

# East Sussex SACRE

## Notes of the meeting

**Date:** Tuesday 16 March 2021

**Venue:** Via Microsoft Teams

**Chairman:** Councillor Roy Galley

**Clerk:** Julie Stevens

**SACRE members present:** Cllr Roy Galley, Cllr Colin Belsey, Cllr Richard Stogdon, Cllr Philip Daniel, Cllr Trevor Webb, Mr Peter White, Mrs Rosemary Roberts, Dr Brenda Vance, Dr Norman Williamson, Ms Liz Coleman, Mrs Mandy Watson, Ms Anna Flood, Mr Barry Blakelock, Mrs Laura Cooper, Mrs Claire Ramalli, Mrs Claire Rivers

**Also present:** Carrie Beech (LA Adviser), Julie Stevens (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Mrs Pamela Hartog, Mr Tim Telford, Dr Tariq Rajbee

Item	Title	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome/ Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present at the meeting.	
<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>Minutes of meeting 25 November 2020</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	The minutes of the last SACRE business meeting held on 25 November were agreed as accurate.	
<b>2.2</b>	The Development Plan RAG rating will be included on the agenda of this meeting if time allows.	
<b>3</b>	<b>SACRE Annual Report to Peoples Scrutiny Committee 11 March 2021</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	Cllr Galley confirmed that the Annual Report was noted by the Scrutiny Committee and the lack of exam results and school visits was of course considered.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Feedback from Network meetings &amp; CPD</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<p><u>Claire Ramalli – Secondary RE Hub meeting</u></p> <p>A few apologies were received for the meeting but lots of new contacts were made. Key points discussed at the Hub meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KS4 core curriculum</li> <li>- Central agreed assessments</li> <li>- Further training booked in with Lat Blaylock (two twilight sessions): 19 May – Hinduism 23 June – Sikhism</li> <li>- Shared teaching and learning resources from Dawn Cox – a different perspective for students on religion and world views.</li> </ul>	

	<p>These training sessions will all be via Microsoft Teams, all SACRE members and any colleagues are welcome to join. Please contact Claire Ramalli for further details.</p>	
4.2	<p>Cllr Galley asked if SACRE can help in any way with contacts for schools; CR confirmed that she has most of the contacts for the secondary schools except for a few. Claire Rivers has the list of contacts for the Primary schools.</p> <p>Carrie Beech advised that further work to take place during the summer to update the school contact lists.</p>	CB
4.3	<p><u>Claire Rivers – Primary Network</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The next meeting is being held on 24 March, SACRE members are welcome free of charge.</li> <li>- A new SLE has been appointed – Lois Burton, who will pick up responsibility for updating Facebook and Twitter pages.</li> <li>- The agreed syllabus models have been raised at the meeting of the Primary Board and the EIPs have this on their next agenda to discuss the preferred model of syllabus.</li> <li>- Details of training on ‘In the moment’ in Early Years’ settings had been circulated prior to this meeting to SACRE members.</li> </ul>	
4.4	<p>CB added that Claire Ramalli and Claire Rivers have done a really good job in very difficult circumstances and the momentum that is building around RE is extremely positive.</p> <p>SACRE wanted to register their thanks around the training opportunities and support given to teachers.</p>	
4.5	<p>Cllr Galley asked to what extent do we engage with our Special schools? Could SACRE start to plan a series of school visits?</p> <p>SACRE agreed that school visits could start again from September onwards.</p> <p>CB advised that at the meeting of the South Central SACREs it had been mentioned that virtual school visits had taken place and suggested that over the long term a blended approach (virtual and in person) visits may be appropriate for the monitoring function of SACRE.</p> <p>Cllr Galley agreed that SACRE could develop a programme over time for a mix of the two types of visit; this would be co-ordinated by Carrie/Claire/Claire from September onwards.</p>	CB/CR /CR
4.6	<p>Claire Rivers confirmed that one of the special schools (Grove Park) do attend the Primary network meetings. Claire Ramalli added that she did have a contact, Karen Walker at county re special schools but was not sure who the contact is now.</p> <p>CB added that there are complexities with special schools, over the last year in particular; but agreed that we do need to reach out to them.</p>	
5	<p><b>Feedback from Schools Working Group &amp; Update re RE Agreed Syllabus</b></p>	
5.1	<p>Barry Blakelock gave feedback from the latest meeting of the Working Group, where discussion had taken place around the options for the agreed syllabus review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tweak current syllabus</li> <li>- Complete re-write</li> <li>- Work with the RE Today model</li> <li>- Work with the Hampshire model</li> </ul>	

5.2	<p>There are several events running around the review of the agreed syllabus and CB has put together a background paper and discussion document (circulated with the papers for this meeting). The timetable of events via the school led system is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Primary Board and EIPs</li> <li>2. Secondary Board</li> <li>3. Area Groups</li> <li>4. Teaching Schools Alliance</li> <li>5. Two focus groups – 28 April and 13 May via Zoom for teaching staff/SACRE</li> <li>6. End of May, the working party to collate views and present a paper to SACRE at June meeting</li> <li>7. June 22<sup>nd</sup> SACRE to make the final decision which model to take forward</li> </ol>	BB
5.3	<p>CB confirmed that an article will be published in the Virtual School Bag (VSB) on Monday 22 March advertising the two focus groups and Julie Stevens will collate bookings for these events.</p> <p>Mandy Watson and Anna Ford will represent the Catholic and Anglican schools and it would be helpful if they could attend the focus group discussions to represent the Diocese.</p>	Clerk
5.4	<p>BB added that it was important for SACRE members to be involved in the focus groups. Clerk to send joining details to SACRE.</p>	Clerk
5.5	<p>Peter White raised the point that SACRE need to keep in mind the cost to individual schools and any central funding SACRE may receive. It was confirmed that the time commitment for any syllabus package would be a five-year licence.</p>	
5.6	<p>Cllr Galley advised that he had requested £15,000 additional budget to cover the cost of producing and launching the new Agreed Syllabus. The Director of Children's Services was considering this request.</p>	
6	<p><b>Budget Update</b></p>	
6.1	<p>CB gave an update on the current position of the SACRE budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The budget has allowed us to pay for all CPD events and therefore they have been free of charge for our schools, the numbers have been reflective of this.</li> <li>- Running events on-line keeps costs down as no venues or travel costs involved.</li> <li>- Additional time for both Claires' has been paid from the budget. Carrie's time is sponsored by Children's Services Department and therefore does not impact on the SACRE budget.</li> <li>- It is helpful that Cllr Galley has approached the DCS for additional funding in respect of the review and launch of the agreed syllabus.</li> <li>- We are not officially allowed to carry any funds forward to the next financial year.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Freedom of Information Request</b></p>	
7.1	<p>Cllr Galley gave the background of this FOI request from NASACRE and NATRE. The purpose of the request to local authorities was to gain information on the financial support provided for SACREs.</p> <p>A huge response had been received by NASACRE. CB talked through the response sent by ESCC from the paper circulated to SACRE.</p>	

<b>7.2</b>	Cllr Belsey was interested in the comparison of funding against other local authorities. Cllr Galley advised he would circulate this information.	<b>Cllr Galley</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>National Issues</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Cllr Galley gave an update on National issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NASACRE is currently working on their website and Development Plan.</li> <li>- NASACRE had received several Annual Reports; not every SACRE provides a report each year therefore it is difficult to measure any trends. Cllr Galley is currently campaigning for a consultant to come into NASACRE to look at trend data over the last few years.</li> <li>- Governance Committee of the Religious Education Council (REC) – the REC Board have produced a strategic plan which is being discussed this week. This is about extending Religion and World Views and re-naming SACRE's as part of the ongoing debate around World Views.</li> </ul>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Development Plan</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	The SACRE Development Plan was discussed and each area on the plan was Red, Amber, Green (RAG) rated. It was agreed that the Development Plan can be re-visited at the November SACRE meeting and updated as necessary.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>9.2</b>	Cllr Belsey asked if schools have a nominated Governor responsible for RE? CB responded that schools do not have a specific Governor for RE, but this is certainly an area for discussion. Jessica Stubbings at the local authority oversees the agendas for the Governor meetings and it would be helpful to get Carrie and Cllr Galley onto a future agenda in the summer term to discuss the agreed syllabus review.	<b>CB/ Clerk</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
<b>10.1</b>	Cllr Galley raised the subject of Black Lives Matter and Equality and Diversity being included on future SACRE agendas. It was agreed that Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion would be added as a standing item to future SACRE agendas to reflect on how decisions made may affect others.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>10.2</b>	SACRE agreed it would be helpful for Cllr Galley and CB to attend a Youth Cabinet meeting to raise the profile of SACRE. Clerk to provide contact details.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>10.3</b>	Cllr Galley suggested having a presentation at the June meeting on Religion and World Views. CB will contact Trevor Cooling, one of the authors of the Theos report, to see if he can attend. Claire Ramalli also suggested contacting Justine Ball at NATRE.	<b>CB</b>
<b>10.4</b>	Peter White mentioned that it is the County Council elections in May and some of the Councillors here today may not be with us for future SACRE meetings. His heartfelt thanks were noted for the support they have given to SACRE business.	
<b>10.5</b>	Cllr Richard Stogdon is not standing at the next election, therefore SACRE gave it's thanks to Richard for all his work with SACRE over many years.	

	Cllr Stogdon thanked everyone for their good wishes, he had been on the SACRE group for 16 years and it was noted that it is much better organised now than ever before. It has been a privilege to be part of SACRE.	
	<p><b>Date of the next meeting: 22 June 2021 at 2.00pm</b></p> <p><b>Via Microsoft Teams</b></p>	