



Phil Norrey
Chief Executive

To: The Members of the Standing
Advisory Council on Religious
Education

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 7 November 2018
Please ask for : Gerry Rufolo 01392 382299

Email: gerry.rufolo@devon.gov.uk

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Thursday, 15th November, 2018

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education is to be held on the above date at 10.00 am in the Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

P NORREY
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Election of Chair and Vice Chair
Mr Pawson to report
- 3 Minutes
Minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2018 (previously circulated)
- 4 Items Requiring Urgent Attention
Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.
- 5 Devon SACRE Membership
Mr Pawson to report
- 6 Devon SACRE Annual Report 2017/18
Mr Pawson to report

- 7 Learn Teach Lead RE Updates
Mr Pawson to report
- 8 RE Updates: RE Newsletter (attached), Report from Commission on RE (Pages 1 - 4)
Ed Pawson to report
- 9 Interfaith Developments
Ed Pawson to report
- 10 HMD 2019 Planning
Mr Pawson to report
- 11 Agreed Syllabus Review Planning (Pages 5 - 8)
(a) Minutes of the Agreed Syllabus Conference meeting held on 24 September 2018, attached

(b) Presentation from Lat Blaylock and Stephen Pett from RE Today
- 12 Future SACRE Meetings
Tuesday, 5 February 2019

Recommended: Tuesday, 4 June 2019

PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED

*Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain confidential information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s).
Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.*

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Membership

Members are reminded that Substitutes are permitted

Group A: Christian and Other Religion and Belief Communities, with the exception of the Church of England

K Denby (Devon Humanists Representative)
R Halsey (Jewish Representative)
H Hastie (Baha'i Representative)
M Hext (Methodist Representative)
F Abdo (Muslim Representative)
B Lane (United Reformed Church Representative)
M Miller (Pagan Community Representative)
R Nathwani (Hindu Representative)
N Nation (Roman Catholic Representative)
J Taylorson (Buddhist Representative)
Vacancy (Quaker Representative)
Vacancy (Baptist)
Vacancy (Sikh)

Group B: The Church of England

M Dearden
S Gill
C Hulbert
R Ingrouille
A Parkes
T Wilson

Group C Teachers' Associations

J Goody (Chairman)
P Hammett
W Harrison
L Clay
E Mihas
S Shute
G Winnall

Group D Devon County Council

Councillor E Brennan
Councillor C Channon
Councillor I Chubb
Councillor P Colthorpe
Councillor G Hook
Councillor M Squires

Co-opted Members

R Khreisheh
J Roberts
S Spence
B Twiggs

Advisor

E Pawson

Declaration of Interests

Members are reminded that they must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

Access to Information

Any person wishing to inspect any Reports or Background Papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact Gerry Rufolo on 01392 382299.

Agenda and minutes of the Committee are published on the Council's Website

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In addition, anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chairman. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chairman or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

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If you need a copy of this Agenda and/or a Report in another format (e.g. large print, audio tape, Braille or other languages), please contact the Information Centre on 01392 380101 or email to: centre@devon.gov.uk or write to the Democratic and Scrutiny Secretariat at County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QD.



Induction loop system available

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SatNav – Postcode EX2 4QD

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Access to County Hall and Public Transport Links

Bus Services K, J, T and S operate from the High Street to County Hall (Topsham Road). To return to the High Street use Services K, J, T and R. Local Services to and from Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot, Exmouth, Plymouth and Torbay all stop in Barrack Road which is a 5 minute walk from County Hall. Park and Ride Services operate from Sowton, Marsh Barton and Honiton Road with bus services direct to the High Street.

The nearest mainline railway stations are Exeter Central (5 minutes from the High Street) and St David's and St Thomas's both of which have regular bus services to the High Street. Bus Service H (which runs from St David's Station to the High Street) continues and stops in Wonford Road (at the top of Matford Lane shown on the map) a 2/3 minute walk from County Hall, en route to the RD&E Hospital (approximately a 10 minutes walk from County Hall, through Gras Lawn on Barrack Road).

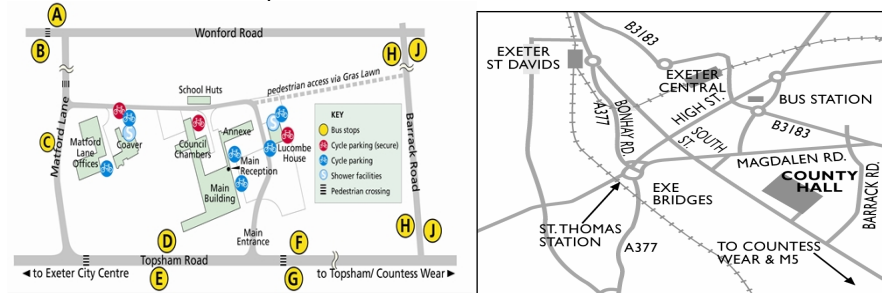
Car Sharing

Carsharing allows people to benefit from the convenience of the car, whilst alleviating the associated problems of congestion and pollution. For more information see: <https://liftshare.com/uk/community/devon>.

Car Parking and Security

There is a pay and display car park, exclusively for the use of visitors, entered via Topsham Road. Current charges are: Up to 30 minutes – free; 1 hour - £1.10; 2 hours - £2.20; 4 hours - £4.40; 8 hours - £7. Please note that County Hall reception staff are not able to provide change for the parking meters.

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NB   Denotes bus stops

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First Aid

Contact Main Reception (extension 2504) for a trained first aider.

RE newsletter for schools in Devon and Torbay and Exeter Diocese

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November 2018

Welcome to the November RE newsletter. In my September RE newsletter I reported that one of the recommendations from the Commission on Religious Education is that the subject should be renamed *Religion and Worldviews*. What are your views on this? Would this work in your school? I'd be interested to hear your views. **Interfaith Week** runs from 11th -18th Nov. Are you planning any learning activities to celebrate religion and belief diversity?

For RE support, please contact Ed Pawson at efpawson@gmail.com or ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org
Church school contact: Tatiana Wilson at tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org



Courses and CPD opportunities

Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE) <http://ltlre.org/events>
Hubs are free and open to all teachers of RE, primary and secondary. See [website](#) for more details

East Devon hub, Exmouth Community College TBA
Exeter hub, St Peter's High School TBA
North Devon hub, Boston Tea Party, Barnstaple TBA
Plymouth hub, St Matthews Primary School 4.00pm Thurs 8th Nov
South Devon hub, Warberry School, Torquay 4.15-5.30pm Thurs 8th Nov
Torbay hub, Warberry School, Torquay 4.15-5.30pm Thurs 8th Nov
West Devon and Dartmoor, Tavistock CC TBA

Exeter Diocese courses

Teaching Buddhism and Hinduism Mon 19th Nov
Understanding Christianity 22nd Nov (one day course plus twilight) All courses at the Old Deanery, Exeter EX1 1HS). For further details [contact](#)



Interfaith Week 2018 (11-19 Nov)

Dying Matters GCSE [conference](#) Fri 9th Nov 2018, Exeter Racecourse
Hope in Conflict [conference](#) Sat 17th Nov with Pádraig Ó Tuama leader of the Corrymeela Community, Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation witness

Devon and Torbay RE Agreed Syllabus

Thanks to those who completed the Primary RE survey. While a third of respondents said they find the existing Agreed Syllabus helpful, two thirds said it either offers no help or it needs improvement. See Page 3 for more info on this.
We hope to launch a new, better resourced RE Agreed Syllabus for all schools in Torbay and Devon for September 2019. More info on this in the New Year.

Making PEACE

PEACE CHARTER

INSPIRE aims to help schools commemorate the centenary of the First World War, encouraging pupils to become agents of peace. Activities encourage pupils to research, discuss and engage these issues. Get involved through the **INSPIRE Peace Charter**, hold a remembrance and peace service on Fri 9 Nov or use the resources specially created by the [Church of England](#).

"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

Christingle Services



Christingle means 'Christ's Light'. The custom of giving out lighted candles in these services began in Germany in 1747, but it wasn't introduced to England until 1968. These resources from the Children's Society explore its history and how to [celebrate Christingle](#).

RE support and resources

[Exeter Diocese](#) for C of E schools
[Devon SACRE RE](#) for all Devon schools: RE Agreed Syllabus and support for **assessment** in RE
[Learn, Teach Lead RE](#) RE hub network groups
[NATRE](#) National Association of Teachers of RE
[RE Quality Mark](#) to audit and celebrate your RE
[Re-online](#) RE subject knowledge site
[True Tube](#) free video resources
[RE definitions](#) free info about key RE words
[Religious Education Council](#) national voice for RE

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Strictly RE 2019



Join the throng of teachers of RE at NATRE's annual conference on Sat 26th Jan 2019: [Strictly RE](#). Book now for a bargain price. It's even cheaper if you are a NATRE member.

Useful video resources



Primary: Videos for Divali [here](#) and [here](#)
Primary: The [Story Keepers](#) tells the story of a Christian leader and his family's adventures living in Ancient Rome whose mission is to keep Jesus's stories alive during the 1st century.
Secondary: in The [Battle for Christianity](#) Professor Robert Beckford looks at how immigration, radical social action, conservative morality and charismatic worship are transforming the face of Christianity in the UK.

What makes Christmas so special?

Are you planning your Christmas lessons? This [resource](#) from RE:quest might be useful. It explores why Christmas is so special for Christians and how the significance of this festival is not found in the shopping or decorations or even in the presents. Watch this short film to find out what makes it so special.

'Dying Matters' GCSE conference



An interfaith conference for GCSE students on death, dying and euthanasia; Friday 9th Nov 2018

This free [conference](#) for Devon and Torbay schools will be held at Exeter Racecourse. It will bring together teachers, health professionals and members of diverse faith and belief communities to discuss issues relating to death and dying, end of life care, assisted death and palliative care. The talks and workshops will be linked to topics featured in the various GCSE Religious Studies specifications, including a debate on euthanasia.

Philosophy 4 Children



This calls itself the [Ultimate P4C resource](#). Here's a review: *Thank you for making this! We've introduced P4C across the school after buying this and I think it's had a profound impact on some students. I've received a lot of positive feedback from my colleagues. Recommended :)*

Global Neighbours



[Global Neighbours](#) is a new and exciting school accreditation scheme developed by Christian Aid. It aims to encourage a deeper understanding of global injustice and the Christian response to it in primary school pupils across England. It is a great tool to help to empower young people to become agents of change themselves. It has been developed working in partnership with the Church of England's Education Office.

Faith Motivated Arts



Saltmine Theatre Company is a professional touring theatre company with a Christian ethos. Check out their [website](#) to see what they are offering or to book them to visit your school

Spirited Poetry 2019



Get involved in this year's NATRE [Spirited Poetry competition](#) with a focal point for World Poetry Day on 21 March 2019. Schools are invited to send in up to ten poems. Entrance is open to children and young people aged 5–19, closing date 31 July 2019.

Thinking Biblically about ...



What does the Bible have to say about contemporary issues? This (free-of-charge) series of [13 pamphlets](#) provides accessible introductions to biblical perspectives on a range of modern 'hot topics', from consumerism, to social media, to surveillance. These 8-page pamphlets are concise, thought-provoking and attractively presented.

GCSE RS revision resources



Seneca is a social enterprise that offers free [revision and homework resources for GCSE](#) students. The content applies effective learning strategies to help students learn more effectively and accounts can be created to track pupils' progress in the platform. Only AQA material at present, but more exam boards as well as KS3 and KS5 content to follow.

Why RE Matters

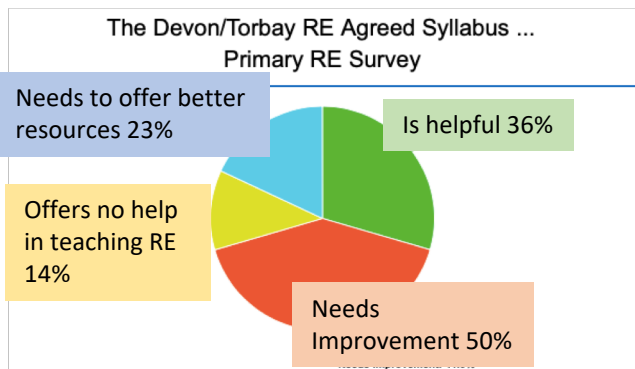
The ability to understand the faith or belief of individuals and communities, and how these may shape their culture and behaviour, is an invaluable asset for children in modern day Britain. Explaining religious and non-religious worldviews in an academic way allows young people to engage with the complexities of belief, avoid stereotyping and contribute to an informed debate. (Statement from the [Religious Education Council website](#))

Christianity resource book

Where in the World?

[Where in the World?](#) is a global Christianity resource for primary school teachers of RE. It provides lesson outlines, a five-week scheme of work, background information and a section on learning objectives and outcomes. It also contains useful material for assemblies and collective worship.

RE Survey Results



Good learning in RE



In this short NATRE [film](#), children, teachers and parents talk about how primary school RE can help personal development, exploring big questions, engaging with beliefs and values, and expressing their own questions and responses.

New RE resources sheet

Find the new [RE Resources sheet](#) here

SIAMS hubs

Spring Term 2019 dates for CofE school SIAMS Hub meetings (4-6pm) at the following locations. Topic: Courageous Advocacy, with plenty of time for Q and A. These meetings will be free and open to all eg SLT, teachers, governors, Ethos teams etc. Please book-in through [Fran Bradley](#).

Date (4.00-6.00pm)	Venue
Wed 9 th January	St Cuthbert Mayne Schl, Torquay
Tues 15 th Jan	All Saints Thurlestone, S Devon
Mon 21 st Jan	Plympton St Mary's Infants
Tues 22 nd Jan	Ashleigh Pr School, Barnstaple
Wed 23 rd Jan	Holsworthy Pr School, N Devon
Thurs 24 th Jan	Ilfracombe Academy, N Devon
Mon 4 th Feb	Zealley House, Newton Abbot
Wed 6 th Feb	St Luke's Science and Sports College, Exeter

Exeter Diocese courses Autumn 2018

Teaching Hinduism & Buddhism	Mon 19th Nov	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:30	Standard charges (see Pg 3)	Teachers
Understanding Christianity	Thurs 22 nd Nov*	The Old Deanery, Exeter	09:30 – 15:30	£150 including resources, 2 nd delegate £75 (no resources)	Teachers, Leaders, Governors

Devon SACRE

Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) meeting

Milford House, Pynes Hill, Exeter

Monday 24th September 2018

Present: Keith Denby, Sandra Gill, Jeremy Roberts, John Gooddy, Penny Hammett, Belinda Twiggs

Apologies: Maia Miller, Alex Parks, Christine Channon, Polly Colthorpe, Bernard Lane, Claire Hulbert,

1. Reviewing the existing Devon Agreed Syllabus

There was strong agreement with the conclusions coming through from the June SACRE meeting, that the current Agreed Syllabus (set up in 2013) needs a radical overhaul rather than a gentle tweak. The learning objectives need reworking, the unit titles are out of date and the support materials don't fully match the enquiry-led, knowledge-rich approach needed for an up-to-date curriculum. The current syllabus was written to rely on existing support materials and resources which were created in 2006. Most teachers say they are too stretched to spend the required planning time to create inspiring, challenging work in RE, so a new syllabus, which came well-resourced and supported would meet with widespread approval.

A questionnaire has been sent out to schools to gather information on the views of teachers from a wider cross-section across the county, with regard to the existing Agreed Syllabus. The results of this survey will be collated and analysed, and this will be reported on at the next SACRE meeting on 15th November.

2. Meeting with Dawn Stabb

Those present read the letter sent to Dawn Stabb (DCC lead for Education and Learning) in July, which set out options for change, and the salient points were discussed. A report was given of the meeting between Ed Pawson and Jeremy Roberts with Dawn on 5th September. It was recorded that she was in general agreement with the aim of providing a high quality RE syllabus, supported by detailed and accessible curriculum resources. However, she was concerned to ensure that the introduction of any new syllabus did not impose unrealistic and unnecessary financial demands on schools, especially LA schools. Those present at the meeting were in agreement with this ambition.

3. Need for a new Agreed Syllabus, supported by curriculum planning and resources

It was agreed that there is a need for ALL schools to be able to access an up-to-date syllabus, supported by planning and materials written by skilled and experienced curriculum designers. Up to half of all schools in Devon (including most CofE schools) have now bought into and been trained in the Understanding Christianity approach to RE, mainly through courses provided by the Diocese of Exeter. This has created a step change in the teaching of Christianity, bringing a new level of confidence and expertise into RE classrooms. What these schools now say they need is a curriculum pattern that guides them through this material, and detailed plans and resources to enable them to teach about other religions and worldviews. This must be replicated across all schools in Devon.

4. Next steps

There was detailed discussion about the possible options, with agreement that any future syllabus must be backed up with high quality resources and support materials. Two options were discussed.

RE Today syllabus, medium term planning and accompanying schemes of work.

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The 2017 Agreed Syllabus for Gloucestershire (written by RE Today) was looked at and was favourably received by those present. It has the advantage of having the Understanding Christianity resources written into its approach, so those schools that have already invested in these materials have a head start. These resources have been very well-received, so that gives confidence in the proposed new syllabus as a whole, given that it is written by the same team. The meeting gave its approval that this would be a favourable option for all schools.

Costings: The syllabus and medium term learning plans would come as a package, and these could be provided to all schools free of charge, with the cost defrayed by conference fees charged for the Agreed Syllabus launch events. The additional detailed schemes of work could be purchased from RE Today at a cost of £100-150 per primary school. This would resource them for the following 5 years.

Helen Matter teaching resources

Many schools locally have found RE materials created by Helen Matter, written for schools following the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus, to be very effective and stimulating. They are clearly laid out and well-judged to create challenging learning experiences. However, these materials only cover KS1 and 2, and Helen will be retiring in 2019, so no future updates will be available. This option would require Devon SACRE to write an Agreed Syllabus which would reference and utilise these materials. This was a slightly less-preferred option, given the need to set up an experienced team to create a whole syllabus.

Costings: This option would require an Agreed Syllabus to be written. This would need about 10 days of consultant time, the cost of which could be defrayed against the money raised by teachers attending launch events. In addition, detailed schemes of work would cost schools in the region of £150 each.

5. Conclusions

The meeting concluded that either option would represent a positive way forward, and the Devon SACRE meeting set up for 15th November will provide a valuable opportunity to listen to presentations about these possible routes.

The overall plan is for the introduction of a new syllabus to be cost-neutral. Along with the RE Today syllabus, as part of the package, would come a set of medium-term planning across all key stages. This is designed to be sufficient for schools to enact good RE. Further than this, schools would be encouraged to buy the schemes of work package (£100-150 per school), but they could fulfil their expectations to teach good RE without this purchase.

The Helen Matter option would provide an RE Agreed Syllabus free to all schools, but they would be required to pay for detailed schemes of work (~£150 per school) to support the implementation of this programme.

The meeting was at pains to point out that there will be adviser and teacher costs to this Agreed Syllabus review process. Devon County Council has a legal duty to provide a viable and up-to-date Agreed Syllabus for RE, so there needs to be a recognition that this requires an additional budget, over-and-above the annual SACRE expenditure. Having said this, every effort will be made to recoup all costs through the offer of a number of high quality launch events.

Paying for RE consultant time and for supply fees for teachers to attend the ASC meetings is essential.

Supply cover: 3 half day meetings for 4 teachers = $3 \times 4 \times £80 = £960$

Consultant time: 3 days @£350 = £1,050

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If the Helen Matter route is followed there will be a cost of 10 days consultant time to write an Agreed Syllabus @£350 per day= £3,500

6. Date for next meeting

Thursday 15th November 1.30-3.00pm at County Hall.

