

A G E N D A

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: **Monday, 20th March, 2006**

Time: **2.30 p.m. (or on the rising of the
Agreed Syllabus Conference if
later)**

Place: **The Council Chamber,
Brockington, 35 Hafod Road,
Hereford**

Notes: Please note the **time, date** and **venue** of
the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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**County of Herefordshire
District Council**

AGENDA

for the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

To: Councillor J. Stone (Chairman)

Cllr Mrs. W.U. Attfield, Mrs. C. Ault, Revd. P. Barlow, Mrs. J. Brown, Cllr P.E. Harling, Ms. K. Mayglothling, Mrs S McCamley, Mrs. G. Morris, Mrs A. Mundy, Mr. Z. Pandor, Mr. J. Rendall, Mr M. Rollnick, Mr K Scot and Revd. I. Terry

	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive apologies for absence.	
2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY) To receive details any details of Members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a Member of the Committee.	
3. MINUTES To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 28th November, 2005.	1 - 4
4. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS (IF ANY) To answer any pre-received written questions from members of the public.	
5. PRESENTATION ON THE SIKH FAITH To receive a presentation on the Sikh faith and discuss educational issues of teaching the faith in Herefordshire schools.	
6. THE NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGREED SYLLABUS FOR HEREFORDHSIRE To receive a report on the revision of the Religious Education Agreed Syllabus for Herefordshire.	
7. GUIDANCE TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP To receive the Guidance to Primary Schools on Collective Worship and consider publication of the guidance.	
8. 2005 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS To inform SACRE of Herefordshire's examination results in Religious Studies in 2005.	5 - 8
9. 2006 SACRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE - UPDATE To receive an update on arrangements for the 2006 SACRE Annual Conference.	

10. DFES & QCA ROADSHOW ON THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR RE

The Consultant for RE to report on issues arising from the National Framework For Religious Education Roadshow held 18th January, 2006 at Birmingham, and hosted by the DfES and QCA.

11. NASACRE AGM 2006

To consider appointing a representative to attend the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE) Annual General Meeting to be held in London on 4th May 2006.

(Note: the Keynote Speaker will be Mick Waters, Director, Curriculum Division at QCA on the theme of 'Changes to the curriculum and the place of RE').

COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) held at The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford on Monday, 28th November, 2005 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J. Stone (Chairman)

Mrs. C. Ault, Revd. P. Barlow, Mrs. J. Brown, Dr. D. Goodman,
Ms. K. Mayglothling, Mrs S McCamley, Mrs A. Mundy, Mr. J. Rendall
and Mr M. Rollnick

46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs W.U. Attfield, Cllr. P.E. Harling, Mr Z. Pandor and Rev. I. Terry.

47. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

There were no named substitutes.

48. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That subject to recording in Minute No 40 – Religious Education Co-ordinators Meeting – Update - that Mr J. Rendal was involved in the Co-ordinators meeting held 30th November 2004, the minutes of the meeting held 7th March 2005, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

49. RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No written questions had been received.

50. REPRESENTATION OF OTHER FAITH GROUPS ON SACRE

The Consultant for RE reported that, following consultation with the Head of School Effectiveness, an approach had been made to P Matharu and H. Singh who were of the Sikh faith and work in the Council's IT section concerning their possible future involvement in SACRE. It was proposed that they be invited to make a presentation to the March 2006 meeting on the Sikh faith.

RESOLVED: That P. Matharu and H Singh be invited to give a presentation on the Sikh faith to the March 2006 meeting.

51. GUIDANCE TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON COLECTIVE WORSHIP

Mr J. Rendall circulated copies of the draft "Finding Treasure – A Guide for Inspirational Worship in Herefordshire Schools" for initial consideration by SACRE.

He reported that the Working Party had collated the draft guidance now circulated

and apologised that it hadn't been produced to the intended timetable. He circulated a proposed revised timetable and highlighted a number of issues for consideration.

SACRE briefly considered the draft guidance and proposed revised timetable and agreed that Members would consider the guidance and forward any comments directly to Mr Rendall by the 31st January 2006. These would be received and considered by the Working Party and then included in the final version of the Guide. The final version, together with proposals for the cover design and production, would be presented to the 20th March 2006 SACRE meeting for approval.

SACRE suggested that greater prominence be given in the acknowledgements to Angela Daniels, St. Paul's C.E. Primary School, in recognition of her work in chairing the Working Party.

The Committee Officer (Scrutiny) would ensure that absent members received a copy of the draft Guidance together with a note concerning the receipt of comments.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and a final version of the Guidance together with production proposals be submitted to the 20th March 2006 meeting.

52. PROPOSED TALK BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF LIBERAL JUDAISM

Mr M. Rollnick reported that the Chief Executive of Liberal Judaism would be visiting Herefordshire in June 2006 to give an evening talk to the local Council of Christian Jews and that during his visit to the County he was willing to also give a talk to school children on Judaism.

Mr Rollnick reported that while the initial proposal had been for Rabbi Daniel Rich to give a talk to Key Stage 3 pupils on the teaching and meaning of Judaism, Rabbi Rich was open to suggestions on the best use of his availability.

SACRE were pleased to accept the offer from Rabbi Rich and debated a number of options. From initial discussion SACRE acknowledged the difficulty, and cost, of getting a large number of pupils to attend a talk/seminar type function. It was also felt that greater benefit would be gained from being in smaller groups. SACRE therefore proposed that Ms Mayglothling, Mr Rollnick and Mr Rendall meet to consider the following for suggestion to the local Council of Christian Jews:

- A morning session be given at a rural secondary school and that primary RE co-ordinators from the locale also be invited to attend.
- A similar session be arranged for the afternoon in a City Secondary School.
- A twilight session be arranged for all RE Co-coordinators/teachers.

RESOLVED: That Ms Mayglothling, Mr Rollnick and Mr Rendall consider the options discussed and liaise with the local Council of Christian Jews over the format for the proposed talk/seminars.

53. 2005 SACRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SACRE received a report on the 2005 SACRE Annual Conference held at Hedley Lodge, Belmont Abbey, Hereford on 29th September, 2005.

SACRE congratulated the RE Consultant on yet another very successful Conference.

The Consultant for RE reported that the event had been successful and that SACRE

had been fortunate to get nationally acclaimed speakers. While the intention was that the event was expected to be self-financing she expressed some concern for future events.

SACRE debated the merits of hosting an Annual Conference and decided that it was a valuable element in the co-ordination and profile of Religious Education in the County. Teachers commented upon the valuable level of discussion on current issues and the practical ideas they took back to schools from the event.

It was noted that an excellent report with photographs on the Conference had been published by James Perfect, a Marches Consortium RE Trainee Teacher, on the RE Teacher Web site at <http://www.reteachers.com>.

SACRE recommended that the Local Education Authority (LEA) continue the SACRE Annual Conference.

SACRE discussed outline proposals for the 2006 Annual Conference and the following two main themes were suggested: the introduction of the new Agreed Syllabus and Values Education.

It was suggested that consideration be given to the Conference being held during the afternoon and early evening thereby enabling more teachers to attend after school.

In view of the lead time needed to organise the Conference it was suggested that, to progress the arrangements, the Chairman convey the views of SACRE (the themes, timing and other administrative arrangements) at his meeting with the Head of School Improvement and the RE Consultant on 13th December 2005.

RESOLVED: That

- a) **It be recommended to the LEA that the SACRE Annual Conference continue;**
- b) **The suggested themes, timing and other administrative issues for the 2006 Conference be further considered and progressed at the Chairman's meeting with the Head of School Improvement and the RE Consultant scheduled for 13th December, 2005; and**
- c) **A report on the proposals for the 2006 Annual Conference be made to the March 2006 meeting.**

54. SACRE INVOLVEMENT IN THE JARS INSPECTIONS

SACRE noted that during the Herefordshire Joint Area Review of Services (JARS) for Children and Young People Mr M. Rollnick and Mrs J. Mackley, RE Consultant, had been interviewed as part of the inspection process. It was believed the theme of the interviews had been based on the Council's policy towards diversity in the County.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

55. NASACRE AGM - APRIL 2005

SACRE noted a report on the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE) Annual General meeting held April 2005.

Rev. I. Terry had attended the AGM on behalf of SACRE and submitted a short report on the theme of the meeting.

The Committee Officer (Scrutiny) drew Members attention to the summer edition of SACRE News (copies of which had been circulated), which included articles on the AGM and the address by Mr John Keast to the Faith Forum on “Clever devils and how to avoid them” referred to in Rev Terry’s report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

**56. DRAFT HEREFORDSHIRE SACRE ANNUAL REPORT - ACADEMIC YEAR
2004/2005**

SACRE considered the draft SACRE Annual Report for the academic year September 2004 to July 2005 prior to submission to QCA.

The Committee Officer (Scrutiny) presented the draft Annual Report, copies having been distributed to Members with the agenda. It was noted that a “forward” by the Chairman would be included prior to publication.

The Committee Officer (Scrutiny) circulated draft statistics and commentary on the RE examinations 2005. SACRE raised a number of technical questions concerning the statistics i.e. the type of exams available, the number of pupils taking exams compared with the number of schools, which would be referred to the Head of School Effectiveness for clarification.

SACRE appreciated that the statistics were required for the Annual Report and following clarification by the Head of School Effectiveness and consultation with the Chairman, authorised the Clerk to include revised basic statistical information in the Annual Report. SACRE did however, request the LEA to produce a comprehensive report and presentation, to the March 2006 meeting on the result of RE examinations in Herefordshire, including any historical and national data so that a meaningful comparison can be made.

RESOLVED: That

- a) subject to the inclusion of revised statistical data on RE examinations in Herefordshire schools and final proof reading the SACRE Annual Report for the academic year September 2004 to July 2005 be submitted to QCA and;**
- b) a comprehensive report and presentation be made to the March 2006 meeting on the result of RE examinations in Herefordshire.**

The meeting ended at 3.11 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

2005 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS**Report By: Head of School Effectiveness****Wards Affected**

Countywide

Purpose

1. To inform SACRE of Herefordshire's examination results in Religious Studies in 2005.

Financial Implications

2. None

Report

3. A table of results was submitted to the last SACRE meeting on 28 November 2005. At that meeting members of SACRE expressed concerns about the validity of some of the figures.
4. A revised table has now been produced. This information is available from Bath University whose task, nationally, is to produce an analysis of each subject taken at GCSE and at 'A' Level. The attached table (Appendix 1) is the most accurate set of figures available to us but we do not, as yet, have national comparators.
5. Some figures worth noting are:
 - For the full course at GCSE 5A*-C achievement was down in 2005 by 1% to 79%, but 75 more pupils were entered for the exam and at A*-G achievement was up by about 2% to 99.7%. The figure of 79% for 5A*-C is likely to be about 15% above the national average based upon previous years.
 - For the short course the A*-C percentage in 2005 was down by 14% but 315 more pupils were entered: girls performance rose but that of boys fell.
6. The reason only 8 pupils in 2005 appear to have taken Religious Studies at 'A' Level is that the figures do not include those from the Sixth Form College when approximately 90% of the pupils take their 'A' Levels.

RECOMMENDATION

That the position in the report be noted and the data be used for comparison in future reports.

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of School Effectiveness, School Improvement Service (01432) 260803

2005 Religious Education Examination Results report to SACRE 20 March 2006.

GCSE 2005 Results for Religious Education & Studies

Religious Studies

Full Course					
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to G	% A* to G
Boys & Girls	365	288	78.9%	364	99.7%
Boys	146	105	71.9%	145	99.3%
Girls	219	183	83.6%	219	100.0%

Religious Studies

Short Course					
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to G	% A* to G
Boys & Girls	1002	441	44.0%	933	93.1%
Boys	491	169	34.4%	453	92.3%
Girls	511	272	53.2%	480	93.9%

Religious Studies

ELQ Band C					
	Entered	No. Grds 1-3	% Grade 1	% Grade 2	% Grade 3
Boys & Girls	20	17	45.0%	35.0%	5.0%
Boys	17	14	47.1%	29.4%	5.9%
Girls	3	3	33.3%	66.7%	

GCSE 2004 Results for Religious Education & Studies

Religious Studies

Full Course					
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to G	% A* to G
Boys & Girls	290	231	79.7%	284	97.9%
Boys	139	109	78.4%	135	97.1%
Girls	151	122	80.8%	149	98.7%

Religious Studies

Short Course					
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to G	% A* to G
Boys & Girls	687	396	57.6%	672	97.8%
Boys	333	156	46.8%	324	97.3%
Girls	354	240	67.8%	348	98.3%

Religious education

Short Course					
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to G	% A* to G
Boys & Girls	85	76	89.4%	81	95.3%
Boys	45	43	95.6%	44	97.8%
Girls	40	33	82.5%	37	92.5%

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GCE A' Level 2005

Religious Studies

	A2				
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E
Boys & Girls	8	6	75.0%	8	100.0%
Boys	3	1	33.3%	3	100.0%
Girls	5	5	100.0%	5	100.0%

GCE A' Level 2004

Religious Studies

	A2				
	Entered	No. A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E
Boys & Girls	4	2	50.0%	4	100.0%
Boys	1	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Girls	3	2	75.0%	3	100.0%

Note: These results do not include the Hereford Sixthform College