

## CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** held at Room 15, Priory House on Thursday, 16 June 2011.

### PRESENT

Cllr Jane Chipperton (Chairman)

<b>Group A:</b>	Sister Aiden Richards Mary Sullivan Marion Roberts Mohsin Malik Nina Leigh Ven Akurala Samitha	Roman Catholic Church Representative Roman Catholic Church Representative Free Church Representative Muslim Representative Jewish Representative Buddhist Representative
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<b>Group B:</b>	Tom Waterworth	Church of England Representative
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<b>Group C:</b>	Kathleen Eldridge Jacquie Binks Linda Hardy Janet Day	Secondary RE Specialist, Redborne Upper School Middle Schools Rep, Etonbury Middle School Primary School Rep, Toddington St Georges Lower School Special School Rep, Weatherfield Special School
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<b>Group D:</b>	Cllrs:	Mrs D B Gurney, D Jones, M Versallion
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Apologies for Absence:	<b>Group A</b> <b>Group C</b> <b>Group D</b>	Rev. Anne Crawford Chris Spurgeon Cllr A Barker, Cllr D J Lawrence, Cllr C Gomm
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Officers in Attendance:	Miss H Bell Mr S Morrow	– Committee Services Officer – School Improvement Officer
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### SACRE/11/21 **Welcome**

Members of the SACRE team were welcomed to the first meeting of the Central Bedfordshire Council SACRE and were invited to introduce themselves. The Chairman welcomed Fiona Moss, RE Today to the meeting.

### SACRE/11/22 **History of Collaboration on Agreed Syllabus**

Fiona Moss from RE Today gave a presentation to SACRE on the history of collaboration on the agreed syllabus. It was noted that it was a legal requirement for the RE syllabus to be reviewed every five years. The review

had been undertaken between three local authorities and their SACRE's, teachers and faith communities. The collaboration encompassed the following:

- Agreement and consultancy set up
- Questionnaire to all schools
- Writing group of teachers and others
- Incorporate the strengths of current Bedfordshire and Luton syllabuses-continuity
- Use the best of national work (RE framework, new secondary curriculum cohesion, DCSF 2010 guidance).

The SACRE were advised of the benefits of collaboration.

### **SACRE/11/23 The Position of RE in England in 2011**

The SACRE were presented with an overview of the position of RE in England in 2011, including:

- Primary curriculum
- Overall curriculum review
- Statutory nature of the subject
- OFSTED view of RE
- New inspection of SMSC
- Public and Government awareness
- Importance of subject in whole curriculum roots.

The SACRE in particular noted the importance of RE and its continuing status as a statutory subject. It was also noted that although the Government had confirmed that RE was a statutory subject and must be taught in all schools, including academies and free schools, these schools had the ability to create their own syllabus. Fiona Moss discussed the importance of RE in the curriculum and the skills that were gained through its study.

### **SACRE/11/24 Overview Of Newly Revised Agreed Syllabus**

The SACRE were presented with an overview of the newly revised agreed syllabus as follows:

- RE in the whole curriculum
- Harmony and diversity
- Inclusion in RE
- Curriculum time for religious education
- The breadth of RE
- The processes of learning in RE
- Enquiry in RE
- Programmes of study and planning guidance for learners from 3-19
- The importance of every child in RE
- Values outside the classroom in RE

Attitudes and religious education  
Achievement in RE

Members noted the non statutory support and guidance in the classroom and details of a non statutory support CD.

#### **SACRE/11/25 Plans for Dissemination**

The SACRE were advised that the three authorities at ASC SACRE and LA level must approve the syllabus through a series of meetings during June. It was advised that it would be possible to send a letter explaining LA's schools with the syllabus if desired.

If approved the syllabus would be launched on 2 November 2011. Copy editing, print and design process would take place over the summer holiday. Each school would receive a free copy with network disc access and future training would be provided.

#### **SACRE/11/26 Approval of Agreed Syllabus**

Fiona Moss RE Today facilitator drew particular attention to the syllabus that was circulated with the agenda for the meeting. The SACRE commended the syllabus and were asked to break into their representative groups to deliberate on whether they agree or not with the proposed syllabus.

Following on from discussions within then representative groups all members of the SACRE agreed with the syllabus and proposed that it now be published and launched on 2 November 2011.

SACRE recorded their gratitude to Fiona Moss for her work on the syllabus and for her detailed presentation upon the syllabus at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the RE Agreed syllabus for Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton 2011-2016 be approved and adopted.

#### **SACRE/11/27 Non-Statutory Guidance and Support in the Classroom**

Members were invited to consider the non statutory guidance and support in the classroom that was available. It was advised that a support CD was available and would be issued to all schools. The support CD would incorporate the following:

Characteristics of effective RE teaching and learning  
RE and the law

Outline long term plan for an RE scheme of work  
Guidance and inclusion – Special needs, gifted and talented pupils and RE  
P Scales  
The roles of the teacher in RE  
Personal Development  
The eight level scale  
Models of curriculum delivery  
Beginners guides, information on religions  
Thinking skills in RE  
Resources for learning  
Working with local religious communities  
The scheme of work.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and concluded at 12.30 p.m..)

Chairman .....

Date .....