



STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2023

Present:

Group A –
Christian Denominations

The Roman Catholic Church – Steve Deadman
The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches – Ruth Gill
(virtually)
The United Reformed Church – Susanne Dawson
The Assemblies of God - Neil Maddock

Other religions and beliefs

Muslim – Imam Sayfullah
Mary Wallbank – South Hampshire Humanists

Group B – Church of England

Liz Allen
Lucy Heptinstall

From Diocesan education team

Richard Wharton

Group C – Teachers

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers –
Suzanne Underwood
National Association of Head teachers – Sian Carr

Group D – Members of the Council

Councillors Beaurain, Lambert and Webb

Also in attendance:

Mathew Stone – observer for the Salvation Army

Others co-opted (Non-Voting)

Southampton City Council, Professional Advisor - Alison Philpott

SCC Governance & Leadership Adviser – Katherine Lewis

Primary RE Lead Rep - Ellen Brodigan

Secondary RE Lead Rep/ASC – Suzanne Underwood

ASC teacher representatives – Amelia Day, Chloe Foster

Southampton Council of Faiths – Tim Tofts

Love Southampton

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

Members noted the resignation of Chris Davis and thanked him for his service to Sacre over the years. Members welcomed the Matthew Stone from the Salvation Army. Apologies were received from Claire Wikley, Joyce Wan and Councillor Wood.

2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

It was noted that the Chair was in attendance virtually and that for the purposes of items requiring a vote the vice – chair Suzanne Underwood would lead the meeting.

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

Sacre Members approved the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2023.

4. **SOUTHAMPTON SACRE - ADVICE DOCUMENT FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS - DRAFT UPDATE**

Members considered the draft advice document attached to the papers and thanked the working team for preparing it. It was noted that adjustments may still be required in regard to the advice on wearing a kirpan and that the document would be finalised and presented to the next meeting.

5. **SACRE ACTION PLAN**

Members noted that following the approval of the Self Evaluation Document the circulated action plan addressed the aspect where SACRE needed to focus in the forthcoming year.

6. **SACRE SOUTHAMPTON LOCAL CONSTITUTION**

Members considered and noted the draft constitution that was circulated. Questions were raised in relationship to the membership status of the Southampton City Mission and it was agreed that further discussions should take place with the organisation to determine this. In addition it was agreed that the Group A would be split into two sections “Christian Denominations” and “Other World Views”.

SACRE members noted that the constitution would be presented to the City's Cabinet to approve in the new year and delegated to the Council's Governance and Leadership Adviser to amend the constitution in the light of these discussions.

7. **THE LOCALLY AGREED SYLLABUS IN ACTION**

Member received a presentation from Lucy Hepinstall on how the locally agreed syllabus had been implemented within her school. SACRE were informed of how the school lessons and timetabling were supported by the syllabus and how the principles set in its golden threads were embedded within the school's lesson plans across the age groups.

The concept of pondering time was introduced and explained as a method to consider religious ideas and how they affected aspects of pupils lives. It was noted that both pupils and teachers appreciated and enjoyed how the strands of the syllabus were drawn together.

8. **ANNUAL REPORT**

Members noted the draft annual report circulated and agreed that the report could be presented to the Department for Education.