

Agreed Syllabus Conference – Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th November, 2017

Present:

Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths

Julie Siddiqi, (Chair), Sue Elbrow, Waqar Bhatti, Hardip Singh Sohal, and Aspreet Singh Nainu

Committee 2 - Church of England

Rev Andrew Allen, Christine Isles and Andrew Sparrow

Committee 3 - Representatives of Teacher Associations

Linda Lewis and Lynda Bussley

Committee 4 - Representatives of the Council

Councillors Brooker and Parmar

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Brooker and Sohal

Chair of the Meeting

The Agreed Syllabus Conference was chaired by Julie Siddiqi, Chair of SACRE.

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 18th June 2012

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 18th June 2012 be approved as a correct record.

2. The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (RE) - Pan Berkshire SACRE led Consultation

Jan Lever, SACRE Advisor updated the Conference on the ongoing syllabus review. Members reviewed the results of the Pan-Berkshire SACRE led Consultation conducted in the 2017 Summer term. The results showed that broadly, teachers favoured the syllabus to remain unchanged.

During discussion it was noted that the issue of ethos and values needed to be highlighted to ensure a robust response to young people experiencing issues of racism through ignorance/lack of understanding. It was considered that through SACRE, young people could be encouraged to speak openly about their experiences and be confident in reporting. SACRE could nurture ethos and values in school through Religious Education (RE), which was part of British Values being promoted in schools in relation to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Members were informed that Slough Council would imminently be appointing a Prevent Officer who would work with young people to promote trust and confidence in relation to sensitive subject of violent extremism.

3. Pan Berkshire Agreed Syllabus RE Review 2017 - Points to Consider

The Pan Berkshire Agreed Syllabus for RE Review 2017 – Points to Consider was noted.

Members discussed the issue of RE not being assessed but considered that a more 'shared value' approach could be developed by including a Support and Guidance Section in the Agreed Syllabus. It was noted that in particular, guidance for Key Stage (KS3) was critical, on how to make judgement in relation to assessing RE.

4. Religious Education: Realising the Potential - Ofsted Report

The report on Religious Education: Realising the Potential – Ofsted report was noted.

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 7 March 2018, directly following the meeting of the SACRE.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 6.01 pm and closed at 6.39 pm)