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

County Hall  
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Date: 12 June 2024

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**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Thursday, 20th June, 2024

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education is to be held on the above date at 10.00 am at Daw Room, Committee Suite to consider the following matters.

Donna Manson  
Chief Executive

**A G E N D A**

**PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE**

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 February 2024.

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

## **MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

### 4 Devon SACRE Membership

#### **Group A- Christian and Other Religions and Belief Communities, with the exception of the Church of England**

Leonore Newson is replacing Maia Miller as Pagan representative  
Dr Dave Regis is replacing Keith Denby as Humanist representative

#### **Group C - Teachers Associations**

Susannah Cornwall is replacing David Tollerton as the Universities representative

Gerry Winnall has stepped down from the Committee

#### **Group D – The County Council**

Councillor Colin Slade is replacing Councillor Margaret Squires

## **STANDING ITEMS**

### 5 Standards In Schools: Monitoring and Ofsted (Pages 5 - 8)

To update SACRE members on the findings published in recent Ofsted reports, particularly where comments relate to Religious Education (RE), collective worship or Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC) of pupils. Where appropriate, the report may recommend that SACRE officers should contact specified schools to either congratulate them on their outstanding practice, or to offer curriculum support in specified areas.

Ofsted reports from a number of primary schools make reference to issues relating to RE/CW/SMSC. Most of these comments are very encouraging.

Two schools are being followed up specifically with regard to comments in their reports.

## 6 Devon and Torbay SACRE - Agreed Syllabus Review and Launch

To update SACRE members on the progress of the review of the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus.

The new syllabus has been completed, ready for the launch in the summer term.

The new syllabus will be introduced for teaching from September 2024

Syllabus launch events will be taking place across Devon and Plymouth on Monday 17<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (and online on 10<sup>th</sup> July), led by syllabus-writers Fiona Moss and Stephen Pett (RE Today). Further launch events are being planned for schools in the Autumn of 2024.

The cost of the new syllabus is £35 per school. SACRE has the assurance from the Local Authority that it will pay for a copy of the syllabus to go to every school in Devon (including academies). It is expected that a significant proportion of this cost will be recouped through the 'paid-for' launch events.

There will need to be ongoing training for teachers as a follow-up to the introduction of this new syllabus, partly via the LTLRE hub meetings and the annual conference.

## 7 Learn Teach Lead RE Update

To update SACRE members on the progress of the Learn, Teach, Lead RE (LTLRE) hub network.

The next annual conference 2024 will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024, at the St Mellion Conference Centre.

Hub leaders training takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 5<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.

The LTLRE hub groups across Devon continue to be successful, with termly meetings attracting both primary and secondary teachers of RE. These meetings take place both in person and online, depending on the context and topic being covered. The new SWIFT hub continues to be very successful.

## 8 Briefing for Devon schools Head Teachers

A verbal update will be given about the session the RE Advisor to Devon SACRE is giving to Devon Head Teachers on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

9 Regional and National Developments: RE Hubs, National Content Standard in RE, Ofsted report, Religion and Worldviews Handbook

An update on the latest Regional and National developments will be given at the meeting.

10 Young Ambassadors Project update

An update will be given regarding the Young Ambassadors project previously reported to Devon SACRE led by the Association of RE Inspectors and Advisors.

The Devon SACRE Advisor is continuing work with Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust to train and empower a group of primary and secondary students to become Ambassadors for Freedom of Religion or Belief.

11 Holocaust Memorial Day: Planning for 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27 January 2025 theme will be 'For a better future'.

12 Future Devon SACRE meetings

Dates of future meetings to be held at 10.00am in the Committee Suite, County Hall, Exeter.

Monday 4 November 2024

Thursday 6 Feb 2025

Tuesday 17 June 2025

Thursday 13 Nov 2025

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

NIL

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**Induction Loop available**



## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

6 February 2024

Present:-

### **Group A: Christian and Other Religion and Belief Communities (with the exception of the Church of England)**

K Denby, J Carpenter, P Hannam, G Kang, W Houghton, M Miller,  
J Taylorson, L Newson

### **Group B: The Church of England**

S Gill, C Hulbert, J Hunter, K Keatley

### **Group C: Teachers Associations**

R Flanagan, P Hammett, W Harrison, J Matthews, B Twiggs (Vice-Chair),

### **Group D: Devon County Councillors**

Councillors, J Bradford, C Channon, D Sellis,

### **Co-opted Members**

J Goody, R Northcott, S Spence

## 54 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2023 were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

## 55 **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no item raised requiring urgent attention.

## 56 **Devon SACRE Membership**

The Committee noted that Leonore Newsom has joined Devon SACRE as Pagan representative of Group A and would be replacing Maia Miller.

## 57 **Standards in Schools: Monitoring and Ofsted**

Devon SACRE members received an update on the findings published in recent Ofsted reports, particularly where comments relate to Religious Education (RE), collective worship or Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC) of pupils.

# Agenda Item 2

2

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

6/02/24

It was **NOTED** that Ofsted reports from a number of primary schools made reference to issues relating to RE provision and that two schools had specifically been followed up with regard to comments in their reports and whether assistance could be offered.

Congratulations were offered to ISCA for excellent published GCSE RE results.

It was noted, from national data, that where a higher percentage of the Year 11 cohort was entered for GCSE RS examinations, progress was higher than where a smaller percentage of the cohort were entered for the exam.

During general discussion, the following issues were raised:

- Greater subject knowledge for teachers would be helpful
- The subject title is an issue regards to take up of option subject, whether the title be 'worldviews' or RE.

## 58 Devon and Torbay SACRE - Agreed Syllabus Review and Launch

The Committee **NOTED** that the new syllabus would be completed by the end of March 2024, with a launch programme in the summer term 2024. Schools would teach the new syllabus from September 2024.

Syllabus launch events would be held across Devon and Plymouth on 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024, led by syllabus-writers Fiona Moss and Stephen Pett (RE Today).

The cost of the new syllabus will be £35 per school and it was noted that an electronic copy of the syllabus would be provided to every school in Devon (including academies).

Devon County Council will initially fund the new syllabus and a significant proportion of this cost will be recovered through the 'paid-for' launch events.

Ongoing training for teachers as a follow-up to the introduction of this new syllabus, to be via the Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE) conference and hub meetings.

## 59 Learn Teach Lead RE: Update

During general discussion, the Committee **NOTED** the report and that:

- the next annual conference was scheduled for 11 October 2024, at the St Mellion Conference Centre.



- Hubs have been meeting both in person and also virtually over the last year. Hub leaders training will take place on 1 March and 5 July 2024.
- A number of new hub leaders have been appointed recently, helping to renew the programme.
- The new SWIFT hub continues to be very successful.

Hub Leaders gave an update about the South Devon hub and the Exeter hub, highlighting a visit to the Quaker meeting house by the Exeter hub members and also that both hubs welcome greater involvement by schools.

**60**      **Regional and National Developments: RE Hubs, National Content Standard in RE, Ofsted, Religion and Worldviews frameworks**

During general discussion the Committee **NOTED** the report and that the RE Hubs website was available at <https://www.re-hubs.uk>. Information on the website included courses and events, local groups and how to contact your local hub.

The final version of the Religion and Worldviews handbook for syllabus writers and curriculum developers would be published in May 2024.

The handbook is designed to support RE curriculum leaders in translating the RE Council's vision of an excellent education for all in religion and worldviews into a syllabus. RE syllabus frameworks from three school based teams to be published as part of the document.

**61**      **Devon SACRE Annual Report**

The Committee **NOTED** that the annual report that summed up the work of Devon SACRE 2022-2023 would be sent to schools.

**62**      **Young Ambassadors**

The Committee **NOTED** that the Devon SACRE Advisor and staff at Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust would be undertaking work to train and empower a group of primary and secondary students to become Ambassadors for Freedom of Religion or Belief.

The project aimed that the young Ambassador's would work with the students at Okehampton Primary School and Okehampton College, towards a significant community event in 2024. This would be followed by a visit to Westminster in June 2025 to address MPs and Lords about the importance of RE.

The project is led by the Association of RE Inspectors and Advisers (AREIAC) and funded by Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

# Agenda Item 2

4

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

6/02/24

## 63 Anthony Mangnall MP correspondence

The Committee **NOTED** the letter received from Anthony Mangnall MP addressing the Vice Chair's comments received. It was considered that a follow up letter be sent highlighting the shortage of teachers in secondary schools.

## 64 Holocaust Memorial Day - Feedback from 2024

The Committee **NOTED** the recent Memorial Day events under the theme 'Fragility of Freedom'.

## 65 SACRE Training

Devon SACRE **NOTED** the NASACRE training programme and that the South West Conference would be held in March 2024.

## 66 Future Devon SACRE Meetings

Future meetings to be held on the following dates commencing at 10am

Thursday 20 June 2024

Monday 4 November 2024

The South West SACRE conference to be held online on Monday 4 March 2024.

### **NOTES:**

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*
2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the [webcasting site](#) for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

### **\* DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00am and finished at 12.07pm

**Ofsted reports Jan 2024 – June 2024**

Devon schools

This report shows the comments which have been made in Ofsted reports in areas that relate to the work of SACRE.

<b>Primary School</b>	<b>Grading</b>	<b>Published Date</b>	<b>Ofsted report comments relevant to SACRE monitoring</b>	<b>Comments for SACRE</b>
<b>Rackenford</b>	Good	1/3/24	Pupils do not know as much as they could about other world religions and the lives of others from different families and cultures.	Refer to Exeter Diocese
<b>Orchard Manor</b>	Good	4/3/24		
<b>Willand</b>	Good	7/3/24		
<b>Culmstock</b>	Good	11/3/24	pupils have a limited understanding of fundamental British values, other faiths and cultures, as well as people’s differences.	Contact school
<b>Buckfastleigh</b>	Good	14/3/24	They understand and respect different cultures, faiths, types of families and relationships.	
<b>Princetown</b>	Good	15/3/24	most pupils show respect for those whose beliefs are different from their own.	
<b>Berrynarbour</b>	Good	15/3/24	In religious education, pupils visit different places of worship, such as mosques and synagogues.	
<b>Mrs Ethelstone’s</b>	Good	26/3/24	Pupils develop a strong understanding of community by attending worship at the local church. Those who are part of the ethos committee take pride in organising assemblies. They value staging productions, acting, singing, playing music and baking. This makes them self-assured and deepens their understanding of different cultures.	
<b>Bampton</b>	Good	26/3/24	Pupils learn a well-considered curriculum to support their broader development. The school ensures that pupils have a secure understanding of what is right and wrong. This flows from the ‘character’ curriculum that underpins the school’s ‘virtues.’ Pupils understand the importance of respect and treating people fairly. They learn about a variety of cultures. This helps to prepare them for life in modern Britain.	

<b>St Andrews Cullompton</b>	Good	25/4/24	They develop a strong understanding of community through visits to the church and visitors to their school, such as the fire brigade. Equally, the school invests in pupils' successful understanding of diversity through literature and celebrating culture in cities such as London.	
<b>Buckland Brewer</b>	RI	26/4/24		
<b>Newton Ferres</b>	Good	29/4/24	<p>Pupils are extremely well prepared to be global citizens. They actively contribute within their local community, nationally and towards the wider world. Pupils develop a strong moral code, supported by the exceptional personal development opportunities on offer. They are very kind and welcoming to their peers and adults alike. Pupils are considerate of everyone's needs, guided by their school value of 'love'.</p> <p>pupils enjoy participating in regular discussions and debates.</p> <p>Pupils discuss and debate the importance of fundamental British values knowledgeably. They have an in-depth understanding of issues related to diversity. They are passionate that 'no-one should be discriminated against'.</p> <p>The school's links with other countries helps pupils to fully understand, respect and show empathy towards how other people live.</p>	
<b>Manor, Ivybridge</b>	O/S	29/4/24	Pupils learn about diversity through organisations that work with pupils in the school.	
<b>Highampton</b>	Good	30/4/24	<p>They get to showcase their talents at the annual trust 'festival of hope'.</p> <p>the school organises a Year 6 residential trip to Normandy. Pupils practise speaking French in real-life situations.</p> <p>Pupils learn about a range of faiths through religious education. However, they do not know as much as they could about the lives of others from different families and cultures.</p>	
<b>Stokenham</b>	Good	1/5/24		
<b>Kilmington</b>	RI	3/5/24	They have a good knowledge of faiths and cultures different to their own.	
<b>Woodwater</b>	Good	7/5/24	They have extensive opportunities to gain wider knowledge and skills, such as resilience, teamwork and cultural understanding.	

			Pupils develop a strong understanding of equality and diversity. The school chooses the books that teachers read and the visiting speakers that pupils hear from thoughtfully. This helps pupils to appreciate differences between people. The school helps pupils to be empathetic to each other's needs.	
<b>Bere Alston</b>	Good	8/5/24	They understand why it is important to treat everyone equally.	
<b>Thomas Hall</b>	RI	8/5/24		
<b>Stoke Gabriel</b>	Good	8/5/24	The school provides many opportunities for pupils' broader development. Events like 'international days' raise pupils' awareness of cultures that are different from their own. Despite this, some pupils' understanding of world religions is limited.	
<b>Plymtree</b>	Good	10/5/24	The ethos committee enjoy setting up the church for important events. Sports leaders help to organise the physical education equipment for their lessons. All of this helps them to understand the importance of 'community.' Pupils learn about different religions and places of worship. They are respectful of one another and know that everyone is different.	
<b>Christow</b>	Good	10/5/24	Pupils can articulate their views and opinions extremely well. They develop a strong sense of identity. They are well-prepared to be active members of their communities.	
<b>Spreyton</b>	Good	13/5/24	They are supported to develop their understanding of different cultures.	
<b>East Anstey</b>	Good	14/5/24	The school builds pupils' character and resilience. Pupils are respectful of differences between people. Older pupils have a clear understanding of world religions.	
<b>Farway</b>	RI	15/5/24	The school's curriculum for pupils' personal development is a strength of the school. As a result, pupils know that everyone should be treated equally. Pupils develop strong links with the local community. They value the 'open the book' assemblies delivered by the local church.	
<b>All Saints Marsh</b>	Good	15/5/24	The school's values of compassion and love are reflected in how the school celebrates the diversity of its pupils.	
<b>Tedburn</b>	Good	21/5/24	School councillors lead assemblies and teach their peers about fundamental British values. As a result, pupils have a well-considered view of what democracy and tolerance mean for people around the world.	

			Members of the local church deliver 'open the book' assemblies, which reinforce messages linked to the school values. Pupils understand the importance of contributing to wider society. They are passionate about celebrating and supporting diversity.	
<b>St Andrews, Chardstock</b>	RI	21/5/24	Pupils' understanding of the school values is evident in how they treat one another. They learn about friendship, equality and difference. As a result, pupils understand the importance of treating everyone fairly.	

<b>Secondary School</b>	<b>Grading</b>	<b>Published Date</b>	<b>Ofsted report comments relevant to SACRE monitoring</b>	<b>Comments for SACRE</b>
<b>Teignmouth</b>	Inadequate	25/4/24		
<b>Exmouth</b>	RI	25/4/24	Deep Dive: RE	