

# Minutes



## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.15pm held virtually using Google Meet

Present: Miss V M Stone (C) (Chair) Mrs A Huneke (D)  
 (Groups in Mrs R Johnson (A) Mrs Justine Speck (C)  
 brackets) Mrs M Cockram (C) Cllr C Williams (D)  
 Ms Megan Morgan (B) Mr Vince Burke (A)

In attendance: Mrs Penny Smith-Orr (Consultant)  
 Mrs Penny Garry (Clerk)

Apologies: Mrs Uzma Mobin (C) Mr Mukesh Rao (A)  
 Mr S Ellingham (C) Mr L Bracken (A)

Absent: Ms Rebecca Bishop (C) Mr Lewis Owens (B)  
 Cllr M Gonzalez (D) Mr Marcus Cooper (B)  
 Mr S Uddin (A) Cllr N Patel (D)  
 Mrs Usma Hussein (A) Mr Paul Solomon

|    | ITEM  | ACTION BY |
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| 1. | <b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b><br>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.   |           |
| 2. | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b><br>Apologies had been received from Mr Ellingham, Mrs Mobin, Mr Bracken and Mr Rao.  |           |
| 3. | <b>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021</b><br>The minutes were agreed and will be signed as a true record.  |           |
| 4. | <b>MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Video clips from the NASACRE conference</b><br/>             Kent SACRE have some videos of pupils talking about their faith, but they are on a protected You Tube Channel. JS said that this could be a good thing for the Faith Ambassadors to do as long as the necessary safeguarding is put in place in terms of who can view the videos.<br/> <b>Action: JS will speak with her Headteacher to see whether this could be done.</b> </li> <li><b>School workforce data</b><br/>             The decision was made to await a new set of data.           </li> </ul> | JS        |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Annual Report</b><br/>This has been sent off to the relevant stakeholders and is now on the SACRE page of Sutton Council's website. NASACRE will now be actively reviewing the reports.</li> </ul>  |  |
| 5. | <p><b>APPOINTMENT OF SACRE MEMBERS</b></p> <p>The Clerk was pleased to report that the Archdiocese of Southwark had put forward Mr Vince Burke, Headteacher of St. Cecilia's Catholic Primary school as a representative.</p> <p>Southwark Diocese had put forward Megan Morgan, RE Lead at All Saints' Carshalton, Lewis Owens, and Mr Marcus Cooper. Only Megan Morgan was in attendance at this meeting.</p>   |  |
| 6. | <p><b>UPDATE ON SUTTON FAITH &amp; BELIEF FORUM</b></p> <p>Mr Solomon was not present at the meeting and, therefore, no update was available.</p>   |  |
| 7. | <p><b>MONITORING RE AND CW IN SUTTON</b></p> <p><b>WIRE Award</b><br/>Mrs Smith-Orr has reminded those schools who are in the process of working on the award. Robin Hood Infants and Westbourne Primary have advised of their intention to complete the award and Culvers House and Overton Grange are collecting evidence.</p> <p><b>Collective Worship and School Websites</b><br/>Because of the pressures schools have been under with Covid, Mrs Smith-Orr has not written to schools. Members also noted that some schools may have now updated their websites and so Mrs Smith-Orr will check again before reminding them.</p>  |  |
| 8. | <p><b>SACRE BUDGET</b></p> <p>Ms Stone and Mrs Smith-Orr have met with Sutton Council and established the annual budget figure. From this the RE Consultant and Clerk's costs are paid, together with the annual subscription to NASACRE, the cost of a delegate at the AGM, the RE Co-ordinators meetings, production of guidance documents, the annual report and training for SACRE members.</p> <p>The new contact at Sutton is going to send the Chair information on the budget going forward as Cognus Director has left.</p> <p>Members agreed it would be good to try and widen teachers' knowledge of SACRE and the guidance available.</p> <p>Mrs Smith-Orr advised that she does have a detailed guidance document for Early Years Teachers on Ramadan.</p> <p>Ms Morgan said it would be very useful to have a guidance document on places of worship in the local community available for visits. It was agreed that this would be useful but that it would need to be kept up to date.</p> |  |

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|     | <p>There is an organisation working in Epsom called Spinnaker who have people visiting schools delivering RE experiences.</p> <p>Sutton Schools work is running an Easter Experience and it would be good if SACRE members could attend.</p> <p><b>Action: Mrs Smith-Orr will send out her document on Ramadan to Ms Stone to look at and then circulate to RE Co-ordinators. Mrs Smith-Orr will also begin to draft an information document of places of worship and asked SACRE members to contact her with any useful information they have.</b></p>   | PS-O |
| 9.  | <p><b>SACRE SELF-EVALUATION</b></p> <p>Mrs Smith-Orr thanked members for sending in the completed self-evaluation forms which provides a snapshot of members' views in December 2021.</p> <p>Mrs Smith-Orr explained that it is usually better to do this exercise at a meeting so that discussions can take place. It was clear from some of the submissions that some new members were unsure of how to assess where Sutton SACRE were for some items.</p> <p>Item 2(c) RJ commented that, although relations with academies and maintained schools are established, there are still some difficulties getting into secondary schools. Mrs Smith-Orr acknowledged this but added that she has had some contact from RE Heads of Department. During the monitoring of websites, it was found that academies were also using the locally agreed syllabus.</p> <p>Mr Williamson added that when he worked as a teacher within an academy in Sutton, RE was an integral part of the curriculum and all of the boys took GCSE in RE.</p> <p>Item 5(b) Knowledge of the Local Area – members agreed that this should be Advanced. There is a detailed knowledge of religions and cultural diversity in the local area. There are links with the Inter Faith Groups also.</p> <p>Item 4(c) Responding to requests for determinations. Members felt it would be useful to have some training on this around what a determination is. There are currently no determinations in Sutton.</p> <p>NASACRE have been offering some free training events and the next one is around self-evaluation of your SACRE. It is intended for Chairs and Vice-Chairs but neither Ms Stone, nor Ms Cockram, are able to attend so Mrs Smith-Orr will do so.</p> <p><b>Action: Mrs Smith-Orr will arrange for some training on determinations at the next meeting.</b></p> | PS-O |
| 10. | <p><b>SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021 AND 2022</b></p> <p>The finalised 2021 plan was noted.</p> <p>The new 2022 plan now follows the academic year i.e. Sept 21 to July 22. Actions against the plan were discussed and will be updated on the</p>   |      |

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|            | <p>document. Some of the following were noted:</p> <p>Item 8, SACRE membership. There was only one non-Anglican Christian Denomination in Group A although there is now also representation from the Catholic Diocese.</p> <p>It will be good to look at the census which comes out in early summer to see if there has been a change in the demographics in Sutton. Mr Williamson added that the largest minority group in Sutton is Tamil and that they are a mixture of faiths but mainly Hindu.</p>  |              |
| <b>11.</b> | <p><b>RE CO-ORDINATORS MEETINGS AND SCHOOL VISITS</b></p> <p>A meeting took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 18 people attended. They looked at virtual visits and some websites.</p> <p>They also discussed the Hindu Education Council report saying that Hinduism was not being taught properly and the reminder they issued around the important things to teach and how to find further information.</p> <p>One school had a deep dive into RE by Ofsted and the co-ordinators discussed this.</p> <p>The next meeting will be on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022.</p> |              |
| <b>12.</b> | <p><b>UPDATE ON FAITH AMBASSADORS</b></p> <p>Ms Speck advised that the Faith Ambassadors have met at her school and done assemblies. Ms Speck will explore the possibility of creating videos that schools could show (assuming all safeguarding protocols are followed). This might encourage other schools to do the same.</p>   |              |
| <b>13.</b> | <p><b>DELEGATE TO NASACRE'S AGM</b></p> <p>The Annual General Meeting is taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> May in Birmingham although Mrs Smith-Orr said that she believes there is an option to attend virtually. There will be a key note speaker at the conference part of the meeting and workshops (which may be in the hybrid form of live/virtual webinars).</p> <p><b>Action: The Clerk will contact NASACRE to establish the cost of attending the event/workshops virtually</b></p>  | <b>Clerk</b> |
| <b>14.</b> | <p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>There was no other business to discuss.</p>  |              |
| <b>15.</b> | <p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.15pm</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Sutton High School</b></p>  |              |

Closing Time of Meeting: 8.45pm

Chair's Signature ..... Date.....