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DATE: 21 February 2023

To: Members of the
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Reverend Roger Bristow (Chairman)
Ms Deborah Corcoran (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Jonathan Andrews, Jessica Arnold, Graeme Casey, Robert Evans,
David Jefferys, Kate Lymer and Chris Price

Church of England: Mr Christopher Town

Teachers: Mrs Denise Angell, Ms Hannah Arnold, Mr Lee Kings and
Mrs Caroline Ringham

Other Faiths: Ms Vicki Ashmore, Mrs Katie Burtonshaw, Mr Daniel Coleman,
Mrs Patricia Colling, Mr Sanjay Gupta, Mr Saiyed Mahmood, Mr Arvinder Nandra and
Dr Omar Taha

A virtual meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education will be
held on **WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2023 AT 6.00 PM**

**PLEASE NOTE: this meeting will be held online – members of the public
wanting to view the meeting should contact the clerk for a link (details above)**

TASNIM SHAWKAT
Director of Corporate Services & Governance

Copies of the documents referred to below can be obtained from
<http://cds.bromley.gov.uk/>

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10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6.00pm, Wednesday 7th June 2023

6.00pm, Wednesday 1st November 2023

6.00pm, Wednesday 28th February 2024

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Minutes of the virtual meeting held at 5.30 pm on 23 November 2022 via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Reverend Roger Bristow (Chairman)

Councillors Jonathan Andrews, Graeme Casey, David Jefferys, Kate Lymer and Chris Price
Reverend Rachel Archer, Mr Christopher Town, Mrs Denise Angell, Ms Hannah Arnold, Mr Lee Kings, Mrs Caroline Ringham, Mrs Katie Burtonshaw, Mr Saiyed Mahmood, Mr Arvinder Nandra and Dr Omar Taha

Also Present:

Stacey Burman, SACRE RE Adviser
Julia Andrew, LBB Head of School Standards
Carol Arnfield, LBB Head of Service for Early Years, Schools Standards and Adult Education

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed SACRE Members to the virtual meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Daniel Coleman, Ms Deborah Corcoran, Councillor Robert Evans and Mr Sanjay Gupta.

The Chairman led SACRE Members in paying tribute to Ms Jan Thompson, a highly respected Church of England Representative on the SACRE who had recently passed away. Ms Thompson was a former SACRE RE Adviser and Assistant Director of the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education and individual SACRE Members praised her outstanding commitment to religious education as well as her much-valued contribution to SACRE activities over many years, including the annual Islamic competition.

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18 COMPLIANCE OF THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

No breaches of the GDPR were reported.

19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JULY 2022

In considering the Minute Annex, a SACRE Member noted a reference to the creation of a *Draft Handbook on Religion and Worldviews*. The SACRE RE Adviser confirmed that was being compiled by the Religious Education Council to encourage the adoption of a new approach to the teaching of religious education and that the ideas expressed within the Handbook were already included in the Bromley syllabus.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

20 REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

No determinations had been received.

21 'REAL' RESOURCES: INTERFAITH DIALOGUE CONFERENCES

The Committee considered an update of the SACRE RE Adviser on 'Real' Resources: Interfaith Dialogue Conferences.

The SACRE RE Adviser advised that following the success of the inaugural Interfaith Dialogue Conference, a further conference had been held in August 2022 where session recordings had been made to create short videos that could be used as classroom learning tools. SACRE Members were requested to review these videos as part of a robust quality assurance process to ensure they fit with the agreed syllabus. The videos would then be uploaded to a secure site for access by named representatives from Bromley schools. The LBB Head of Service for Early Years, Schools Standards and Adult Education suggested that a volunteer be sought from each Member grouping within the Committee to be part of the quality review process.

On a related note, the SACRE RE Adviser was pleased to announce that as a result of being awarded funding by Westhill to create the video resources, Bromley had been invited by NASACRE to present this learning project at an online workshop which would probably take place on 15 June 2023 (*date yet to be confirmed*). It was proposed to show an example video and share the experiences of participants as part of the workshop, perhaps also including input from teachers. The Charman requested that the SACRE RE Adviser circulate further details of the event to SACRE Members including how to get involved.

Action: SACRE RE Adviser to forward request wording to Clerk who will send email to members regarding volunteering in reviewing the above.

22 INTER-FAITH CALENDAR COMPETITION

The Committee considered an update of the SACRE RE Adviser on the Inter-Faith Calendar Competition.

The SACRE RE Adviser suggested that possible themes for this year's competition included 'How do we know they are special or holy?' or 'What makes a place special or holy?' which were accessible to pupils of all backgrounds, including non-religious, although it was anticipated that the majority of entries would have a religious focus, and this was supported by the Committee.

A SACRE Member observed that the calendar was now produced online only and requested that a quote be obtained for hard copy calendars. This was agreed by the Committee and would be reported to a future meeting of SACRE.

Action: LBB to investigate quotes for printing of calendar for next year.

23 SACRE SELF-EVALUATION

The Committee considered an update of the SACRE RE Adviser regarding the SACRE Self-Evaluation.

The SACRE RE Adviser thanked all SACRE Members who had responded to the SACRE Self-Evaluation. In considering Section 3: Effectiveness of the Locally Agreed Syllabus, a SACRE Member highlighted a mismatch for 'How well does SACRE promote the Agreed Syllabus and provide training to prepare teachers to use it effectively?' which teachers had reported as 'Established' but which remained marked as 'Advanced' in the SACRE Self-Evaluation. The Member noted that whilst the quality of training materials was excellent, there had been some issue around attendance to recent meetings. It was acknowledged that the question was about 'promoting and providing training' which was strong. Whilst it was appreciated that meetings would continue to be held online for budgetary reasons, it was agreed that in person sessions would be preferable for attendees. Following discussion, SACRE Members agreed to amend the rating of this measure as 'Leading to Advanced' and to hold an in-person Primary RE Network meeting on 7 June 2023.

Action: To amend the SACRE Self-Evaluation as outlined above.

24 SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered the SACRE Annual Report 2021/22 for approval, subject to the below updated Chairman's Introduction:

"I remain indebted to Joanne Partridge who, in her role of Clerk to SACRE, gives invaluable support to both the Committee and to me. Stacey Burman, our RE Adviser, continues to work hard to provide as much support as possible to schools. We are pleased that the revised Bromley Agreed Syllabus appears to have been well received and Stacey continues to provide support and resourcing to RE Teachers as they implement it within their schools.

I continue to be grateful also to Jared Nehra, Bromley Director of Education, and to Julia Andrew and Carol Arnfield, Bromley School Standards officers, who assist us to deliver a high level of support to Bromley's schools, and especially to those at the front line of delivering high quality RE and the experience of life-enhancing collective worship for all. I am grateful also to the members of Bromley SACRE for their commitment to this work and their engagement with the various issues which are raised by it.

Bromley SACRE seeks to encourage and support those who deliver RE and lead Collective Worship in Bromley's schools (whether maintained or not) in helping to ensure that children and young people are given every opportunity to discover for themselves the way in which religious and other world views impact every area of our lives. This work remains as vital today as it ever was."

With regard to the draft annual report, a SACRE Member was concerned that only 50% of primary schools in Bromley had stated they were confident they were delivering enough curriculum time for RE. The SACRE RE Adviser explained that this was 50% of responding schools, which only represented a small proportion of primary schools in Bromley, but that the Director of Education could be requested to emphasise the importance of religious education to all or targeted primary schools if this was a concern of the Committee. The Chairman confirmed that Bromley SACRE had historically preferred to take an encouraging and supportive approach to promoting the delivery of effective religious education and collective worship in Bromley schools; however, further steps had been taken previously where schools were identified as non-compliant in their responsibilities around religious education and collective worship. The Chairman underlined the need to inform and engage School Governors around religious education and collective worship requirements in schools, including any Governor with designated responsibility for curriculum.

The SACRE RE Adviser suggested a questionnaire be provided to Bromley Governors asking whether they could confirm the curriculum time for religious education and collective worship; whether there was a specific Governor role supporting religious education or more generally, the curriculum in their school; and whether this Governor regularly met with subject leaders for religious education, and this proposal was agreed by the Committee. LBB Officers confirmed that they would be attending future Governors' meetings provided by the Local Authority, and that the Chairman could also attend to share and discuss the above point and promote any questionnaire/survey agreed. However, as not all schools were represented at Governors' meetings, it was suggested that any messages or surveys be communicated to schools in another format.

In considering other aspects of the draft annual report, a SACRE Member requested that identifying titles be added to Table 1 in Section 2c: School Provision, Attainment and Quality of Religious Education and this was agreed by the Committee. Another Member queried when exam data would be

available for inclusion in the report, and it was advised that this would be noted and provided to SACRE Members once data validation had been completed in December 2022.

Action: SACRE RE Adviser to prepare a survey/questionnaire for schools/governors regarding RE and Collective Worship in their schools.

Action: RE Adviser to forward amended document to Clerk to send to NASACRE.

RESOLVED: That the SACRE Annual Report 2021/22 be approved, subject to the above listed amendments including the updated Chairman's Introduction.

25 SACRE ACTION PLAN (INCLUDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS)

The Committee considered the SACRE Action Plan (including relationships with schools).

In response to a question from a SACRE Member on the Action Plan, the SACRE RE Adviser acknowledged that it had been agreed in previous years that action agreed by SACRE focus on the Agreed Syllabus and not include collective worship. The SACRE RE Adviser explained that whilst there was no current live action for Bromley SACRE to promote effective collective worship, NASACRE was currently undertaking work in this area, and this could be presented to a future meeting of SACRE for consideration. It was noted that Bromley SACRE Members wished to make the encouragement of collective worship a focus of future work.

In considering other arising matters, the SACRE RE Adviser notified the Committee that a project establishing regional RE Hubs in every education region in England and Wales was underway. Under this project which had been funded by various national RE organisations, each hub would have an RE Lead who would work for two days a month to compile information relating to all local religious education bodies including SACREs, teacher networks and others delivering or supporting collective worship with the ultimate aim of supporting increased collaborative working. The RE Hubs would also offer a short online training session to enable individuals from places of interest or worship to gain kitemark accreditation to speak in schools. This would lead to an 'approved' list of speakers being made available on the website for schools and SACRE Members were invited to apply to attend this training session, for which a flyer was included in the agenda pack.

The SACRE RE Adviser further announced that she had successfully bid for funding from the Faith and Belief Forum to run a pilot programme with several schools to increase parental engagement with religious education in schools. The pilot scheme would see a small number of parents from participating schools being given an intriguing artefact from a religion or world view (artefacts would not be holy or sacred) and asked to reflect on the concept to

which items related and how they might be used. The responses would be collated and shared with participating parents at a school-based event, along with an explanation from the relevant worldview/religion. Further classroom activities could be undertaken with pupils regarding the chosen items, using resources devised from/with the varied responses and with the explanations provided. On a related note, another Member advised that parental engagement had been part of a recent inter-faith week at her school with parents invited to view a gallery of artwork created by the pupils. It was agreed that this project would support the above schools' project and would be open to all Bromley schools to take part.

Action: SACRE RE Adviser to include reference to the new project in an upcoming schools' newsletter.

26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman led the Committee in thanking Reverend Rachel Archer who would shortly be relocating to a parish in another region of the United Kingdom for her excellent contribution to the SACRE, initially as a Teacher Member and latterly as a member of the Church of England group. There were a number of vacancies for Church of England Representatives on the Committee and work was underway to address this. The SACRE RE Adviser also noted vacancies for secondary teachers in another committee.

Action: Chairman and SACRE RE Adviser to investigate vacancies in relevant committees.

27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6.00pm, Wednesday 1st March 2023

The Meeting ended at 6.48 pm

Chairman

Bromley SACRE Action Plan for September 2022-September 2023

	Need		Actions	Dates	Notes
Teacher training and support: network meetings	1 st Primary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity	4/10/22	To include: defining what is good RE, survey of RE provision; launch calendar competition; develop Syllabus support materials Contributing to: ASC; building links with other faiths and SACRE and how Syllabus could best support teaching and learning; clearer picture of school provision; building network support; improving pedagogy in T+L in schools;
			JA information released on school circulars and email		
		Plan and run Network	SB plan and run network		
	1 st Secondary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity	6/10/22	
			JA information released on school circulars and email		
		Plan and run Network	SB plan and run network		
	2 nd Primary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity	8/3/23	
			JA information released on school circulars and email		
		Plan and run Network	SB plan and run network		
	2 nd Secondary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity	10/3/23	
			JA information released on school circulars and email		
		Plan and run Network	SB plan and run network		
	3 rd Primary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity/newsletter	14/6/23	
			JA information released on school circulars and email		
Plan and run Network		SB plan and run network			
3 rd Secondary Network	Invitations/promotion	SB to confirm venue and date, send materials for publicity/ newsletter	16/6/23		
		JA information released on school circulars and email			
	Plan and run Network	SB plan and run network			
Interfaith Competition:	School Entries		SB confirm themes with SACRE and email materials for school circular + newsletter	Autumn 2022	
			JA information released on school circulars/send newsletters		
			Winners' selection made at Network meeting(s) or independently		
RE Calendar 2023- 2024	Design		CA confirm design, details sent to create draft	June/July 2023	
			SB send to Clerk to email SACRE Chair, CA and members draft for approval (of dates)		
	Production	Design finalised	July 2023		
Sharing		SB create accompanying wording for schools circular, Council and LA website, JA share	September 2023		
		JA ensure sent to schools, brought to SACRE Meet 3, CA sharing with relevant LA team(s)			
Annual Report 2021-22	Draft		Members complete self-evaluation materials and send to JP to forward SB	23/11/22	
			SB write draft 1 for proofreading/check on new NASACRE template		
			SB amend draft, send revised draft to JP		
	Review	SACRE review at Meet 1	Dec 2022		
	Share	SB amend accordingly	Dec 2022		
		JP to send to NASACRE, JA to add to public SACRE page	Dec 2022		

Bromley SACRE Action Plan for September 2022-September 2023

Actions			Dates	Notes
1. Supporting Communication	Bi-Annual Newsletter	SB create a school newsletter 1 with further guidance/support	Jan/Feb 2023	Supporting: SMSC in schools; develop interfaith understanding and communication through teaching resources; promoting awareness of and within SACRE, boosting awareness and inclusion of diversity in RE
		JA/CA ensure message sent to schools via Newsletter/schools Circular	Spring 2023	
		SB create a school newsletter 2 with further guidance/support	May 2023	
		JA/CA ensure message sent to schools via Newsletter/schools Circular		
	NASACRE	Attendance to conference, CA ensuring continued subscription	May 2023	
		RB/SB disseminate information to SACRE	Summer 2023	
	School Governors	SB create draft Governors Questionnaire/Survey	March 2023	
		SACRE approval of above		
		JA/SB share with schools; RB share at Gov meeting	Summer 2023	
		SB collate responses		
SB share with SACRE				
2. Supporting Resources	Checking	JA format clips from Interfaith Dialogue conference 1 + 2	Autumn 2022	Contributing to: building links with other faiths; clearer picture of school provision; improving pedagogy in T+L in schools
		JA/CA upload onto LA system. Agree access for SACRE volunteer members	Spring 2023	
		SACRE Volunteer Members to check content		
	Publishing	SB share with teachers in unit planning	Summer 2023	
		SB devise NASACRE workshop with SACRE volunteer members		
		Deliver NASACRE workshop with SACRE volunteer members		
b. SACRE Speakers	Share	JA/CA share new agreed guidance materials to schools/SACRE members	Autumn 2022	
	Support	SB share further training opportunities via RE Hubs meeting 1		
	Develop	See Developing Good Practice, below		
c. FBF project	Promote	SB share/explain, SACRE approve involvement	Autumn 2022	
		SB invite selected schools to partake		
	Develop	Volunteer schools take part, attend CPD, collation of parental responses	Spring 2023	
		SACRE Volunteers can work with SB to prepare responses	Summer 2023	
	Share	School events held	Autumn 2023	
Materials for schools shared via networks				
d. Teacher materials	Develop	SB continue to develop and share materials with teachers	Spring+ Summer 2023	
		Collation of pupil samples		
		SB devise moderation samples to align with syllabus		
	Share	SB include materials/resources from a. and c. above	Autumn 2023	