

Date of issue: Wednesday, 26 October 2022

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| <b>MEETING</b>  | <b>STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b><br><br><b>Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths</b><br>Ashpreet Singh Nainu (Chair), Sue Elbrow, Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan, Waqar Bhatti, Shujah Hamid, Momade Faizal, Karen Appleby and Hardip Singh Sohal<br><br><b>Committee 2 – Church of England</b><br>Lynda Bussley (Vice-Chair), Rev Gordon Briggs, Christine Isles and Andrea Sparrow<br><br><b>Committee 3 – Teachers (Representing Primary, Secondary &amp; Special Schools)</b><br>Munsoor Malik – Primary<br>Priya Lamba – Primary<br>Ian Sharpe - Secondary<br><br><b>Committee 4 – Representatives of the LEA</b><br>Councillors Akbar, Bal, Basra, Brooker and Smith<br><br><b>Humanist Non-Voting Co-opted Member</b><br>Robin Launder |
| <b>DATE AND TIME:</b>   | THURSDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 4.30 PM  |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | VIRTUAL MEETING  |
| <b>DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER:</b><br><b>(for all enquiries)</b> | NADIA WILLIAMS<br>07749 709 961  |

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are requested to attend the above Meeting at the time and date indicated to deal with the business set out in the following agenda.

**STEPHEN BROWN**  
Chief Executive



# AGENDA

## PART I

| <u>AGENDA<br/>ITEM</u> | <u>REPORT TITLE</u>   | <u>PAGE</u> |
|------------------------|---|-------------|
|                        | Apologies for absence.  |             |
| 1.                     | Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 July 2022   | 1 - 6       |
| 2.                     | Matters Arising   | -           |
| 3.                     | Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2022                                     | 7 - 8       |
| 4.                     | Draft SACRE Action Plan 2022-2023   | 9 - 10      |
| 5.                     | Autumn Term 2022 RE Newsletter  | 11 - 18     |
| 6.                     | Draft Slough SACRE Annual Report 2020-2021  | To follow   |
| 7.                     | Collective Worship Document and Monitoring Update   | -           |
| 8.                     | Equality and Diversity - Resources  | -           |
| 9.                     | SACRE Membership Update   | -           |
| 10.                    | SACRE Membership News (An update from members regarding activities undertaken since the last SACRE meeting) | -           |
| 11.                    | SACRE Members' Attendance Record  | 19 - 20     |
| 12.                    | Information Item: Interfaith Week 2022: 13 - 20 November 2022   |             |
|                        | <a href="#">150 days to go to Inter Faith Week 2022! (mailchi.mp)</a>                                       |             |
| 13.                    | Date of Next Meeting: 15 March 2023   |             |

## **Press and Public**

This meeting will be held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. Part I of this meeting will be live streamed as required by the regulations. The press and public can access the meeting from the following link (by selecting the meeting you wish to view):

<http://democracy.slough.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

Please note that the meeting may be recorded. By participating in the meeting by audio and/or video you are giving consent to being recorded and acknowledge that the recording will be in the public domain.

The press and public will not be able to view any matters considered during Part II of the agenda.

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**Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th July, 2022.**

**Present:-**

**Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths**

Ashpreet Singh Nainu (Chair), Sue Elbrow, Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan, Waqar Bhatti, Shujah Hamid and Hardip Singh Sohal

**Committee 2 – Church of England**

Lynda Bussley (Vice-Chair) and Christine

**Committee 3 – Teachers (Representing Primary, Secondary & Special Schools)**

Munsoor Malik – Primary

**Committee 4 – Representatives of the LEA**

Councillors Akbar, Bal, Basra, Brooker, and Smith

**Apologies for Absence:-** Karen Appleby, Rev Gordon Briggs, Andrea Sparrow, Priya Lamba, Ian Sharpe and Robin Launder

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Robert Harrap and Momade Faizal who were both attending as observers.

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 9 March 2022**

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2022 be agreed as a correct record.

*(Lynda Bussley joined the meeting)*

**2. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3. SACRE Summer Term 2022 RE Newsletter**

The SACRE Summer Term 2022 RE Newsletter was noted. It covered local as well as national issues. Members were invited to submit items for inclusion in the autumn term publication to be received by the end of August 2022.

*(Sue Elbrow was experienced IT issues and had difficulty joining the meeting).*

**Resolved** – That the SACRE Summer Term 2022 RE Newsletter be noted.

**4. Update on Response from Schools to purchase Artefacts from RE Online Catalogue by 31 March 2022**

The SACRE Professional (Adviser) reported that there had been no uptake from schools on the offer of purchasing artefacts from the Online Catalogue by the deadline of 31 March 2022.

The Group Manager for School Effectiveness (GMSE) confirmed that no invoices had been received from RE Online.

The Chair suggested that a template for requesting RE resources should be sent to all schools to encourage teachers to bid for funding for resources. It was also acknowledged that a template should be attached to the Newsletter as this would be an effective way of enabling teachers to submit requests.

*(Shujah Hamid – dipped in & out of the meeting)*

**5. Draft SACRE Action Plan 2022-23**

The Adviser provided an update of the Action Plan for 2022 and highlighted the following:

- The SACRE 2020-21 Annual report had previously been provided in draft.
- He had attended the NASCRE AGM in May 2022.
- As well as other actions undertaken, considerable work had been undertaken to support the SACRE Hub.
- It had not been possible to hold a Hub conference for teachers in 2022, but anticipated that a conference would be held in 2023, as having a conference would be very helpful for teachers.

In response to a question about the possibility of visiting schools in relation to collective worship, it was noted that there was still an on-going debate about this issue, but meanwhile, a Collective Worship Guidance document had been co-produced with another borough, which provided advice and guidance in relation to visitors to schools. The Adviser would seek permission to circulate the document to SACRE members to review. Response relating to the guidance would be expected from senior leadership, and not RE teachers or co-coordinators.

The SACRE discussed that a simple survey could be conducted to get feedback from senior leaders in schools in Slough and their details could be found on the schools' websites. In addition, consideration could be given to promoting the survey as part of schools' enrichment days.

**Resolved:**

- i) That the update be noted.

## Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 13.07.22

- ii) That the Professional Adviser conduct a survey on collective worship.

### 6. SACRE Finance Update

The GMSE provided a Finance update and advised that the under spend of £3,000 from 2021 could not be carried over into 2022-23 financial year. The SACRE was urged to consider future expenditure and for funding to be allocated at an early stage to avoid the issue of unspent funding arising.

It was suggested that consideration could be given to including the SACRE allocated funding as part of the Hub Contribution (via the Oxford Diocese) from which SACRE could draw down expenditure. The GMSE would make enquires and feedback to the SACRE once a response had been received.

During discussion, it was highlighted that collect worship was of a Christian nature and this had not changed, but was now of a broadly Christian worship.

In respect to costings it was agreed that the following should be included in the costings:

- One day for survey analysis
- Set up a half-day session for a questions and answer for senior leadership teams from schools
- Set up a further half-day for the SACRE Professional Adviser to give advice
- Invite schools to bid for funding for resources to support RE teaching.

It was highlighted that additional network meetings had taken place during the pandemic and the SACRE agreed that the increased network meetings should continue. A teacher commented that she had found the network meetings very useful.

After reviewing the costings, the GMSE advised that £2.5k was remaining and consideration should be given as to how the money should be spent. The Chair added that schools should be invited via the autumn term newsletter to bid for help with funding for needed resources to support RE teaching.

#### **Resolved;**

- i) That the update be noted
- ii) That the additional costing listed above be agreed.

### 7. SACRE Membership Update

The Clerk confirmed that Karen Appleby had been officially appointed to the SACRE as a member representing Judaism.

## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 13.07.22**

Through the Chair, Mr Faisal provided further details about himself and explained that he was the Head of IT at Ditton Park and had taught privately. He had also been a manager at the JMIC Slough Islamic Centre (Stoke Poges Mosque) for over 5 years and visited and made presentations to teachers at many schools.

The Chair reported that he had invited Mr Harrap to attend this meeting as an observer during a visit at his school. The SACRE heard that Mr Harrap had been a member of SGI Buddhism for over 35 years and had been the director at SGI Taplow since December 2013. It was noted that there were many members who lived in Slough and Mr Harrap would welcome the appointment of a member who lived close to Slough as a co-opted member in the future.

When asked whether there were any centres in Slough and the number of people who attended from Slough, Mr Harrap explained that the nearest centre was based in Taplow with approximately 150 people attending from the whole of Berkshire. It was noted that between 30-40 people from Slough attended the SGI – UK National Centre in Taplow. It was confirmed that enquires about the centre had been received from a school Burhan Grammar) in the past.

**Resolved** – That the updates be noted.

### **8. SACRE Membership News (An update from members regarding activities undertaken since the last SACRE meeting)**

The Chair reported that he had met with Waqar Bhatti and Momade Faizal on the previous day to discuss services that could be offered to their schools. Through the Chair, Mr Faizal explained that he had visited many schools to provide support in relation to Islam and noted that schools had limited materials. This often meant that teachers purchased resources from their personal budgets, and may sometimes not be certain that the information being referred to was correct.

From the meeting, it was proposed that PowerPoints would be made for teachers to ensure that the information being provide was in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus as well as providing ideas to help teachers, free of charge. It was expected that SACRE members and teachers would be involved in the process.

During discussion, it was noted that the information should be included in the Crossing the Bridges Directory, as well as the SACRE newsletters.

The Vice-Chair reported that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee party which took place in June 2022 had been a great success as a wider community event. Councillor (Cllr) Akbar reported that she had also attended the event, which brought the community together. She suggested that a similar event should be arranged around Ramadan.



## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 13.07.22**

Members were encouraged to submit details regarding any event that they wished to promote, to be sent to the Adviser.

Cllr Brooker reported that he had been re-elected as Church Warden at his Church.

The Chair reported that he was undertaking the Department for Education (DfE) funded SKE programmes (at the University of London), which included RE for teachers who wished to increase their subject knowledge.

It reported that the Jo Curd (GMSE) was attending her last meeting as she would be moving on to pastures new.

Lynda Bussley announced that this too may be her last meeting, as she was planning to move to Summerset but this was yet to be finalised.

**Resolved** – That the updates be noted.

### **9. Equality and Diversity - Resources**

The Adviser reported that equality and diversity resources were regularly reviewed, and updates were provided via links in the SACRE newsletters. Updates were also provided in the NASACRE – SACRE Briefings.

**Resolved** – That the updates be noted.

### **10. Information Items: Latest News and Updates from NASACRE - SACRE Briefing Issue 31**

**Resolved** – That the NASACRE latest news and update: SACRE Briefing Issue 31 be noted.

### **11. Date of Next Meeting: 3 November 2022**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 3 November 2022.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 4.30 pm and closed at 6.01 pm)

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# SACRE HUB MINUTES

05 September 2022 via Teams – 16.00-17.30

Members: David Taylor (W Berks); Mark Laynesmith (Reading); Stephen Vegh (Wokingham); Beth Rowland (Wokingham); Gareth Barnard (Bracknell); Madeline Diver (Bracknell); Karen Butler (RBWM); Christine Isles (Slough); Sue Elbow (Slough); Ashpreet Singh (Slough)

Advisers: David Rees (W Berks, Reading, Slough); Angela Hill (Wokingham); Anne Andrews (Bracknell, RBWM)

Apologies: Angela Hill, Mark Laynesmith, Ashpreet Singh, Beth Rowland

1. Welcome, minutes from previous meeting and apologies  
Previous minutes were accepted as all matters were going to be covered in the agenda.
2. Update on Humanist film and dates for Baha'i filming if confirmed. Progress on any other filming venues.  
Humanist film has not yet been made available. AA to follow up with Jerry Curd.  
Buddhist – 29 September AA can attend and will email for teachers.  
Baha'i - November date tbc  
Salvation army – DT to explore as Slough is undergoing a change of leadership.  
Orthodox – ML still to chase – two further contacts may be forthcoming from RBWM  
SACRE members.  
AA to ask AH if we can have further stats on the use of the films but it was suggested that advisers running networks could get people who use the films to talk about them and how they use them.  
It was also proposed that AA and DR use Twitter to advertise the films, especially near a festival for that religion.
3. Syllabus review:
  - a. Feedback on any of the syllabuses that people have looked at  
Some syllabuses were looked at and were found to be very different, both in content, format, and size. Various syllabuses had been looked at – Norfolk, Hampshire, Bucks, Bedford, Oxford, Birmingham. There were things that were good, particularly in the Norfolk and Bucks – two of the newest. Some seemed not to be written in teacher friendly language. It was concluded that there is much to be gleaned from looking at the newest ones and DR will send some out, particularly those that he thinks are good.



- b. Feedback from documentation shared i.e., the REC draft handbook/ resource. This was a brief item, as it was decided that as this document is still provisional and not guaranteed to be approved, it was something to take note of. There are also other things to take note of – the Barbara Wintersgill Big Ideas being one of those.
  - c. Suggested way forward to put to SACRE meetings this term. This is proving quite challenging as the world of RE seems to be in so much flux at the moment. The suggestion was proposed for AA to create a chart with the current syllabus questions and send to each SACRE to share with a request for Group A and B members to think about the content that pupils would need to know to be able to explore those questions. These concepts will then be moderated by advisers and teachers as it is recognized that faith members may not have educational expertise. This document will be sent to SACREs by end of September to be sent out to members of the relevant groups to be done in advance of the SACRE meetings after half-term and to be returned to the advisers following that meeting.  
Additionally, SACREs are asked to find out from the LA how much money will be put aside for the syllabus review and whether this is time limited. These two things are the keys for the November/December meetings, prior to final decisions about the way forward.
  - d. AA will consider drawing up a syllabus review timeline in the light of the current discussions.
4. BlogSpot – further thoughts on use – AS ML was unable to join us due to Covid this item will be picked up at the next meeting
  5. NASACRE SEF – further thoughts on use – SACREs are considering how they will use this; RBWM will begin the process at the meeting on 06-09-2022
  6. AOB – KB raised the question about survey for teachers on training. AA confessed that it had not yet been produced but she has added it to the diary to do this week.
  7. Date of next meeting – would need to follow the returns from the concept/content charts and so will be scheduled for early December, after 8 December as that is date of RBWM SACRE meeting.

Proposed dates:       Monday 12 December at 4 pm  
                                  Tuesday 13 December at 4 pm  
                                  Wednesday 14 December at 4 pm

Please let me know as soon as possible which of those are possible.

**Slough SACRE action plan: 2022-3 – Updated Sept 2022 – draft**

| <b>Aim</b>   | <b>Actions</b>  | <b>Timescales</b>   | <b>People Responsible</b>   | <b>Cost</b>   | <b>Autumn 2022</b>  | <b>Spring 2023</b>   | <b>Summer 2023</b>    |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>A. CORE BUSINESS</b><br><br>To be a supportive and proactive SACRE enjoying full and well-informed membership | 1. Fill membership vacancies  | Ongoing   | SACRE Chair<br>SACRE Clerk  |   | This is an ongoing issue – reviewed at each meeting   |  |                       |
|  | 2. SACRE members attend termly SACRE meetings (3 per year) and, when possible, teacher meetings and training events | Termly SACRE meetings:<br>Autumn 2022<br>Spring 2023<br>Summer 2023 | SACRE Chair/SACRE Adviser<br>SACRE members<br>SACRE Clerk                         | SACRE Adviser to prepare and attend 3 x1 day<br><br>SACRE Clerk to administer each meeting  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> November  | 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023  | TBD                   |
|  | 3. Produce annual SACRE Report  | Autumn Term 2022  | SACRE Adviser and clerk with foreword by SACRE Chair (input welcome from members) | SACRE Adviser x ½ day   | Bring draft to Autumn 2022 meeting<br>Send to NASACRE by Jan 2023   |  |                       |
|  | 4. Review the action plan at each meeting   | At each SACRE meeting   | SACRE Adviser and SACRE   | SACRE Adviser time  | At each SACRE meeting   | At each SACRE meeting  | At each SACRE meeting |
|  | 5. Subscribe to NASACRE Representation at annual NASACRE conference & AGM Attend other relevant and useful events   | Ongoing   | SACRE members<br><br>SACRE Adviser<br><br>Adviser to find out and inform          | Subscription to NASACRE £105 - <i>NASACRE Conference and AGM</i><br><i>SACRE Adviser time to attend NASACRE conference x1 day</i> | Annual Subscription rate £105   | NASACRE AGM Monday 23 May 2022 Virtual<br>SACRE RE Adviser attended<br><br><i>NASACRE AGM 2023 TBA</i> |                       |
|  | 6. Monitor and offer guidance on Collective Worship in schools  | ongoing   | SACRE   | TBD   | At each meeting SACRE to discuss ways of monitoring and supporting collective worship – Advise to share guidance produced from other SACREs for member s to consider. |  |                       |
| <b>B. To support teachers of RE to continually</b>   | 1. Provide a termly RE network meeting for Slough teachers  | ongoing   | SACRE RE Adviser  | Adviser time – prep and delivery<br>6x ½ days   | Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October & 15 <sup>th</sup> November   | TBD  | TBD                   |

|                                      |  |   |  |  |  |          |            |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|----------|------------|
| improve RE learning in their schools | 2. Produce an RE newsletter combining info, events and good practice – absorb NASACRE info | Termly  | SACRE Adviser – SACRE members to offer suggestions                                 | Adviser time to organise and design 3x ½ day | Sept 2022  | Jan 2023 | April 2023 |
|                                      | 3. Maintain a database of school RE leaders  | Ongoing but instigated in Autumn term as roles change | TBD -Adviser will keep a copy for direct distribution of RE resources and updates. | TBD – admin role?                            | Updates at each SACRE meeting – request for input ideas form SACRE members   |          |            |
|                                      |  |   |  |  | An update could be given at each meeting – discussion needed as to how to obtain the information.<br>Requests sent out to schools via newsletter |          |            |

**Slough SACRE action plan: 2022-23 – Updated July 2022 – draft**

| Aim  | Actions  | Timescales                         | People Responsible                            | Cost   | Summer 2022   | Autumn 2022 | Spring 2023 |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------|-------------|
| C.<br>To support the ongoing work of the Pan Berkshire Hub | Consolidate and develop the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub.                       | Next hub meeting – TBA             | Slough SACRE members to attend where possible | Part of the hub commitment - £900 paid to Oxford diocese – reviewed yearly | To become a SACRE agenda item at each meeting   |             |             |
|  | Monitor agreed syllabus and prepare for review                             | 5-year cycle                       | ASC formed as part of the Hub                 | Advisor time? Or SACRE members on ASC?                                     | Falls under the remit of the Pan Berks Hub as of writing  |             |             |
|  | Consolidate and develop the Crossing the Bridges directory                 | ongoing                            | SACRE members to link with faith communities  | Hub will need someone to take charge of this.                              | To become a SACRE agenda item at each meeting<br>This could be housed on the Pan Berkshire blog   |             |             |
|  | Contribute to the development of the 'Real People, Real faith' video clips | Ongoing (extended due to lockdown) | SACRE members                                 | Part of the hub contribution – follow up work could be commissioned        | Updates at each meeting as part of Hub update<br>Videos now hosted by NATRE – new clips recently made and will continue to be made          |             |             |
|  | Inform schools and contribute to /participate in Hub conference            | Potentially TBD                    | SACRE members<br>Hub links<br>SACRE Adviser   | Unknown?   | Updates at each meeting<br>'Real People Real Faith' successfully launched – advertised in networks and newsletters – more clips to be added |             |             |

## Slough SACRE

### Autumn

#### Autumn Term 2022 RE Newsletter

Welcome to the new SACRE RE newsletter. We hope you all had a good summer and managed to get some rest away from screens for a while!

We are aware that a new school year sometimes also means a new RE co-ordinator – at SACRE we are keen to make contact with all the RE leaders in schools so kindly ask if you could let the SACRE adviser for RE David Rees know the **name and school email for the RE lead**. Even if there is no change it is useful for us to know the RE leaders so we can keep our records up to date – it will also enable SACRE to send information about free RE network meetings directly to RE leaders as well as being able to offer support should it be required. Please send the details to the SACRE Adviser for RE, David Rees, - [david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com)

We are very grateful to those schools who have already done this and look forward to engaging with their RE leads during the year

SACRE was pleased to be able to send a book around to all RE leaders last year and is always looking for opportunities to support schools by finding RE resources for classroom use. With this in mind SACRE is keen to know if there are specific artefacts that are needed for teaching RE. We all know how important it is to use artefacts and how these can engage curiosity in children. Please let David know if there are any specific artefacts which are needed for RE teaching and SACRE will try to find providers from within the faith communities.

SACRE is aware that there is some amazing RE work happening in the area and would love to hear some success stories whether it is a drop-down day, specific module of work, REQM award or other RE event. If anyone would like to share these with David, he will pass them on to SACRE. If anyone would like to come and talk to SACRE about their RE then please contact David.

### LOCAL NEWS

#### Virtual Networks

SACRE is supporting RE by running virtual RE networks as twilight sessions each term – these are run by the RE Adviser to SACRE David Rees. If you would like to attend any of these or receive information about support for RE, please email David on [david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:david@reesuk.onmicrosoft.com)

The first primary RE network meeting will be on **Tuesday October 4th** and will be held virtually. If you would like to attend, please email David to book a place

Network dates for the Autumn term

- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 4-5pm
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 4-5pm

## **Pan Berkshire Hub update (Free video clips– new ones added)**

The Pan Berkshire Hub (a group consisting of members of 6 Berkshire SACRES) continues to meet and work together to help provide support and resources to help Berkshire teachers. The Hub produced some excellent free teaching resources in the form of video clips and support notes.

The '**Real People, Real Faith project**' Key Stage 1-3 classroom resources have been available for teachers to use since April 2021. The project set out to ask believers from different places of worship and religion and worldview communities questions about their faith and how it impacts on daily life – these were professionally filmed and edited with the classroom in mind. Teacher notes were also developed to accompany each video clip.

The Questions asked were

*Question 1 - What Symbols are important to you?*

*Question 2 - What stories are important to you?*

The first batch of video clips were from the following worldviews

- Church of England
- Baptist
- Hinduism
- Islam - Sunni
- Roman Catholic
- Sikhism
- Islam – Shi'a
- Judaism - reform
- Judaism - Orthodox

New clips have recently been released (June 2022) including

A clip featuring Humanism is currently in the editing process and other representation from other religions and worldviews are being actively explored

Each film has a page of notes outlining the key questions and concepts, with a brief summary of the answers and some suggested follow-on activities. Many of the clips will help schools address some of the big questions suggested in the locally agreed syllabus.

The resources are kindly hosted on the NATRE website and can be accessed by following the link below.

<https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/real-people-real-faith/>

They can also be found on the Pan Berkshire blog page -

<https://berkshiresacrehub.blogspot.com/>

Please use these to help your teaching and feel free to feedback comments or suggestions to David. If any of you have developed teaching activities to link these further to the agreed syllabus questions, then we would love to hear from you.

## **Crossing the bridges**

Crossing the Bridges was a Pan Berkshire SACRE project undertaken several years ago designed to help schools connect with local religion and worldview communities. Part of the process included creating a database of contacts for as many local places of worship as possible. Some templates were also designed to help schools plan and experience visits to places of worship. The database of contacts needs to be updated and hopefully this will begin in earnest this year. The school visit templates are still available and should help make a visit more educational and rewarding.

These templates are available in several locations including the pan Berkshire blog page

<https://berkshiresacrehub.blogspot.com/>



and the Discovery RE website

<https://discoveryschemeofwork.com/crossing-the-bridges/>

### **RE Teachers conference**

The Pan Berkshire SACREs have run RE teacher conferences in the past but these stopped during the pandemic -it is hoped that a conference may be run in this academic year for RE Teachers – please let the RE Adviser know if this would be of interest and also if there are specific areas that you would like to see covered.

### **Discovery RE**

Discovery RE is medium term RE programme for Key Stages 1&2 which has enquiry-based units covering up to eight different religions and worldviews. It also has a supportive website and community area which has resource ideas, knowledge organisers and background information for teachers. Discovery RE also has a dedicated team of RE mentors all of whom are or were RE teachers.

Further details can be found here- <https://discoveryschemeofwork.com/>

This year Discovery RE will be expanded to become a bigger short-term scheme for RE

### **Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is an area which schools often seek support for. SACRE is aware that it was difficult for schools to provide this when the pandemic hit and, in the aftermath, it is possible that it may have dropped off the radar a bit. SACRE is working on ways to offer support and suggestions.

SACRE welcomes the opportunity to hear from schools about their Collective worship provision so please do contact the RE adviser if you would like to share any good practice.

### **REQM**

**The RE Quality Mark (REQM)** is a great way to celebrate RE in your school – and to demonstrate how RE can take a lead in overall school improvement. The Quality Mark can be used in any sector, phase or setting, and it is now in its tenth year of accrediting schools across England and Wales and is managed by the RE Council of England and Wales.

There are four strands to the award and the criteria cover Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Leadership at Bronze, Silver or Gold levels. Schools are the leaders in the award process, downloading evidence forms for completion as part of their school improvement plan, and applying online for the award when they are ready for a virtual visit from an experienced assessor.

Pupil and student voices play an important role in the evidence gathering, and the REQM team have supplied questionnaires to use with different groups.

If you look at the cost (£475) as a fee for the CPD that your school can benefit from during the process, schools say it is good value. The fee has to be paid before your award visit, but all the materials are freely available on the website.

CStG RE Online Resource of the month recently concerned the REQM award – in the resource 2 strands are explored - RE Quality Mark – Teaching and Learning Strands

- <https://www.reonline.org.uk/leadership/resource-of-the-month/> - the resources has 2 PowerPoints which can be downloaded

The REQM recently celebrated its 10-year anniversary and has seen an upsurge in numbers of schools applying. It provides an excellent auditing tool for schools and even though costs to apply will raise the status of RE in a school and offer the opportunity to showcase some of the excellent work being done in RE.

RE Online recently included a blog by Matthew Lane about his experiences in going through the REQM process for the gold award – his blog can be accessed here

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/2022/07/05/gold-award-primary/>

### **Free Online Support and upcoming events**

**RE Online** <https://www.reonline.org.uk/>

RE Online is a free quality-controlled website designed to support teachers with many different aspects of teaching and leading RE

Recently RE Online has produced some free short, self-study courses – these courses are designed to help develop the RE teacher/leader whilst allowing them to work at their own pace and with the time they have at their disposal. These are designed for teachers in all phases and all school types and offer a wide range of support and inspiration for the classroom.

<https://courses.cstg.org.uk/>

The courses are divided into 3 sections – each section takes roughly 60-90 mins and can be paused and returned to

- **Introduction to Religion and Worldviews** - This course provides an introduction to what is happening in Religious Education right now, covering the most recent report into the subject and the thinking behind a new approach to teaching and learning in the subject.
- **Introduction to Curriculum** - This is a basic introduction to the purpose of the curriculum, the role of knowledge in the curriculum, progression and subject specialism in Religion and Worldviews.
- **Introduction to research** - This course is aimed at teachers as a general introduction to educational research and its purpose for both the classroom and wider understanding.

A key part of RE Online is the link to the SHAP **festivals calendar**

The calendar includes festivals from a wide range of religions and worldviews. It includes background information to the festivals and often links to other resources which would help in the classroom

In the next few weeks, the following festivals are celebrated so please check the calendar if you are planning to teach about them – everything included is free

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Autumn equinox – September 22nd            | • Yom Kippur - October 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| • Harvest festival – September 25th          | • Prophet Muhammad's birthday – October 8 <sup>th</sup> (Sunni) or 13 <sup>th</sup> (Shi'a) |
| • Rosh Hashanah – September 26 <sup>th</sup> | • Sukkot – October 10 <sup>th</sup>   |
| • Navaratri – September 27 <sup>th</sup>     | • Simchat Torah – October 18 <sup>th</sup>  |
| • Durga Puja – October 4 <sup>th</sup>       |   |

- Divali – October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Anniversary of the birth of the Bab – October 26<sup>th</sup>
- Anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah – October 27<sup>th</sup>
- Birthday of Guru Nanak – November 8<sup>th</sup>
- Hanukah – December 19<sup>th</sup>

The calendar can be accessed via this link  
<https://www.reonline.org.uk/festival-calendar/>

**Humanists UK** - <https://humanists.uk/education/>

The Humanists UK website has an excellent education section - For free, downloadable teaching resources, including lesson plans, classroom activities, presentations, videos, and humanist perspectives on a range of topics studied in school, visit the website Understanding Humanism.

<https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/>

Teachers can also find guidance and information about CPD opportunities including free online courses.

**Holocaust Memorial Day 2023**

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. They promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) – the international day on **27 January** to remember the victims of genocide past and present recognising that genocide must still be resisted every day. In the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all.

HMD is for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future. We know they learn more, empathise more and do more.

*Ordinary People* is the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2023.

Genocide is facilitated by ordinary people. Ordinary people turn a blind eye, believe propaganda, join murderous regimes. And those who are persecuted, oppressed and murdered in genocide aren't persecuted because of crimes they've committed – they are persecuted simply because they are ordinary people who belong to a particular group (e.g., Roma, Jewish community, Tutsi).

Please check the website for information on classroom resources and regional activities  
<https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

Ordinary people were involved in all aspects of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups, and in the genocides that took place in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. Ordinary people were perpetrators, bystanders, rescuers, witnesses – and ordinary people were victims.

**Anti-Bullying week**

Anti-Bullying Week 2022 will take place from *Monday 14th - Friday 18th November* with the theme 'Reach Out'. The theme of Reach Out came about following consultation with teachers and pupils. Teachers and children wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. RE as a subject includes many opportunities to explore equality and challenge discrimination in any form.

The anti-bullying alliance website has lots of information and downloadable resources which could be useful in schools including a '50 ideas for schools' document – these can all be found here <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

### **Interfaith week 2022**

Inter Faith Week takes place this year from *Sunday 13th to Sunday 20th November*. It aims to strengthen good interfaith relations, increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities, and increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs. Central to these aims is celebrating and building on the contribution which members of different faith and non-faith communities make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society. Each year thousands take part directly in Inter Faith Week activities, and millions encounter the week's positive messages through social media.

The website has information about the history of Interfaith week as well as resources and activities

<https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/ideas>

### **Resources/CPD/events**

- The **BBC teach** website has free teacher classroom resources suitable for use in religious studies lessons with primary school children at  
Key Stage 1 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks1-religious-studies/zmtvwtw>  
Key Stage 2 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks2-religious-studies/z6pbqp3>  
Key Stage 3 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks3-religious-studies/z72qf4j>  
Key Stage 4 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/gcse-national-5-religious-studies/zhptri6>  
These cover a wide variety of religions, worldviews and ethics
- The **North-East Religious Learning Resources Centre's** YouTube channel has a variety of interesting films that might improve subject knowledge or be of help in the classroom. Look at the tour around an Orthodox synagogue. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DW52sJ\\_5DMA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DW52sJ_5DMA)
- **CDEC and Cumbria SACRE** have produced a collection of virtual tours of religious and spiritual sites to help RE teachers and students discover more about faith. The places included range from those in Cumbria, to fantastic examples further afield. There are also ideas for helping pupils search for and explore other sites too.  
<https://www.cdec.org.uk/use-our-resources/films-and-virtual-tours/virtual-tours/>
- **Sikh SKE** - If you feel you have the potential to be an excellent secondary specialist teacher but that you don't have the right degree to teach a certain subject, the SKE programmes at the University of East London are designed to give you the depth of knowledge you'll need to teach your chosen subject. The flexible programmes last up to 24 weeks and are aimed at those who have already been offered a conditional place on a postgraduate initial teacher training (ITT) course, subject to completion of an SKE programme. As a minimum, the SKE programmes are the equivalent of eight weeks' full-time study. Some are longer depending on whether you need to top up your subject knowledge or need something more in-depth.

<https://www.uel.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/teacher-training/subject-knowledge-enhancement-programmes>

## **Social Media**

As you might imagine there are many RE based groups on different Social Media platforms – these include...

### *Facebook*

- Respect: The subject community for RE professionals
- Primary RE – for everyone teaching Re in primary – NATRE
- Special RE NATRE group – for educators in Special Education
- RE in the South West- Facebook
- RE Teachers forum - Facebook
- RE Teachers in South Central – Facebook– linked to NATREs regional ambassadors

### *Twitter*

- @RE:Online – RE Online updates and info from Culham St Gabriel's' Trust
- #REChatUK twitter forum – this occurs the first Monday of every month in term time.
- TeamRE - @TeamRE
- Learn Teach Lead RE - @ltlre
- REC – Religious Education Council - @RECouncil

The next newsletter should be out at the start of the next term in January – SACRE wishes you all a successful and enjoyable term.

David Rees  
RE Adviser to SACRE

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**SACRE MEMBERS ATTENDANCE RECORD 2022/23**

| <b>Member</b>        | <b>Representing</b>    | <b>13.07.22</b> | <b>3.10.22</b> | <b>15.03.23</b> |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Sue Elbrow           | The Free Churches      | P – IT issues   |                |                 |
| Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan  | Islam                  | P               |                |                 |
| Waqar Bhatti         | Islam                  | P               |                |                 |
| Shujah Hamid         | Islam                  | P               |                |                 |
| Hardip Singh Sohal   | Sikhism                | P               |                |                 |
| Ashpreet Singh Nainu | Sikhism                | P               |                |                 |
| Rev Gordon Briggs    | The Church of England  | Ap              |                |                 |
| Lynda Bussley        | The Church of England  | P               |                |                 |
| Christine Isles      | The Church of England  | P               |                |                 |
| Andrea Sparrow       | The Church of England  | Ap              |                |                 |
| Munsoor Malik        | Primary                | P               |                |                 |
| Priya Lamba          | Primary                | Ap              |                |                 |
| Ian Sharpe           | Secondary              | Ap              |                |                 |
| Robin Launder        | Co-opted               | Ap              |                |                 |
| Councillor Akbar     | Slough Borough Council | P               |                |                 |
| Councillor Bal       | Slough Borough Council | P               |                |                 |
| Councillor Basra     |                        | P               |                |                 |
| Councillor Brooker   | Slough Borough Council | P               |                |                 |
| Councillor Smith     | Slough Borough Council | P               |                |                 |
|                      |                        |                 |                |                 |
| David Rees           | Professional Adviser   | P               |                |                 |

P = Present for whole meeting  
Ap = Apologies given

P\* = Present for part of meeting  
Ab = Absent, no apologies given

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