

Agenda

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

**Tuesday, 5 February 2019, 2.00 pm
County Hall, Worcester**

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DISCLOSING INTERESTS

**There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and 'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have
a pecuniary interest in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests** **OR**
relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorderd' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Tuesday, 5 February 2019, 2.00 pm, County Hall, Worcester

Membership:

Group A (Representatives of Christian and other faiths)

Mrs L Thorne (Ba'hai - Chairman), Mr G Bounds (Free Church Representative), Mrs T Khawaja (Muslim Representative), Mr J Loyal (Sikh Representative), Mrs C Parker (Methodist Representative) and Dr Y Stollard (Jewish Representative)

Group B (Church of England Representatives)

Kate Cope (Church of England), Mrs T Lister (Church of England) and Ms K Poole (Church of England)

Group C (Representatives of Recognised Teachers Associations)

Charlotte Betteridge (NASUWT) and Mr C Giles (Teacher Representative)

Group D (Elected representatives of the Local Authority)

Mr M E Jenkins (Worcestershire County Council), Mr R C Lunn (Worcestershire County Council) and Dr K A Pollock (Worcestershire County Council)

Co-opted Representatives

Ms E Hill (University of Worcester) and Ms A Hooper (Humanist Representative)

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	Apologies for Absence and Substitutions	
2	Confirmation of the Minutes	1 - 6
3	Annual Report and Exam results	
4	Future Support for Teachers / Conferences <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional RE Ambassador: Chris Giles• Primary conference: Stephen Pett• Primary hub leader: Ellie Hill and Stephen Pett• Secondary networks and student conference: Chris Giles and Becky• Secondary Teacher conference: Stephen Pett	7 - 10

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All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website.

Date of Issue: Monday, 28 January 2019

Item No	Subject	Page No
5	Agreed Syllabus Options	
6	Monitoring RE Provision in Schools To discuss the use of a survey to check on current provision and what teachers most want/need from any revision to the agreed syllabus.	
7	Feedback from Members	
8	Any Other Business	
9	Future Meeting Dates Wednesday, 15 May 2019 Wednesday, 2 October 2019	

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Tuesday, 2 October 2018, County Hall, Worcester, 2.00 pm

	Minutes
Present:	Mr R Lunn (Chairman), Mrs S Boulter, Mr G Bounds, Mr C Giles, Ms E Hill, Mr M E Jenkins, Mrs T Khawaja, Mr J Loyal, Mrs C Parker and Mrs Y Stollard
Also attended:	Ms J Lockwood, Ba'hai Gloucester, Stephen Pett, RE Today, Advisor to SACRE, Deborah Dale for Kate Griffiths
Available papers	The members had before them: <ol style="list-style-type: none">A. The Agenda plus Minutes of the meeting of SACRE held on 15 May 2018 (previously circulated).
632 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions	Apologies for absence were received from Ms T Lister, Mr K Pollock, Mrs L Thorne and Ms K Poole.
633 Declaration of Interests	None declared.
634 Confirmation of the Minutes	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
635 Hub Leaders Project	Stephen Pett and Ellie Hill advised that although the project had concluded work would continue with the Hub Leaders as they had been extremely enthusiastic and had brought a lot to the sessions at the RE in Worcestershire conference. This success would be cascaded to leaders in schools and it was hoped the success from working with colleagues would continue. Ellie Hill circulated examples of personal reflections from the workshops and reiterated that she and Stephen Pett would be taking a paper on the Hub Leaders Project to the national joint NASACRE, NATRE, AULRE and AREIAC conference in October. Stephen Pett emphasised the need to ensure engagement was maintained with these useful network groups and he would be planning more meetings.

Councillor Robin Lunn suggested that SACRE write to every school that took part to thank them for their contribution. Stephen agreed to provide a list of schools to Councillor Lunn.

Resolved that SACRE:

- a) **Would ensure that good links to network groups would be maintained with further meetings to be arranged.**
- b) **Would send a letter to all the schools involved thanking them for their contributions.**
- c) **Noted that Stephen Pett and Ellie Hill would be taking a paper to the joint NASACRE, AULRE AND AREIAC conference in October; and**
- d) **Noted an update would be brought to the next SACRE meeting on 5th February 2019.**

636 Feedback from Secondary Conference

Chris Giles confirmed Stephen Pett had done a fantastic job including standing in or last minute absence of a speaker, and teachers had come away inspired as well as making good links with other counties as people had come from Bristol, Oxfordshire etc. Although only 30 teachers attended, from over a possible 100 secondary schools, 100% had said it was excellent value and therefore, should be deemed a success.

It was felt that although this event had been good value for money, costs may have affected the attendance as well as the fact that GCSE Teachers were only being sent on exam board or exam based training. It was acknowledged there were difficulties in arranging cover for those who did attend. It was agreed these factors should be taken into account when planning future events.

Resolved that SACRE would take steps to improve The take up of future events.

637 Future Support for Teachers

It was explained that the Diocese had their own professional development which SLA schools could obtain free of charge. Sian Vickery and Steph Boulter attended two development events in Hartlebury covering topics around prayer and spirituality. Non church schools were able to access information on 'understanding Christianity' free of charge and 32 attendees were

already booked in for the session being held next week.

Steph stated there was an issue around the changes to the SIAMs framework and therefore, there would be no inspections in Worcestershire until the spring which would allow Head Teachers to undergo relevant training.

Professor Stephen Parker at Worcester University had successfully applied for £2,000 worth of funding to support secondary school RE teacher which had been received and was being held by the University.

Chris Giles had set up a networking group of Secondary RE Schools with the idea of meeting up once a term and also proposed to prepare a conference in the summer. 18 people had attended the first secondary teacher network meeting, including Ben Smith, Education Officer at the Cathedral, there was a warm welcome and it was the opportunity where creative ideas and resources were shared. Chris requested support from SACRE as well as support for the event at Worcester University on 23rd January 2019. SACRE would be represented by Stephen Pett.

Discussions took place on whether there should be a separate or combined event for Worcestershire. Stephen Petts pointed out that if an event for secondary schools was to take place dates would have to be circulated now. Agreement was reached that SACRE should work towards a combined summer 2019 conference which Stephen agreed to take forward.

SACRE agreed some thought should be given to primary schools and that the Diocese and SACRE collaborate on this. Steph Boulter and Stephen Pett will work with the network groups and organise a conference for primary schools. They will report back to SACRE on 5th February.

**638 Commission on
RE: to consider
the report and
its implications
for
Worcestershire**

There were discussions around the recommendations of the CoRE Executive Summary - Religion and Worldviews: The Way Forward A national plan for RE.

SACRE looked at the recommendations and discussed in detail. Councillor Lunn suggested that a task group be set up to produce a response from SACRE but Stephanie Boulter pointed out that it would be unlikely there would be a call for consultation as the commission would present the recommendations to the Department of Education for

		them to be adopted and ratified.
		Resolved that SACRE could do nothing at this stage but further discussions could take place once it was known which recommendations had been accepted.
639	Agreed Syllabus	<p>SACRE reviews the syllabus every five years and a new syllabus would be required by September 2020. In order to achieve this target date any revision to the syllabus would need to be started in 2019.</p> <p>RE Today would look at the syllabus to review if any changes or amendments for Worcestershire were required in the light of the Commission Report and will report back to SACRE.</p> <p>Discussions took place around alternatives to the syllabus, such as Worcestershire SACRE writing their own syllabus or whether to remain with what was in place with a view to re-licence it. This would enable SACRE to keep the existing syllabus until notified of any revised legal requirements. There will be scope for consulting teachers on their views on any changes before the next meeting.</p> <p>Resolved that no decision on the syllabus would be made by SACRE at this stage. SACRE will convene an agreed syllabus conference at the spring SACRE meeting in February 2019. This would enable teachers to be consulted on any changes they would want to see.</p>
640	GCSE / A level Results	<p>The national figures were circulated at the meeting. The figures showed a drop in RE at GCSE and A level. It was and it was felt they were not good news especially as there were not consequences for those schools who do not fulfil their obligations. It was agreed SACRE should respond to these findings with suggestions put forward such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter of support • Provide training • Get MPs involved <p>Resolved that SACRE discuss this further at the next meeting in February 2019.</p>
641	Sub group to monitor Secondary RE	<p>The sub group had not been put in place to look at this and Stephen suggested SACRE wait until further information on GSCE results 2018 was available.</p>

	<p>Chris would meet with Stephen and Stephanie to look at this data produce a report for SACRE to be presented at the February 2019 meeting.</p> <p>Stephanie explained that she would be meeting with Dudley SACRE who had written to schools to look into how schools dealt with RE. It was agreed closer analysis should be undertaken at the next meeting.</p> <p>Resolved to discuss this further at the next meeting in February 2019 when information on the GCSE results for 2018 was available and schools had responded with how they are complying with teaching RE.</p>
642	Annual Report
	<p>Chris agreed to send analysis of 2017 GCSE results to Peter to enable the 2018 report to be compiled which would go to the National SACRE.</p> <p>Resolved that SACRE would discuss this further at the next meeting in February 2019 to enable further analysis to be undertaken.</p>
643	Interfaith Week
	<p>Mitzvah Day 2nd November 2pm – 4pm Alexander Hospital, Redditch Ba'hai holiday celebration – 10th November at Evesham Town Hall. Interfaith Forum Seminar - 12th November, Key Speaker Lindsay Thorne. Langar Week took place 1st – 7th October. Sikh food provided at Worcester University for all communities.</p> <p>Yvonne agreed to send information on the Interfaith Forum Seminar to Kate Griffiths for circulation to SACRE. SACRE agreed to pick up Langar Week for 2019.</p>
644	Feedback from Members
	No feedback to note.
645	Any Other Business
	Jatinderpal Loyal to forward Kate Griffiths dates for the Soho Road Sikh Temple visit. Details on transport will also be circulated. Provisionally planned for school half term holiday in November.
646	Future Meeting Dates
	2pm 5 February 2019 2pm 15 May 2019 2pm 2 October 2019

The meeting ended at 3.40pm

Chairman

RE with impact: thinking hard and learning lots

Date: Monday 24 June or Wednesday 26 June TBC

Venue: TBC – central Worcester location

9.30am-3.30pm (Registration and refreshments from 9.00am)

This conference will support schools in planning and teaching great RE that has an impact on pupils. It will focus on practical classroom ideas and strategies, based on the latest research and practice. It will explore ways of helping pupils to build on and make sense of prior learning, using engaging resources and activities that make children think hard, as well as contributing to their wider personal development.

Session 1: 9.30-10.45 Effective assessment in RE Fiona Moss

This session will explore a range of models of assessment used by teachers around the country. It will weigh up some advantages and disadvantages of different models, focusing on practical, manageable and worthwhile assessment processes that make a difference to pupils' learning.

Session 2: 11.15-12.30 RE, learning and the brain Stephen Pett

In this session we will explore some of the recent research on the brain and learning. Lessons from neuroscience and cognitive psychology will be applied directly to planning and teaching excellent RE that helps pupils to think hard and learn lots. Connections will be made to the assessment models explored in session 1.

Session 3: 1.30-2.45

Teaching non-religious worldviews Fiona Moss

In the UK, 53% of people are non-religious, according to the 2016 British Social Attitudes Survey. Many children in our classes come from homes with no particular religious affiliation. This session will explore thoughtful ways of helping pupils to understand something of the variety of non-religious worldviews held in the UK.

Session 4: 2.45-3.30

Building local groups in Worcestershire

Find out about what happens in local groups near you, including regional NATRE groups. Hear from some local group leaders, who will share some classroom ideas. Discover the results of Uni of Worcester research into the impact of developing local group leaders.

Copies of all resources used on the day will be available to take away, and electronic copies available to download afterwards. A wide range of resources will be available to purchase or order on the day.

Who is it for?

The conference is aimed at teachers of RE from primary schools, including subject leaders, TAs and head teachers. It will also be valuable for governors to find out about how the new syllabus is being implemented, as well as to explore best practice in RE.

Aims

- To support schools in making progress with the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabuses for RE, with its increased flexibility and extra support for planning RE, and its focus on living religion and belief
- To provide practical strategies, guidance and resources for teachers and subject leaders in planning creative, thoughtful, rigorous RE to promote deep learning and the personal development of pupils
- To model examples of thoughtful RE, challenging all pupils and promoting deeper thinking

Fee:

£100 or £175 for two teachers from the same school, including refreshments and resources
Booking form attached.

Booking form: Worcestershire Primary RE Conference

Date TBC

Fee: £100 or £175 for two teachers from the same school

Full Name:	
School Name:	
School Address:	
	Postcode:
Telephone:	
Email address:	
Special Dietary Requirements	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Payment details:																
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Signature:																
Date:																

Send to: RE Today Services, 5-6 Imperial Court, 12 Sovereign Road, Birmingham B30 3FH
Telephone: 0121 458 3313 **Email to:** mark@retoday.org.uk

Deeper thinking: deeper learning

9.00am – 3.30pm

Wednesday 12 June or Tuesday 25 June 2019

(Registration and refreshments from 8.30am)

Venue: Puckrup Hall Hotel, GL20 6EL

8.30	Registration and refreshments
9.00-10.00	<p>Session 1: Better thinking, better writing for GCSE Angela Hill <i>The reformed GCSE specifications make much greater demands on students not only in terms of increased content, but also in terms of the skills needed to analyse, evaluate and write at length. We will explore some practical strategies for encouraging better writing and deeper thinking that will help enhance students' GCSE performance.</i></p>
10.00-11.00	<p>Session 2: Deeper thinking in Islam: contexts and case studies Stephen Pett <i>Trying out some practical ways of deepening engagement at KS3, to take students beyond 'essentialised' pictures of Islam into richer and more nuanced understandings.</i></p>
11.30-12.30	<p>Session 3 Getting students thinking: taking P4C in RE Angela Hill <i>Philosophy for Children (P4C) is a tried and tested pedagogical framework that encourages deeper thinking, as well as the 'soft skills' needed to engage effectively in critical discussion and debate. In this session, we will consider the benefits of introducing and developing P4C-style learning in RE lessons. You will be try out practical ways in which philosophical questioning, thinking and discussion can be incorporated into lessons to get students thinking.</i></p>
1.30-2.30	<p>Session 4 Exploring and handling the diversity of non-religious worldviews Stephen Pett <i>In the light of new research from Understanding Unbelief, a major international research project from the University of Kent, this session will explore practical ideas for examining diverse non-religious worldviews and ways of engaging with non-religious students in your classes.</i></p>
2.30-3.15	<p>Session 5: TeachMeet: <i>Five-minute slots to share practical and relevant ideas for your classroom. Sign up overleaf to offer an idea that works!</i></p>
3.15	Evaluations and close

Fee: £100 or £175 for two teachers from the same school

Why should I come on this conference?

- It will be practical and inspiring, with a focus on a rich variety of resources, ideas and strategies to try out and then implement in your school.
- It gives a great opportunity to meet other colleagues, making new contacts, building links and sharing ideas.
- All resources used on the day will be available to download after the event.
- RE Today and NATRE resources will be available to browse and buy.

Last year's conference was rated EXCELLENT by 100% of delegates!

Representative comments include:

- Great quality as ever – content of presentations and discussions based on these. Great use and examples of resources to immediately use and/or adapt. CH Wycliffe College
- Really good day. The morning sessions were especially useful. I always look forward to these conferences. Lat and Stephen are inspirational. KP Maidenhill
- It is so refreshing to come to a conference which is inspiring, gives you ideas that you put into practice, and makes you think. Brilliant! MC Waddesdon
- It is always good to meet people who share your passion for the most valuable subject on our curriculum. Being given resources that will excite and engage our young students is so valuable. Great value for money. Challenging and thought-provoking. A must for all secondary school teachers. LBA Bishops Hereford
- I found all the presentations engaging and will leave with a lot of practical ways to improve our RE – maybe even some whole-school improvement! LE Ribston
- Thought-provoking. Lots of ideas to take away. Useful to network with other teachers. CG St Egwin's Middle School
- An inspirational refresher. A reminder of why I teach this subject with excellent ideas to take home. AR Bristol Free School
- Excellent, generous sharing from Lat and Stephen. Always good to meet up with the RE community. RD Uni of Worcs
- Excellent. Now just need time to put it into practice. JN Cleeve
- Always makes me stop and think. Developing ideas and revisiting old ideas are all relevant. Sharing ideas is essential. The conference allows all of this to happen. LC Bewdley
- Excellent as ever. JE Fairfield.
- Lots of ideas to take back to school. I'd like to hear more about current research and what they may look like in RE. JR. Chelt Ladies College.
- Brilliant and practical ideas. MD Pittville.
- A really helpful, thought-provoking and useful (resources) day! Definitely come again! FF St Benedicts Alcester.
- Great day – so many ideas to go on with. Useful to engage with colleagues; to be encouraged that what we're doing is good and that there are ways to constantly improve. JH Stroud High

Speakers:

Stephen Pett is a national adviser with RE Today. He works with teachers and local authorities around the UK and writes and edits primary and secondary classroom resources. He has edited over 30 books for secondary teachers, including the series *Questions in RE*, *Essential RE*, and *Examining Religion and Belief*. Stephen led the development of the *Understanding Christianity* resource and is currently involved in developing RE materials for the major research project, *Understanding Unbelief*.

Angela Hill is a secondary national adviser at RE Today. An experienced teacher and Lead Practitioner of secondary RE in Wales, she has been a longstanding examiner and trainer for a GCSE examination board. She also led a two-year project promoting Philosophy for Children in primary and secondary schools across Wales in a national project for the Council for Education in World Citizenship. At RE Today she is currently developing resources for the BBC, leading training in GCSE and writing for publication.