

Agreed Syllabus Conference – Meeting held on Wednesday, 6th March, 2024.

Present:-

Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths

Ashpreet Singh Nainu (Chair), Sue Elbrow and Momade Faizal

Committee 2 – Church of England

Christine Isles and Andrea Sparrow

Committee 3 – Representatives of Teacher Associations

Andrew Ramsey – Secondary

Committee 4 – Representatives of the LEA

Councillor (Cllr) Instone

In attendance: Cllr E.Ahmed and Cllr Akram, and Munsoor Malik

Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Mohindra

PART 1

1. Appointment of Chair

Ashpreet Singh Nainu proposed, Christine Isles Seconded and was agreed that Andrew Ramsey be appointed Chair of the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

Resolved – That Andrew Ramsey be appointed Chair of the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Councillor (Cllr) Mohindra.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 27 June 2018

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

4. Syllabus Proposals for Comments

David Rees, the SACRE Professional Adviser (Adviser) updated members on the progress of the ongoing syllabus review led by the Pan-Berkshire Hub, Joint Syllabus Conference (JSC).

Members were invited to review the most recent version of the Pan-Berkshire Syllabus proposal (v9). The updated version had been circulated as Supplementary Papers.

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Comments received would be submitted for inclusion by the Adviser, who was a member of the JCB review team. Members were informed that at this stage, comments were being sought on the content of the document.

Some of the comments received included:

- In relation to Orthodox belief – It was noted that this would be included as part of the supplementary guidance, together with detailed supporting materials.
- Requested for more world views to be included – It was confirmed that there was also a proposal to incorporate present day RE, which would be reflected through recommendation in the Agreed Syllabus.
- Comments relating to KS (Key Stage) 4 and 5 would be sent directly to the Adviser separately.
- Questioned what the position was in relation to Abrahamic religions.
- Suggested that there was a lack of stories from the Old Testament.

During discussion, it was noted that the revised Agreed Syllabus would provide teachers with expanded content compared to the current document.

It was noted that in relation to the KS4 and KS5, more options were needed and these would be discuss further at the JSC meeting on 20 March 2024.

Members were urged to send further comments to David Rees, the Adviser by 19 March prior to the JSC meeting on 20 March.

The Agreed Syllabus Conference gave a vote of thanks to David Rees for the work undertaken in ongoing review of the Agreed Syllabus.

5. Date of Next meeting: To be confirmed

The date of the next meeting was noted as 3 July 2024 on the raising of the SACRFE meeting, and that addition dates would be arranged as required.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 6.14 pm and closed at 7.04 pm)