

# Notice of Meeting

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## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

**Tuesday, 6th February, 2018 at 4.15 pm**  
in St Nicolas Church of England Junior  
School, Link Road, Newbury, RG14 7LU

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Jo Watt, Appeals Officer on (01635)

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**Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) to be held on  
Tuesday, 6 February 2018 (continued)**

**To: Group A - Other Faith Members:**

Mrs Lucy Gallagher (Catholic) and Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

**Group B – Faith Members:**

Revd Mary Harwood (C of E) and Mr Robin Sharples (C of E)

**Group C – Teaching Association Members:**

Mr Bernard Eggleton (NASUWT) and Ms Clare Nolan (NASUWT)

**Group D – WBC Councillors:**

Councillor Pamela Bale (WBC), Councillor Billy Drummond (WBC), Councillor Sheila Ellison (WBC) and Councillor Carol Jackson-Doerge (WBC)

**LA Advisors:**

Ms Alison Harris (Independent Consultant) and Keith Harvey (Head Teacher)

**Guests:**

Mrs Valerie Bolan (C of E) and Mr Mobasshir Mushtaq (Muslim faith)

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# Agenda

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5 <b>Feedback from Hub meeting held on 16th January 2018</b>	
6 <b>GCSE Religious Studies Results 2017</b>	13 - 14
7 <b>RE provision in West Berkshire Schools - years 10-13</b> The Reverend David Taylor to report back on his findings to date.	
8 <b>Budget 2018/2019</b>	
9 <b>RE Trails</b>	
10 <b>Annual report - update on progress</b>	
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**Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) to be held on  
Tuesday, 6 February 2018 (continued)**

- Format and content of COINS presentation at 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 meeting.

**12 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 4.15 pm at West Berkshire Council.

Andy Day  
Head of Strategic Support



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## **WEST BERKSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2017**

**VENUE: ST NICOLAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL, LINK ROAD,  
NEWBURY, RG14 7LU**

#### **Present:**

##### **Group A – Other Faith Members**

Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

##### **Group B – Faith Members**

Revd Mary Harwood (C of E), Ms Anne Andrews (C of E) – substitute for Robin Sharples

##### **Group C – Teaching Association Members**

Mr Bernard Eggleton (NASUWT) and Ms Clare Nolan (NASUWT)

##### **Group D – WBC Councillors**

Councillor Pamela Bale (WBC), Councillor Sheila Ellison (WBC) and Councillor Carol Jackson-Doerge (WBC)

**Also Present:** Ms Alison Harris (Independent Consultant), Keith Harvey (Head Teacher) and Jo Watt (Appeals Officer)

**Apologies for inability to attend the meeting:** Councillor Billy Drummond (WBC), Mrs Lucy Gallagher (Catholic) and Mr Robin Sharples (C of E)

#### **34 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the inclusion of the following amendment:

**Item 31, second bullet point** should read ‘three new Christianity sections’ rather than ‘Church of England sections’.

#### **35 Matters arising from the Minutes**

Matters Arising

Jo Watt reported that she had completed the following actions from the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017:

- The Crossing the Bridges project had been publicised to School Governors via the Governor Hub.
- A letter had been sent to Maria Pratico advising her that her membership of the West Berkshire SACRE had ceased as she had not attended three consecutive meetings. Mrs Pratico had not yet responded.
- Iman Mushtaq from the Newbury Mosque had been invited to attend the next meeting and was in attendance and duly welcomed by the Committee.
- The SACRE page on the West Berkshire Council web page was now fully operational and included a link to the agreed syllabus.
- The ‘Places of Worship directory 2017’ had been sent to all West Berkshire School Head teachers and Offices.

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- A representative from COINS had been invited to attend the spring 2018 meeting of the West Berkshire SACRE and had indicated that they would be very pleased to attend.
- Anne Andrews from the Oxford Diocese confirmed that she would be happy to attend a future meeting and make a presentation to the West Berkshire SACRE.

### 36 Elect new Chair and Vice-Chair

The Committee was asked for nominations for the Chairman of the West Berkshire SACRE to hold office until the first meeting of the new academic year (November 2018).

Jo Watt requested nominations for Chairman.

The Revd Mary Harwood proposed The Revd David Taylor. Councillor Pamela Bale seconded the proposal. The Revd David Taylor was elected Chairman until the first meeting of the new academic year.

*With the agreement of the The Revd David Taylor, The Revd Mary Harwood remained in the Chair for this meeting.*

The Revd David Taylor asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. The Revd Mary Harwood nominated Bernard Eggleton. Mr Keith Harvey seconded the proposal. Bernard Eggleton was elected Vice-Chair until the first meeting of the new academic year.

### 37 Update on membership

The Committee welcomed Mrs Val Bolan who was attending the meeting with a view to becoming a Church of England representative (Group B) and Mr Mobasshir Mushtaq an Iman from Newbury Mosque who was interested in becoming a Muslim faith representative (Group A). The Committee expressed their thanks to Mrs Bolan and Mr Mushtaq for the interest they had shown and hoped they would decide to join the committee.

**Action – Jo Watt to contact Mrs Bolan and Mr Mushtaq with regard to formalising their membership.**

The Committee noted that with the departure of Mrs Maria Pratico as a Church of England representative, there remained one vacancy in Group B.

**Action – Jo Watt to contact Anne Andrews at the Oxford Diocese with a view to filling this vacancy.**

Keith Harvey said that he would look again at finding a possible Hindu representative from amongst the parents at St Nicolas Church of England Junior School. **Action – Keith Harvey to speak to Hindu parents who might be interested in the role.**

The Committee noted that historically, there had always been an issue with filling the vacancies for Sikh and Jewish representatives, partly because they did not have places of worship within West Berkshire.

### 38 Review of quorum rules

The Committee noted that there had been issues in the past with ensuring the meetings were quorate. Due to this, the Committee agreed to amend the quorum rule in the Terms of Reference to read:

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The West Berkshire SACRE will be quorate when a minimum of 6 members (including at least one Advisor) are present and at least three of the four membership groups are represented.

### 39 Pan Berkshire Induction presentation

The Committee noted the Pan – Berkshire SACRE hub RE Training Session had been delivered by Anne Andrews from the Oxford Diocese earlier in the year. The session was aimed at new SACRE members and those who had attended the session said that it was extremely helpful and recommended it to all new members. Anne Andrews confirmed that a session on 'Collective Worship' would be considered at the next stage. Mary Harwood thanked Anne Andrews for providing the training.

Clare Nolan said she had attended the training and it had been very useful. Clare added that it was important that a variety of people attended the training as it encouraged conversations from different perspectives.

Anne Andrews also suggested that it would be helpful for new SACRE members to look at the NASACRE handbook on their website. The handbook included details on training and collective worship and aimed to bridge the gap between Religion and RE.

**Action – Jo Watt to ensure that all new SACRE members be invited to attend the hub induction training and that they be encouraged to read the NASACRE handbook.**

### 40 Feedback from Clare Nolan from Hub meeting on 12th September 2017

Clare Nolan reported that she had attended the Hub meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Clare reported that the meeting had looked at several key points as follows:

1. How do SACRE members want to be trained? The idea of a SACRE development day was discussed.
2. The syllabus and specifically the structure of Religious Education at the different key stages. The Committee noted that most of those who attended seemed to favour the current mandatory set up:
  - KS1 – Christianity and Judaism
  - KS2 – Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism
  - KS3 – Christianity, Buddhism and Islam

It was noted that schools could also teach additional religions at different times but these were the mandatory religions that were currently taught at each stage.

3. The consensus seemed to be that AT1 (Learning about) and AT2 (Learning from) should be retained.
4. It was agreed that the way assessments were carried out should be reviewed to make them more compatible with GCSEs.

Anne Andrews reported that in terms of the face to face consultations, the following groups had attended:

- Three Jewish representatives (two Orthodox and one new Orthodox)

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- Two or three Muslim representatives who worked together
- One Hindu representative
- Different Christian groups

There had been no input from Sikhs or Buddhists.

The Committee noted that they would consider any proposed revisions at their meeting in spring 2018.

Anne Andrews also said the Committee would need to give some thought to the type of syllabus launch event they would like. The launch event would take place in the summer term 2018 ready for the syllabus to be launched in September 2018.

The options seemed to be:

- A stand alone event for West Berkshire SACRE
- A joint event with the other Berkshire SACREs
- Both of the above

### 41 **Actions from Syllabus review**

Alison Harris presented the item on actions from the syllabus review and the committee discussed each of the 'points to consider' listed in the agenda on pages 37-39. The committee noted that the view of the consultees was that the current syllabus should remain as similar to the current version as possible.

#### **Points to consider (Paper 2)**

##### 1. Which religions are mandatory at which Key Stage?

As previously discussed, the West Berkshire SACRE noted the majority view was that the current arrangement worked. It was noted that there was a definite issue with the Key Stage 4 and 5 where there was no alternative to GCSE or A level RE. There was a particular issue with RE provision for sixth form students. In addition further discussion was needed around the inclusion of other 'world views' such as Humanism and when they should be included in the syllabus, or if at all.

Keith Harvey suggested that it might be preferable to have mandatory and recommended religions at each key stage rather than just the mandatory religions that currently existed. With particular reference to the suggestion that Islam could be covered earlier in the syllabus, Anne Andrews said that it would be possible to produce something on Islam for Key Stage 1.

##### 2. Retain AT1 and AT2?

The Committee considered the current two strand attainment targets (AT1 and AT2) and the suggestion that the National Curriculum framework for RE (2013, non-statutory) moved away from 2 attainment targets and suggested 3 strands of expectations:

- A) Know about and understand a range of religions and world views
- B) Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and non-religious world views.



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C) Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and non-religious world views.

Some syllabi, for example the Poole and Bournemouth agreed syllabus already adopted the three strand approach. Others maintained the two attainment targets.

### 3. Assessment levels

It was agreed that work was required on the assessment levels as teachers required more guidance.

### 4. Early Years

The Committee noted that this would be a straightforward process of updating the language aligned to the most recent EYFS framework.

### 5. Retain key questions as they are?

The Committee agreed that the key questions should be retained to help teachers but some work could take place to look at how to improve the language used.

### 6. Print revised syllabus or online?

The committee agreed that the syllabus should be provided on line rather than in a printed format, mainly for budgetary reasons but also to ensure that the copy on line is always up to date.

### 7. Appendices?

It was agreed that it might be sensible to provide appendices as separate guidance and therefore it would not be necessary to update the whole document only the relevant guidance.

### **Launch event**

As discussed under item 40, the West Berkshire SACRE had to decide what sort of syllabus launch event they wanted to hold or be involved in. More specifically, consideration should be given as to how to communicate the new syllabus and the launch event to the schools.

One of the options could be to have a central Berkshire launch and then hold a local training event. Anne Andrews said that it would be possible for her and Alison Harris to write a training package for all 6 Berkshire SACREs to deliver so the same message would go out to everyone. A local training session would also raise the profile of the launch.

The Revd David Taylor kindly offered the use of the Thatcham Baptist Church to host a local event.

Following the discussion the committee agreed that a central Berkshire launch followed by a local training session would be the most sensible way forward.

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On the general subject of training, the committee noted that induction training for new SACRE members would be held after the hub meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

**Action – Jo Watt to ensure that any new SACRE members be invited to attend the training on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

### 42 **Summary of the current context for RE - to inform discussions on the RE syllabus**

The Committee noted that The Commission on Religious Education (CoRE) had launched an online consultation based on their interim report, [Religious Education for All](#). The consultation would close at 9am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and SACRE members were encouraged to complete the survey.

Anne Andrews said that it had taken her over two hours to complete the survey and suggested that people allowed enough time if they wanted to provide a thorough response.

### 43 **Commission on Religious Education (CORE) report on Religious Education - Alison Harris**

Alison Harris suggested that the Committee read the executive summary of the Commission on Religious Education (CORE) report on Religious Education. Alison encouraged the SACRE members to fill in the on line consultation.

The main points the Committee noted were as follows:

- Religious Education was not seen as important enough, particularly at Key Stage 4 and 5.
- There was a need for greater community cohesion.
- Teacher training should include more time on RE.
- The recommendation that there should be a 'National Entitlement for Religious Education.

### 44 **Feedback from teacher's network on 1.11.17 - Alison Harris**

Alison Harris reported that she had attended a Teacher's network on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at Shaw House. Alison reported that the teachers who attended felt rather abandoned and would very much like to be part of a network.

It was suggested that the Oxford Diocese might be able to run a network if the budget could be found to join the network up with the syllabus. Alison said the network would support all West Berkshire Primary schools but it was the non church schools that needed the most support.

Clare Nolan reported that she had offered to go into Little Heath's Primary feeder schools to talk to the teachers about RE. Alison Harris suggested that Clare Nolan would be very welcome to get involved in any new network that is established.

**Action – Alison Harris to look into establishing a new RE network for Primary Schools.**

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**45 Any Other Business**

Alison Harris reported that she would be writing the West Berkshire SACRE Annual Report. The report would be considered by the Annual Meeting of West Berkshire Council on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

**Action – Jo Watt to include the West Berkshire SACRE Annual Report on the Annual Council agenda for May 2018.**

The Committee noted that they would need to consider the West Berkshire SACRE budget in before March 2018. The Committee therefore agreed to meet again in February 2018.

**46 Dates of 2018 meetings**

It was agreed that the meetings for the remainder of the 2017/2018 academic year would take places as follows:

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 4.15 pm at St Nicolas Church of England Junior School, Link Road, Newbury, RG14 7LU.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 4.15 pm at West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5JN.

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## Religious Studies GCSE 2017

Count	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	West Berkshire
Denefield	2	6	7	7	5	1	1		1	30
John O'Gaunt	1	2	6	6		6				21
Kennet	16	28	62	51	39	23	10	7	1	237
Little Heath	11	29	47	49	43	34	16	11	3	243
Park House	3	2	5	3	2			1		16
St Bartholomew's	29	48	47	53	31	16	3	5	2	234
The Downs	10	19	13	10	3	1				56
The Willink	7	23	36	23	34	14	7			144
Theale Green	6	15	30	24	25	7	7	5	5	124
Trinity	1	12	17	31	29	23	13	8	2	136
<b>West Berkshire</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1241</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>26,350</b>	<b>51,316</b>	<b>61,714</b>	<b>48,674</b>	<b>32,063</b>	<b>19,306</b>	<b>11,991</b>	<b>7,129</b>	<b>4,728</b>	<b>263,271</b>

Percentage	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	West Berkshire
Denefield	6.7%	20.0%	23.3%	23.3%	16.7%	3.3%	3.3%	0.0%	3.3%	100.0%
John O'Gaunt	4.8%	9.5%	28.6%	28.6%	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Kennet	6.8%	11.8%	26.2%	21.5%	16.5%	9.7%	4.2%	3.0%	0.4%	100.0%
Little Heath	4.5%	11.9%	19.3%	20.2%	17.7%	14.0%	6.6%	4.5%	1.2%	100.0%
Park House	18.8%	12.5%	31.3%	18.8%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	0.0%	100.0%
St Bartholomew's	12.4%	20.5%	20.1%	22.6%	13.2%	6.8%	1.3%	2.1%	0.9%	100.0%
The Downs	17.9%	33.9%	23.2%	17.9%	5.4%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
The Willink	4.9%	16.0%	25.0%	16.0%	23.6%	9.7%	4.9%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Theale Green	4.8%	12.1%	24.2%	19.4%	20.2%	5.6%	5.6%	4.0%	4.0%	100.0%
Trinity	0.7%	8.8%	12.5%	22.8%	21.3%	16.9%	9.6%	5.9%	1.5%	100.0%
<b>West Berkshire</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>20.7%</b>	<b>17.0%</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

West Berkshire from Tables Checking pupil level data  
National from SFR57 subject tables GCSE and equivalents

**A Level Religious Studies**

Count	A*	A	B	C	D	E	Total
Denefield							0
Kennet			1	1	1	1	3
Little Heath	2	2	4	12	6	2	28
Park House							0
St Bartholomew's		2	1	2	1	1	7
The Downs							0
The Willink					1	1	2
Theale Green	3	4	8	1	1		17
Trinity							0
<b>West Berkshire</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>57</b>

Percentage	A*	A	B	C	D	E	Total
Denefield							
Kennet	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	0.0%	100.0%
Little Heath	7.1%	7.1%	14.3%	42.9%	21.4%	7.1%	100.0%
Park House							
St Bartholomew's	0.0%	28.6%	14.3%	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	100.0%
The Downs							
The Willink	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Theale Green	17.6%	23.5%	47.1%	5.9%	5.9%	0.0%	100.0%
Trinity							
<b>West Berkshire</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>57</b>

West Berkshire from Tables Checking pupil level data