) and Parnell

Independent Members

Bridget Goom, Mrs Gail Ratcliffe, Peter Howard, Tony Blackshaw, Jackie Meering, David Parrott, Julian Bryant, Ruth Evans, Ellen Humphries and Sian Roberts

Apologies

David Vane, Rev David Sillence, Mrs Margaret Blake, Major Ruth Hill, Jeff Lynn, Priti Dave, Councillor Peter Marsh-Jenks and Andy Mills

Also in attendance:

Kate Martin – substitute for Group D  
Sue Langdon – Secondary Phase Inspector

1. **WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND CHANGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

Apologies were received from:-

Group A

Margaret Blake	The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches
Priti Dave	Hindu
Jeff Lynn	Baha'i
Rev Andy Mills	The Baptists
Rev David Sillence	The Roman Catholic Church
David Vane	Buddhist

Group D

Councillor Marsh-Jenks

2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair outlined that whilst members were encouraged to look at and consider the Agreed Syllabus, at this stage, the document would not be rewritten as there had been no major changes. He explained that there would be time for members to share comments during the meeting.

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2010 be approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

**Item 15 – Update from the Secondary Phase Inspector – the Secondary Phase Inspector gave a verbal update on the possible use of RE network panels to deliver training which would be dependant on the current re-structure and White Paper.**

(Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

5. **AGREED SYLLABUS**

i) Presentation of the newly revised draft Agreed Syllabus

***The Secondary Phase Inspector introduced the Agreed Syllabus. The Group heard that during the last review of the Agreed Syllabus five years previously, the “Living Difference” had been fully rewritten. National Strategies had changed the emphasis from what children learn to how children learn and develop ideas and thought processes. The Group heard that the theme of enquiry based learning had prevailed in this version of the draft Agreed Syllabus.***

***The Secondary Phase Inspector issued the Group with an A3 handout. The criteria for meeting very good and excellent standards were explained in relation to the way in which pupils learn.***

***The representative of Teachers’ Subject Network and Advanced Skills Teacher (RE) drew attention to page 25 of the Agreed Syllabus and gave examples of the methodology for teaching and learning:-***

- ***Example 1: good/evil (Type A); and***
- ***Example 2: Sikh religion (Type B/C).***

ii) Feedback from each Group

The Group had a question and answer session during which:-

- the notion of “concept” was discussed and clarified in context as an ‘idea’ or ‘journey’ towards a child’s own view (maturation);
- questions regarding children with non-religious backgrounds wanting (or not) to participate in role-play activities were addressed. It was noted that these issues rarely arose, but that views of individual children needed to be respected and taken into consideration where necessary;
- the Secondary Phase Inspector praised the Agreed Syllabus for its ability to assist children’s development of transferable skills through classroom activities. For example, hot seating and taking on the roles of different characters helped to develop children’s skills and were applicable across subjects; and

- a question was raised regarding the number of children who wanted to opt out of RE completely. A discussion followed, noting that cases of this were minimal and that children were encouraged to take part without being judged on their views. Moments of reflection, religious or non-religious, were considered important for all children, regardless of religious upbringing.

The Group were issued with a handout from the Ofsted document, 'Transforming religious education' and notified of the guidance relating to agreed syllabuses – page 7. Particular sections of the Agreed Syllabus were brought to the Group's attention, especially areas which had been amended, for example, 'Promoting Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning' (SEAL) – page 73.

Another question was put forward, asking:-

- what sort of questions students were examined on if the emphasis had changed from *what* children learn to *how* children learn. It was explained that at one school, the exam was based on four knowledge questions and one larger-weighted question requiring children's knowledge and views. It was made clear that schools chose their exam boards, within which there was variation.

The Chair asked for any other queries or points of interest relating to the Agreed Syllabus. A brief discussion took place regarding wording on the contents page in 'Section 5, List of Concepts, C Concepts'. The Group acknowledged that the title 'Examples of concepts that are particular to specific religions' had Humanism listed as a sub-heading. Whilst Humanism was *not* considered to be a religion, 'Section 5, List of Concepts, C Concepts' itself (page 153) *did* make the distinction between 'specific major religions' and 'Baha'i and Humanism'. Whilst it may have been preferable to amend the contents page to reflect this, there was a consensus amongst members that, at this stage in the process, it would be reasonable to leave the contents page unchanged.

The Chair expressed his thanks once again to the Secondary Phase Inspector and the representative of Teachers' Subject Network and Advanced Skills Teacher (RE), before concluding and asking for the Group to consider whether they would accept and ratify the Agreed Syllabus.

During the votes, a member of Group B expressed the desire for the Group to have been formerly invited to taken part in the Agreed Syllabus Conferences and requested that this be noted for the future.

### iii) Ratification

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE, THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE AGREED SYLLABUS FOR HAMPSHIRE, PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON JANUARY 2011 WAS CARRIED. RECORDED VOTE:

GROUP A: FOR

GROUP B: FOR

GROUP C: FOR

GROUP D: FOR

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton January 2011 be approved; and
- (ii) that the Agreed Syllabus be reviewed within the next five years.

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**ACTION**

Enhancing Religious Education in Southampton

*The representative of Teachers' Subject Network and Advanced Skills Teacher (RE) noted that at the last RE network meeting, a discussion took place around Primary and Secondary school teachers wanting to develop links with members of different faith groups across the city. It was outlined that SACRE members and members of Southampton Council of Faiths (SCOF) had been approached in relation to this.*

RESOLVED that any SACRE member willing to put forward their details to be added to the list of faith groups being compiled was to fill out the form attached (Agenda Item 6) and return it to the SACRE clerk.

**ALL**