



# Doncaster Council

## Report

---

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

6

	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  
01302737658      paul.ruane@doncaster.gov.uk

**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.	<p>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.</p> <p><i>A further discussion to be held around the content of the questionnaire.</i></p>	Paul R
c.	<p>Clarification of future work required from RE Today to support SACRE.</p>	Paul R & Lat B
4.	<p><b>FUTURE RE TODAY SUPPORT</b></p>	
	<p>Identification of training events to be held for secondary and primary schools by RE today held prior to future meetings.</p> <p><i>Please see point d above.</i></p>	Paul R and Lat B
5	<p><b>MEMBERSHIP</b></p>	
	<p>To ensure SACRE can operate effectively arrangements required to fill outstanding vacancies.</p> <p><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></p>	Paul R/A Sercombe