

# East Sussex SACRE

## Notes of the meeting

**Date:** **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Venue:** **Priory Room C2F, County Hall**

**Chairman:** **Councillor Roy Galley**

**Clerk:** **Julie Stevens**

**Present:** **Cllr Roy Galley, Mr Peter White, Cllr Philip Daniel, Cllr Trevor Webb, Cllr Richard Stogdon, Dr Brenda Vance, Dr Norman Williamson, Mrs Rosemary Roberts, Ms Elizabeth Coleman, Ms Mandy Watson, Mrs Sarah Feist, Dr Tariq Rajbee, Rev Derek Bastide, Ms Kayleigh Lambert, Mr Craig Austen-White, Mrs Laura Cooper**

**Also present:** **Alistair Robertson (Humanist Observer), Dr Mark Bishop (Buddhist community Observer), Lilian Weatherley (LW) (Advisor to SACRE), Jacky Cross (LA Advisor), Catherine Dooley (ESCC observer), Julie Stevens (Clerk)**

**Apologies:** **Cllr Colin Belsey, Mrs Pam Hartog, Mr Mike Rundle**

Item	Title	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>  Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present to the meeting and introductions were made around the table. A special welcome was given to new members representing the NEU. Apologies were noted by the Clerk.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Disclosures of interest</b>  There were no declarations of interest.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Urgent items</b>  There were no urgent items raised	
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017 &amp; Matters Arising</b>  The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. Any outstanding actions are included on the agenda.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Academy visits</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	Three visits had taken place to academies by Cllr Galley accompanied by Rosemary Roberts and/or Peter White. The purpose of the visits is to see if the academies are meeting the statutory requirements with the teaching of RE. Cllr Galley will be sending letters to each of the Head teachers following the visit to their school confirming the findings of SACRE. It is the aim of SACRE that as many academies are visited as possible to make sure schools are meeting the statutory requirements.	
<b>5.2</b>	More volunteers from SACRE are requested to do the school visits with Cllr Galley. Those interested, please contact Julie Stevens.	<b>All</b>
<b>5.3</b>	It was suggested by one RE Lead at a school visited that it would be useful to have a	

<b>5.4</b>	list of contacts that could offer to lead collective worship in the schools and is happy to give support/talks on the different faiths.	
<b>5.5</b>	Cllr Galley asked that SACRE members send names of such contacts to Julie Stevens. A briefing/protocol is to be supplied to any school visitors, content of this to be overseen by Lilian Weatherley.	<b>All</b>
<b>5.6</b>	Cllr Galley stated that any visitors to schools must not indoctrinate the students with their religion.	
<b>5.7</b>	Cllr Webb requested a letter from Cllr Galley that could be given to such contacts to explain what we are looking for.	<b>Cllr Galley</b>
<b>5.8</b>	Laura Cooper has an example of protocol for visits to schools that she will send to Lilian Weatherley.	<b>Laura Cooper</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Primary School websites</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Following the last SACRE meeting, several SACRE members had been asked to review the East Sussex Primary Schools websites. Several responses had been received by the clerk. Cllr Galley stated that Primary school visits will be set up in the New Year to those schools that we may have issues with.	<b>Cllr Galley</b>
<b>6.2</b>	<b><u>SIAMS Inspections</u></b> Mandy Watson gave an overview of SIAM's inspections within East Sussex. Voluntary controlled and voluntary aided Church schools are inspected by the Church of England every 4 years. Currently 40 schools per term are inspected.	
<b>6.3</b>	There will be a new inspection framework introduced in September 2018 which will mean that the Church of England can inspect Religious Education in schools. At the present time Ofsted should inspect this area and therefore RE is not currently included in the SIAMS inspections.	
<b>6.4</b>	There are currently 67 voluntary aided or voluntary controlled schools in East Sussex. There are a total of 156 voluntary aided/controlled schools across East Sussex, Brighton and Hove and West Sussex, 41% are judged as outstanding, 50% judged as good and 9% judged as requiring improvement.	
<b>6.5</b>	Mandy advised she is happy to arrange for SACRE members to visit the schools judged as excellent. Cllr Galley confirmed this could be incorporated into the visits to Primary Schools in 2018.	
<b>7</b>	<b>RE View</b>	
	Lilian Weatherley gave an overview of the content of the RE View that had been circulated to all SACRE members.	
<b>7.1</b>	<b><u>Interim Report Religious Education for All</u></b> A list of the recommendations from this report can be found listed at the end of the RE View document. A questionnaire is available for completion, it was agreed a response from the	

	<p>SACRE as a whole will be submitted. The clerk will circulate a copy of the suggested responses to the SACRE members for comment. The deadline for submission of the questionnaire is 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017. If no responses are received it will be presumed that the SACRE members are happy with the content.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
<b>7.3</b>	<p>Discussion followed around key points in the report. The issue around Humanism not being recognised as a religion and therefore the Humanist representative not being a member of SACRE was debated, but it was agreed that this point could be discussed further at a future meeting.</p>	
<b>7.4</b>	<p>Alastair Robertson stated that Humanists support Religious Education and the syllabus.</p>	
<b>7.5</b>	<p>Kayleigh Lambert pointed out that Humanism is included in the GCSE syllabus.</p>	
<b>7.6</b>	<p><u>NATRE Report</u>  Lilian Weatherley gave an overview of the report published by NATRE on the State of the Nation concerning RE.  It was agreed by the SACRE that there is a serious problem with RE in our secondary schools.</p>	
<b>7.7</b>	<p>Cllr Galley advised that now he is a member of NASACRE it will be useful to pick up information from other areas. A meeting of SACRE Chairs from neighbouring authorities was held here in September and further meetings of this kind will take place going forward.</p>	
<b>7.8</b>	<p>Laura Cooper highlighted the fact that pressures are immense on the secondary Head teachers and they need a voice on this committee.</p>	
<b>7.9</b>	<p><u>Networks/Hubs</u>  Two primary network meetings had recently been held which were well attended. The RE teachers had requested a session on Judaism.  The Secondary school hub had been postponed.</p>	
<b>7.10</b>	<p><u>Training courses</u>  Being a new subject leader course is to be held in February 2018. There is the ongoing problem with the RE subject leaders receiving notification of training courses. Jacky Cross clarified that the Training Events team communicate to the school offices.  A Teaching Islam course is to be run in January 2018.</p>	
<b>7.11</b>	<p><u>RE Conference 2018</u>  The next RE Conference will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 at Wellshurst Golf Club. The title of the conference will be Celebrating Similarities.  The key note speaker is Monawar Hussein. Workshop leaders are still being sought.</p>	
<b>7.12</b>	<p>The Clerk to circulate the RE View to all schools.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Youth Conference</b></p>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Cllr Galley reminded those present that SACRE had agreed previously that we should</p>	

	<p>try to organise a conference for young people, aimed at Years 10-11. Cllr Galley suggested that this could be an opportunity to put in a bid to the Westhill Awards for some money to arrange this conference.</p> <p>Cllr Galley suggested a sub- group be set up to have further detailed discussions. Please register any interest in this with Julie Stevens.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>8.2</b>	<p><b>Items for further thought</b></p> <p>Cllr Galley raised some points that he would like the SACRE members to give some thought to which we can pick up at the next meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form some sort of young SACRE?</li> <li>2. Do members of SACRE feel they could do with some SACRE training?</li> <li>3. Do we have a website?</li> </ol> <p>With regards to the website we have a page on the Czone site which can be accessed by anyone where we can display information around SACRE.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>GCSE Results</b></p> <p>A copy of this year's GCSE results for RE was circulated around the table by Jacky Cross. A copy is obtainable from the clerk.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Budget update</b></p> <p><b>10.1</b> Jacky Cross explained the latest situation with the SACRE budget. SACRE receive £5,000 per year from the Local Authority. The RE Adviser, Lilian Weatherley is contracted to do 10 days' work each year from this budget, therefore most of the budget is taken up by this time allocated to the RE Adviser. Therefore any extra costs incurred make it very difficult to balance the budget. Extra income is needed to help boost our funds.</p> <p><b>10.2</b> Training courses have to break even; if this is not the case then the courses have to be cancelled.</p> <p><b>10.3</b> The RE Conference in March 2018 has a budget plan based on 35 delegates at £90 each, if this number is not met then the conference will have to be cancelled.</p> <p><b>10.4</b> Lilian raised a point that the Government give money to the Local Authorities for their SACRE budget but no further detail is known on the amount of this. Jacky Cross confirmed she would look into this.</p> <p><b>10.5</b> We are hoping to sell some of our resources that we have on CD to another Local Authority to raise some further funds.</p>	<b>JC</b>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>No further business was raised.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 15.49.</p>	
	<p><b>Date of the next meeting : 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 @ 2.00pm</b></p> <p><b>Venue: County Hall, Westfield House Room WH2</b></p>	