

# STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

23 NOVEMBER 2021

2.00 – 4.00PM COUNTY HALL, CENTRE 2F / MICROSOFT TEAMS



## MEMBERSHIP

Cllr Roy Galley	Mr Peter White	Dr Tariq Rajbee
Cllr Colin Belsey	Mrs Rosemary Roberts	Mr Barry Blakelock
Cllr Trevor Webb	Dr Brenda Vance	Mrs Laura Cooper
Cllr Tom Liddiard	Dr Norman Williamson	Mrs Claire Rivers
Carrie Beech (LA)	Rev Jeremy Sykes	Mr Tim Telford
Claire Ramalli (Adviser)	Mr Jon Gilbert	Mrs Pamela Hartog
Claire Rivers (Primary)	Ms Elizabeth Coleman	Julie Stevens (Clerk)

## A G E N D A

### **Item**

1. Declarations of any conflicts of interest  
  
Welcome & apologies – Cllr Galley
2. Minutes/actions from SACRE meeting 22 June 2021 – Cllr Galley
3. Updates from Schools Working Group/Network meetings & CPD
  - Secondary – Barry Blakelock/Claire Ramalli
  - Primary – Claire Rivers
4. Feedback from World Views, NASACRE on-line training session – Cllr Galley
5. Development Plan – Agree priorities – Carrie Beech
6. Budget Update – Carrie Beech
7. Ofsted Research Report on RE – Claire Ramalli
8. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (standing item)
9. Any other business
  - Reminder - next Agreed Syllabus Conference is Weds 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Next meeting: Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 2.00pm

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# East Sussex SACRE

## Notes of the meeting

**Date:** Tuesday 22 June 2021

**Venue:** Via Microsoft Teams

**Chairman:** Councillor Roy Galley

**Clerk:** Julie Stevens

**SACRE members present:** Cllr Roy Galley, Cllr Colin Belsey, Cllr Tom Liddiard, Peter White, Rosemary Roberts, Dr Brenda Vance, Dr Norman Williamson, Liz Coleman, Jon Gilbert, Anna Flood, Barry Blakelock, Tim Telford, Laura Cooper,

**Also present:** Carrie Beech (CB), Julie Stevens (Clerk), Claire Ramalli (CRa), Claire Rivers (CRi), Claire Roberts

**Apologies:** Pamela Hartog

Item	Title	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome/ Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present at the meeting. Special welcome was given to Cllr Liddiard and Jon Gilbert as new members of SACRE. Claire Roberts from the local authority was attending as an observer.	
<b>1.2</b>	Apologies were noted by the Clerk.	
<b>1.3</b>	There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Election of Chair &amp; Vice-Chair</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	CB led on this item. Following conversations with Democratic Services it had been agreed to look at revising the constitution of SACRE. We will therefore conduct a formal AGM in November 2021 and review the constitution at that meeting. Following the County Council elections, SACRE must re-affirm the position of Chair and Vice-Chair for a further four years.	
<b>2.2</b>	Cllr Belsey moved Cllr Galley as Chair. This was seconded by Mr Peter White.	
<b>2.3</b>	No other nominations were put forward for Chair, voting was unanimous therefore the motion was carried that Cllr Galley will continue as Chair of the East Sussex SACRE.	
<b>2.4</b>	Cllr Belsey moved Peter White as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by Dr Norman Williamson.	
<b>2.5</b>	No other nominations were put forward for Vice-Chair, voting was unanimous therefore the motion was carried that Peter White will continue as Vice-Chair of the East Sussex SACRE.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of meeting 16 March 2021</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	The minutes of the last SACRE business meeting held on 16 March 2021 were agreed as accurate.	

3.2	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>4.2 – Special Schools will be added to our contacts for RE leaders.</p> <p>4.5 – School visits programme: not yet taken forward. Action to be carried forward.</p> <p>5.6 – Additional funding of £15k had been agreed for ES SACRE over the next 2 years.</p> <p>9.2 - Contact with school governors: arrange for sessions CoG's / RE Leads to present. CB to take forward.</p> <p>10.2 – Youth Cabinet details provided: CB will take forward.</p> <p>10.3 – Look at World Views in greater depth at November meeting.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b> <b>CB</b></p> <p><b>CB</b> <b>CB</b> <b>CB</b></p>
4	<p><b>Updates from Schools Working Group/Network meetings &amp; CPD</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Secondary hub</b>          Claire Ramalli updated the meeting. A training session had taken place last month with Lat Blaylock; this focussed on Hinduism, attended by 4 schools (Claverham had a whole department attend). A second training session is being held 23 June focussing on Sikhism with 9 schools attending.          A training session will be held on 1 July focussing on support for non-specialist RE teachers in the county. Followed by a session on Buddhism and Christianity for KS3. A third session is planned for Philosophy for children. These sessions are available for all East Sussex RE teachers.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Peter White advised of <b>Teach:RE Primary – an introduction:</b> a 12-hour FREE self-study course for Primary Teachers who find themselves teaching RE with no background or training. Can be found via the following link:  <a href="https://www.teachre.co.uk/teach-re-course/teachre-primary/">https://www.teachre.co.uk/teach-re-course/teachre-primary/</a></p> <p><b>4.3 Primary networks</b>          Claire Rivers updated the meeting. The last network meeting was held at the end of March with Lat Blaylock and had over 100 attendees. Excellent evaluations were received following the session.          A training session is arranged for today with Lat Blaylock 'Imagine, think and express yourself'.          The primary network has grown over the last year and has become a very valuable resource. Going forward, people would like more on assessment and world views.</p>	
5	<p><b>Feedback from Agreed Syllabus consultations</b></p> <p><b>5.1</b> CB explained the official procedure for the process of reviewing the Agreed RE Syllabus:          September 2021 – Launch an Agreed Syllabus Conference.          January 2022 – Agreed Syllabus Conference to present the final syllabus.          Spring 2022 – Launch events.          September 2022 – Schools start to use new Syllabus.</p> <p><b>5.2</b> CB and BB talked through a presentation on the feedback from the Agreed Syllabus consultations held with teachers. Slides will be circulated with these minutes. Syllabus options have been discussed previously amongst SACRE colleagues at the meeting on 16 March.          From the teacher consultations Model B – RE Today – came out far more strongly than the Hampshire model. Discussion followed.</p>	

<b>5.3</b>	<p>Key things our schools want from the new Syllabus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A syllabus that is engaging, inclusive and responds to current world contexts and views</li> <li>– Support for delivery and upskilling non-specialist teachers – almost all teachers in primary are non-specialists</li> <li>– Clear pedagogical framework to support teaching and learning</li> <li>– Integrates with Understanding Christianity used by Church schools</li> <li>– A programme of study at KS4 that offers a viable alternative to a qualification route</li> <li>– Greater support needed for non-examined Key Stage 4 especially for non-specialists</li> <li>– Any non-examined KS4 course should offer possible progression onto KS5 courses</li> <li>– Preference for thematic teaching rather than unitised by religion</li> <li>– Issues rather than festivals</li> <li>– Focus on knowledge and skills that build coherently throughout the programme of study</li> </ul>	
<b>5.4</b>	<p>Cllr Galley agreed that we should proceed with the RE Today Syllabus and launch a formal Agreed Syllabus Conference in September. CB to take this forward.</p>	<b>CB</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Budget Update</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	<p>CB updated the meeting on the current position of the SACRE budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- £15,000 for next 2 years had been agreed by the local authority for SACRE to use for the work with the Agreed Syllabus review.</li> <li>- £2,000 was remaining from last year's budget, this is being held by St Mark's Teaching School for CPD purposes.</li> <li>- A budget update report was circulated to SACRE members prior to the meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.2</b>	<p>Cllr Galley updated the meeting on feedback from NASACRE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National funding information: NASACRE received a huge amount of information from the FOI request to local authorities.</li> <li>– Discussion is taking place around World Views.</li> <li>– The NASCRE virtual conference was very successful. A summary of the conference is available if required.</li> <li>– There is further work taking place around simplifying SACRE annual reports, NASACRE will be employing someone to look at trend information.</li> </ul>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Ofsted Research Report on RE</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	<p>CB led on this item. The report had been circulated to SACRE member prior to the meeting. CB advised that this is a significant piece of work that SACRE will return to in the Autumn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A substantial report focussed on the teaching of RE.</li> <li>– This would be a useful item to refer to school governors when we meet with them.</li> <li>– Some slides could be put together for the network meetings.</li> </ul>	<b>CB</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion (standing item)</b>	

<b>8.1</b>	CB confirmed that in the discussion around the review of the Agreed Syllabus and the feedback from the school consultations it was acknowledged that there is the need for our new Agreed Syllabus to acknowledge and agree the diverse global society. Also the Ofsted Research Report on RE acknowledges this.	
<b>9</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	No items were raised.	
	<b>Date of the next meeting: 23 November 2021 at 2.00pm</b>  <b>Venue: tbc</b>	

## SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020 – 2021

1 Monitor standards and provision of RE in East Sussex schools							
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
1.1	<p>Develop a simple questionnaire (survey monkey or email) to use in school visits and network meetings to inform the judgement of provision in East Sussex and planning for support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collate all contact details for RE leads in all schools</li> <li>Schools Group to revise the questionnaire</li> </ul>	RE lead / Clerk	Throughout the year linked to network meetings and visits	<p>Schools are compliant in meeting statutory requirements for the teaching of RE.</p> <p>SACRE has an improved understanding of the provision for RE teaching in schools.</p>			
1.2	<p>Establish an accountability framework that allows for a review of outcomes as part of the process.</p> <p>Due to Covid19 there will be no local and national comparisons for student outcomes from last academic year.</p>	RE advisor / Clerk	February 2021	<p>Increasing numbers of entries for GCSE RE short and full courses in more schools.</p> <p>% achieving grades 4+ and 5+ are at least in line with national average for the year.</p>			
1.3	<p>School visits planned to share good practice and take feedback from schools to inform the work of SACRE.</p> <p>Widen the number of SACRE members who undertake school visits. This can include virtual visits and schools focus group opportunities.</p>	RE lead / SACRE members	March 2021	<p>Programme of visits/online meeting opportunities planned and agreed at SACRE board.</p> <p>Visit reports evaluated to identify support needs and actions for schools and SACRE</p>			
1.4	Links to NASACRE and to SE SACRE Group to share and learn from practice in other authorities – RG on NASACRE and can feedback, CR and CB engaging with SE SACRE Group.	Chair of SACRE	Ongoing	<p>Chair and SACRE Adviser reports back to SACRE 3 times a year.</p> <p>Learning identified and used to inform practice in East Sussex.</p>			

1.5	Review a cross section of school websites to ensure that the RE curriculum is available and to identify any questions or concerns that SACRE might have.  These may be passed to the Schools Group to follow up or for SACRE visits.	SACRE members, Chairman, RE Lead, Clerk	September 20 to March 2021	Improved standards of RE and pupil progress in East Sussex schools.  All schools meeting statutory requirements.			
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2	Support the quality of RE teaching and learning in all schools						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
2.1	Support the work of the Schools Group to work with schools to help improve the quality of teaching and learning in RE.  Schools Group to report back on progress to SACRE.	Barry Blakelock	ongoing	Effective school to school support established.  Increased number of SLEs for RE.  Examples of improved quality of teaching and learning.			
2.2	Support the delivery of professional development for schools and governing bodies:  a. Network meetings for RE subject leaders in primary and secondary schools  b. Professional development programme planned according to identified support needs  c. Primary Conference for RE Subject leaders planned  d. Secondary conference as part of network group	Claire Ramalli for Secondary Claire Rivers Primary RE lead, Chair, LA representative and Clerk Claire Rivers and ESTSN Claire Ramalli	3 times a year  Annual programme  Term 2  Term 3	60% of schools engage in the network meetings.  30% of schools attend the annual conferences.  100% of evaluations from CPD events are good and better.  Take up for CPD increases.			



	e. Training to be offered to governing bodies	CB/Governor Services	Term 5	Governing Boards are aware of statutory position of RE and are able to challenge their schools where they have concerns			
2.3	Further develop resources to support high quality teaching and learning in RE.  This will be through signposting national resources and websites and sharing good practice.	RE lead and Schools Group	ongoing	Examples of good practice and a range of resource materials shared with schools and feedback reported to SACRE.  Profile of RE teaching and resources raised through social media platforms.			

3	Support the provision of collective worship and SMSC						
	<b>Action points</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
3.1	Monitor provision of collective worship through questionnaires and school visits	RE lead / SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools meeting statutory requirements for Collective Worship.			
3.2	Develop a local policy for determination in relation to acts of collective worship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review examples of other SACRE Determination policies</li> <li>Develop and consult on an ES policy</li> <li>Publish the ES Determination Policy on the website</li> </ul>	CRA and CB	June 21	Determination policy published and understood by schools.			

4	Improve effectiveness of role of SACRE						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
4.1	Training and induction in place for SACRE members and annually reviewed.	SACRE support	Annually June 21	All SACRE members fully aware of their roles and responsibilities			
4.2	Improve SACRE members' knowledge and understanding of the education context and the strengths and challenges facing East Sussex schools in relation to RE and collective worship.	RE lead, Chair of SACRE, LA Representative and Clerk	Annually	All SACRE members aware of the wider school context and specific performance in RE, Collective Worship and pupils' SMSC			
4.3	Increase the profile of SACRE in the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend governor forums</li> <li>Photos of SACRE members on website</li> <li>Regular newsletters</li> <li>Pupil conference promoted by SACRE</li> </ul>	All SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools and local and wider community aware of the role of SACRE			
4.4	Succession planning for SACRE – review membership and ensure full representation across all groups.  Bring other members on board as identified to increase the expertise and support for the work of SACRE.	All SACRE members	Ongoing	SACRE skill set continues to develop and future members supported to engage with SACRE			
4.7	Annual report to Scrutiny Committee	RE lead / LA Representative, clerk and Chair of SACRE	March 2021	ESCC fully aware of effectiveness of RE teaching and learning and responsibilities of SACRE			

5	Review East Sussex local agreed syllabus for RE						
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
5.1	<p>Review of Local Agreed Syllabus in the light of national developments and feedback from schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to decide on the process for reviewing the syllabus</li> <li>Working group to look at the Agreed Syllabus and gain feedback from schools</li> <li>Agreed Syllabus Conference – to sign off the syllabus</li> </ul>	RE lead, Schools Group and SACRE	<p>November 2020</p> <p>February 2021</p> <p>Autumn 2021</p>	Revised Agreed Syllabus published in autumn 2021 is fit for purpose and responds to national developments and guidance.			
5.2	<p>Monitor national developments and changes at a which will impact SACRE's views of syllabus development. For example, the National Council for RE Report 2018, Theos Think Piece, research and literary reviews, Ofsted inspection framework.</p> <p>National changes to be brought to SACRE meetings for discussion and agreement on actions</p>	RE lead and SACRE		<p>SACRE is aware of changes which are made at a national level.</p> <p>SACRE ensure that schools are fully aware of National initiatives and developments</p> <p>SACRE ensures that funding is in place to support schools with any key national initiatives</p>			

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<b>Report to:</b>	East Sussex SACRE
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	23 November 2021
<b>By:</b>	Carrie Beech ESCC Adviser to SACRE
<b>Title:</b>	SACRE Budget Plan 2021-22
<b>Purpose:</b>	To advise the East Sussex SACRE of the budget for 2021-22

**Recommendations:**

- SACRE are asked to approve the budget plan
- SACRE to discuss ongoing support package from RE Today and decide if this would be helpful from next financial year. If it is then there will be the need to apply for an uplift in funding for next financial year.

**1. Background**

The annual budget allocation for SACRE in recent years has usually been between £7,000 to £10,000. This year and next financial year the allocation is agreed to be £15,000 to reflect that over the next two years there is funding and work required to support the revision of the Local Agreed Syllabus.

**2. Outline budget plan for 2021: £15,000**

<b><i>Area of work</i></b>	<b><i>Budget allocation</i></b>
Specialist Advice to SACRE 6 days	£3,200
SLE support for engaging primary schools and primary networks 5 days	£1,750
Partnership with RE today to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support for development of new Agreed Syllabus</li> <li>• licensing costs</li> <li>• CPD launch event</li> <li>• Development of KS4 core curriculum</li> </ul> (Split total over two years so same amount to be paid in May 2022)	£9,280
CPD mainly online plus launch events for new Agreed Syllabus to be held in person if possible – to be confirmed once plans finalised	£3000 (this will only cover part of the costs, remainder to be met through re-charging schools)
NASACRE annual subscription fee	£105
Annual NASACRE conference	£60
NASACRE on-line training	£50
SLE time to support curriculum development – 1.5 days at £350 a day	£525
<b>Total</b>	<b>£14,970</b>

### 3. Funds Held by St Mark's Teaching School: £2000

<b>Area of Work</b>	<b>Budget allocated</b>
Primary CPD with RE Today June 2021	£450
Understanding Christianity – subsidised by RE Today due to working with Syllabus Model B - £60 per funded school (inc training and folder) £60 per other school plus £75 for the folder of resources + £135 for the school	£1000 subsidy towards the cost of the training to bring the cost down to the schools
SLE funding to support curriculum development –1 day	£350
Primary Network meetings support	£200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2000</b>

### 4. Other contributions from SLES:

- Support for Secondary networks from Secondary Board
- Support for SLES representation on SACRE and support for Schools Working Group and raising profile and quality of RE Teaching
- Primary and Secondary Boards and Teaching Schools - allocation for SLEs (Specialist Leaders in Education) for school-to-school support

### 5. Breakdown of RE Today Support and detailed costs:

#### Financial year 2021/22

Syllabus licences 94 @ £59 each + vat	£6,655
Launch conference (50%)	£1,500
Core KS4 consultancy (50%)	£1,125
Total	£9,280 to be invoiced in December 2021

#### Financial year 2022/23

Syllabus licences 94 @ £59 each + vat	£6,655
Launch conference (50%)	£1,500
Core KS4 consultancy (50%)	£1,125
Total	£9,280 to be invoiced in May 2022

### 6 Understanding Christianity subsidy explained:

With regards to Understanding Christianity under Syllabus model B, there is now a positive change around the interpretation of eligibility for the allocation of funding. We can now engage the following schools within the UC subsidy, Foundation, Academy and Free schools, this would be subject to an individual school check which we would carry out.

This makes a significant difference when engaging with Syllabus model B, as the original outline proposal was based on 44 community schools taking part with the UC training and receiving a 71% subsidy, this could be increased to 122 schools, which leaves the 44 Voluntary controlled and the 22 Voluntary aided schools outside of the subsidy. However, if these schools wished to engage with UC we would support them with a subsidy provided by RE Today.

#### 6.1 Costs for Understanding Christianity:

- The funded schools would pay £60 towards the total cost of £210 for the training and their UC folder
- The unfunded schools would pay £60 towards the total cost of £210 for the training + £75, which is the cost of their folder, the remaining £75 would be subsidised by RE Today, making the total cost to each school £135.

## 7. Launch Event Options for purchasing the schemes of work (optional):

The schools will have the opportunity to purchase the scheme of work for the following:

- Primary schools – Gross cost is £300 applied discount £140 = net cost of £160
- Secondary schools – Gross cost £165 applied discount £77 = net cost of £88

### 7.1 Ongoing CPD support proposal and quote:

There are several options here. An example for consideration, based on a 1,2 - and 3-year contract

- Termly twilight online meetings for primary and for secondary, and two annual face to face conferences – one primary (two advisers) and one secondary (one or two advisers).

Event	Cost per event	1-year contract cost	2-year contract cost – 10% discount	3-year contract cost - 15% discount
Termly webinars (90 mins online)	£450	£450	£405	£382
3 x primary		£1,350	£1,215	£1,146
3x secondary		£1,350	£1,215	£1,146
Total cost		£2,700	£2,430	£2,292
Annual conference	£3,000	£3,000	£2,700	£2,550
1 x primary				
1 x secondary				
3 RE advisers to deliver the conference		£3,000	£2,700	£2,550
Total cost				
<b>Total package cost</b>		<b>£5,700</b>	<b>£5,130</b>	<b>£4,842</b>

## 8. Recommendations:

- SACRE are asked to approve the budget plan
- SACRE to discuss ongoing support package from RE Today and decide if this would be helpful from next financial year. If it is then we need to apply for an uplift in funding for next financial year.

Contact: Carrie Beech, Local Authority Adviser

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