

## **Appendix 1**

**Swindon Primary RE Cluster**

**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009**

**St Francis VA School, Taw Hill, Swindon.**

**Those present :** Lara Stephens, Anne-Marie Cleary, Theresa Neale, Anne-Marie Domm, Anne Rees, Alex O'Brien, Gaynor Simpson, Janet Plumb, Geraldine King, Liz Haigh, Karen Day, Beverley Leaver, Jo-Anne Rutt, Mandy Cook, Steph Mundin  
Katy Staples

### **1) Welcome and Introductions.**

Katy Staples introduced herself as the new Adviser to SACRE who has taken over from Catherine Coster. Everyone introduced themselves and explained which phase of Education they taught in and how long they had been subject leader.

### **2) The Areiac Toolkit**

This has been piloted in some schools in Swindon; it was explained how it had helped to evaluate the position of RE in those schools and was a good platform for creating a well-informed action plan for the subject. It was commented that in the light of the Primary Review some of the judgements made might soon be obsolete. However as subject leaders, many felt they were being regularly asked for development plans by senior management and to use cluster meeting to self evaluate in pairs or small groups was seen as potentially a positive use of cluster time.

### **3) The Forthcoming curriculum changes and how they might effect RE**

Katy Staples gave a very brief summary of the recommendations currently under negotiation in the Primary Review (The Rose Report). We discussed where RE might fit into the new learning areas and felt it may contribute to several most notably "Understanding physical health and Well Being, Understanding the arts and design, and human, social and environmental understanding." Although it was pointed out that many subjects, as we now know them, could contribute to several of the new areas of learning.

We then proceeded to explain whether RE was taught currently discreetly or in a cross curricular themed way. In the majority of schools it would seem to be being taught separately and is often covered in PPA time and sometimes taught by TAs. A general comment made was that it was often last on people's lists and pushing over worked staff for evidence of teaching was more than they could bring themselves to do as subject leaders.

In some schools it is being covered in a cross curricular way. In the two Church schools represented they felt RE was a priority and it was taught in the main by class teachers.

### **4) Hiccups with the new schemes of work**

There have been problems with old disks or lost disks – references to the old scheme of work are made – which some schools do not have access to and some resources recommended are now a bit dated.

**5) Making priorities for Future meetings**

These were the issues as well as working on the Toolkit that people wanted to be raised in future meetings .

ECM and RE

Co-Co and RE

Gifted and Talented in RE

“The mantle of the Expert”

Philosophy 4 Kids

Good new Resources

A workable easy model for assessment in RE

**6) Survey of RE in your school**

A survey was circulated in order for SACRE to gain a more accurate picture of the provision of RE in Swindon schools.

**7) AOB**

There was no AOB

**8) Date of the Next meeting**

**Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 St Francis, Taw Hill Swindon 3.30-4.00-5.15**

**Provisional Main Agenda Items**

Co-evaluation of RE in your school – using the AREIAC Toolkit.

Demonstrating and looking at new resources

**Following meeting**

**Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Provisional Main Agenda Items**

ECM and RE

Gifted and Talented and RE (Mantle of the Expert and Philosophy for Kids)