

# Public Document Pack

MEETING	<b>(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>
DATE	<b>Monday, 4th March, 2013 4.00 pm</b>
VENUE	<b>CANTELL MATHS &amp; COMPUTING COLLEGE - VIOLET ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON SO16 3GJ</b>
ENQUIRIES	PAT WOOD 023 8083 2302 Email: pat.wood@southampton.gov.uk
MEMBERS	SEE ATTACHED LIST

## A G E N D A

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

2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012, attached.

5. **MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE**

To update the Membership List.

6. **FEEDBACK ON EVENTS**

7. **UPDATE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL OF ENGLAND AND WALES' SUBJECT REVIEW OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

To discuss updated information on the Religious Education Council of England and Wales' Subject Review of Religious Education.

8. **DISCUSSION ON FAITH SCHOOLS**

To discuss faith schools, with particular focus upon Southampton, and to receive presentations from Sajid Butt, Principal of FITRAH SIPS and Tony Blackshaw on his work with Church of England schools.

**9. ATTAINMENT IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT GCSE LEVEL IN SOUTHAMPTON MAINTAINED SCHOOLS**

To discuss the report of the Senior Inspector for Schools detailing the attainment in Religious Education at GCSE level in maintained schools in Southampton, attached.

**10. WESTHILL AWARDS FOR 2013**

To note that the Westhill Awards for 2013 have a closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and that explanatory papers and an application form are available from <http://www.nasacre.org.uk/projects.html> .

Friday, 22 February 2013

HEAD OF LEGAL, HR AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

# STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## MEMBERSHIP

### GROUP A

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

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

The Roman Catholic Church	David Walford
The Baptists	Rev Andy Mills
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Vacancy (was Bridget Goom)
The Greek Orthodox Church	Vacancy (was 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	Vacancy (was 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	Elizabeth Jenkerson
Buddhist	David Vane (VICE-CHAIR)
Hindu	Priti Dave
Jewish	Vacancy (was Ms Mag Kushner)
Muslim	Vacancy (was Anas Al-Korj)
Sikh	Vacancy (was Bharpoor Singh)

### GROUP B

*(Four representatives of the Church of England)*

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

Tony Blackshaw  
Anne Steele-Arnett  
Chris Pritchard  
Ros Wigley

## **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)	Vacant
Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)	Ruth Evans
National Association of Headteachers (NAHT)	Vacant

## **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 Satvir Kaur

Councillor Dr Darren Paffey

Councillor Brian Parnell

### **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
Southampton City Mission	Chris Davis

### **OBSERVER**

Freemantle C of E Community Academy	Natasha Bye-Brooks
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# Agenda Item 4

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(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2012

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Present:

Group A –  
Christian Denominations  
Gail Ratcliffe

Other religions  
Priti Dave and Elizabeth Jenkerson

Group B – Church of England

Group C – Teachers  
Jackie Meering and Mr D Parrott

Group D – Members of the Council  
Councillors Daunt, Kaur and Paffey

Also in attendance:  
Varina Emblen, Children's Services and Learning

Others (Non-Voting)  
Chris Davis

Apologies  
David Vane, Andy Mills, Mrs Margaret Blake, Peter Howard, Tony Blackshaw, Ellen Humphries, Councillor Brian Parnell, Kate Martin, Chris Robinson and Sian Roberts

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for coming. It was noted that the meeting was not quorate.

Apologies were received from:-

Group A - Margaret Blake  
Group A - David Vane  
Group A - Pete Howard  
Group A - Andy Mills  
Group B - Tony Blackshaw  
Group D - Councillor Parnell  
Group D – Kate Martin  
Co-opted - Sian Roberts  
Co-opted - Chris Robinson

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record. (Copy of the Minutes circulated with the Agenda and appended to the signed Minutes).

Matters Arising

Page 3 – Collective Worship for Schools – Jackie Meering stated that the second paragraph should read “Jackie Meering stated that School Governors **should** know what Collective Worship arrangements were in place .....”.

Jackie Meering reported that she was still trying to contact Judith Lownes regarding the document “Collective Worship in Schools”.

The Chair reported that only one written response had been received in connection with the way Collective Worship was taught in schools, although Jackie Meering confirmed that schools have themes set each week.

3. **MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE**

The Chair welcomed Varina Emblen as the new LEA representative and he also welcomed Elizabeth Jenkerson as the new Baha’i representative.

The Chair reported that he was contacting members who had not attended for some while and would report back to the next meeting. It was noted that Tony Blackshaw, Mr Palmer and Chris Robinson had all agreed, since the last meeting, to serve another four year term.

4. **FEEDBACK ON EVENTS**

The Chair reported that he had attended a Joint SACRE meeting in early October for the Southampton/Portsmouth/Hampshire/West Sussex/Bournemouth/Poole and Isle of Wight groups, which he had found to be a useful meeting. Meetings were scheduled for twice a year and the Terms of Reference had been expanded to include many groups. It was agreed to distribute the Minutes of these meetings to members of the Southampton SACRE group.

The Isle of Wight SACRE group had reported that the island consisted of mainly Church of England schools and there was therefore little interaction with other faith schools. They stated that they would like to host a multi-faith conference and the Chair had offered to help in the organisation of this event.

The event “Meet the Hindus” had been well attended on 30<sup>th</sup> September and David Vane, the secretary of SCOF, was asked to forward details of an event “Celebrate Faith and Light” on 25 November to the Clerk, for onward transmission to Members.

5. **NATIONAL SUBJECT REVIEW OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The Religious Education Council of England and Wales had been commissioned to conduct a review of Religious Education in England. The Chair stated that the report of the Proposed Review was for Members to note at the present time and that the Clerk would forward a copy to all SACRE members. Once the draft report had been written after 31 October, there would be a consultation period during which it would be sent to

Members via email and an extra meeting could be arranged to discuss it. The Chair stated that he would keep SACRE up to date with progress achieved.

## 6. **DISCUSSION ON FAITH SCHOOLS**

The Chair reported that as Anas Al-Korj and Tony Blackshaw had both sent apologies to the meeting, it would not be possible to discuss in detail the Fitrah SIPS and Church of England schools in the city.

Academy status within schools was becoming more prevalent and it was felt that the teaching of religious education would be difficult to monitor in the future as the Local Authority did not have rights to intervene. Within secondary schools there was a degree of monitoring via the GCSE results but this did not apply to younger children. Varina Emblen stated that she would check if School Inspections specifically included the teaching of RE. The Chair said that he would contact the Religious Education Council and other local SACRE groups to enquire what they were doing to monitor RE in non-Local Authority schools. Elizabeth Jenkerson stated that she would enquire about teaching of RE in Academies at the NASACRE meeting to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> November. She also stated that a training session would be held on 19<sup>th</sup> October for secondary school RE teachers. The Southampton SACRE Terms of Reference may need to be adjusted to take account of this trend as, currently, Academy Members did not have voting rights.

## 7. **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT 2012**

Varina Emblen made a presentation to the meeting regarding educational attainment for 2012. Whilst there was a trend of improvement, the gap continued to widen negatively between Southampton and other areas. One area of concern was the level at which many 4 year old children entered school, with poor levels of language and self management. These matters were addressed by schools but issues of poverty were causing increasing concern. In a data presentation given to the Southampton Children's Trust Board, the Early Years age group was the group of highest concern.

Varina Emblen stated that in Key Stage 2 there was a need to accelerate progress of children by focussing on gaps and being aware of where children could be making better progress and attaining at a higher level.

Key Stage 4 had borne the brunt of the English debacle and Southampton results were not as strong as had been predicted at GCSE.

Post 16 had received a very good outcome and NEETS (Not in Employment, Education or Training) had received a very significant improvement, bringing the result to below the national average.

Future challenges were considered to be the changing state of educational provision, attendance, shrinking local resources and the entitlement of every child and young person to a "good" education.

It was agreed that it would be useful if the GCSE RE results could be broken down by school and their pass rate. Once this had been established, Varina Emblen was asked to bring the figures to the next meeting. It was agreed that it would also be useful to know which schools were not teaching RE but recognised that this may be difficult. Elizabeth Jenkerson offered to give Varina Emblen a questionnaire to send out to

schools and the Chair agreed to collate the results and give the questionnaire to the Cabinet Member/Director to take to the Heads' Conference, in order to promote filling it in.

Priti Dave stressed the need to promote to schools the benefits of doing collective worship and the teaching of RE.



# Agenda Item 9

## ATTAINMENT IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT GCSE LEVEL IN SOUTHAMPTON MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

An analysis of a 5 year trend in the outcomes for this subject show a large number of pupils take up GCSE programmes of study for Religious Education. There are fluctuations in the data year on year; for example, in 2010 only 360 students sat a GCSE in RE, our lowest number over the last 5 years, which was followed in 2011 by 517 students sitting the GCSE. This year produced the highest number of students sitting this exam over the last 5 years.

Similarly there are year on year fluctuations in outcomes for students. These range from 8% below the data for all schools nationally, to 1.5% above the national attainment figure. However overall, outcomes in this subject are positive.

In 2012 there were 1,972 students on roll in our secondary maintained schools. Of these, 420 were entered into the RE GCSE. This number falls midway between the range of numbers entered over the last 5 years. The table below records the percentage of pupils achieving at each grade in the GCSE.

<b>GCSE Grade</b>	<b>Percentage of Pupils Achieving this Grade</b>
A*	14.3%
A	21.9%
B	20.2%
C	15.7%
D	11.4%
E	7.6%
F	5.2%
G	2.9%

These grades represent 72.1% of students entering for this GCSE achieving A\* - C in RE and 99.3% of students entering for this GCSE achieving A\* - G

At school level there is considerable year on year variation in the availability of this subject as a GCSE option in some schools.

Varina Emblen and Edd Shackleton  
Education and Commissioning  
February 2013

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