

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



please ask for Helen Bell
direct line 0300 300 4040
date 29 May 2012

NOTICE OF MEETING

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Date & Time

Tuesday, 12 June 2012 at 2.00 p.m.

Venue at

Room 15 - Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford, SG17 5TQ

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE):

Group A	Roman Catholic Church (2)	Sister Aidan Richards Mary O'Sullivan
	Free Church (3)	Marion Roberts
	Muslim (1)	Mohsin Malik
	Hindu (1)	
	Sikh (1)	Tirath Bhavra
	Jewish (1)	Nina Leigh
	Buddhist (1)	Ven. Akurala Samitha
Group B	Church of England (3)	Jane Chipperton (chairman) Rev. Anne Crawford Tom Waterworth
Group C	Head Teacher	Chris Spurgeon, St Marys Lower Clophill School

Secondary RE Specialist	Kathleen Eldridge, Redborne Upper School
Middle School Rep	Jacquie Binks, Etonbury Middle School
Primary School Rep	Linda Hardy, Toddington St Georges Lower School
Special School Rep	Janet Day, Weatherfield Special School

Group D Cllrs Mrs A Barker, C C Gomm, Mrs D B Gurney (Vice Chairman), D Jones and B Wells

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: A L Dodwell, Mrs S A Goodchild and M A G Versallion]

Officers:	Steve Morrow	- School Improvement Adviser, CBC
	Helen Bell	- Committee Services, CBC

AGENDA

1. **Apologies**

To receive apologies for absence.

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 31 January 2012.

(Attached)

3. **Change to Constitution**

To approve a change to the Constitution as highlighted in Bold text at Paragraph 2.5.

(Attached)

4. **Feedback from NASACRE AGM**

To receive feedback regarding the NASACRE AGM.

5. **National Updates**

To receive information on national updates.

6. **Development Plan Update**

To receive an update on the Development Plan.

7. **Schools Survey**

To receive information on the Schools Survey.

8. **Agreed Syllabus**

To agree the Next Steps regarding the Agreed Syllabus.

9. **Ofsted Judgements**

To receive information on Ofsted Judgements.

10. **HMD 2013**

To receive information on HMD 2013.

11. **Humanist Membership request update**

To receive an update on a Humanist Membership request.

12. **Dates of Future meetings**

To note dates of future meetings as follows:

Wednesday 10 October 2012 – 2.00p.m, Room 15, Priory House, Chicksands.

Wednesday 30 January 2013 – 2.00p.m, Room 15, priory House, Chicksands.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** held at Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford, SG17 5TQ on Tuesday, 31 January 2012.

PRESENT

Jane Chipperton (Chairman)
Cllr D Gurney (Vice-Chairman)

Group A:

Mary Sullivan	Roman Catholic Church Representative
Marion Roberts	Free Church Representative
Mohsin Malik	Muslim Representative
Ven Akurala Samitha	Buddhist Representative
	Hindu Representative
	Sikh Representative

Group B:

Tom Waterworth	Church of England Representative
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Group C:

Chris Spurgeon	Head Teacher, St Marys Lower Clophill School
Kathleen Eldridge	Secondary RE Specialist, Redborne Upper School
Janet Day	Special School Rep, Weatherfield Special School

Group D:

Cllrs:	C C Gomm, Mrs D B Gurney, D Jones and D J Lawrence
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Cllr Versallion (Substitute
for Cllr Mrs Barker)

Officers in Attendance:	Miss H Bell	– Committee Services Officer
	Mr S Morrow	– School Improvement Officer

SACRE/11/33 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Nina Leigh, Tithra Bhara, Linda Hardy, Marion Roberts, Cllr Mrs Barker and Cllr Gomm.

Councillor Versallion attended as a Substitute for Councillor Mrs Barker

SACRE/11/34 Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2011 be approved as a correct record subject to the recording of Councillor Versallion being present.

SACRE/11/35 Matters Arising

Members were invited to consider a report detailing the Annual report of Central Bedfordshire SACRE 2011. The report outlined the work of SACRE throughout 2011.

SACRE/11/36 RE Syllabus Launch

Members were advised of the success of the Syllabus Launch held on 2 November at Puteridgebury, Luton.

The next launch would be held on Thursday 19 April at the Forest Centre, Martson Moretaine. Members were invited to advise the School Improvement Officer of their intention to attend the event.

The Syllabus and a CD was now available on a learning portal.

SACRE/11/37 Development Plan

Members were invited to consider the Central Bedfordshire SACRE Development Plan April 2011 – March 2012.

Following consideration of the work undertaken from April 2011 – March 2012 Members were invited to work within Groups to discuss and focus upon work for SACRE for 2013.

Group A : Expressed an interest in following up on the success of the Agreed Syllabus launch. This would include the introduction of Planning/Focus Groups. A suggestion was made that a directory of faiths could be compiled which could work towards forming professional study groups.

Group B :Discussed the importance and ways of ensuring that Academy status schools were following the Agreed Syllabus for Religious education.

Group C :Discussed the importance of sharing good practice and Outstanding Practice of the teaching of religious education. For example, the recording of the teaching of religious education could be filmed and shown to schools where there are no dedicated religious education teachers.

Elected Members : Discussed the idea of Councillor run assemblies at Secondary schools throughout Central Bedfordshire.

It was agreed that the suggested ideas mentioned in the preamble above, be included within the Development Plan for 2012/13 and that a brief outline of the subsequent actions be circulated to all SACRE members prior to the next meeting.

SACRE/11/38 **HMD Event feedback**

The SACRE were advised of the HMD Event Feedback event held on 24 January 2012. The event was hosted by Redbourne Upper School, Ampthill. The event was a success with an attendance of 80 people and included readings and musical entertainment. The Chairman recorded her gratitude to Redbourne Upper School for hosting the event and all of the pupils who took part in the event. The possibility of the event being held at Vandyke School in 2013 was discussed.

SACRE/11/39 **Westhill Awards**

The SACRE were advised of the Westhill Awards and in particular the Teacher Reference Group and Possible areas of development.

SACRE/11/40 **Humanist Membership request update**

Members were invited to discuss a membership request made by a Humanist representative. It was noted that this request had previously been discussed at the meeting held on 16 June 2011.

It was agreed that the Humanist representative be invited to attend and present their case to SACRE at 2.00 p.m on 12 June 2012.

SACRE/11/41 **Any Other Business**

Members were invited to elect a Chair of each Group as follows:

Group A : Moshin Malik
Group B : Tom Waterworth
Group C : Kathleen Eldridge
Group D : Councillor D Lawrence.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. and concluded at 3.10 p.m..)

Chairman

Date



STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONSTITUTION

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Education Act 1996 Central Bedfordshire Council ("the authority") has a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education ("the council"). This Constitution accords with the provisions of the above Act.

1.0 THE DUTIES OF SACRE

- 1.1 To advise the LA on such matters concerned with school worship and with Religious Education according to an Agreed Syllabus as the LA may refer to it or as SACRE sees fit. These matters might include, for example, the provision of INSET, methods of teaching and choice of materials and the consideration of complaints should the LA so require. SACRE shall ensure that schools within Central Bedfordshire receive a copy of advice on religious education in accordance with the current agreed syllabus to the Headteachers of all grant maintained schools. Such advice may be given to Faith Schools for information.
- 1.2 To receive and determine whether an application from a Headteacher to vary the requirement for worship of a broadly or mainly Christian character, is appropriate for the whole school or for groups of pupils.
- 1.3 To publish an annual report outlining the advice given by SACRE to the LA and whether a Statutory Conference was requested during that year. The report should broadly describe the nature of advice provided, and if such advice was in relation to matters not referred to SACRE by the LA, stating the reasons why such advice was offered.
- 1.4 A copy of the report should be sent by SACRE to the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA).
- 1.5 To require the LA to set up a Statutory Conference to review the Agreed Syllabus if, in the opinion of SACRE, this becomes necessary.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 The Authority is responsible for constituting the council and for appointing the members (other than co-opted members). (Part V Chap III Para 392)
- 2.2 The Education Act 1996 requires four representative groups to be appointed. In Central Bedfordshire the membership of each group shall be as follows:

Group A Christian and other religious denominations

Roman Catholic Church	2
Free Church	3
Muslim	1
Hindu	1
Sikh	1
Jewish	1
Buddhist	1
Sub total	10

Group B The Church of England

	3
Sub total	3

Group C Teachers' Associations

Headteacher	1
Secondary RE Specialist	1
Middle School representative	1
Primary School representative	1
Special School representative	1
Sub total	5

Group D The Authority

Elected Members	5
Sub total	5

The total membership of those appointed to serve on the statutory groups on the council will be 23. All members shall be delegates who are interested in education in general and religious education in particular.

- 2.3 The council may also include co-opted members.
- 2.4 If a member is absent for 3 or more consecutive meetings for any reason not acceptable to the Council there shall be deemed to be a vacated place to be filled for that class of members.

- 2.5 SACRE welcome all new Membership applications. Repeat applicants will only be considered on an annual basis. Applicants are invited to make representations to SACRE in support of their application. The decision will be made at the next meeting of SACRE and communicated 10 working days after the date of that meeting.**

3.0 TERM OF OFFICE

- 3.1 Subject to paragraphs 3.2 - 3.5 below a member of the council shall hold office until he/she is reappointed or the appointment of his/her successor. The appointment or reappointment of members shall be made every four years.
- 3.2 A person co-opted shall hold office on such terms as may be determined by members co-opting him/her.
- 3.3 A member of the council appointed by the Authority may be removed from membership by the Authority if in the opinion of the Authority he/she ceases to be representative of the denomination or association which he/she was appointed to represent or (as the case may be) of the Authority.
- 3.4 A member of the council may at any time resign his/her office.
- 3.5 On resignation or removal by the Authority an appointed person may be replaced by the Authority for the remainder of the term of office by another representative. Temporary substitution is not allowed.

4.0 CHAIRPERSON

The council shall appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson from amongst its members, who shall hold office for a period of one year unless re-appointed by the council. In the absence of the chairperson and vice-chairperson from a meeting a member will be elected to the chair for the meeting.

5.0 GROUP SPOKESPERSON

Each of the four representative groups shall appoint a spokesperson and keep a record of decisions made in any group meetings.

6.0 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- 6.1 The council shall meet at least twice a year but not normally more than four times a year. At one meeting the annual report shall be agreed.

- 6.2 The dates of the main meetings will be decided at the first meeting in the education (academic) year.

7.0 AGENDA and MINUTES

- 7.1 Matters for the agenda of any meeting shall be sent to the Clerk at least 21 days in advance of the next listed meeting.
- 7.2 The Agenda shall be distributed to reach members at least 7 working days in advance of the meeting.
- 7.3 The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated to members within one month of the meeting taking place.

8.0 PROCEEDINGS

- 8.1 The quorum for the Council will be an attendance from each group of at least one person.
- 8.2 On any question to be decided by the council only the representative groups on the council shall be entitled to vote, and each group shall have a single vote (Part V Chap III Para 390). Decisions within a group about how that vote is to be cast will be reached by a majority decision. In the event of a tied vote within the group, the group's vote will be recorded as an abstention.
- 8.3 In the event of an equality of votes on any issue the Chair may exercise a casting vote.
- 8.4 Co-opted members may not vote on any matter.

9.0 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

The Authority may alter this constitution at any time but must consult the council before doing so.

10.0 CLERK

The council will be clerked by an employee of Central Bedfordshire as designated by the Director of Children's Services.

11.0 ADVISERS

- 11.1 In addition to the Clerk other officers of the Authority may attend meetings at the discretion of the Strategic Director (Learning) and may speak but not vote.

(Draft version June 2010)

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