

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Quality and Standards Sub-group
CSSG Meeting Room 1, County Hall, Preston**

Thursday 8 November 2012

Present

Mr P Martin
Mr A Brennand
Ms J Clarke
Mrs K Cooper
Dr M Craig
Kelsang Pagpa
Mrs C Mercier
Mrs A Robinson
CC A Thornton

Helen Harrison

Representing

ASCL (Chair)
Pagan (Observer)
NATRE
LASGB
Baha'i Faith (Observer)
Buddhism
Higher Education Sector
ATL
Lancashire County Council

RE Consultant

Officers in Attendance

Jonathan Hewitt
Josh Mynott

Officer to the SACRE, CYP
Democratic Services

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from CC K Ellard, Mr F Farrell, CC P Malpas, CC Y Motala, Mr I Nakhuda, Mrs H Sage, Mrs J Sawyer, Mrs H Shukla, Mrs J Singh, Mr F Williams

Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 May 2012 and matters arising

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2012, be agreed as a true record.

Membership Update

Members considered a proposal to fill the vacancy for a coopted member to represent the secondary sector on a shared basis between two teachers.

It was felt that this would be beneficial for a number of reasons, including ensuring good attendance and representation, lessening the impact on an individual school, and gaining extra expertise.

It was confirmed that, as a co-opted position, the decision was entirely in the gift of the SACRE.

Resolved: That the proposal to co-opted two teachers to share the representation of secondary schools on the SACRE be supported by the QSS for approval at the next full SACRE

Progress in Implementing the SACRE Development Plan 2011-13

Members were update on progress against the Development Plan.

Priority 1: Standards and Quality of Provision of RE

- On track. A further article aimed at Governors form the LASGB was to be discussed next week. In relation to the RE Conference, it was proposed to hold this on Friday 1 February at Woodlands.

Priority 2: Management of Lancashire SACRE and Partnership with the LA and other Key Stakeholders

- On track. The proposed "parents' page" of the website will be taken forward in line with the work being done by the Youth Voice. The Youth Conference takes place at the beginning of March 2013

Priority 3: The Effectiveness of the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus

- On track. The impact of the loss of Advanced Skills Teachers and the "leading teacher" model arrangements being put in place were explained. It was noted that this model had worked well in other subjects, and there would be full communication with schools.

Priority 4: Collective Worship

- Not on track. Whilst the materials were updated and available, it was the case that take up amongst schools is still very low. Efforts would continue to make schools aware.

Priority 5: Contribution of SACRE to the Social and Racial Harmony Agenda

- On track. It was reported that a business case had been put forward to allow the Youth Conference to take place in a place of worship, rather than a County Council owned venue as current guidance required.

Resolved: That the progress report is presented to SACRE in November

RE Quality Mark Update

Members were presented with an update on the RE Quality Mark. It was reported that the programme had moved on quickly, and attention was drawn to the website, www.reqm.org, which presented information on the award, details of successful schools and some general good practice examples of work in RE which could be accessed by all schools.

It was reported that the cost of the accreditation process was approximately £460 – comparable to similar schemes for other subjects – and lasted for 3 years.

It was felt that SACRE should take steps to promote the Quality Mark to schools.

Resolved: That SACRE promote the RE Quality mark and website to schools as appropriate.

Draft SACRE Annual Report 2011/12

Members were presented with the first draft of the Annual report for SACRE for 2011/12. It was explained that the intention was to produce a condensed report, which would include links to more in depth information. It was felt that this would make the report more likely to be read generally, whilst allowing those with specific interests to gain easy access to the information.

Members were invited to provide any comments to the draft to Jonathan.

Resolved: That the draft Annual Report be presented to the full SACRE meeting in November

Training for SACRE Members

Members considered possible future training requirements for SACRE. Whilst it was recognised that there was a need to ensure members were kept informed or up to date, this could be achieved in a variety of ways from short briefings to more in depth discussion sessions.

It was agreed that it would be useful to receive a brief update on developments in the higher education sector at a future SACRE meeting.

Ofsted RE report

It was reported that the 3-yearly subject report from Ofsted was expected in the next month.

Resolved: That SACRE members be kept informed on the Ofsted subject report for RE

Collective Worship visits

Following on from the agreement of the protocol for visits at the last SACRE, consideration was now given to the most appropriate next steps.

It was proposed that schools known to or represented on the SACRE would form the “pilots” to offer a critical friend perspective on the visits.

Resolved: That the full SACRE be invited to consider the proposal for the next steps on Collective Worship visits

RE Council Update

Members were advised that a draft subject review was due to be published for consultation imminently.

It was agreed that a response be drafted to the consultation for the full SACRE meeting to consider.

Resolved: That the full SACRE consider a draft response to the consultation on the RECs subject review

SACRE agenda

A number of items were agreed for the agenda of the next full SACRE meeting, including:

- Election of the Chair and Vice Chair
- Appointment of the Secondary Sector co-opted representative(s)
- Collective worship visits – next steps
- Annual Report
- REC Subject review
- RE Quality Mark

Any Other Business

Members were reminded that Interfaith week runs from 18-27 November. Details will be circulated to members as and when available, including on the Common Ground exhibition, running from 19 November for the duration of the week

Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting of the Quality and Standards Sub-group was Tuesday 5 February 2013, to take place at 10am at County Hall, Preston.

November 2012
County Hall, Preston