



## Agenda

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To all Members of the

# STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Notice is given that a Meeting of the above Committee is to be held as follows:

**Venue:** Room 7a & b, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU

**Date:** Wednesday, 20th March, 2019

**Time:** 4.00 pm

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### Items for Discussion:

	<b>Page No.</b>
1. Apologies for absence.	
2. Minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 7th November, 2018.	1 - 4
<b>A. Reports where the public and press may not be excluded.</b>	
3. Update report for SACRE March 2019.	5 - 10
4. Date and time of next meeting – Wednesday, 26th June at 4.00 pm.	

**Jo Miller**  
**Chief Executive**

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Issued on: Thursday, 14th March 2019

**Governance Services Officer for this meeting**

Andrew Sercombe  
Tel. 01302 734354

**Members of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

Chair – Rev T McCready - Unitarian (Doncaster Interfaith)

Vice-Chair – Councillor Kevin Rodgers

Councillors John Gilliver, Derek Smith and Jonathan Wood

Mr R Iball, Methodist

Mrs P Kaur, Sikh

Ms S Norburn, Humanist

Mr S Syed, Muslim

Mr B Teimoori, Baha’i

Lucy Saxton, Roman Catholic

Mary Sivaanbu, Hindu

Ms J Crowther, Church of England

Ms A Nicolson, National Union of Teachers

Mr T Griffiths, National Association of Headteachers

Mr A Depledge, Church of England

# Agenda Item 2

## DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

### STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

WEDNESDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER, 2018

A MEETING of the STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) was held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICE on WEDNESDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER, 2018, at 4.00 pm.

#### PRESENT:

In the Chair – Richard Iball

Mr B Teimoori, Councillor Derek Smith,

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor John Gilliver, Lat Blaylock (RE Today), Paul Ruane and Andrew Sercombe

#### APOLOGIES:

Rev T McCready, Councillor Kevin Rodgers, Mr A Depledge,

#### QUORUM

As there were no representatives from the Church of England or from the Teacher's Association the meeting was inquorate. It was agreed that the meeting continue on an informal basis and the recommendations be ratified at the next quorate meeting of SACRE.

#### ELECTION OF A CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair R Iball was elected Chair for the meeting.

#### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY

There were no declarations made at the meeting.

#### 2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27TH JUNE, 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be agreed as a true record.

#### 3. TO RECEIVE THE REVISED RE SYLLABUS, CONSIDER MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS AND RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE LAUNCH EVENT

Lat Blaylock and Paul Ruane informed the meeting that the Agreed Syllabus event had taken place earlier in the day and reported that 38 delegates attended, including

representatives from academies. There were no delegates representing any of the secondary schools in the Borough.

The launch event focused on RE lesson planning, teaching and learning, delivering the syllabus, outcomes and assessing progress. Evaluation forms indicated that 68% of those in attendance thought the event was “very good” with 22% rating the event as “good”.

The launch event provided the opportunity to engage with schools and further develop the syllabus. It was expected that the syllabus would be fully implemented by September 2019.

Members were provided the opportunity to ask questions and the following issues were raised:

Mr B Teimoori enquired if information relating to the Baha’i Faith could be included in the syllabus. Lat Blaylock confirmed he would make arrangements to ensure information on the Baha’i faith was appended to the syllabus.

It was acknowledged that further efforts should be made to engage with secondary schools.

Members asked about parental rights to withdraw their children from RE lessons and were informed that parents are initially advised to discuss this with their Headteacher to confirm the school’s arrangements. It was agreed that as part of its ongoing work programme SACRE may wish to find out details of the number of children who withdraw from RE and the reasons.

Members enquired about the monitoring arrangements to ensure the RE syllabus was being taught effectively in schools. It was reported this could be a key role for SACRE and a further suggestion made that developing and distributing a questionnaire to schools could further assist with this.

Members discussed the importance of RE in contributing to and shaping the spiritual, moral development of children and young people.

The following actions were agreed at the meeting:

NO.	ACTION	WHO
<b>1.</b>	<b>Syllabus</b>	
a.	An online copy of the syllabus be made available free of charge to schools.	Paul R
b.	Ensure web page where access to syllabus is available is secure.	Paul R
c.	Contact secondary schools to advise of the revised syllabus and encourage engagement, comment and feedback.	Paul R
d.	Identify training for schools – review launch event evaluation forms	Lat B
<b>2.</b>	<b>Additional Syllabus Information</b>	

a.	Humanist mini guide (Manchester example) be included on the web page.	Lat B
b.	Information re Baha'i faith to be sent to Lat B by Mr B Teimoori for consideration for inclusion as an appendix to the agreed syllabus.	Sent via Andrew S
c.	SACRE to identify any further mini guides for inclusion on website.	SACRE
<b>3.</b>	<b>SACRE Work Programme</b>	
a.	Future work programme to include analysis and understanding of why children in Doncaster School's withdraw from RE lessons (via Questionnaire – see b. below)	Paul R/Lat B
b.	Future work plan to include consideration of how effectiveness of the new syllabus will be monitored following implementation in Autumn 2019. Consideration be given to formulating a questionnaire to schools including opportunity for them to identify any help and support in delivering the syllabus.	Paul R
c.	Clarification of future work required from RE Today to support SACRE.	Paul R & Lat B
<b>4.</b>	<b>FUTURE RE TODAY SUPPORT</b>	
	Identification of training events to be held for secondary and primary schools by RE today held prior to future meetings.	Paul R and Lat B
<b>5</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
a.	To ensure SACRE can operate effectively arrangements required to fill outstanding vacancies.	Paul R/A Sercombe

5 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date and time of future meetings were agreed as follow:

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm.

CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Doncaster Council

### Report

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Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019

#### To the Chair and Members of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

#### Update report for SACRE March 2019

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Schools	All	No

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. There have been a number of actions following the previous SACRE meeting on Wednesday, 7th November. Please see attached appendix for details. This appendix provides an update for the SACRE meeting on Wednesday, 20th March.

#### EXEMPT REPORT

2. This is not an exempt report

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

3. That the members of SACRE note the content of this report and the accompanying appendix.

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. Local Councils play a key role in helping to shape and drive forward improvement in education settings and it is important that they are involved in shaping the quality of provision in their area.

## BACKGROUND

5. All Local Authorities are required to have a SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education), following the launch of the revised syllabus in November 2018, this report provides an update on actions undertaken to ensure the syllabus is being delivered in schools.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

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	Outcomes	Implications
	<p><b>Doncaster Working:</b> Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better access to good fulfilling work</li> <li>• Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish</li> <li>• Inward Investment</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Doncaster Living:</b> Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster</li> <li>• More people can live in a good quality, affordable home</li> <li>• Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport</li> <li>• Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean</li> <li>• Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage</li> </ul>	<p>The development of a sound RE syllabus has the potential to contribute to pupils' personal development and well-being and to community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society.</p>
	<p><b>Doncaster Learning:</b> Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school</li> <li>• Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better</li> <li>• Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work</li> </ul>	<p>Agreeing an up to date fit for purpose RE syllabus will support learning within schools.</p> <p>The quality of teaching in the wider curriculum, including RE, will be strengthened</p>

	<p><b>Doncaster Caring:</b> Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children have the best start in life</li> <li>• Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust</li> <li>• Older people can live well and independently in their own homes</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Connected Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A modern, efficient and flexible workforce</li> <li>• Modern, accessible customer interactions</li> <li>• Operating within our resources and delivering value for money</li> <li>• A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents</li> <li>• Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths</li> <li>• Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance</li> </ul>	

## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

7. The Local Authority through its SACRE has a legal responsibility to produce an agreed RE syllabus. This report provides an opportunity to reflect on the delivery of the new syllabus and identify further actions to ensure it meets its purpose.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

8. No specific implications have been sought for this report as it seeks to provide an update to Members on progress following the last meeting

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

9. No specific implications have been sought for this report as it seeks to provide an update to Members on progress following the last meeting

## **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

10. No specific implications have been sought for this report as it seeks to provide an update to Members on progress following the last meeting.

## **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS:**

11. No specific implications have been sought for this report as it seeks to provide an update to Members on progress following the last meeting.

## **HEALTH IMPLICATIONS:**

12. No specific implications have been sought for this report as it seeks to provide an update to Members on progress following the last meeting

## **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:**

13. Ensuring the delivery of an agreed RE syllabus, will provide a key driver to develop young people's understanding and appreciation of faith, diversity, promote shared values and challenge racism and discrimination.

## **CONSULTATION**

14. No specific consultation has been undertaken in respect of this report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Please see appendix below

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

Paul Ruane  
Head of Learning Provision  
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**Damian Allen, Director of People (DCS/DASS)**

**Learning and Opportunities: Children and Young People/Adults, Health and Wellbeing Directorates**

## PROGRESS & ACTIONS FOLLOWING LAUNCH OF REVISED RE SYLLABUS

	ACTION	WHO
<b>1.</b>	<b>Syllabus</b>	
a.	An online copy of the syllabus be made available free of charge to schools. <i>An electronic copy of the new agreed syllabus is available on request to schools who attended the launch event. A decision will need to be made by SACRE if this should be available to all schools in future. If this is the decision then this can be put onto the Council website.</i>	Paul R
b.	Ensure web page where access to syllabus is available is secure. <i>This action has not been completed as we need further guidance on how to make the website secure and if SACRE now wish that the new Agreed Syllabus is available to all schools free of charge. This action would only be necessary if there was restricted access to the new syllabus.</i>	Paul R
c.	Contact secondary schools to advise of the revised syllabus and encourage engagement, comment and feedback. <i>All secondary schools have been given a copy of the new agreed syllabus through our secondary LSEO, Gail Stonier. The offer of CPD and training has not been accessed by secondary colleagues.</i>	Paul R
d.	Identify training for schools – review launch event evaluation forms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Further training for primary schools has been arranged for the afternoon of 20<sup>th</sup> March prior to the SACRE meeting. This offer of training has been very well received. At the time of writing, 14 teachers had booked to attend this event. Lat Blaylock will be facilitating.</i></li> <li>• <i>There was a workshop and presentation at The Future Directions in Education seminar at Castle Park on 7 March and this has resulted in considerable interest in the CPD session that Lat Blaylock is running on 20<sup>th</sup> March.</i></li> </ul>	Lat B
<b>2.</b>	<b>Additional Syllabus Information</b>	
a.	Humanist mini guide (Manchester example) be included on the web page.	Lat B
b.	Information re Baha’l faith to be sent to Lat B by Mr B Teimoori for consideration for inclusion as an appendix to the agreed syllabus.	Sent via Andrew S
c.	SACRE to identify any further mini guides for inclusion on website.	SACRE
<b>3.</b>	<b>SACRE Work Programme</b>	
a.	Future work programme to include analysis and understanding of why children in Doncaster School’s withdraw from RE lessons (via Questionnaire – see b. below) <i>To be discussed at the next SACRE meeting.</i>	Paul R/Lat B

b.	Future work plan to include consideration of how effectiveness of the new syllabus will be monitored following implementation in Autumn 2019. Consideration be given to formulating a questionnaire to schools including opportunity for them to identify any help and support in delivering the syllabus. <i>A further discussion to be held around the content of the questionnaire.</i>	Paul R
c.	Clarification of future work required from RE Today to support SACRE.	Paul R & Lat B
4.	<b>FUTURE RE TODAY SUPPORT</b>	
	Identification of training events to be held for secondary and primary schools by RE today held prior to future meetings. <i>Please see point d above.</i>	Paul R and Lat B
5	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
	To ensure SACRE can operate effectively arrangements required to fill outstanding vacancies. <i>PR has asked primary colleagues to express an interest in becoming a member of SACRE. Further discussion will be needed at the meeting on how to promote SACRE as an opportunity for further professional development. At this point, there has been no further applications to join SACRE so this will warrant further discussion at the next meeting around communication and publicity.</i>	Paul R/A Sercombe