

HERTFORDSHIRE'S STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – WORK PLAN FOR 2019-20 AND 2020- 21

1. The purpose of this paper is to set out clearly what the work plan is for Hertfordshire SACRE for the rest of this academic year and for 2020/21.
2. As you will all be aware, the core roles of the Hertfordshire SACRE are as follows:
 - Monitoring the standard and quality of Religious Education
 - Monitoring compliance with the statutory requirement around collective worship, and dealing with complaints
 - Disseminating information about the role of SACRE and requirements placed on schools
 - Maintaining an oversight of availability of training and appropriate materials to support teaching and learning via SACRE meetings
 - Adjudicating on applications for Determinations (exemptions from collective worship)
 - 5 yearly review and updating and publication of the Agreed Syllabus for Hertfordshire.
 - Preparing an annual report.
3. The Specialist RE Professional Adviser role is vital to the work of SACRE as they undertake a number of roles that need knowledge and expertise. These include:
 - Ensuring that SACRE is kept up to date with local, regional and national initiatives and issues related to RE and collective worship;
 - Relating SACRE's work to wider community issues, including partnerships with faith and belief communities
 - Leading on areas related to the Agreed Syllabus, RE and collective worship;
 - Producing reports for SACRE meetings including reports for the Local Authority and council members e.g. when changes to the SACRE constitution or membership are required;
 - Working with Herts for Learning to ensure that the SACRE Grid section is up-to-date and useful;
 - Producing the Annual Report;
 - Taking the lead on the monitoring aspects of SACRE, especially agreed school visits and analysis of examinations results in RE/RS; and
 - Advising SACRE on issues of non-compliance.
4. Taking these roles into account the core SACRE Working Party met and agreed the core actions/objectives for the new RE Specialist Adviser as part of the tender process for the Specialist RE Adviser role for Hertfordshire SACRE. Please see the Table on pages 3,4, 5 and 6 for details.
5. Work will begin on reviewing the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus in 2020, although the Syllabus is not due to be implemented until 2022. This is

because of the time and effort, specialist knowledge and expertise required to undertake the review.

6. The last review was an 18th month process and included as part of this work a teacher consultation process and the establishment of a teachers' writing group to write the Syllabus.

WORKSTREAM	ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE	EXPECTED ACTIONS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE MONITORING MECHANISM
<p>Specialist RE advice and support for SACRE meetings</p> <p>(Please note that HCC through Herts for Learning will provide all the administrative and clerking requirements for the 3 SACRE meetings that take place each year).</p>	<p>To advise SACRE on issues relating to its work and provide advice and support for SACRE meetings.</p>	<p>Draft and produce the SACRE Annual Report (workforce and exam data and information will be provided by Herts for Learning). Draft shared with SACRE Working Party for comment.</p> <p>Final copy produced and shared with full SACRE Spring meeting before presented to the County Councillors and published on-line.</p> <p>Attend 3 full SACRE meetings held per year, helping to provide advice for Chair and LA Serving Officer on agendas and producing supporting paperwork.</p>	<p>A clear analysis and report on SACRE's work and on actions taken by its representative groups, specifying any matters on which it has advised the LA has been produced within the agreed timescale.</p> <p>This report to be made available to schools and County Councillors including via the Grid and delivered to the National Association for SACREs in Spring 2020.</p> <p>To attend the 3 full SACRE meetings held per year.</p> <p>To be available to meet or speak with the Chair and LA Serving Officer in advance of the 3 full meetings to discuss and offer advice on any potential items</p>	<p>Annual Report</p> <p>SACRE meetings and minutes</p>

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		Ensure SACRE is up to date with local, regional and national initiatives and issues related to RE and collective worship e.g. DfE funded initiatives.	<p>or papers that may be on the agenda and prepare supporting documents. To undertake any agreed follow-up actions.</p> <p>Written update provided for each meeting.</p> <p>Members are confident in their knowledge & understanding of the national & local situation regarding RE.</p>	
Specialist RE advice and support for SACRE meetings	Monitoring the standard and quality of Religious Education	To work with Herts for Learning on developing on-line questionnaires (secondary one in Year 1 and primary in Year 2) and evaluating the analysis that Herts for Learning produce.	Report and results to be presented to SACRE at its Spring 2020 meeting for secondary and Spring 2021 for primary.	SACRE summer meeting

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	To provide advice and guidance on non-compliance complaints.	Advice and support are provided to the Chair following initial analysis of information provided by the school e.g. through its website or information received externally on the RE/RS curriculum and/or collective worship on next steps. These next steps may include for example: corresponding in writing with the school; the RE Specialist Advisor visiting the school or raising the concern with the LA.	Chair is confident about what to do where instances or complaints of non-compliance are identified/have been received.	Report to SACRE about complaints and follow-up action
Disseminating information about the role of SACRE and requirements placed on schools	To develop partnerships with faith and belief communities	Relate SACRE's work to wider community issues and link with and support local RE Groups	SACRE is informed about RE work in Hertfordshire and supports the sharing of good quality RE across the county.	Verbal or short written reports at SACRE meetings to update on community work undertaken.
	With administrative support from HfL,	To review the way SACRE's material is presented, and to update and if appropriate	Website is up-to-date	Report to SACRE at spring 2020 meeting

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	update the SACRE section on the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning website.	extend its content on the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning		on the details of the additional and refreshed content.

Role of the new Specialist Adviser for RE

7. Following the tender process, Bill Moore was appointed to become the new RE Specialist Adviser to Hertfordshire SACRE. Bill has considerable experience and expertise as the Specialist Adviser for both the Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire's SACREs and nationally. He is currently the Chair of the Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC) and has previously been the Chair of NASACRE from 2009-11.
8. As part of his introduction to Hertfordshire we will be setting up a meeting on November 19th between 10 to 11 am at County Hall which will be open to SACRE members, in order for you to meet with him.
9. Additionally, it would be sensible to use this appointment as an opportunity to introduce Bill to the wider school community and to do some promotional work for SACRE and ensure it continues to be accessible for schools. HCC is looking at opportunities for Bill to do briefings on SACRE's work, and the impact of the new Ofsted inspection framework and requirements for schools in terms of RE and collective worship through Headteacher and Governor Updates and also the Hertfordshire Governor Conference.
10. Bill will also be undertaking networking opportunities as and when they arise to ensure he meets with wider community groups and will also plan to visit a number of Hertfordshire schools.

Administrative and clerking responsibilities

11. From April 2019, it was agreed with Herts for Learning that they would no longer provide the specialist RE Professional Adviser in order to support SACRE in its work or provide the representative LA serving officer role. It was agreed however that they would continue to provide the clerking and administrative support to SACRE.
12. Herts for Learning will also support SACRE work through analysis of HCC's data on GCSE and A level results for the Annual Report; GovernorHub and etc. and through working with Bill Moore on the School Surveys and other potential avenues to understand and analyze how RE and collective worship is delivered and any workforce issues.

Annual Report 2017-18

13. The Annual Report for 2018/19 is still to be completed. We have asked Lisa Kassaspian whether she would be interested and willing to complete this piece of work as an additional commission through Herts for Learning.

Conclusion

14. This report sets out the minimum level of work that Hertfordshire SACRE expects to complete during these two academic years. Hertfordshire SACRE has gone through a transitional period in terms of its management which has had an impact on its work. We are aware that there are other aspects of its work that need to be developed further including for example its monitoring role through the Sub-Committee Group. We hope to work on this and other elements of SACRE work with the Core Working Group of SACRE members. However, we would welcome comments and suggestions from all SACRE members on what has been set out in this paper regarding its workplan.