

MEETING OF THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS SUB-GROUP

**CSSG MEETING ROOM 1, CHRIST CHURCH PRECINCT, COUNTY HALL,
PRESTON**

Tuesday 18 January 2011

MINUTES

PRESENT

**Andrew Brennand
Jacquie Clarke
Kathleen Cooper
Sue Greenhow
CC Peter Malpas
Peter Martin
Alice Robinson
CC Albert Thornton
Francis Williams**

REPRESENTING

**Pagan Federation
Primary Schools
LASGB
NASUWT
LCC
ASCL (Chair)
ATL
LCC
Observer**

Officers in Attendance

**Jill Anderson
Helen Harrison**

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Kelsang Pagpa, Jas Singh, CC K Iddon, Harsha Shukla, Helen Sage.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 November 2010 and matters arising

Kathleen Cooper asked that the minutes be amended to show that she had sent her apologies for absence

With regard to the minute 'Information from School Improvement Partners, Secondary' Helen reported that several schools had declined to take part and were concerned as to the use that the statistics might be put. Helen had asked to go to address a meeting of the Lancashire Association of Secondary School Headteachers in order to explain SACRE's monitoring role and that there was nothing sinister in the request. She had addressed a diocesan group who had reiterated that information regarding Voluntary Aided schools would be very welcome.

Future support for SACRE – Update

Helen confirmed that she would be taking voluntary redundancy from the end of March 2011. There would be a period of 28 days when she couldn't work for the County Council, after that she may set herself up as a consultant.

Helen had met with Jonathon Hewitt at the end of last term and had annotated a document setting out the support that was needed for SACRE. It had been a positive meeting during which Jonathon had commended the agreed syllabus. The SACRE would be informed what support would be provided when the budget figures were known.

Issues from SIPs and other monitoring activities

This had been discussed as part of the minutes but Helen confirmed there would be a report when more statistics had been obtained.

Members voiced a general concern that nationally RE was being excluded from the curriculum at the secondary stage. It was felt that this was partly because RE had been left out of the Humanities list for the proposed new English Baccalaureate and although this had not yet become law many schools were already grouping their options to the detriment of RE. There was some discussion as to how to alert secondary headteachers that RE was still a statutory requirement and could not be left out of the curriculum.

The group generally thought that the information obtained from the SIPs was very useful, there was a lot of it but that it was difficult to get some secondary schools to fill in the forms. We were receiving about 50% of the Key stage data that provided some information but obviously not the full picture. A question was asked as to whether the requests were being directed at the right people, possibly the request could go to the Data manager instead of the Headteacher. It was suggested that the requirement to send in data at the end of each Key Stage be kept but to drop the request for SEF as it was not being received and was likely to be less relevant now in view of matters relating to Ofsted.

Resolved: (i) That the Chairman sends out a letter to secondary headteachers setting out the status of RE and possible ways of integrating RE into the curriculum.

(ii) That SACRE be recommended to keep the requirements for schools to send in data at the end of every Key Stage but that the requirement to send in a SEF (self evaluation form) be dropped.

SACRE Self Evaluation Form

Members considered the self evaluation form and made amendments as appropriate having regard to progress that has been made over the last 12 months. A copy of the revised form is on record in the minute book.

SACRE Development Plan

Members looked at the plan but concluded that it would be difficult to complete it effectively as there were so many uncertainties relating to the budget for the forthcoming financial year. The development plan was a three year plan but without

knowing the resources that would be available it would become more of a wish list than a development plan.

Resolved: That a further meeting of the QSS be held on Wednesday 9th March at 10.00 am to consider the Development Plan.

January 2011

County Hall, Preston