

# Swindon Borough Council

## Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

**Tuesday, 7 December 2010**

St Michael and All Angels Church, Highworth

At 6.00 p.m.

**(A tour of the church and refreshments will be available from 5.45 pm)**

<b>Group A:</b>	Mrs Helen Hancox, United Reformed Church
<b>Christian Denominations</b>	Reverend David Howell, Swindon Evangelical Alliance
<b>and Other Religions or</b>	Mr M S Khan, Muslim Community
<b>Religious Denominations</b>	Mr Dinesh Patel, Hindu Community
	Mr Malkit Singh Virk, Sikh Community
	Mr Arun Bedi, Sikh Community - Deputy
	Mr Mark Cawte, United Reformed Church & Methodist - Deputy
	Mr David Burbidge, Baptist Church
	Mr Tony McAteer, Catholic Community (TBC)

<b>Group B:</b>	Reverend Norma McKemey
<b>The Church of England</b>	Ms Steph Mundin
	Mrs Penny Summers
	Reverend Arthur Woo
	Mrs Janet French

<b>Group C:</b>	Mr David Easter
<b>Teacher Associations</b>	Ms Jo Garton ( <b>Vice-Chair</b> )
	Mrs Tracy Mason
	Mrs Helen Miller
	Mrs Mandy Sandleton
	Ms Charlotte Rowe (TBC)

<b>Group D:</b>	Councillor Doreen Dart ( <b>Chair</b> )
<b>The Local Authority</b>	Councillor Junab Ali
	Councillor Michael Bray
	Councillor Raymond Fisher
	Councillor Janet Heenan

Support Officers:	Katy Staples, SACRE Adviser
	Sarah Foulkes, Schools Advisor

**Committee Officer:** Sarah Lawrence (Telephone 01793 463603)

email: [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk)

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street,  
Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

---

## **AGENDA**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

**3. Public Question Time**

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

**4. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

Further to minute 19 (2) a copy of the schools online article from SACRE to local schools, is attached for information.

**5. Membership Update** (DLDS-B) (Pages 5 - 6)

**6. Update on implementation of the Delivery Plan 2010-11** Katy Staples (Pages 7 - 12)

**7. Celebrating RE Month** Katy Staples (Pages 13 - 16)

**8. Feedback from Network Meetings** Katy Staples (Pages 17 - 18)

**9. Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the SACRE is on 15 March 2011 at 6 pm.

**Date of Despatch:** 29 November 2010

**Key: Officers:**

GDC – Group Director: Children

DLDS-B - Director of Law and Democratic Services

**Public Question Time** - Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Director of Law and Democratic Services is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

**Access Arrangements** – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but

*have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.*

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

This page is intentionally left blank

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2010**

**PRESENT:-**

Group A: Councillors	Councillors Doreen Dart, Junab Ali, Michael Bray and Raymond Fisher
Group B: Church of England	Rev Norma McKemey, Mrs Penny Summers and Reverend Arthur Woo
Group C: Teacher Organisations	David Easter, Janet French, Jo Garton and Mrs Tracy Mason
Group D: Other Faiths	Reverend David Howell (Swindon Evangelical Alliance), Mr M S Khan (Muslim Community), Mr Dinesh Patel (Hindu Community) and Mr Mark Cawte (United Reformed Church & Methodist - Deputy)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: - Ms Katy Staples (SACRE Adviser) and Sarah Foulkes (Primary Link Advisor)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Janet Heenan, Ms Steph Mundin, Mrs Helen Miller, Mrs Helen Hancox, Mr Malkit Singh Virk and Mr Arun Bedi

**14. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

**15. Public Question Time**

No public questions were received during the meeting.

**16. Chair's Correspondence**

The Chair advised that a letter had been received regarding the 2010 Accord Award, which schools could apply to win, recognising excellence in the promotion of equality and inclusion and the celebration of the diversity of religious and no-religious beliefs in schools and local communities. Katy Staples (SACRE Advisor) advised that a similar award had been launched by the Church of England Diocese Board of Education.

Resolved – That both award schemes be advised to schools via the schools alert.

**17. Minutes**

Resolved – 1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2) That further to minute 7, the SACRE advisor contact the members of the SACRE listed on how they can assist with the delivery of the Development Plan.

**18. Membership Update**

The SACRE received a report recommending changes to its membership.

Resolved – 1) That the Membership update be noted.

2) That Ms Janet French be appointed to the SACRE as a member of Group

B (Church of England Group) to serve until September 2011, unless reappointed at that stage for a further four year term.

3) That the SACRE endorse the appointment of Mr David Burbidge to Group A (Other Christian Denominations and Other Religions) to represent Baptist Churches in Swindon to serve until September 2011, unless reappointed at that stage for a further four year term.

4) That the SACRE Advisor continue to seek representatives to the remaining four vacancies on the SACRE.

## **19. Report on National Developments for SACREs**

Katy Staples (SACRE Advisor) presented the report on the national developments in relation to the provision of Religious Education (RE).

The SACRE noted the Exemplification Materials for RE which had been published by the Department for Education, and the tabled example of the types of material included.

Katy Staples advised on the Agreed Syllabus Collaboration Network which had been set up for SACREs to work together on what should be the core for all Agreed Syllabuses, and what should be locally determined. It was noted that Mark Chater (who is the current lead officer for RE for the outgoing Qualification and Curriculum Authority) might be able to attend the next meeting to talk about the collaboration network.

Finally, it was anticipated that the Coalition Government was expected to include RE in its curriculum review early next year and this could fundamentally change the way in which RE was to be taught.

Resolved – 1) That the report and the national developments in relation to RE be noted.

2) That the Director of Schools and Learning and SACRE Advisor advise schools of the new exemplification materials for RE, via the schools alert and via RE Network Meetings.

3) That the Agreed Syllabus Conference be recommended to take into account the national developments in relation to the Exemplification Materials for RE, the development of the Agreed Syllabus Collaboration Network, and the potential for the inclusion of RE in the Government's curriculum review, when considering the development of the next Locally Agreed Syllabus.

## **20. Feedback from Network Meetings**

Katy Staples advised that two network meetings had been held since the last SACRE. The secondary network had had an excellent visit to the Sikh Temple. The primary network had met and shared how to be a good subject leader and discussed best practice models. The dates of the meetings for the year were advised to the SACRE, and the SACRE Advisor confirmed that SACRE members were welcome to attend, and should contact her for further information if wishing to do so.

## **21. Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next SACRE meeting would be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 6 pm at St Michael's Church in Highworth. Reverend Arthur Woo had offered to provide refreshments and a tour of the interesting historical aspects of the church building prior to the meeting from 5.45 pm.

## RE in Schools – Update from Swindon SACRE

The purpose of the Swindon SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) is to help to support schools when teaching RE. Key updates from its September meeting are:

### a) Exemplification Materials for RE

The Department for Education has recently published assessment exemplification materials for foundation subjects, including RE. These offer teachers a clear view of progression and appropriate challenge to assist with lesson planning. They are currently available on the QCDA website: <http://curriculum.qcda.gov.uk/key-stages-3-and-4/assessment/exemplification/index.aspx>

### b) Awards for Schools

Two awards schemes have recently been launched:

- Accord Award 2010 (for promoting equality, inclusion and diversity of belief) (<http://accordcoalition.org.uk/accord-award-2010>) (Closes: 2 November)
- Church Schools Award (for making a difference locally, nationally and internationally) (<http://www.churchschoolawards.com>) (Closes: 31 October)

### c) Locally Agreed Syllabus – Review

The Agreed Syllabus Conference has been set up to review the Swindon Locally Agreed Syllabus for RE. Thank you to all RE Coordinators and Teachers who provided feedback on the current syllabus over the summer and what you would like to see in the next one. If you have not yet submitted your views, please send comments by 4 December to the SACRE Advisor (see below).

### d) Primary and Secondary RE Best Practice Network Meetings.

Regular meetings are held to enable RE teachers and coordinators to support each other, and all are welcome. For further information contact the SACRE Advisor (see below).

#### Primary Network dates: -

- 20<sup>th</sup> January 2011 (3.45 – 5.30 pm) – Oliver Tomkins Infants  
Topic: The Foundation Stage – Review of Solihull Material and New ideas
- 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011 (3.45 -5.30 pm) – St Francis Primary  
Topic: Enquiry Based Compelling Learning – Ideas for exciting RE

#### Secondary Network dates: -

- 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 (3.45 – 5.30 pm) – venue to be confirmed.  
Topic: GCSE – How do we get better grades for our pupils: What works?
- 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011 (3.45 -5.30 pm) – Commonweal School  
Topic: Enquiry Based Compelling Learning – Ideas for exciting RE

**Contact:** SACRE Advisor, [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or 0117 906 0100.

This page is intentionally left blank



## Membership Update

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7 December 2010

---

**Author:** Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Advisor

**Parish / Wards Affected:** All

### Purpose

- To ask the SACRE to note the Membership update and approve the appointment of the nominees to their respective groups.

### Recommendation

- To note the Membership update.
- That Mr Tony McAteer be appointed to the SACRE as a member of Group A (Other Christian Denominations and Other Religions) to represent the Catholic Diocese.
- That Miss Charlotte Rowe be appointed to the SACRE as a member of Group C (Teacher Organisations) subject to confirmation being received from the relevant Teachers Union.
- That an appointment be made to the vacancy on Group A (Other Christian Denominations and Other Religions) to represent Methodist churches in Swindon, subject to a nomination being notified to the SACRE at the meeting.
- That the SACRE Advisor continue to seek suitable representatives for remaining Group C (Teacher Organisation) vacancies on the SACRE.

## 1. Reasons

- 1.1 The Council appoints the membership of SACRE every four years, but the SACRE approves changes to membership mid term. The Council formally renewed the Membership of the SACRE in September 2007. All appointments made by the SACRE in the interim run until September 2011, the date of the next formal review.

## 2. Detail

- 2.1 It was reported at the last meeting, that that SACRE had three vacancies in Group C (Teacher Organisations) and one vacancy in Group A (Other Christian Denominations and Other Faiths) for a representative of the Catholic Diocese.
- 2.2 A request for a nomination to represent the Catholic Diocese was taken to the Catholic Cluster of Schools meeting in October. Mr Tony McAteer, Headteacher of Holy Rood Catholic Junior School has been nominated to represent the Catholic Diocese. The SACRE is asked to confirm this appointment.

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, or Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## Membership Update

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

Date: 7 December 2010

---

- 2.3 Mrs Wendy Tucker has notified her resignation from Group A as the representative for the local Methodist Churches. A replacement nomination has been sought, and if notified prior to the meeting, the SACRE will be asked to approve this appointment. It is understood that Mr Mark Cawte the current deputy representative for URC and Methodist churches is likely to be nominated to this position.
- 2.4 The SACRE advisor has been seeking representative for the vacancies on Group C (Teachers Associations) through the Network meetings and from the relevant Teaching Unions. Miss Charlotte Rowe, RE Co-ordinator for Ridgeway School has expressed an interest in being appointed to the SACRE. It is recommended that Miss Rowe is appointed by the SACRE to Group C, subject to confirmation being received from her union. The SACRE advisor will be seeking further nominations at the next network meetings.

### Alternative Options

- None.

### Risk Management

#### *Financial and Procurement Implications*

- There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

#### *Legal / Human Rights Implications*

- This report has no specific legal or human rights implications. The legal requirements for appointment of representatives is set out in the SACRE Constitution (appended to Item 1 on this agenda).

#### *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)*

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Corporate Plan aims to improve the opportunities for children and young people.

### Consultees

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.
- Paddy Bradley, Director of Schools and Learning
- Sarah Foulkes, Principal Advisor School Improvement

### Background Papers and Appendices

- None

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, or Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## Update on Implementing the SACRE Development Plan 2010/11

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010

---

**Author:** Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Adviser

**Parish / Wards Affected:** All

### **Purpose**

- For SACRE Members to discuss progress on the delivery of the SACRE Development Plan in 2010/11

### **Recommendation**

- That the SACRE consider progress on the delivery of its Development Plan for 2010/11, as attached at Appendix '1' and '2', and agree any additional actions arising.

### **1. Reasons**

- 1.1 The SACRE's Development Plan enables it to plan the delivery of its statutory role.

### **2. Detail**

- 2.1 The SACRE approved its Development Plan for 2010/11 at its meeting in March 2010 and this is attached at Appendix '1'. In addition, the SACRE asked for suggestions of ways that SACRE Members might become more involved in the delivery of the plan, and it was agreed at the next meeting that Members be involved as set out at Appendix '2'.
- 2.2 There has been a delay in getting these work streams underway. The SACRE advisor will update the SACRE on work to date, and Appendix 2 also provides a comment on progress. The SACRE is asked to agree next steps in relation to the delivery of the plan.

### **Alternative Options**

- The SACRE could choose to extend the period for delivery of its Plan or defer items into 2011/12 if necessary.

### **Risk Management**

#### *Financial and Procurement Implications*

- Costs of delivering the SACRE's Development Plan must be contained within the £5k annual budget provided to support the SACRE's work, which includes funding for support from the SACRE Advisor.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## Update on Implementing the SACRE Development Plan 2010/11

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010

---

### *Legal / Human Rights Implications*

- This report has no specific legal or human rights implications.

### *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)*

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Council's aims to improve the opportunities for children and young people.

### **Consultees**

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.
- Paddy Bradley, Director of Schools and Learning
- Sarah Foukes, Principal Advisor School Improvement

### **Background Papers and Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – SACRE Development Plan 2010/11
- Appendix 2 – Areas of Activity by SACRE Members

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## SACRE Development Plan April 2010 – April 2011

Area for Improvement: Increasing the effectiveness of SACRE in developing teaching and learning in Swindon schools.					
Success Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The quality of pupils learning in RE is improved through the implementation of recent curriculum developments KS1-3</li> <li>• School communities are well informed about and confident to implement recent educational initiatives that affect RE, Community Cohesion and Collective Worship.</li> <li>• SACRE , Swindon LA and all schools are informed as to the role and function of Swindon SACRE</li> <li>• SACRE and Swindon LA effectively meet their statutory requirements in relation to RE and Collective Worship.</li> </ul>					
Monitoring	Sarah Foulkes /Gill Illic	Evaluation	SACRE Working group in producing Self Evaluation Annual Report		
Who		Who			
How and when	Regular meetings with RE Adviser Four SACRE meetings a year	How and when	Report to SACRE meeting		
Lead Person	Katy Staples	Others involved	SACRE members		
1.RE Adviser to monitor and support the further development of RE within the curriculum with a particular focus on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative Curriculum at KS1+2</li> <li>• New KS3 curriculum for RE at KS3</li> <li>• Foundation Stage (particularly an evaluation of effectiveness against the Solihull Guidance Document)</li> </ul>		Start date	End date	Resources Needed	Link to Budget
		APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Secondary Conference (joint with Wiltshire LA)	1 day Adviser time
				3 x Cluster meetings for Primary and Secondary	3 days Adviser time

2. RE Adviser and SACRE members to monitor and support schools in fulfilling their duty to promote community cohesion.	APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Offer as specific cluster meeting CPD for Primary and Secondary. Include specific questions to ascertain impact of delivery in annual survey	
3. SACRE members to secure reliable and valid data on standards of learning in RE and Collective Worship : encourage greater participation from schools in returning surveys.	APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Analysis of Exam data and increased returns from annual survey to schools	2 days adviser time and possible travel costs for some SACRE members
4. SACRE members ensure that SACRE continues to meet its statutory requirements through training and regular updates on educational initiatives relevant to RE and CW	APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Write annual report  Attend NASACRE conference and AREIAC Conference	3 days adviser time and SACRE members to write summary report.  1 day adviser (time and cost shared with Bristol SACRE) plus members expenses
5. SACRE Members are proactive in securing full representation on SACRE for all groups.	APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Through help of National SACRE support and membership networking – co-ordinated by the Clerk to SACRE	
6. Adviser to gather evaluative data on effectiveness of courses and resources produced to support schools.	APRIL 10	SEPTEMBER 11	Adviser to collate returned surveys from those attending cluster meetings and receiving resources	Part of the annual survey
7. RE Adviser to respond to additional support needs of schools in the areas of RE and Collective Worship.	APRIL 10	MARCH 11	Respond to requests and offer advice when asked	1 day adviser time

## SACRE Members Assisting with SACRE Development Plan April 2010 – April 2011

	<b>Task</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Assisting</b>	<b>Progress</b>
a)	Promotion of the use of the Solihull Guidance Document to support Foundation Stage via visits to the Primary Network Meetings (Development Plan Item 1)	One or two members to support SACRE Advisor	Penny Summers & Janet French	Discussion on Solihull Guidance and beyond scheduled for next primary network meeting.
b)	Discussion with Swindon Association of Primary Headteachers (SAPH) and Swindon Association of Secondary Headteachers (SASH) on the contribution of RE to promoting community cohesion.	One or two members to Support SACRE Advisor	Jo Garton & Sarah Foulkes	No action has yet taken in respect of this target. Recommended that this is deferred until clarity is received nationally whether the requirement for promotion of community cohesion will be removed or amended by Coalition Government next year.
c)	Seek to encourage greater survey responses in relation to the delivery of RE and Collective Worship (Development Plan Item 3)	One or two members able to visit schools.	Mark Cawte and Helen Miller	Additional survey responses invited from schools via schools online update after the last SACRE meeting. SACRE to consider if further action is required.
d)	Providing support to the development of the SACRE Annual Report to 2010/11, including collection of examples of RE best practice in Swindon, through network meetings (Development Plan Items 4 and 6)	One or two members supporting the SACRE Adviser or sub-group	Mark Cawte + 1 or 2 to be identified	SACRE is still required to produce an annual report, and NASACRE has advised that it should still on this occasion be submitted via QCDA email, although QCDA has been abolished. Future reporting arrangements are still to be advised. It is intended that the report should be produced by March 2011 therefore examples of work need to be sought in the next few months.
e)	Work with SACRE Advisor on developing a new Inter-Faith project in Swindon (Development Plan Items 1 and 2)	One or two members supporting the SACRE Adviser or sub-group	Members to be identified.	Katy Staples to provide an update on this project at the meeting.
f)	Visits to Schools to provide Faith Perspectives (supporting Development Plan Items 1 and 3)	One or two Faith representatives to be available to schools as required.	Reverend Arthur Woo + 1 or 2 to be identified	School visits are suggested as part of the Celebrating RE week in March.

This page is intentionally left blank



## **Celebrating RE Month**

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

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010.**

---

**Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Adviser**

**Parish / Wards Affected: All**

### **Purpose**

- To update the SACRE on Celebrating RE Month taking place in March 2011.

### **Recommendation**

SACRE is requested -

1. To note the national Celebrating RE Month which is taking place in March 2011.
2. To inform schools of the ways in which they can get involved in Celebrating RE Month, through RE Network meetings and placing information on schools online web pages.
3. To consider if any members of the SACRE would be willing to volunteer to be available to go into schools during March 2011 to support them in their Celebrating RE month activities, and any other ways in which the SACRE might wish to support the event.

### **1. Reasons**

- 1.1 Part of the SACRE's role is to advise schools of materials and resources available to support the teaching of RE, in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

### **4. Detail**

- 2.1 A national Celebrating RE Month will be held in March 2011. Information on the range of events that schools and community groups can get involved in is available on the website: [www.celebratingre.org](http://www.celebratingre.org), which includes a range of competitions which schools can enter. It is recommended that the SACRE include information on Celebrating RE month in schools online web pages, for local schools to get involved.
- 2.2 Attached at Appendix '1' is information provided through the Celebrating RE website on ways in which SACREs might become involved. It is recommended that SACRE members might wish to volunteer to go into local schools during March 2011, and support other local events. The SACRE is asked to consider any other ways in which it wishes to get involved.

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## Celebrating RE Month

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010.

---

### Alternative Options

- The alternative options, where applicable, are set out in the body of this report.

### Risk Management

#### *Financial and Procurement Implications*

- There are currently no financial implications identified in this report. However, should the SACRE decide to take additional steps to support Celebrating RE Month, any costs would need to be met from the SACRE's Annual Budget of £5k, which is substantially committed.

#### *Legal / Human Rights Implications*

- This report has no specific legal or human rights implications.

#### *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies*

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Council's aims to improve the opportunities for children and young people, and to support local communities by empowering people to participate in local decision-making and overcoming social exclusion.

### Consultees

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.
- Paddy Bradley, Director of Schools and Learning.
- Sarah Foulkes, School Improvement Adviser

### Background Papers and Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Ideas for SACREs to support Celebrating RE Month.

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

# IDEAS for SACREs



**March 2011 is the month when in England and Wales we have an opportunity to celebrate RE in the two nations and to raise the subject's profile in schools, faith communities and the wider local and national communities. We can build even stronger local and national links that will benefit your work and the subject in the years to come.**

Obviously although this exciting opportunity sounds a good way off, SACREs do not meet very frequently, so you may like to establish a working group that can report back to the SACRE and progress your work between meetings. Here are a few ideas for ways that SACREs might make a contribution to the celebration.



### **Make sure the schools and all your partner organisations know about the festival**

The REC will be happy to make sure copies of the leaflet get to you for distribution:

[celebratingre@religiouseducationcouncil.org](mailto:celebratingre@religiouseducationcouncil.org).

The leaflet is also available electronically from this website so can be set to schools directly.



### **Make the Celebrating RE website one of your 'Favourites'**

and suggest to your RE subject leaders that they do the same so that you can all log on to find out the latest information about events, ideas and competitions on a regular basis.



### **Consider setting up your own local SACRE competition**

– make this as local as you can and don't forget to include all the schools in the area. This is a chance to forge

closer links for example with Academies or local independent schools.



### **Plan a series of 'Open House' visits to your local places of worship during the celebration month.**

Working in partnership with faith members of SACRE, their local communities and your local Inter Faith Group use *Celebrating RE* month as an occasion to invite each other into your faith space.



### **Devise a celebration trail**

over the month with each host community sharing their space and hospitality with school groups and with teachers and other adults. Helping each other

to plan these and produce a leaflet to organise the trail is a good way to get to know each other better.





**Work with local schools to help them plan Inter faith days during the celebration month.** This could be a chance for students to experience visits to and

from their local communities and to find out at first hand why good inter faith relations are important. You may need to CRB check a number of faith members and perhaps to have a training session beforehand to make sure there are a number of willing helpers for these events and that everyone is comfortable speaking with children from different age and ability groups.



**Plan a 'Meet the SACRE' event to take place during the celebration month**

Host an event where teachers can come along, meet each other and meet SACRE to find out more about SACREs work and to share how the partnership between schools and SACREs can be developed further. You could share food, set up faith exhibits, arrange some entertainment or a talk and perhaps even do a 'speed dating' session where people move around meeting each other very quickly as an ice breaker.



**Join with other SACREs for a shared event**

You could link together in a big celebration event perhaps at a local place of worship, RE Centre or school. This could be a chance to showcase some of the good RE that has been going on in your LA.



**Have a Civic Celebration** to spread the word to local politicians and faith leaders. Make it celebratory, fun and memorable in a way that will promote the creative arts, values

and spirituality, and also generate excitement around RE. Let everyone write their own 'wish for the future' on a leaf/hand for a celebratory tree like the Celebrating RE logo.



**Work towards establishing something to encourage the wider community to be reflective somewhere in your area.**

In partnership with a local school you could take the opportunity to show why you believe knowing about each other's faiths and beliefs is an essential part of education through, for example, a piece of artwork specially commissioned for the event.



## Update on Network Meetings

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010

---

**Author:** Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Adviser

**Parish / Wards Affected:** All

### Purpose

- To update the SACRE on the Network Meetings for RE Teachers and Co-ordinators in Swindon

### Recommendation

SACRE is requested -

- To note the report.
- To consider any actions arising for the SACRE from the Network Meetings.

## 1. Reasons

- 1.1 The SACRE has a duty to help schools fulfil their statutory obligations with regard to religious education.
- 1.2 It is important that the SACRE be kept informed about the provision for religious education and collective worship in schools in the Borough and the support being provided to schools.

## 2. Detail

- 2.1 The SACRE Adviser meets with teachers of religious education in both primary and secondary schools through regular network meetings.
- 2.2 Since the last meeting of the SACRE, the Secondary Network teachers met on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at Ridgeway School with regard to 'The Best Unit of Work we Teach'. This was a very successful session, with good practice shared with those present. The SACRE Adviser will highlight any key outcomes from the meeting and any actions that the SACRE might wish to consider as a result. Teachers present are also invited to provide their feedback.
- 2.3 The next meeting of the Primary Network will be held on 20 January 2011 at Oliver Tomkins Infant School, and will be exploring the topic 'The foundation stage – a review of the Solihull material and new ideas'.

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).

## Update on Network Meetings

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010

---

### Alternative Options

- None

### Risk Management

#### *Financial and Procurement Implications*

- The costs for the SACRE Advisor meeting with the secondary and primary network meetings is met from within the SACRE budget, which is £5000 per annum.

#### *Legal / Human Rights Implications*

- This report has no specific legal or human rights implications.

#### *Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)*

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Council's aims to improve the opportunities for children and young people, and to support local communities by empowering people to participate in local decision-making and overcoming social exclusion.

### Consultees

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.
- Director of Schools and Learning
- Sarah Foulkes, Primary Link Adviser

### Background Papers and Appendices

- None

---

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or [katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org) or from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email [slawrence@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:slawrence@swindon.gov.uk).