

Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 7th October, 2019 at 10.00 am in Committee Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston

Attendees

Teachers Association	Mrs Karen Stephens (NAHT) Mrs Julie Roper (NASUWT)
Church of England	Mr John Wilson Mrs Joan O'Rourke
Lancashire County Council	County Councillor Yusuf Motala (Chair) County Councillor Anne Cheetham County Councillor Azhar Ali County Councillor Peter Steen Mr Francis Williams
Hinduism	Mr Ishwer Tailor Mrs Harsha Shukla
Higher Education	Mrs Carolyn Reade
LASGB	Mrs Kathleen Cooper

Officers

Mrs Alison Lloyd – Advisor (School Improvement), Lancashire County council
Mrs Misbah Mahmood – Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council
Mr Garth Harbison – Committee Support Officer, Lancashire County Council

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the Chair, Mr Peter Martin, Mr Robert Ash, Mrs Helen Sage, Dr Malcolm Craig, Sally Elton-Chalcraft, Julie Gordon, Mrs Tibret Safraz and Mrs Sajda Majeed. In Mr Peter Martin's absence, the Vice-Chair, County Councillor Yousuf Motala, chaired the meeting.

2. Notes of the Informal Meeting held on 1 July 2019

Resolved: The notes of the informal meeting held on 1 July 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. Final Draft Constitution and Terms of Reference for Lancashire SACRE

The final draft of the Lancashire SACRE Constitution and Terms of Reference was presented. The changes that had been made were highlighted for members. The SACRE was informed that the Constitution had not been changed in nearly 23 years since the SACRE had commenced.

The changes proposed in the Constitution and Terms of Reference tried to reflect the current state of SACRE. It was felt that the updated version covered all elements and brought things up to date. Members agreed the final draft and a report would now go to Cabinet for approval.

4. Termly Update Report to SACRE and Example of Audit Tool

Mrs Alison Lloyd, School Advisor, provided members with an update on what had been happening in RE from September to October 2019.

Training had taken place in St Helens around the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus, 34 primary schools and 12 secondary schools had taken part in the training on 24 September 2019.

An RE audit tool, designed to support schools in meeting the requirements of the new Education Inspection Framework, had been created and would be shared at a training session on 10 October 2019. Numbers of attendees attending the training would be shared with SACRE members. The audit tool would be available on the SACRE website. Members felt the audit toolkit was very comprehensive.

KS4 training had been rebooked for 7 November 2019, this had previously been cancelled due to poor attendance. Alison informed members that there were only 3 teachers currently signed up. The course had been advertised extensively across the North West and personal invitations had been sent to all Lancashire schools. SACRE members were informed that the standards of RE at KS4 had dipped in the last year. Take up for this training had been disappointing and it was felt necessary to understand what the barriers were that were stopping teachers accessing training.

Recruitment for RE consultants had commenced again. Interviews were to be held on 28 November 2019 at Broughton High School. Currently all of the training was being provided by Ms Joanne Harris and her time was stretched very thinly. Ms Helen Hall from Lea Community Primary School was assisting informally. Hopefully a small band of Primary School RE teachers would be recruited.

Attainment and questionnaire data would be collected at the end of October 2019 and Mrs Alison Lloyd would hopefully produce a monitoring report for the November meeting of the Lancashire SACRE.

Currently there were 6 exemplifications outstanding that needed to be rewritten to match the new curriculum map that drove forward the Agreed Syllabus. Ms Joanne Harris was taking 17 October 2019 out of school to write two more of the exemplifications.

Regarding Building Bridges Burnley, it was hoped that the new Service Level Agreement would be sent out in due course. 27 schools had signed up for the current agreement. The SACRE was informed that the project had held an additional two day training course for School Faith Workers and volunteers. Potentially there were 6 new recruits to add to Building Bridges Burnley's register of Faith Workers.

5. 10 Minute Break and Networking Opportunity

No break was taken.

6. Agenda Items for the November Meeting

At the Lancashire SACRE QSS meeting on 11 September 2019 a discussion was held about finding a speaker to come to the November meeting of the SACRE. It was decided to invite Mr Paul Smalley from Edge Hill University who was also the Chair of NASACRE. Mr Paul Smalley would be attending the November meeting with a number of his year 1 undergraduate students. This was a great opportunity for the students to see a SACRE meeting in practice and to provide the students an opportunity to join in with discussions. The SACRE Framework would be sent to the students beforehand to make them aware of what SACRE was involved with so they could think about some questions ahead of the meeting. SACRE could ask the students at the November meeting what their vision and hopes were of what they wanted from RE.

Members highlighted the desire for a broad representation to be in attendance at the November meeting.

7. Provisional Dates for SACRE Meetings 2019/20

A list of provisional dates for SACRE meetings in 2020 was circulated. These dates were agreed by the SACRE members.

8. Lancashire Youth Voice

There was no news from Lancashire Youth Voice.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10. Members' News

Mrs Harsha Shukla informed the SACRE that there was a reception for the Hindu festival Diwali being held at the Scottish Parliament on 8 October 2019 for the first time ever.

Mr Ishwer Tailor stated that Diwali was on 27 October and that SACRE members were welcome to attend the Hindu New Year event at the Gujarati Centre, Preston, on 28 October 2019.

11. Observers' Contributions

Mrs Kathleen Cooper Informed the SACRE that Mr Ben Wood had been on the radio and spoke positively on the future implications of the Ofsted inspection.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SACRE would be held at 10:00am on Monday 25 November 2019 in Cabinet Room C – The Duke of Lancaster Room, at County Hall, Preston.

Paul Bond
Clerk to the SACRE

County Hall
Preston