

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Friday, 9 June 2017, County Hall, Worcester - 2.00 pm

		Minutes
Present:		Mrs Lindsay Thorne (Chairman), Mr Robin Lunn (Vice-Chairman), Mr Chris Giles, Ms Ellie Hill, Mr M Jenkins, Mrs Tasnim Khawaja, Mrs Tracy Lister, Mrs Christine Parker and Dr Yvonne Stollard.
Also attended:		Mr S Pett, RE Today - Adviser to SACRE Kate Griffiths – Democratic Services
585	Apologies for Absence and Substitutions	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Charlotte Betteridge, Stephanie Boulter, Graham Bounds and Kerry Poole.</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Matthew Jenkins to his first SACRE meeting. He was a Councillor and had therefore become a member of Group D.</p> <p>The SACRE agreed to send a letter to Ian Hopwood to thank him for all his hard work for the Advisory Council over the previous four years.</p>
586	Declaration of Interests	None
587	Appointment of a Vice Chairman	<p>Following the election the position of Vice Chairman had become vacant.</p> <p>Robin Lunn was nominated and seconded for the position.</p> <p>There were no further nominations and no objections so Robin Lunn was duly appointed Vice Chairman of SACRE.</p>
588	Confirmation of the Minutes	The minutes were agreed to be a correct record of the previous meeting on 1 February 2017 but under minute 578 a revised description of the Understanding Christianity resource was suggested of it being a 'substantial resource'.
589	SACRE Development Plan	As funding for SACRE had been secured until 20 September 2020 and a contract had been agreed with RE Services for Stephen Pett to remain as SACRE advisor it was deemed a good idea to create a Development Plan.

		<p>A draft development plan was circulated.</p> <p>An updated version of the plan is attached to these minutes.</p>
590	Hub Leaders Project	<p>It had been hoped that the project would have started in May, however the University was supporting the project and they had a rigorous ethical procedure and the Ethics Board had requested 3 minor changes to the project plan. Ethics approval was necessary before the project could start and would enable the University to use the work done as part of its research with the possibility of the project being rolled out to other areas or extending its impact with further funding.</p> <p>The Project would now be launched in the Autumn Term.</p>
591	Conferences 2017	<p>The Primary Conference would take place on 19 June.</p> <p>The Secondary Conference was being organised with South Bromsgrove school and would include Herefordshire schools, it would take place on 29 June.</p>
592	Visits to Places of Worship	<p>Tracy Lister had agreed to compile a list of places of worship which could be visited by schools. This would be a useful resource for Schools who currently have to rely on internet searches for information on places to visit.</p> <p>SACRE members were asked to approach their contacts and return any information to Tracy. It was also agreed that teachers who attend the conferences would be asked for their recommendations.</p> <p>The Faith Encounter programme was mentioned. Faith guides are trained to show people round their places of worship. Also some people are prepared to go into schools to speak about their religion.</p> <p>South Bromsgrove had held a trip to places of worship in Birmingham. The students would be asked if they could come to speak to SACRE about their visit.</p>
593	RE Council / NASACRE Update	<p>Stephen agreed to return responses to NASACRE's survey as well as the REC Commission on the provision of RE.</p>
594	National RE Update	<p>Stephen distributed information about RE films from the BBC and media coverage about parent's rights to withdraw their children from RE lessons.</p>

595	Feedback from Members	The Chairman gave members some information about the RE Council Meeting which had taken place on 11 May 2017.
596	Any Other Business	None
597	Future Meeting Dates	The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 2pm in the Lakeview Room at County Hall.

The meeting ended at 4.05pm

Chairman

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Worcestershire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Draft Development Plan 2017-2020

The functions of SACRE¹

The key function of SACRE is to advise the Local Authority on RE in accordance with the agreed syllabus.² This includes:

1. Monitoring the provision and quality of RE, and providing advice and support on the effective teaching of RE in accordance with the agreed syllabus. This includes advice on
methods of teaching
choice of teaching material
provision of teacher training
2. Monitoring the effectiveness of the agreed syllabus, including whether any changes need to be made to improve the quality of teaching and learning in RE, whether in the syllabus itself or the support offered in implementing the syllabus. Central to this is the review of the locally agreed syllabus within five years of the last review.
3. Maintaining a partnership between SACRE, LA and other bodies. This includes preparing an annual report.
4. Handling applications for determinations from 'wholly or mainly Christian' acts of collective worship.
5. Monitoring the contribution of SACRE to the promotion of SMSC.

This development plan relates to these five key aspects of the work of Worcestershire SACRE.

¹ Religious Education in English Schools, DCSF 2010

² Section 391(1)(a), Education Act 1996

1. Supporting and monitoring teaching and learning in RE

Action	Timescale	Lead responsibility	Progress and evaluation
Supporting improvement			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To run a Hub Leaders training programme 	Termly 2017-2018	SACRE / RE adviser / University of Worcester / Diocese	Full participation over 3.5 days by 10 teachers, half CE, half community schools.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable a programme of RE teacher network meetings for primary teachers, set up and run regionally by local Hub Leaders. 	Twice a year	SACRE / RE adviser / Hub leaders	At least four regional network meetings, twice a year; with increasing numbers of participants, evaluations giving satisfaction rates of over 95%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer an annual SACRE conference for primary teachers to raise standards of teaching and learning; involve Hub leaders where possible 	Annually	SACRE / RE adviser	Maintain high attendance rates and evaluations giving satisfaction rates of over 95%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support an annual SACRE conference for secondary teachers, combining with local Teaching School and Hereford SACRE 	Annually	SACRE / RE adviser / Specialist Leader in Education	Increasing numbers of participants, with evaluations giving satisfaction rates of over 95%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To run two day courses for special schools, from Worcestershire and surrounding counties, supporting their planning and provision for RE 	Spring 2018/Autumn 2019	RE Adviser	Day courses run with attendance from at least 50% Worcestershire schools, over 95% satisfaction in feedback
Monitoring standards			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive reports from RE teacher network meetings 	SACRE meetings	RE Adviser / SLE / Diocesan advisers	Reports demonstrate a coherent and effective programme of support, with increasingly active involvement from teachers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of evaluation/feedback from courses, network meetings and annual SACRE conference 	As appropriate	RE adviser	Record advice from teachers and report to SACRE. Provision of support to show that account has been taken of this feedback.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of school inspection reports from SIAMS and any relevant feedback in Ofsted reports 	Primary – autumn mtg Secondary – spring mtg	RE adviser / Uni of Worcs/ Diocesan officer	Reports give a clear analysis of the achievements, trends and areas to address.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive a report from the C of E and RC Dioceses outlining developments relating to RE in church schools in Worcestershire 	Summer annually	Chair of CE committee/ Diocesan officers	Report presented and informs SACRE members of the activities planned and completed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To utilise other means of monitoring RE in schools, including visits to schools and online survey 	From Summer 2018	SACRE strategy group / RE adviser	Additional means of monitoring RE available to complement inspection findings.

2. Monitoring and review of Worcestershire agreed syllabus

Action	Timescale	Lead responsibility	Progress and evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support schools in the implementation of the revised agreed syllabus through a programme of activities including courses, network meetings and resource development (see Hub Leaders and network meetings above) 	Summer 2017 On-going	SACRE / RE adviser	Evaluations giving satisfaction rates of over 95%.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To monitor the implementation of the 2015 agreed syllabus using an online survey 	Autumn 2017	SACRE / RE adviser	Feedback from schools gathered, evaluated and reported on, with a satisfaction rate of 90% good or better.

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3. Partnership between SACRE, the Local Authority and other bodies

Action	Timescale	Lead Responsibility	Progress and evaluation
Local Authority/Babcock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive presentations from LA officers relating to local and national initiatives which have an impact on teaching and learning in RE 	As required	LA officer / SACRE member to identify need	SACRE members' evaluation and feedback. Where appropriate, impact seen in RE support and training.
Faith communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop and maintain guidance for schools on Visits and Visitors in RE To promote and support school involvement with Interfaith/National Faith Week in autumn term 	Autumn annually Autumn 2018	RE adviser / SLE / Diocesan officers	Amendments and additions added to Visits and Visitors Guidance online.
Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue a programme of presentations to SACRE by teachers exemplifying good practice Develop effective methods of communicating with schools to encourage participation in network groups, conferences etc, including email list and use of local newsletters online 	On-going On-going	RE adviser /Diocesan adviser SACRE / RE adviser	Programme of presentations continues with minimum of one presentation per year. Feedback from teachers about best ways to receive information; accurate email contacts list updated regularly
National bodies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce an annual report To liaise with the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE), the RE Council, National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) and other relevant organisations in raising issues relating to RE and collective worship at a national level. 	Autumn On-going	RE adviser SACRE members	Report completed, agreed by SACRE and sent to NASACRE and DfE for January each year Ensure representative attendance at annual conference where appropriate.

4. Collective worship in county schools

Action	Timescale	Lead responsibility	Progress and evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handling applications for determinations from collective worship 	As and when applications received	SACRE	Determinations successfully resolved

5. Monitoring the contribution of SACRE to the promotion of SMSC

Action	Timescale	Lead responsibility	Progress and evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange one SACRE meeting a year to be held at a school or faith venue 	On-going	SACRE strategy group	Programme of visits under way with appropriate levels of attendance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive presentations from faith communities represented in Worcestershire 	On-going	SACRE	Programme of presentations under way

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