

Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 2nd October, 2023 at 10.00 am in Jordan Suite - The Exchange, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ

Attendees

Mr Peter Martin (Chair)

Fenton, (Representing the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education)

McMullen, (Representing the Roman Catholic Church)

Adil, Lancashire Council of Mosques

Lumsden, Building Bridges Burnley

Patel, NASUWT

Wilson, (Representing the Church of England)

Lancashire County Council

A Cheetham

Observers

Watkinson

Pennington, (Representing) Humanists

Officers

Mrs A Lloyd

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from County Councillor Stewart Jones, County Councillor Yousuf Motala, Rebekah Ackroyd, Joan E O'Rourke, Harsha Shukla, Kelsang Pagpa and Ishwer Tailor.

Ian Watkinson replaced Julie Gordon at the meeting.

It was noted that some members of the Committee had not attended meetings for some time and that the Terms of Reference stated at 4(g) 'following non-attendance of a member at three consecutive meetings without apology, the SACRE will recommend to the LA that a replacement nomination be sought from the relevant nominating body.'

The clerk to the Committee undertook to review attendance data and action accordingly.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 July 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2023 were approved as an accurate record.

Members of the Committee were reminded to complete individual profiles.

3. SACRE Development Plan

Alison Lloyd presented the SACRE Development Plan for 2021-23 and made the following references/updates:

- Alison Lloyd and Lisa Fenton agreed to meet and discuss options to achieve the integration of Christianity Resources across the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus (LAS).
- Alison Lloyd offered to present a list of schools which had best practice in delivering Religious Education to a future meeting, schools from the list could then be invited to talk and present information to SACRE.
- Where appropriate, the Chair of Governors to be included in future correspondence as an improved methodology to help schools meet their statutory responsibilities regarding the provision of Religious Education.
- The Chair informed the committee that he would communicate with school governors on holding leaders to account for their statutory responsibilities, regarding the teaching and delivery of Religious Education.
- Aruna offered to speak to the Head Teacher of St Stephens School once the meeting had concluded to discover how they could support the work of SACRE.
- Moulana Tagari offered to speak to trustee's at his local mosque in Fulwood to host a meeting(s) of SACRE. Alison Lloyd would be informed at a later date on the consultations outcome.
- Alison Lloyd would assess the criteria for the Religion and Belief quality mark and present an update to the Quality Standards Sub-group (QSS).
- It was agreed that the draft 2023-25 development plan would be discussed at the 18 October QSS meeting.
- County Councillor Anne Cheetham would raise the matter of Academy School representation on SACRE at the Schools Forum.

4. Report to Lancashire SACRE - September 2023

Alison Lloyd presented the September 2023 SACRE report to the committee.

It was noted that within catholic schools, years 5 and 6 could benefit from additional educational resources on Christianity that provided a wider range of information on Christianity as a living, diverse religion, beyond the teachings of the catholic church.

5. Building Bridges Burnley Update

Peter Lumsden provided an update on the organisation of Building Bridges Burnley.

The organisation was working on expansion of their ambassador scheme, which involved individual visits to education settings to promote engagement in religious education. Further training resources for the ambassadors scheme were being developed.

It was noted that additional family hubs were being opened to enable people to contact Building Bridges directly. Additionally, work was being undertaken to conduct a higher number of faith visits to schools throughout the calendar year.

It was noted that Sheila Gewolb had offered to join SACRE as the Jewish representative following the resignation of Robert Ash.

6. Draft Calendar of Meetings for 2024

Members of the committee recommended that the number of meetings scheduled for SACRE in 2024 be reduced from five to four, with the September QSS meeting being considered for removal from future calendar of meetings.

The committee recommended discussing this at the SACRE Annual General Meeting due to be held on the 20 November 2023.

SACRE (Mondays at 10am in County Hall)

- 5 February 2024
- 22 April 2024
- 8 July 2024
- 30 September 2024
- 18 November 2024

Quality and Standards Sub-group (Wednesdays at 10am - Virtual)

- 17 January 2024
- 6 March 2024
- 5 June 2024
- 10 September 2024
- 18 October 2024

7. Members' News (Including Feedback from Training and Development Undertaken)

There was no news discussed at the meeting.

8. Observers' Contributions

Keith Pennington, representing Lancashire Humanists, updated the committee on upcoming events due to take place with the University of Central Lancashire at the Oasis Centre for the 2023 calendar year, as well as further visits and talks planned with Southport and Runshaw College regarding Interfaith Week between the 12-19 November 2023.

It was noted that a copy of the Welsh SACRE would be forwarded to Alison Lloyd once the meeting had concluded.

9. Correspondence

The correspondence which had been circulated since the last meeting was noted.

10. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Lancashire SACRE would be held at 10am on Monday 20 November 2023 in Committee Room D – The Henry Bolingbroke Room, County Hall, Preston.

Paul Bond
Clerk to the SACRE

County Hall
Preston