

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

**This meeting  
may be filmed.**



**Central  
Bedfordshire**

**please ask for** Miss H Bell  
**direct line** 0300 300 4040  
**date** 20 October 2016

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

### **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

Date & Time

**Tuesday, 8 November 2016 at 2.00 p.m.**

Venue at

**Room 14 - 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):

<b>Group A</b>	Roman Catholic Church (2)	Sister Aidan Richards Mary O'Sullivan Marion Roberts
	Free Church (3)	
	Baptist	Jo Ann Gaunt
	Muslim (1)	
	Hindu (1)	
	Sikh (1)	Tirath Bhavra
	Jewish (1)	Nina Leigh
	Buddhist (1)	
<b>Group B</b>	Church of England (3)	Jane Chipperton Rev. Anne Crawford
<b>Group C</b>	Lower School Rep	Lucy Chapman, Sutton Lower School

Secondary RE Specialist	Kathleen Eldridge, Redborne Upper School
Middle School Rep	Jacquie Binks, Etonbury Middle School
Special School Rep	Janet Day, Weatherfield Special School
Anita Whitehurst	St Swithuns School, Sandy

**Group D** Cllrs Mrs A Barker, F Firth, C C Gomm, Mrs D B Gurney and A Ryan

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: T Swain, M A G Versallion and N Warren]

Officers:	Paul Harpin	- School Intervention Manager, CBC
	Helen Bell	- Committee Services, CBC

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# AGENDA

1. **Apologies**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 14 July 2016.

Please note that the meeting held on 14 July 2016 was inquorate, therefore, Members are now requested to ratify decisions made at that meeting.

(attached pages 7-10)

3. **Review of the Agreed Syllabus**

To receive a presentation on the review of the Agreed Syllabus.

4. **Understanding Christianity**

To receive information from the Chairman on the understanding of Christianity.

5. **Draft Development Plan**

To consider the draft Development Plan.

(attached pages 11-13)

6. **Draft GCSE and A Level results - 2016**

To note draft GCSE and A Level results, 2016.

(attached page 15)

7. **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Comments**

To receive Spiritual, Moral, social and Cultural comments from Ofsted for the summer term, 2016.

(attached pages 17 -18)

8. **Date of the next meeting**

To note that the next meeting of SACRE will be held on Tuesday 21 February 2017, 2.00 p.m. Room 14, Priory House, Chicksands.

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**MID BEDFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

At a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** held at Watling House, Dunstable on Tuesday, 14 June 2016

**PRESENT**

Cllr Mrs D B Gurney  
Jane Chipperton

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Mrs A Barker  
Lucy Chapman  
Rev. Anne Crawford  
Kathleen Eldridge  
C C Gomm  
Mary O'Sullivan

Substitutes: Cllrs T Swain  
M A G Versallion  
N Warren

Officers in Attendance: Mel Peaston – Committee Services Manager  
Paul Harpin – School Intervention officer

**L/04/54 Election of Chairman**

Jane Chipperton was duly elected as Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year.

Thanks were extended to Mrs Chipperton on behalf of all the members of the SACRE for her support and commitment to the SACRE which she had shown in her previous years of chairmanship.

**L/04/55 Appointment of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Doreen Gurney was duly appointed as Chairman of the SACRE for the ensuing municipal year.

**L/04/56 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Mary O'Sullivan  
Rev Anne Crawford  
Lucy Chapman  
Kathleen Eldridge  
Naresh Roula

Cllr Mrs Angela Barker – Cllr Nigel Warren was present as her substitute  
Cllr Charles Gomm – Cllr Mark Versallion was present as his substitute..

In view of no representative being present from Group C (Schools) the meeting was inquorate.

With the agreement of the Chairman and those members present, the meeting proceeded on an informal basis and ratification would be sought for any action at the next meeting (November 2016).

L/04/57 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**AGREED**

**that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2016 be approved as a correct record.**

L/04/58 **SACRE membership update**

It was noted that Mohsin Malik (Group A, Muslim) and Ven Akurala Samitha (Group A, Buddhist) should be removed from the membership of the SACRE as they no longer attended.

A request was made that all members of the SACRE seek out any appropriate contacts they may have to increase membership on the SACRE of faith representatives (Group A).

L/04/59 **Review of the Agreed Syllabus**

It was noted that five years had elapsed since the last review of the Agreed Syllabus in 2012 and the SACRE should start to prepare for the next review, to meet its statutory duty.

In view of there being no national Agreed Syllabus, Mr Harpin had carried out some research and had established that:

- Hertfordshire County Council had progressed a slimmed-down Agreed Syllabus, with the emphasis on meeting legislation and a focus on assessment
- the current RE syllabus in Bedfordshire looked rather out of date with its 8-level scale.

Mr Harpin suggested that:

- the three neighbouring local authorities of Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton Borough could work together to review options
- those options could include:

- producing a slim legal document with assessment units kept separately, replicating Hertfordshire County Council's approach; or
- commissioning RE Today to draft a slim legal document and rework the assessment units.

It was noted that there would be some associated costs, estimated as follows:

- if the three local authorities worked together, making use of the old assessment units, the cost in total could be approximately £5,500
- if RE Today drafted the slim document and re-worked the assessment units, each authority would be required to contribute in the order of £6,000 from CBC and £5,000 from each of the other two authorities making a total of £16,000.

Questions arose as to whether there was any budget available for this. Mr Harpin indicated that he would seek advice as to CBC's budget availability.

The intention was noted to provide one copy of the arising document to each school, and also to make it available on-line for ease of reference.

**AGREED:**

- 1. to establish whether Bedford Borough and Luton Borough Councils would be interested in working together on this initiative, and**
- 2. to receive a report on this matter from Mr Harpin at the next meeting.**

L/04/60 **New Draft Development Plan**

The draft Development Plan attached to the agenda was noted.

The proposals were welcomed as a means of providing that the SACRE meetings would be worthwhile.

An inquiry was made as to whether SACRE-related documents could be published on the Central Bedfordshire Council website. The Clerk undertook to provide a contact so that this could be checked.

**AGREED to adopt the Development Plan for the ensuing year.**

L/04/61 **Spiritual, Moral, social and Cultural Comments from Ofsted reports**

**AGREED to note the gradings and comments made by Ofsted inspectors about five Central Bedfordshire schools between January-March 2016.**

L/04/62 **Feedback form NASACRE**

The Chairman reported back on the NASACRE AGM and made the following points

- The Right Hon Elizabeth Butler-Sloss spoke on a publication “Living with Difference” which had been produced by the Wolf Institute. This was one of 2 major reports recently published about faith, ethics and fundamental values.
- The Chairman would make available a link to this document.
- Professor Alan Dinham spoke in the afternoon about the purposes of RE, and mentioned religious literacy, fuzzy secularity and the right of parents to withdraw their children from RE lessons.

L/04/63 **National Updates**

The Chairman reported back on the following:

**(i) RE Council of England and Wales**

A 2-year commission on religious education would undertake a review looking into preparing young people for life in modern Britain.

**(ii) Centre Parcs Meeting**

Whilst Hertfordshire County Council was forming groups of teachers to meet together about RE, it was proving difficult to attract teachers to attend meetings in Bedfordshire.

L/04/64 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on 8 November 2016.

(Note: The meeting commenced at Time Not Specified and concluded at Time Not Specified.)

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**Central Bedfordshire  
Draft SACRE Development Plan  
April 2016 – March 2017**

**Aims:-** To ensure that high quality RE and Collective Worship opportunities are delivered in Central Bedfordshire schools  
 To use the expertise of SACRE Members to support the Agreed Syllabus and accompanying scheme of work  
 To signpost school RE Subject Leaders to publications and personnel to enhance the RE curriculum within schools

**Areas for development**

Focus	Frequency/ Time Scale	Key Impact Measure(s)/Outcomes	Update
To plan for the statutory review of the Agreed Syllabus	At each termly meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To plan for the review of the Agreed Syllabus to ensure that it is fit for purpose and meets the needs of LA schools</li> </ul>	Autumn Term 2016/ Spring Tem 2017
To monitor comments re. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC) in Central Bedfordshire schools through information gleaned from Ofsted reports and RE subject inspections	At each termly SACRE Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE members will have a more informed understanding of the quality of provision currently in place within the inspected schools</li> </ul>	Specific school information shared at each termly meeting.
To review GCSE and A level results in Religious Education from the summer of 2016	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review results, celebrate achievements and consider any implications for the future.</li> </ul>	Autumn Term 2016
To support the Professional Studies Group in RE, especially concentrating on primary planning.	Termly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RE Subject Leaders will benefit from networking opportunities to share ideas and practice</li> <li>Subject specialists involvement will raise awareness of what good practice in RE teaching looks like</li> </ul>	Autumn Term 2016 and at subsequent meetings
To provide opportunities for SACRE Council Members to gain knowledge and experience of different faiths through presentations at meetings. Presentations will reflect different age groups and types of schools.	At two meetings a year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE Council members will be better informed about a wide spectrum of faiths</li> </ul>	Autumn Term 2016 and at subsequent meetings

**Central Bedfordshire  
Draft SACRE Development Plan  
April 2016 – March 2017**



To provide opportunities for SACRE Council Members to visit schools in Central Bedfordshire to observe RE lessons.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE Council members will be better informed as to how RE is being taught in Central Bedfordshire schools</li> </ul>	Autumn Term 2016+
To investigate and review the use of artefacts within schools and ensure that schools are aware of what is available	Autumn Term 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools have access to appropriate artefacts for the teaching of RE</li> </ul>	Feedback from Chair
To further promote the introduction of an RE Quality Mark and support schools to take part in the trial period	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate support for schools wishing to gain the RE Quality Mark during the year</li> </ul>	Summer Term 2016 onwards

Areas of ongoing activity

Focus	Frequency/ Time Scale	Key Impact Measure(s)/Outcomes	Update
To ensure that SACRE meetings are organised efficiently on a termly basis and that the following costs are covered :- Teacher supply costs for attending meetings / consultant time Correspondence expenses Subscriptions Venue / refreshment costs	April 2016 – March 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best value for money will be secured through careful budgeting and administrative support</li> <li>SACRE will be effective in fulfilling its statutory duties</li> </ul>	Dates circulated for 2016 / 17 to fit members' requests.
To arrange for an Annual SACRE report to be sent out to interested parties, including all Central Bedfordshire schools	Spring Term 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE will have fulfilled its statutory duty to publish an account of its work</li> <li>Schools in Central Bedfordshire will be well informed about the work of SACRE</li> </ul>	Spring Term 2017

**Central Bedfordshire  
Draft SACRE Development Plan  
April 2016 – March 2017**



To ensure a representative attends the NASACRE AGM	Summer Term 2016 and 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Members, through good quality feedback from representatives, will understand the national agendas and be made aware of good practice emerging from other SACREs across the country</li> </ul>	Feedback from Chair of SACRE June 2017
To support the 2017 Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) Event	Spring Term 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The lessons of holocaust experiences will be a valuable one for both students and other adults</li> </ul>	Spring Term 2017

In the 2017 Summer Term Meetings there will be time to evaluate the impact of the latest development plan and use this information to inform subsequent developments.

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### Central Bedfordshire Achievement in Religious Education 2016

School DfE	School name	Candidates	GCSE Full % Achieve A*-C 2016	Candidates	A Level % Achieve A*-C 2016	Candidates	AS Level % Achieve A*-C 2016
8236905	All saints	127	43	-	-	2	0
8234011	Cedars	55	84	18	39	11	27
8234000	Central Beds UTC	-	-	-	-	-	-
8234083	Harlington	226	77	22	50	14	43
8234001	Houghton regis	-	-	-	-	-	-
8235401	Manshead	253	75	16	63	2	100
8234002	Queensbury	114	58	12	42	4	25
8234003	Redborne	94	89	19	58	6	67
8234079	Samuel Whitbread	19	100	3	67	1	0
8234078	Sandy	32	63	5	20	2	0
8234005	Stratton	26	88	-	-	10	70
8234096	Vandyke	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Central Bedfordshire LA</b>		<b>946</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>44</b>

Source: 2016 Provisional KS 4/5 Checking Exercise Dataset

Date:14/10/2015

Produced By: Learning Performance Team

Includes Pupils at the end of their Key stage

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## Ofsted Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) comments April - July 2016

(Grade 1= Outstanding    Grade 2 = Good    Grade 3 = Requires Improvement    4= Serious Weaknesses / Special Measures)

### Lower Schools by date order

School	Inspection date	Overall grade	Spiritual, moral, social and cultural comments
John Donne, Blunham	15/03/16	<b>NFD-MI</b>	<b>Behaviour of pupils</b> Pupils explained that they were always encouraged to be kind to others and that they followed the schools' Christian values.
Kingsmoor, Fltwick	16/03/16	<b>2</b>	<b>This school continues to be good</b> Working closely with other leaders and staff, you have developed a curriculum that fosters in pupils a strong desire for learning. It supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development extremely well. <b>Inspection findings</b> Strong values are communicated to pupils and promoted through the curriculum, which fosters their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development exceptionally well.
St Andrews C of E, Biggleswade	04/05/16	<b>2</b>	Short inspection - No SMSC comments.
St Mary's, Stotfold	06/05/16	<b>2</b>	<b>Effectiveness of leadership and management</b> A wide range of visits enriches learning, such as trips to different places of worship, including churches, a Sikh temple and a mosque. <b>Personal development and welfare</b> Staff encourage pupils to be kind, caring and honest, show respect towards others and work hard. This promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and contributes to their good attitudes towards learning and progress. Pupils are aware of how their country has changed owing to immigration and they show respect for different people. They are sympathetic to the experiences of war refugees and less fortunate people in developing countries. Many pupils profess a Christian faith but also show a notable respect for people who follow Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism and other faiths or no faith at all. They are taught well about different beliefs and visit the religious buildings of different faiths.
Potton	07/06/16	<b>2</b>	The curriculum helps them to learn about the wider world and through this, too, they develop

			understanding of different values. They understand, for example, what the British values of tolerance and democracy mean
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### Primary Schools by date order

School	Inspection date	Overall grade	Spiritual, moral, social and cultural comments
Thornhill	15/03/16	2	<b>Inspection findings</b> The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils contributes to their confidence that school is a safe and stimulating place to learn.

### Middle Schools by date order

Gilbert Inglefield, Leighton Buzzard	28/06/16	2	<p><b>It is not yet an outstanding school</b> Teachers miss too many opportunities to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and do not use subjects outside English and mathematics to consolidate pupils' literacy and numeracy skills.</p> <p><b>What does the school need to do to improve further?</b> Extend pupils' learning and accelerate their progress in weaker areas of provision by ensuring that:– teaching across all subjects promotes and consolidates pupils' wider skills and understanding, including their literacy, their numeracy and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development</p> <p><b>Effectiveness of leadership and management</b> Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is well promoted through the everyday life at school, including wider enrichment opportunities. For example, the 'value of the month' is given good coverage both in assemblies and through tutor time, so that pupils appreciate the core values of their own community and wider society. However, teachers miss too many opportunities to get pupils to reflect about British values and their own beliefs and values, or to appreciate and develop tolerance of those from different cultures or with different faiths and beliefs.</p>
Linslade, Leighton Buzzard	29/06/16	2	<p><b>Effectiveness of leadership and management</b> Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is very well provided for within the curriculum. Assemblies, external visitors, trips, and visits are used to make their studies 'come to life'. The school council and the numerous opportunities that the pupils get to talk about democracy mean that pupils get to understand the relevance of concepts like equality, democracy, tolerance, respect and law. Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education lessons are structured around the school's 14 core values.</p>

(Grade 1= Outstanding    Grade 2 = Good    Grade 3 = Requires Improvement    4= Serious Weaknesses / Special Measures)