

East Sussex SACRE

Notes of the meeting

Date: Thursday 17 November 2022
Venue: Centre 2F / Microsoft Teams
Chairperson: Councillor Roy Galley
Clerk: Julie Stevens - absent - therefore meeting recorded
SACRE members present: Cllr Roy Galley, Cllr Colin Belsey (CB), Cllr Steve Murphy, Rosemary Roberts (RR), Liz Coleman (EC), Claire Rivers (CRi), Dr Norman Williamson, Kirsty Eydmann (KE)
Also present: Barry Blakelock (BB), Claire Ramalli (CRa)
Apologies: Julie Stevens, Peter White, Cllr Azad, Rev Jeremy Sykes, Laura Cooper, Anna Flood, Sam Keddie, Helen Key

Item	Title	Action
1	Welcome/ Introductions & Apologies	
1.1	Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present at the meeting, introductions were made. Apologies were noted.	
1.2	There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.	
2	Minutes of meeting 16 June 2022	
2.1	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate.	
2.2	2.2 - BB will bring the Special Schools' paper to the next meeting. Clerk to add to the agenda.	Clerk/ BB
	2.6 SACRE Constitution - Cllr Galley has checked and confirmed our Constitution is correct. We do need to have a Determinations Policy in place, CRa is dealing with this with guidance from NASACRE. The model Policy will require legal advice before being published. BB will pick up the legal aspect of the Policy. Add this onto the agenda for the next meeting.	BB/CRa Clerk
	5.2 CRa had shared the RE Curriculum at KS4 with Barnet SACRE colleagues and also at the ARIAC Conference. This had been very well received resulting in collaborative working with Barnet LA which will be of mutual benefit.	
3	Update from Network Meetings	
3.1	<u>Secondary schools update</u> CRa referred to a document that had been circulated prior to the meeting regarding Religious Education and the Schools' Bill (2022). There are two main concerns of the RE Council: (i) Trying to remove barriers to academisation. (ii) Academies are not required to follow their local Agreed Syllabus for RE. Suggested solutions within the document: (i) The DfE should amend the Schools' Bill to ensure RE in all types of school is protected by primary legislation, not just RE in schools with religious character. (ii) The curriculum up to 16 is broad and balanced, includes English. Mathematics, Science and up to 18, includes religious Education.	

3.1.1	<p><u>Network Hub</u> Samantha Keddie has now taken over running the Secondary Hubs. The last meeting at the beginning of November was attended by representatives of ten schools. Sam has set up KS3 Padlet for staff to share resources and this has been presented at network meetings. A twilight training session has been arranged for 8 February 2023 led by Kate Christopher. Cllr Belsey expressed an interest in joining this session.</p>	
3.1.2	<p>Jon Gilbert requested two hard copies of the Agreed Syllabus be sent to the Diocese office in Hove.</p>	Clerk
3.2	<p><u>Primary Schools update</u></p>	
3.2.1	<p>CRi gave feedback from the Network meeting held on 2 November. It was a face-to-face meeting with thirty-seven attendees. The next meeting is on 8 February 2023. It was noted that RE Today are very quick to remove resources from their website, CRi will contact Stephen Pett to ask if he can re-instate the resources still needed.</p>	CRi
3.2.2	<p>Funding opportunities - CRi will discuss further with BB, CRa and SK and pursue funding possibilities for SACRE.</p>	CRi
3.2.3	<p>A brief survey had been completed by schools regarding the new Agreed Syllabus - the following questions were asked: (i) Did the Agreed Syllabus launch help you with next steps to implement the new Agreed Syllabus? 90% answered yes (ii) When have you decided to implement the new Agreed Syllabus? Answers - 80% this term; 10% gradually over the year; 10% not sure at this point (iii) How easy have you found it to use the Agreed Syllabus materials to create your long-term RE planner? Answers - 60% very straightforward; 30% trying to combine good practice with it; 10% struggling a little bit (iv) What additional support would you value? Answers - Shared resources on Google drive; Discussion at network meetings; further training from RE Today</p>	
3.2.4	<p>BB suggested that it would be good idea for a letter/email to be sent to the Headteachers to thank them for their part in the success of the launch of the new Agreed Syllabus. Cllr Galley agreed to speak to the Comms team.</p>	Cllr Galley
3.3	<p>CRi referred to the offer of visits to the Synagogue by Pam Hartog, CRi and PH to arrange further dates for the Spring.</p>	CRi/PH
3.4	<p><u>Special Schools update</u> KE joined the meeting and gave feedback from the recent meeting of the Heads of the Special Schools.</p>	
3.4.1	<p>(i) With regards to the new Agreed Syllabus, the general consensus was that training is needed for special schoolteachers and differentiation in the syllabus for them to be able to use it. (ii) Feedback from individual schools - KE will collate with BB and prepare a response for the next SACRE meeting. (iii) It would be useful for schools to have a bank of places of worship where they could visit. PH offered to arrange a synagogue visit. (iv) CPD is helpful but it is difficult to attend the network meetings. A special school network would be beneficial - KE will take this forward.</p>	<p>KE/BB KE/PH KE</p>

3.4.2	Cllr Galley suggested a visit to one of the special schools be arranged for the new year to help SACRE understand the issues. BB will work on the guidance for SACRE members to visit schools and CRa and CRi will work on a programme of visits.	BB/CRa CRi
4	'My World, My Faith'	
4.1	Oliver Stevens, Lead Elder from the King's Church in Eastbourne was welcomed to the meeting. Oli gave an overview of the work of the King's Church.	
4.2	CRa asked if it would be possible to arrange a visit for students from Ratton to the Church? This was agreed and CRa will take this forward.	CRa
4.3	Cllr Belsey suggested that a special service could be organised for a specific year group across all secondary schools at the King's Church. The Church could also be considered as a venue for a student conference.	
4.4	It was noted that it is important to be clear on the difference between proselytise and giving information.	
4.5	Cllr Galley thanked Oliver for attending.	
5	Self-evaluation Toolkit	
5.1	This paper had been circulated prior to the meeting and the following was focussed on <i>- Members' attention is drawn to the 'areas for development' at the end of each section on pages 12, 19, 27, 32 and 38. What are members' views on barriers to success and how we might overcome them?</i>	
5.2	Representation of minority groups - this has always been a difficult area for SACRE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BB suggested we back up any invites to join SACRE with invites into schools to support the curriculum? - RR suggested that it is not obvious to people what SACRE is about? - EC suggested we approach Inter-faith forums? 	
5.3	It was agreed to keep Self-evaluation as a rolling item on the agenda.	Clerk
6	Development Plan	
6.1	BB advised this has been updated and will be brought back to the March meeting of SACRE.	BB
6.2	Key points of change: 1.3 - School visits to Amber status. 3.1 - Collective Worship - it is recognised that not enough work has been done in this area - continue over to next Development Plan. 3.2 - Determination Policy - will be updated at March SACRE meeting. 4.3 - Website and promoting our activities - Czone is being updated with new material. 4.7 - Annual report is underway. 5.2 - National developments - update from CRa given today.	
6.3	Cllr Galley suggested a Forward Plan with items for future meetings.	
7	Budget Update 2022/23	
7.1	BB referred to the Budget paper circulated to the meeting. Currently on budget so far this year but there is no room for any further activities this budget year.	

7.2	<p>2023/24 Budget - agreed as £15k For next year's budget we need to consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commitment to training from RE Today - Provision for Collective Worship - Aspirations for a Pupil conference - Network leads are to be factored into the budget - Supporting special schools - Expenses for SACRE members visiting schools 	
7.3	<p>BB advised that we need to look at options to raise further funds to allow SACRE to host a Pupil Conference, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selling some of our services/resources - Apply for Grants - Approach regional RE Hubs to facilitate a conference 	
7.4	<p>Cllr Galley suggested that himself and Cllr Belsey discuss the SACRE budget on a political level and request for a further £5k. BB advised that we look at the offer of £15k going forward for the SACRE budget as a positive move and we should be thankful for the extra funds agreed. It would be preferable to start looking outwards for things such as Pupil conferences / speakers in schools.</p>	
7.5	<p>Cllr Belsey suggested that two pupil conferences are held in two venues across the county to allow all schools to attend. The King's Church is linked to New Frontiers International, and they may well have venues that we could use free of charge.</p>	
7.6	<p>CRi suggested the making of video clips of good practice to be shared in schools; this would save on cost of any travelling expenses and make this facility accessible to all.</p>	
8	<p>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (Standing item)</p>	
8.1	<p>EC had shared a link re an organisation in Eastbourne that may be of interest.</p>	
9	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
9.1	<p>Cllr Galley would like to send a mark of gratitude to Carrie Beech but has been unable to locate her address. BB will investigate further.</p>	BB
9.2	<p>Agenda planning meeting to be arranged early February.</p>	Clerk
9.3	<p>PH advised that the Board of Deputies have redone the Jewish Way of Life exhibition and would like to organise for a school in East Sussex to host this. The exhibition can then be advertised to other schools for them to visit. CRa will consult with PH to arrange this.</p>	CRa/ PH
9.4	<p>Guest speakers for the 'My World, My Faith' agenda item is to be arranged for the next few meetings.</p>	Cllr Galley
<p>Date of next meeting: 2 March 2023 2.00 - 4.00pm</p> <p>Venue: County Hall & MS Teams</p>		