

**Lancashire SACRE**  
**Meeting to be held Monday 6 February 2012**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Quality and Standards Sub-group**  
**Cabinet Room A, County Hall, Preston**  
**Tuesday 17 January 2012**

**Present**

Mr P Martin  
Ms J Clarke  
Dr M Craig  
CC P Malpas  
CC Y Motala  
Mrs J Sawyer

**Representing**

ASCL (Chair)  
NATRE  
Bahá'i Faith (Observer)  
Lancashire County Council  
Lancashire County Council  
Teachers in the Primary Sector (Co-opted member)

Helen Harrison

**RE Consultant**

**Officers in Attendance**

Jonathan Hewitt  
Josh Mynott  
Katrina Dale

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Brennand, Imam O Data, CC K Ellard, Mr D Fann, Ms L Heaton, CC Y Motala, Mr C Pountain, Mrs H Sage, Mrs J Singh, CC A Thornton, Mr R Waring, Mr F Williams, Mr C Wills.

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 November 2011 and matters arising**

With regard to the minute 'SACRE Annual Report 2010/11' members noted that Jonathan Hewitt, Officer to the SACRE, had presented the data analysis for inclusion in the Annual Report to the SACRE at the meeting on 28 November 2011, in place of Paul Dyson-Knight who had been unable to attend that meeting.

It was noted that the new summary document of the Annual Report would be sent out to headteachers with a letter from the Chairman of the SACRE enclosing an electronic version of the Annual Report, via the schools' portal, within the coming week.

The draft letter from the Chairman to Lancashire secondary headteachers clarifying the position of RE and the curriculum would be shared first with the Lancashire Association of Secondary School Head teachers.

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2011 be agreed as a true record.

### **Training/Induction for SACRE members**

As a starting point for revising training offered to new and existing SACRE members, members considered proposals which had been drawn up by Helen Harrison in January 2010.

It was suggested by members that training include the following:

- A core induction pack to include hard copy information booklets and various links to the SACRE web site where the Annual Report, SACRE Development Plan and list of SACRE members would be found. This would be provided to all members.
- A regular short training item on the SACRE agenda which might involve members splitting into groups to network whilst at the same time working, for example on the Development Plan. It was envisaged that this would promote discussion and greater involvement of members.

Through discussion, a concern was raised regarding the lack of a primary conference. In the past these conferences had proved invaluable in supporting primary school teachers. The Officer to the SACRE, Jonathan Hewitt, agreed that this should be addressed, possibly as a marketed service.

**Resolved:** That the proposals for training, as discussed, be put to the full SACRE for discussion at its next meeting.

### **SACRE Development Plan**

Since the Development Plan had been updated at the last meeting of the SACRE on 28 November 2011, and there had been no change in the current status, it was proposed that a further update was not carried out until the summer term.

Helen Harrison, RE Consultant, suggested that the Quality and Standards Sub-group consider a revised Self Evaluation Form for SACREs which had recently been developed by NASACRE as a means of informing the Development Plan.

## **Collective Worship**

Members considered how best to set up a mechanism which would enable SACRE members to visit schools to observe Collective Worship.

A protocol would need to be in place for visits to schools and members would need to be briefed on their remit before any visit took place.

A database of schools (following the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus for RE) would need to be compiled and it was suggested that schools with representatives on the SACRE be part of the scheme at the start in order to pilot various mechanisms. Other schools with strong links to the SACRE could then be added and finally a letter could be sent from the Chairman to all other county schools via the schools' portal inviting them to join the scheme and giving examples of the pilot mechanisms.

**Resolved:** That proposals for a pilot mechanism enabling SACRE members to visit schools to observe Collective Worship be considered by the SACRE at its next meeting.

## **Supporting Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC)**

Members considered a paper by Alan Brine which set out changes in the Ofsted Framework for School Inspection with implications for RE and which had come into force in January 2012.

SMSC was to be considered as a whole school, whole curriculum responsibility and the SACRE could focus on the part that RE could play within the broader context. SMSC contributed to young people's personal development and was supported through the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus at the core of which lay the question 'What it is to be human'. In Lancashire, community cohesion was an issue and this was an area that RE could play a part in addressing.

**Resolved:** That an item on supporting Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development be presented to the full SCRE at its next meeting.

## **RE Quality Mark**

A paper was presented by Helen Harrison, RE Consultant, regarding a proposal by an education consultant in Chester and an independent adviser supporting Suffolk SACRE, to set up a pilot to establish a national RE Quality Mark. The pilot would take place in the South and North West of the country and Helen Harrison had been approached to become a pilot assessor. Authorities would be expected to fund a pilot assessor for two days with a further two days being funded by the RE Quality

Mark. This was an issue as there was no funding available in addition to the 29 days that the RE Consultant was engaged to work with the SACRE.

Through discussion, it was suggested that the SACRE fund an assessor for the pilot scheme one day for the current year and one day for the next year, after which the situation would be reviewed. Taking part in the pilot would facilitate a two way flow of information and address the issue on the Development Plan regarding the identification of 'RE Good Practice Schools.'

**Resolved:** That the full SACRE be asked to consider taking part in the pilot for a national RE Quality Mark.

### **Letter from Building Bridges in Burnley – proposals for celebration of the organisation's tenth birthday in June 2012**

In order to help raise the profile of the celebrations being held in June this year by Building Bridges in Burnley for their tenth anniversary, members suggested holding the June meeting of the full SACRE in Burnley and possibly changing the scheduled date of the meeting on 11 June to Monday 18 June 2012. A further suggestion was to hold a meeting of the Youth SACRE in Burnley.

**Resolved:** That the full SACRE be asked to consider the proposal to hold the June meeting of the full SACRE in Burnley on 18 June 2012 to help raise the profile of Building Bridges in Burnley tenth anniversary celebrations.

### **Any Other Business**

Jonathan Hewitt, Officer to the SACRE, raised the issue of support for secondary schools. Various options were currently being considered including the possibility of creating a 'leading teacher' post which would help to build capacity in the longer term.

### **Date of the Next Meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting of the Quality and Standards Sub-group was Thursday 17 May 2012, to take place at 10am at County Hall, Preston.

January 2012  
County Hall, Preston