

All Members of the Reading Standing
Advisory Council on Religious Education

Our Ref: n:\sacre\agendas\161124
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16 November 2016

Your contact is: **Richard Woodford - Committee Services**

**NOTICE OF MEETING - READING STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION -
24 NOVEMBER 2016**

A meeting of the Reading SACRE will be held on **Thursday 24 November 2016 at 6.30 pm in
Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Bridge Street, Reading.**

The Agenda for the meeting is set out below.

AGENDA

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	-
2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2016	1
3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:	-
4. SACRE ACTION PLAN - UPDATE AND FEEDBACK:	6
• Pan Berkshire Hub Meeting 15 September 2016	11
• Primary Network Meeting - 4 October 2016	14
• Secondary Network Meeting - 27 September 2016	16
• Primary RE Subject Leader Training - 12 October 2016	Verbal Report
Please see link: www.discoveryschemeofwork.com/downloads/	
• Further support for Subject Leaders	Verbal Report/ Discussion
5. BUDGET - UPDATE	Report to be Tabled

6.	CROSSING THE BRIDGES PROJECT:	18
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westhill/NASACRE Award - On Location Day 8 March 2016 • Conference 28 September 2016 - Feedback • Directory • Places of Worship - Hosts Training 	Verbal Report 23 Verbal Report 27
7.	DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT	28
8.	NATIONAL UPDATES:	Verbal Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Christianity Project 	
9.	DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 28 February 2017 	

SACRE Membership 2016/17

<p>Bev Heslin Judith Crimmins Jeremy Peckham <i>Vacancy</i> Abubakar Banaras Haji Khan Rabbi Zvi Solomons <i>Vacancy</i></p> <p>Mark Laynesmith (nominated 26/07/16) Fiona Murray Anne Cheeseman Robin Sharples</p> <p>Michael Freeman Vera Bodman Katie Livesey Mary Mallia Simone Tissot</p> <p>Cllr Jones Cllr Khan Cllr Livingston Cllr O'Connell Cllr Robinson</p> <p><i>Vacancy</i> <i>(no longer any grant maintained schools in Reading)</i> Emma Raven - Humanist <i>Vacancy</i></p>	<p>Free Churches (Group A) RC Diocese of Portsmouth (Group A) Buddhism (Group A) Hindu Faith (Group A) Islam (Group A) Islam (Group A) Jewish Faith (Group A) Sikhism (Group A)</p> <p>Church of England (Group B) Church of England (Group B) Church of England (Group B) Church of England (Group B)</p> <p>ATL (Group C) NUT (Group C) Caversham Primary School Addington Special School Meadow Park Academy</p> <p>Reading Borough Council (Group D) Reading Borough Council (Group D) Reading Borough Council (Group D) Reading Borough Council (Group D) Reading Borough Council (Group D)</p> <p>Grant Maintained Schools (non-voting)</p> <p>Co-opted member (non-voting) Co-opted member (non-voting)</p>
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14 JUNE 2016

Present:

Rabbi Zvi Solomons	Jewish Faith (Group A)
Anne Cheeseman	Church of England (Group B)
Robin Sharples	Church of England (Group B)
Vera Bodman	NUT (Group C)
Michael Freeman	ATL (Group C)
Councillor Khan	Reading Borough Council (Group D)
Councillor Livingston	Reading Borough Council (Group D)
Councillor O'Connell	Reading Borough Council (Group D)

Also in Attendance:

Jeremy Peckham	Shantideva Buddhist Centre (Group A) (nominee)
Fiona Monger	Teacher
Fiona Murray	Teacher (Group B) (nominee)
Jan Lever	RE Consultant

Apologies:

Councillor Jones	Reading Borough Council (Group D)
Councillor Robinson	Reading Borough Council (Group D)
Simone Tissot	Teacher
Emma Raven	Humanist (Co-opted member) (nominee)
Judith Crimmins	RC Diocese of Portsmouth (Group A) (nominee)
Dan Neal	Senior Schools Adviser, Reading Borough Council

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Rabbi Zvi Solomons was elected as Chair of the SACRE for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Michael Freeman was elected as Vice Chair of the SACRE for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. WHAT MAKES A GOOD SACRE MEMBER?

Jan Lever tabled a document produced by NASACRE listing the qualities of a good SACRE member. Members agreed to consider the document and report any ideas or feedback to the next meeting, with a particular focus on any areas where the SACRE might need to improve.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

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5. SACRE ACTION PLAN - UPDATE

Jan Lever submitted a copy of the draft SACRE Action Plan for April 2016-March 2017. The Plan supported the SACRE in requesting funding from the Council and the estimated costs for 2016/17 were set out in the Plan.

The Plan set out actions with timescales and costs under three aims:

A. To be a supportive and proactive SACRE enjoying full and well-informed membership

Action 1 under this aim was to fill membership vacancies, and Robin Sharples offered to assist with filling the Church of England vacancy. Councillor Khan noted that there were prospective nominees from the Muslim community but that formal notification from the mosques was required. The meeting discussed putting together a standard form to make it easier to nominate new members, and the possibility of drafting a short job description so that new members would better understand the role including the time commitment.

B. To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE teaching in their schools

C. To support the implementation of the revised Berkshire Agreed Syllabus for RE

Actions 1 and 2 under these aims related to supporting teachers through the primary and secondary Network meetings, which SACRE members were welcome to attend. The Berkshire authorities shared a syllabus and were working together as part of the 'Hub' (see Minute 8 below), so 'cross-boundary' attendance of Network meetings would not be a problem.

Action 3 covered the 'Crossing the Bridges' project (see also Minute 8(b) below), which aimed to provide teachers with more support and contacts, and would include two training events for RE visit hosts and the development of a speakers/places of worship directory. A visit booking form had also been produced in order to set out the learning objectives for RE visits and provide context and background information to visit hosts. Jan showed examples of the Discovery RE teaching and learning materials which had received good feedback from schools.

Further to Action 5, regarding work with School Improvement and the Lead Councillor to embed RE development in the Council's Education Improvement Plan, Jan noted that a meeting had been held with Dan Neal but that the working relationship with the local authority still needed to be developed. It was suggested that the Lead Councillor be contacted.

R Sharples noted that the SACREs had responsibility to advise local authorities on Collective Worship, but that this was not referred to in the Action Plan. The meeting discussed some of the current issues around Collective Worship in schools and agreed to consider this further at the next meeting.

AGREED:

- (1) That the draft Action Plan be endorsed;

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- (2) That Robin Sharples assist with filling the Church of England vacancy;
- (3) That Committee Services liaise with Councillor Khan on arranging formal notification of the Islam representatives;
- (4) That a standard member nomination form be developed;
- (5) That Jan Lever and the Chair consider the possibility of a 'job description' for prospective SACRE members;
- (6) That the Chair contact the Lead Councillor for Education regarding the action on embedding RE development in the Education Improvement Plan;
- (7) That the next meeting consider how SACRE should approach its responsibilities regarding Collective Worship.

6. BUDGET - UPDATE

Jan Lever reported that a budget of £6k had been allocated to the SACRE by the Council, which compared well to some other SACREs where this discretionary funding had been reduced or withdrawn.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

7. NETWORK MEETING - 18 MAY 2016

Jan Lever reported on the Reading RE Network meeting, notes of which had been circulated with the agenda. She noted that teachers found the meetings useful to discuss concerns and share information, but that attendance in Reading was lower than other areas. It was hoped that with the Berkshire SACREs working together in the 'Hub' (see Minute 8 below), teachers from schools just outside Reading Borough would be encouraged to attend the Reading meetings.

The meeting discussed promoting the Network to teachers, and the Chair suggested he could distribute flyers for the Network on his visits to schools. Jan would also consider a suggestion to arrange a primary Network meeting specifically targeted at Newly Qualified Teachers.

AGREED:

- (1) That Jan Lever and the Chair propose a joint flyer for Network meetings at the next Hub meeting;
- (2) That the suggestion to arrange a primary Network meeting targeted at Newly Qualified Teachers be considered.

8. PAN BERKSHIRE SACRE HUB - UPDATE

Jan Lever gave an update on work taking place under the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub as follows:

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a) First Hub meeting

Minutes of the first meeting, held on 18 May 2016, had been circulated with the agenda. Jan Lever had been appointed Hub Coordinator and all six SACREs had confirmed that they would fund the Hub.

It was noted that the Hub would oversee the syllabus review process and that Jan would submit a draft process plan to the autumn Hub meeting. Future Hub meetings would take place in the first half of each term, and the individual SACREs would then meet in the second half of each term.

b) Crossing the Bridges Project

An Action Plan for the Hub's Crossing the Bridges Project had been circulated with the agenda. The aims of the project were to increase the number of visits by schools to places of worship and visitors into RE lessons, and to improve the quality of the RE learning experiences children and young people receive during visits or with visitors.

c) Time Allocation - Hub and project support

Information had been circulated on the time allocation and required funding for the Hub Coordinator and Crossing the Bridges Coordinator roles, and for six days supply teaching cover to allow a teacher to support the Hub by working on the Directory project. Three days for host/teacher training was also proposed. The total cost of £12,000 would be shared between the Berkshire SACREs.

All six SACREs had agreed to this.

d) Westhill/NASACRE Award Application

A draft application for a bid for £4k funding from the Westhill Awards had been circulated with the agenda. The funding would be used to support different pieces of work under the Crossing the Bridges project.

e) HUB/SACRE Schools Event

A SACRE induction/training event was being planned for late September 2016. The proposed venue was the Holiday Inn at Winnersh Triangle and the cost would be £35 per person, which would include an evening meal. At least four representatives from each SACRE would be needed to make the event viable. If the funding bid (see (d) above) was successful then it could be used to fund places for teachers at the event.

AGREED:

- (1) That the progress of the Hub be noted;
- (2) That the time allocation and required funding for the Hub Coordinator and Crossing the Bridges Coordinator roles be approved;

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- (3) That Jan Lever be thanked for putting together the Westhill/NASACRE award application and that members send Jan any feedback on the draft application;
- (4) That the proposal for the Schools event in September 2016 be endorsed.

9. NASACRE CONFERENCE - FEEDBACK

The Chair and Jan Lever gave feedback on the NASACRE conference which had taken place on 17 May 2016. Notes from the conference had been circulated with the agenda. Issues of note included moves towards a national syllabus and statutory framework, the need to equip young people with 'religious literacy', and the need to consider the future of collective worship in schools.

AGREED: That the Chair and Jan be thanked for their feedback.

10. UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY

Jan Lever reported that, following OFSTED finding that Christianity was the most poorly-taught of the principal religions, an 'Understanding Christianity' initiative had been launched in May 2016 with significant funding. Projects included the development of new teaching materials that would help teach a deeper understanding of Christian beliefs, concepts and theology, and a training programme for teachers.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice-Chair asked that name-plates be provided for future meetings.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 24 November 2016.

(The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 8.15 pm).

Reading SACRE action plan April 2016-March 2017

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Cost	Summer 2016	Autumn 2016	Spring 2017
A. To be a supportive and proactive SACRE enjoying full and well-informed membership.	1. Fill membership vacancies	End July 2016	SACRE Chair Committee Services				
	2. SACRE members attend termly SACRE meetings (3 per year) and, when possible, teacher termly network meetings and training events e.g. annual SACRE conference	Termly SACRE meetings: Summer 2016 Autumn 2016 Spring 2017 Termly teacher network meetings Occasional training events	SACRE Chair/SACRE Adviser SACRE members SACRE Clerk	SACRE Adviser to prepare and attend x3 SACRE meetings a year @ £500 per term =£1500 SACRE Clerk to administer each meeting	Mtg 2016 Date 14/6/16	Mtg 2016 Date 24/11/16	Mtg 2017 Date 28/2/17
	3. Produce annual SACRE Report	Autumn Term 2016	SACRE Adviser and clerk	SACRE Adviser x1 day @£500		Bring draft to November meeting	Presented at March mtg and to Councillors on Date tbc
	4. Review the action plan at each meeting and update for next year	At each SACRE meeting	SACRE Adviser and SACRE	SACRE Adviser time included in A2 above			
	5. ~Subscribe to NASACRE ~ Representation at annual NASACRE conference, NASACRE AGM and ~local SACRE events including the annual pan-Berkshire SACRE conference	Ongoing	SACRE members SACRE Adviser to organise with other Berkshire RE advisers (Jo Fageant and Anne Andrews)	Subscription £95 Conference/s and AGM budget £500 SACRE Adviser time if needs to be the SACRE representative at NASACRE conference x1 day shared with Wokingham £250 plus travel	JL to attend NASACRE conference in London. May 17 th 2016		

	<p>6.Consolidate and develop the Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a Hub co-ordinator • Termly Hub meetings with the 6 Chairs 	<p>Discuss at Spring 2016 SACRE mtg</p> <p>Hub meeting dates: Summer 2016: May 18th Autumn 2016: September 15th Spring 2017: January 10th Summer 2017: April 25th</p>	<p>SACRE members SACRE adviser 6 Chairs from all Berkshire SACREs</p>	<p>Pan-Berkshire SACRE conference: 1 day prep and attendance shared with Wokingham £250</p> <p>Appoint Hub co-ordinator to work x3 days per term Summer term 2016 onwards for a year £750 (Reading share)</p>	<p>JL appointed Hub Co-ordinator May 2016</p> <p>First mtg held May 18th</p>		
<p>B. To support teachers of RE to continually improve RE learning in their schools and</p> <p>C. To support the implementation of the revised Berkshire Agreed Syllabus for RE</p>	<p>1. Provide a termly primary RE network meeting for Reading teachers, 4-5.30 hosted by schools. SACRE members welcome.</p>	<p>Summer term 2016: Wed 18 May 2016 Venue: Thameside Primary 4-5.30pm</p> <p>Autumn term 2016: Tues 4 October Venue: Caversham Primary: 4-5.30pm</p> <p>Spring term 2017: Thurs 8 Feb Venue: Redlands</p>	<p>Led by Jan Lever Education Consultancy</p>	<p>SACRE Adviser x3 half days @£250 = £750</p>	<p>Summer 2016 mtg held.Notes to mtg</p>	<p>Held. Notes to mtg</p>	

		<p>Primary 4-5.30pm</p> <p>(Summer 2017 Wed 17 May Thameside Primary)</p>					
	2. Provide a 'start of year' secondary RE network meeting, 4-5.30, hosted by a school. RE teachers and SACRE members to be invited	<p>Autumn term 2016: Tues 27 September 2016 Venue: Reading School 4-5.30pm</p>		SACRE Adviser half-day days @ £500 = £250.	Held. Notes to mtg		
	3. 'Crossing the Bridges' Project	<p>Training event for West of Berkshire (West Berks, Reading, Wokingham) Date: 17 November, 1-4pm Venue: LDS Church, Reading</p> <p>Appoint a Project co-ordinator 3 days per term for year 2016-17</p> <p>Develop the speakers/places of</p>	SACRE Adviser and SACRE members plus Faith Communities and teachers	<p>9 days @£500 for consultant in this role Reading share of cost: £750</p> <p>6 days @£200 for teacher role, managed by Project co-ordinator</p>	Hub notes and discussion Summer mtg	<p>New Project Plan to mtg</p> <p>Conference held 28 September</p> <p>Westhill/NASACRE Award gained July 2016</p>	

		worship directory 2 days per term for year 2016-17		Reading share of cost: £200			
	4. Subject Leader Training x1 half-day sessions (joint with Wokingham)	Autumn term 2016 Wed 12 October 1-4pm Venue:tbc		1 day adviser time @ £500 a day..shared with Wokingham £250 for Reading	To be advertised September 2016		
	5.To work with School Improvement and Lead Councillor for Education to embed RE development in the RBC 3-5 year Education Improvement Plan To improve school engagement and support them to make RE contribute significantly to the British Values, prevent radicalisation and SMSC agendas.	Reviewed at each SACRE meeting Could we have a sub- committee to work on this?	SACRE Chair, SACRE Adviser, Lead Councillor for Education, School Improvement Service	Tbc			

Costs:

Adviser/consultant time for 2016-17

X3 SACRE meetings £1500

Annual Report £500

National NASACRE Conference £250 plus Travel £50

Pan-berkshire conference prep/attendance £250

Hub-co-ordinator role £750

Primary networks £750

Secondary network £250

Crossing the Bridges Co-ordinator role £750

Primary subject leader training £250

Total: £5300 plus VAT (£1060)

£6360

Other costs:

Pan-Berkshire SACRE/teacher evening conference £140

NASACRE subscription £95

Crossing the Bridges teacher role £200

Total: £435 plus VAT (£87)

£522

SACRE Hub - Meeting Notes

Attendance: Julie Siddiqui - Slough SACRE chair

Jan Lever - Adviser to Wokingham & Reading

Catherine Jinkerson - Wokingham SACRE and teacher Directory producer

Stephen Vegh - Wokingham SACRE chair

Beth Rowland - Wokingham SACRE Vice- chair

Bernard Eggleton - West Berks SACRE vice-chair

Jo Fageant - Adviser to Slough & West Berks

Karen Butler - RBWM Vice-chair

Anne Andrews - Adviser to Bracknell Forest and RBWM

Madeline Diver - Bracknell Forest SACRE vice-chair

Zvi Solomon - Reading SACRE Chair & member of Bracknell Forest SACRE

1. Minutes from last meeting on 18th May; particularly of note is that the project was successful with the NASACRE /Westhill Award
2. Hub conference 28th September was discussed and the draft programme was shared:
 - a. 6.00 pm Introductions
 - 6.20 pm Review of the Crossing the Bridges Project so far - using the information that was presented to the Culham St Gabriel's Trust event on 30th June
 - 6.30 pm Benefits of RE visits - which will also recap on good practice so far
 - 7.00 pm Enquiry based RE - a recap on the methods of teaching promoted by the locally agreed syllabus
 - 7.30 pm Light Supper
 - 8.00 pm Dialogue to cross bridges - members of various faith communities to offer their response to some of the syllabus questions, followed by a Q&A session
 - 8.45 pm Next Steps - development for the project and how people can participate
 - 9.00 pm Evaluation and close

It is to be noted that the conference will now be a launch event for the continuing project as this was a condition of the Westhill award. Training of SACRE members will need to be organised by individual SACREs.

- b. Members present were encouraged to contact SACRE members and schools as SACREs have agreed to pay for 4 members and with the Westhill Award each SACRE can have 6 free places for teachers. Jan has already emailed most of the schools, but as yet take-up has been slow. Places cost £35 if SACREs have more than 10 people who wish to participate
 - c. ACTIONS: JL to check whether invoices have been sent to SACREs for the conference; AA to circulate the questions and ask for volunteers; ZS to invite the press and arrange additional publicity
3. Crossing the Bridges Project. The revised project plan was explained in detail and as a result of the Westhill Award it is hoped that the materials can be made more generally useable and available. Particular features include the conference (see item 2) and the way that this will relaunch the project. Additionally, there is now a plan to run an on location day - visiting a variety of places of worship. With Westhill funding this can be offered free to schools. The creation of the directory, by Catherine Jinkerson has also been facilitated by the award as two additional days can now be funded. The contacts created in the directory can be used to find locations for the on location day. The directory will use the project information sheets as a way of sharing the details of the places of worship. Some amendments were suggested to the information sheets. See ACTIONS below. Catherine's work in creating the directory will also establish contacts for the two Host training afternoons in November.
- a. 14th November at the synagogue in Maidenhead
 - b. 17th November at the LDS in Reading

The on location day and the two afternoon sessions will allow some completed copies of the booking and feedback forms and the pupil materials to be collected. These materials will in due course be collated and available on the websites that will host the materials.

ACTIONS: AA to produce flyers for the afternoon sessions; JL to add cost (fixed/donation/no charge); directions/parking information and Post-16 provision boxes to the information forms

4. Westhill /NASACRE award - the successful application for this award has made the project more achievable and enhanced the likely success. Discussion indicated that as a result of this award we may be able to get wider recognition of the project and RE online may be approached to host the materials.
- ACTIONS: AA to write a blog for RE online post conference; wider publicity to be sought by members.

5. Draft timescale for syllabus review - no proposals to start until summer next year, hopefully after the completion of the Crossing the Bridges Project and when the national situation becomes clearer.
6. Accord Inclusivity Award. After much discussion, and some unease about some of the aims of this award, the decision was taken to review it upon completion of the project
7. AOB: ZS drew attention to the possibility of hosting the Jewish Way of Life exhibition and venues are to be explored; ZS also drew attention to the latest GCSE material for Judaism:

Judaism GCSE Religious Studies - The Definitive Resource

Written by Clive Lawton and supported by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, this is a new educational resource - a guide for those teaching Judaism in GCSE Religious Studies.

Entitled, 'Judaism GCSE Religious Studies - The Definitive Resource', it provides an unbiased description of the diversity within the Jewish community, and highlights the issues that are of most importance. The 140-page resource is designed to be easy to use and provides information for both students and teachers. Each topic is headed by a list of key facts, which is followed by fuller explanatory material. Vocabulary for the key facts has been carefully regulated to ensure it is easily accessible to GCSE pupils.

It is available to download and buy at a price of £9.99 (online) and £14.99 (hard copy). <http://www.bod.org.uk/judaism-gcse-religious-studies-the-definitive-resource-order-your-copy-here/order-form-for-judaism-gcse-resource/>

Date of next meeting: 10th January 4.15-6 pm at Shute End, Wokingham

Reading SACRE

Primary network

Tuesday October 4th 2016

Venue: Caversham Primary School

Wows (What is going well)

- Discovery RE- love the introduction to each unit, the engagement element
- Discussion - enquiry based learning
- Use of stories e.g. Sikh stories about Guru Nanak and their meanings
- Lovely to teach reflection and elements of meditation

Worries (Causes of concern)

- Needing to provide an evidence trail e.g. a reflection or meditation could be spoiled by the need to provide written evidence
- Encouraging staff to teach it, it's a big curriculum- R.E. can be squeezed out – or often moved PPA
- RE 'sliding away', time allocation

Updates

- **Crossing the bridges**
 - Feedback about the project so far. The aim is to help schools make better links with faith communities through 'on location' visits to places of worship. Following this up with the production of teaching materials and development of templates to help provide focussed visits for children in future.
 - A Joint Pan-Berkshire SACRE event on Sept 28th at Winnersh Triangle was held to review the process and launch the next phase with another 'on location' trip pencilled in for March 8th.
 - Catherine Jinkerson, SACRE member and teacher of RE has been appointed to work with the Crossing the Bridges Project to engage faith and belief communities and collate the Directory
 - DR encouraged those present to use the materials and offer suggestions as to locations for subsequent trips.
- **NATRE survey of primary RE leaders** – findings were that
 - Many RE leaders had received little training initially and during their time as leader
 - Many primary RE leaders had no qualification in RE
 - RE leaders tended to only be in post for 2 years before moving to a different subject
 - RE was often given to HLTAs to deliver in PPA time
 - The time available for RE was often threatened by an ever growing curriculum

These issues were discussed in the light of the experiences of those present

- **REC code of conduct** – DR gave out a summarised version of the REC code of conduct and invited comments about the recommendations – 2 points in particular were discussed
 - Model life-long learning – a discussion ensued about the essential nature of enquiry and experiences were shared concerning the need for children to be

able to ask questions without fear of causing offence – ‘to enquire is not being disrespectful’ – how can children learn without asking questions about what happens in the world and about beliefs and practices in different faiths and worldviews?

- Being open – the issue of sharing personal beliefs when asked was discussed – the need for sensitivity when doing so with younger children was considered – a young child might accept a teacher’s views as truth so expressing opinions should be carefully handled. Older children who genuinely are interested in what the teacher thinks have the right to an answer as long as the answer is clearly couched in a way such as ‘this is what I think and it’s ok for me but you must make up your own mind by looking at all the options available’ (or words to that effect)

- **REC Media toolkit**

- A summarised version of this was handed out for attendees to look at in their own time – the idea is to involve the local media when an RE event takes place in school- this would help to raise the status of RE and would help SLT see the benefit of the subject and it’s links with the community
- It was mentioned by a SACRE member that this information could be shared with SACRE itself as there was a greater need to inform the media of SACRE issues and events.

- **REQM Primary school questionnaire**

- This was handed out and quickly examined – DR suggested that this could be a useful audit tool and could also be a proactive way of showing that teachers and students have reflected on their RE learning. Teachers were enthusiastic about this and asked for it to be emailed to them so they could edit it for their own use.

AOB

- Some resources were examined and distributed
- Dates of the next meeting were checked

Meeting closed 5.40pm

Name	School	Position
Kate Livesey	Caversham Primary	RE Lead
Helen Smales	Micklands Primary	RE Lead
Emma Raven	Geoffrey Field Junior	RE Lead
Srah Cooper	Katesgrove	RE Lead
Vera Bodman	Reading SACRE	

Reading SACRE

Secondary network:

Tuesday September 27th 2016

Venue: The Reading School

1. Introductions and context
2. Purpose of the meeting
 - a. To develop an RE network community – to share ideas and offer suggestions to issues that arise – there was a significant variety of delivery models in the group including
 - i. delivering RE as part of Humanities in KS3 but then separating for GCSE which would lead to confusion for students who wouldn't easily know which subject to choose
 - ii. not teaching GCSE but going straight to A level Philosophy for all students from Year 9 onwards
 - b. To establish difficulties and seek assistance
 - c. To inform of national developments especially when these will impact on the classroom
 - d. To feedback to SACRE – every term SACRE meets – has responsibility for RE in the LA – next meeting in November
3. Information
 - a. **Promoting and delivering effective RE at KS4** – NATRE information – discuss in relevance to situation – issues raised included
 - i. the challenge of RE in relation to the EBacc – status in the curriculum
 - ii. the reform of the GCSE – see item 4
 - iii. Visits and Visitors – see item 5
 - b. REC – **code of conduct for RE teachers** – 2009 – voluntary but 'worthy of widespread acceptance' – a summary was handed out for discussion (including the following points)
 - i. Respect persons - every pupil should be treated equally
 - ii. Value reason-giving - develop their beliefs through lifelong critical reflection.
 - iii. Practise reciprocity - The Golden Rule
 - iv. Accept contestability and value self-awareness - teacher should recognise that they may be controversial and should frame their language accordingly
 - v. Be open - being prepared to answer questions about and talk about his or her own beliefs when that is appropriate – *this point invited a difference of opinion about sharing a personal standpoint on belief but was seen as a key positive point for ethical discussions.*
 - vi. Promote fair and accurate representation.- teachers should treat diversity as an opportunity to work with others
 - vii. Model life-long learning - being open to the discussion moving into challenging territory and being willing to learn
 - viii. Promote balance - even if they find this uncomfortable on occasion.
 - c. **Media Toolkit** (REC) - Generating positive local media coverage for Religious Education – a handout given for future consideration
4. GCSE – new specifications – issues included
 - a. The push for depth and 'academic rigour' – concerns were raised that the new specifications were dull and included more 'irrelevant' material than before – it would be more difficult to attract students to the subject if the content was not just more scripture driven but included more difficult passages of scripture which would alienate students.
 - b. Time – many present were trying to deliver full course GCSE on significantly fewer lessons than needed – 50 minutes a week is not enough to deliver a full GCSE course even if you start in Year 9 – a lack of awareness at SLT level could be an issue

- c. GCSE RS has been the most successful GCSE recently in terms of results and in particular growth of popularity with students due to its relevance in the modern world. All this excellent work could be undone by the new push for a different religious emphasis on content.
5. Visits and visitors
- a. Concern was raised about the need to find quality visitors to schools – some recent efforts had seen people wanting to charge to come in – it was suggested that SACRE could be approached with a view to encouraging different faith communities to engage with schools to help provide these opportunities
 - b. It was suggested that there was a real need for young members of faith communities to engage with schools to show the students people who were ‘down to earth’ and ‘on their level’ without being especially learned. This experience would help students relate to the faith communities and how faith impacts on a young person’s life
 - i. DR mentioned the **Young ambassadors** scheme run through REC - <http://religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/young-ambassadors/what-is-the-young-ambassadors-for-re-scheme>
 - ii. Another initiative was mentioned called ‘Learn4Life’ run through RSCWT (Reading Churches) – contact Andrea Smith – andrea4schools@yahoo.co.uk – can provide assemblies, lessons – no charge – DBS checked – DR unaware of this and will look into it
 - c. Interfaith week – 13th – 20th November 2016 – website <http://www.interfaithweek.org/> nothing listed in Reading specifically yet – hopefully some events will follow
 - d. Basingstoke is developing a visitors list and programme – we could look to form links with areas close by

The meeting was well attended and had a real spirit of co-operation and a desire to form a network that would be mutually beneficial.

Meeting ended 5.40pm

David Rees

JLECT

Name	School	Position
Dean Harrison	Maiden Erlegh School	Head Hums
Karen James	Maiden Erlegh School	HoY & RE
Lucy McCabe	Prospect School	Head of RE/H /PSHE
Karin Kukkuk	The Wren School	Head Hums
Gert Cornelissen	The Reading School	RS Head & Chaplain
Joe Eden	Little Heath Schools (W Berks)	RE Head
Clare Nolan	Little Heath Schools (W Berks)	KS3 lead
Pete Bennett	Little Heath Schools (W Berks)	KS4 Lead

Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub

Crossing the Bridges Project

Action plan April 2016-March 2017 (revised sept 2016 to include Westhill funding)

Aim	Actions	Timescales	People Responsible	Cost	Summer 2016	Autumn 2016	Spring 2017
<p>A. To increase the number of visits by schools to places of worship and visitors into RE lessons</p>	<p>Facilitate by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Producing a Project Plan for the SACREs Providing a common booking form and publicising to schools, hosts and speakers Providing a Directory of places of worship hosts and visiting speakers 	<p>June 2016</p> <p>Form produced Spring 2016</p> <p>Autumn 2016: Publicise through e.newsletters in LAs and Diocese, SACRE and Diocesan web pages, teacher networks and host/speaker training events</p> <p>Appoint teacher assistant Summer Term 2016. Teacher collates Directory pages Autumn 2016- Spring 2017</p>	<p>Hub Co-ordinator (sent to SACRE Chairs)</p> <p>Hub-co-ordinator with SACRE advisers and chairs</p> <p>Hub co-ordinator, SACREs, Teacher Directory assistant</p>	<p>Half-day Hub co-ord time</p> <p>1 day Hub co-ordinator time</p> <p>1 day Hub co-ordinator time to appoint teacher assistant and to manage his/her work on Directory Summer/Autumn Terms 2016 8 days teacher assistant time to collate Directory (2 days funded by Westhill, 6 days funded</p>	<p>Catherine Jinkerson appointed July 2016 to start September 2016</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging schools in the project by dissemination of information Engaging schools and SACREs and Places of Worship in project through pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub conference 	<p>Autumn 2016: Publicise through e.newsletters in LAs and Diocese, SACRE and Diocesan web pages, teacher networks and host/speaker training events</p> <p>September 28th 2016 6-9pm Holiday Inn, Winnersh</p>	<p>Hub co-ordinator with SACRE advisers</p> <p>Hub co-ordinator with SACRE advisers</p>	<p>by Hub)</p> <p>3 days hub co-ordinator time to plan and deliver the conference (includes administration of conference)</p> <p>Subsidies for teachers. This funding is from Westhill/NASACRE Award 2016</p> <p>Each of the 6 SACREs to fund x4 delegates @ £35 each total £140 from each SACRE</p> <p>1 day hub-co-ordinator</p>			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect x10 exemplars of good practise use of the Crossing the Bridges teaching/learning materials and publicise on web pages and at network meetings etc Evaluating visits and visitors using the common feedback forms 	<p>September 2016 to March 2017 in conjunction with making the Directory, network meetings etc and the CPD Day</p> <p>Autumn 2016 – Spring 2017 Collate feedback forms and report to hosts, schools and SACREs</p>	<p>Hub co-ordinator Teacher assistant SACRE Advisers SACRE members</p> <p>Teacher assistant and Hub co-ordinator</p>	<p>2 teacher days Funded by the Westhill/NASACRE award 2016</p> <p>0.5 day Hub co-ord time over the year</p>			
B. To improve the quality of the RE learning experiences children and young people receive during	<p>Facilitate by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giving presentation to Culham St Gabriel's Conference, Birmingham (Conference presentation available) 	June 30 th 2016	Hub co-ordinator and SACRE Adviser Anne Andrews		Anne Andrews delivered the presentation June 2016		

visits or with visitors	<p>for SACRE meetings Summer 2016)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing interactive teaching materials using an enquiry approach to enhance agreed syllabus delivery, and sample materials to support teachers. • On location day To increase teacher subject knowledge and enable production of more exemplar materials as well as powerpoints and photo collections from Places of Worship by taking teachers to visit places of worship..CPD on location day • To disseminate these materials through teacher network meetings and LA and SACRE web pages and through Discovery RE 	<p>Produced in Phase 1 of project and disseminated through networks and websites Spring/Summer 2016</p> <p>Spring Term 2017 Date March 8th 2017 Itinerary tbc</p> <p>Autumn 2016 onwards</p>	<p>Hub co-ord and SACRE advisers</p> <p>Hub co-ordinator Teacher</p> <p>SACRE Adviser to be nominated or Hub co-ordinator</p>	<p>Hub co-ordinator 2 days plan and lead plus 2 days teacher time to make teaching materials afterwards, plus donations, transport, admin</p> <p>Funded by Westhill/NASACRE Award 2016</p>			
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	<p>website (and offer them to RE Online to publicise nationally)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer training for teachers and hosts and speakers 	<p>Autumn 2016 Half day in East Berks Date Monday 14 November 2016 1-4pm Venue Maidenhead Synagogue</p> <p>Half day in West Berks Date Thursday 17 November 2016 1-4pm Venue LDS Church, Tilehurst, Reading</p>	<p>Anne Andrews to lead training days</p> <p>Teacher assistant (Catherine) to help recruit hosts ..linked to Directory and CDP day March 8th</p>	<p>1 day preparation 1 day delivery 1 day admin and co-ordination 3 days adviser time</p> <p>Total 9 days adviser/hub co-ord time 6 days teacher assistant time</p> <p>Westhill/NASCRES Award adds £3800 to this Project</p>			
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List of Attendees at SACRE Hub conference 28/9/2016

Reading

Emma Raven – RE Subject Leader Geoffrey Field Junior School Reading

Michael Freeman – Vice Chair Reading SACRE/Wokingham SACRE

Rabbi Zvi Solomons – Chair Reading SACRE

Clare Nolan – Teacher Littleheath School Reading

Pete Bennett – Teacher Littleheath School Reading

Wokingham

Stephen Vegh – Head of RE Waingels School Wokingham

Beth Rowland – Vice Chair Wokingham SACRE

Sue Cresswell – Wokingham SACRE and Head of RE at Piggott School

Emily Waddilove – Wokingham SACRE and LA Advisor

Rev Nick Hudson – Minister Wokingham Baptist Church

Rev Lisa Cornwell – Wokingham SACRE

Linda Galpin – Wokingham SACRE

Anju Sharma – Wokingham SACRE

Sukhdev Bansal - Wokingham SACRE

Lena Kulkhanjian – Bilingual Teaching Assistant Wokingham Borough Council

Michael Freeman – Wokingham/Reading SACRE

West Berks

Alice Macdonald – Asst Heateacher Hampstead Norreys Primary School

Slough

Sue Elbrow – Teacher and Slough SACRE

Hardip Singh – Slough SACRE

Karim Murcia – Teacher Eden Girls School Slough

Ashpreet Singh – Teacher and Slough SACRE

Zobia Ali – Headteacher Madni Institute Slough

Zara Illahi – Teacher Madni Institute Slough

Windsor & Maidenhead

Hillary Harris – Windsor & Maidenhead SACRE

Karen Butler – Vice Chair Windsor & Maidenhead SACRE

Rev Joan Hicks – Priest in charge Cox Green and Windsor & Maiden head SACRE

Saghir Ahmed – General Secretary Maidenhead Mosque

Jeanette Emanuelson – Teacher/RE Co-ordinator Oldfield Primary School Maidenhead

Bracknell Forest

Madeline Diver – Vice Chair Bracknell Forest SACRE

Tracey Williams – Associate Vicar All Souls Church, Schools Chaplain LVS Ascot, and Bracknell Forest SACRE

'Crossing the Bridges'



The Phase 2 launch conference for the 6 pan-Berkshire SACREs (Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education) 28th September 2016 - Winnersh, Reading

Organised by the pan-Berkshire SACREs for teachers, SACRE members and members of faith/belief communities, and funded partly by the 6 local authorities and partly by a grant received from the Westhill/NASACRE Award, the conference was designed to inform about the first phase of the Crossing the Bridges Project (2015-16) and to seek further engagement with taking the project to the next level in the coming year.

Jan Lever, manager of the pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub, and Jo Fageant adviser to Slough and West Berkshire SACREs welcomed the delegates and set the scene by outlining the context of the project which is designed to

- strengthen links between schools and faith communities by arranging visits to places of worship and creating opportunities for dialogue.
- help teachers and students develop a deeper understanding of the significance of places of worship, faith and belief in people's lives.

Jan Lever explained the process leading up to the beginning of the project, outlining the need to enable teachers and students to aim for a greater depth of understanding and enquiry when visiting places of worship or engaging in dialogue with members of faith/belief communities.

Motivated by teachers' requests for help in facilitating visits and in providing a Directory of suitable visitors to RE lessons in schools, this project was born.

Catherine Jinkerson, SACRE member and teacher of RE has been appointed to work with the Crossing the Bridges Project to engage faith and belief communities and collate the Directory. Catherine introduced herself to the conference.

Also on 28th September, the conference was afforded the opportunity to hear about on-location days.

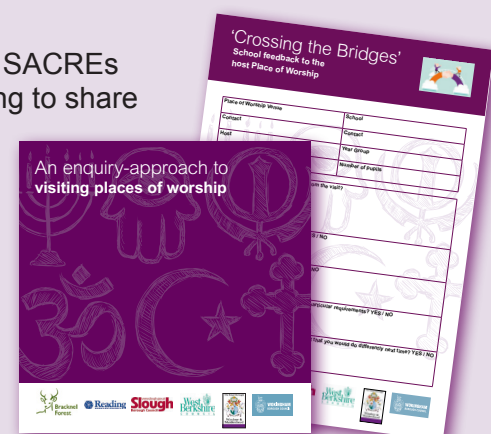
Two trips were organised to take teachers to places of worship in order to start this process of making connections, having dialogue, improving their own understanding and organising school visits. Teaching resources were designed and disseminated to all schools across Berkshire as a direct result, using photographic material gathered on these days by RE consultant, David Rees.

A further on-location day is planned for March 2017, supported by funding from the Westhill/NASACRE Award.

Enquiry booklet templates were designed to help students focus on a key concept/belief at each place of worship.

It was also recognised that schools and faith communities would need to agree on the learning outcomes for the school visits. As a result, booking forms were designed to be used by schools and the places of worship concerning the purpose of the visit and ensuring everyone was fully prepared, thus maximising the impact of the visits. Feedback forms were also designed. These templates are available on the SACRE websites and on www.discoveryschemeofwork.com and are free to download.

The pan-Berkshire SACREs are more than willing to share the Crossing the Bridges materials and process with other SACREs and schools across the country.



Pan-Berkshire SACRE conferences try to give teachers and SACRE members insight into each others' worlds, hence crossing the bridges. To help this, the delegates heard from Stephen Vegh, Chair of Wokingham SACRE and Head of Religious Studies at Waingels College. He talked about the need for RE to be challenging and meaningful, and gave examples of key questions and lessons he uses to encourage students to develop critical thinking skills relating to issues very relevant to religion and belief, and to seek a personal response from them to events in the world today.

Following on from Stephen, Alison Harris, RE consultant, took the delegates through a four step model to enquiry based learning. Alison used the concept of commitment to show how challenging RE could be delivered by starting in the child's world and engaging with them on a personal level about commitment, before crossing the bridge into the world of religion and examining practices which bear a similar sense of commitment.



RE could be delivered by starting in the child's world and engaging with them on a personal level

The 40 delegates shared a light supper and were able to develop new contacts and discuss the input so far. Also at this time several people from faith communities were keen to volunteer their place of worship for consideration on the next 'on location' day and for the Directory.

The second half of the programme began with Anne Andrews, Oxford Diocese adviser for RE facilitating a panel of representatives from local faith communities discussing some key themes and concepts focussed on text and scripture, interpretation and the difficulty in fully describing



that which could be deemed indescribable, as one delegate said 'How do you describe the transcendent?' The debate which ensued showed the faith communities and delegates trying to explain and understand different viewpoints in a real spirit of co-operation and respect, exactly what RE should be about.

The final section of the evening saw Jan Lever and Jo Fageant draw things to a close reflecting on the Crossing the Bridges Project so far and outlining the proposals for the development of the project with support from all the SACREs involved.

The evening was greeted with positivity and co-operation from teachers and all 6 SACREs, and we have high hopes of what can be achieved in the coming year to enhance children and young people's experience of RE.



Crossing the Bridges Training Session for Hosts and Visitors to schools



Would you like to host or make better school visits?

Would you like schools to be more aware of what you have to offer?

Would you like to know what the pupils are learning about your faith?

Come and take part in the training that we are offering as part of the Culham St Gabriel and Westhill funded project called “Crossing the Bridges” to improve the quality of school visits. Choose from one of the two training events scheduled:

Monday 14th November: Maidenhead Synagogue, Grenfell Lodge, Ray Park Rd, Maidenhead SL6 8QX

Thursday 17th November: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 280 Meadway, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 4PE

Both the meetings run from 1 – 4 pm with refreshments provided

The aim of the project is make it easier for schools to organise visits to places of worship and to make the visits more educationally relevant for the pupils.

As part of the project, booking and feedback forms have been created, as well as pupil activity booklets. The aim is to create a directory of places of worship and visitors who are happy to come to schools and host this information on the SACRE websites so that teachers can choose the venues for their visits from the range on offer.

Provisional programme for each of the training days:

- Discussion of the purpose of RE
- Exploration of the Locally Agreed Syllabus and the enquiry method of teaching
- Examination of the hub materials
- Opportunity to use the pupil materials in the venue
- Discussion of the practicalities of hosting trips/visiting schools

To book your place at either of the venues please contact elaine@janlevereducation.co.uk by the 7th November



Chair's Foreword

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Rabbi Zvi Solomons

Chair of Reading SACRE

2015-2016: The context

The Autumn Term 2015 marked the start of the fifth academic year in the lifespan of the Pan-Berkshire agreed syllabus for Religious Education, the final year of implementation before the review needs to be initiated. The syllabus has continued to be well-received by teachers who are enjoying the challenge of teaching RE using an enquiry-based approach and are now taking this further by considering how well they can enable pupils' religious literacy to develop through their ability to question and critically evaluate. The structure and key questions of the agreed syllabus help teachers order their planning and focus children and young people on the beliefs that underpin practice in the religions and belief systems studied. The beliefs that underpin practice are given great attention in the agreed syllabus, 'Believing' being the core member of the 3 B's (Believing, Behaving, Belonging). This approach is reflected in recent developments in the national RE world, the Church of England leading the way encouraging the teaching of 'concepts' and theological literacy through its 'Understanding Christianity' resource.

In an education landscape under new government leadership and the continuing philosophy of more autonomy, Religious Education, whilst statutory, sometimes struggles to maintain its rightful status and time-allowance on the curriculum, but most Reading schools recognise it as a key contributor to the anti-radicalisation and community cohesion agenda as well as the British Values and SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural) development challenges.

The Reading SACRE considers its support role in this very seriously and works closely with the Borough Council to offer support to schools, especially vital now the advisory team no longer has an RE specialist.



The SACRE continues to keep in touch with schools and to support them to fulfil their students' entitlement to high quality RE, mindful of the pressures upon teachers and school timetables. The SACRE listens to teachers through network meetings, training events and the teacher representatives on the SACRE, and the support it offers is informed by these conversations.

The SACRE has continued to appreciate the support of Reading Borough Council, the funding offered enabling support for teachers and schools to continue, and notes the support of Dan Neal, who has supported the SACRE in his senior adviser role with the Borough.

Reading has a diverse community and thereby many resources on its doorstep to offer children and young people access to living religion and belief. This year has seen the Reading SACRE consider how these resources could be better mobilised and co-ordinated for the benefit of RE learning both in Reading and across Berkshire.

The SACRE has met once each term to progress its work and liaises with Reading Borough Council, structuring its work each year through an agreed action plan. Its membership is consistent, and this year it is delighted to report the recruitment of new teacher and Muslim representatives, bringing new energy to the group. The experienced Chair, Rabbi Zvi Solomons, agreed to continue to lead the SACRE with Anne Cheeseman as very able Vice-Chair.

This year has been very significant in strengthening the links between the six SACREs across Berkshire and the Oxford Diocese, giving rise to some very exciting and innovative work.

2015-2016: The context

The work of the SACRE in 2015-16

The role of Reading Borough Council

Teacher network meetings

RE Subject leader training

The Pan-Berkshire joint SACRE conference 2015

The Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub

'Crossing the Bridges' Phase 1 & Phase 2

GCSE Examination Results: Summer 2015

RE Examination results

The role of Reading Borough Council

The support of Reading Borough Council enables the SACRE to communicate directly with schools through the regular e.newsletters. There is still work to do to further improve communications with RE subject leaders and head teachers, to ensure schools gain the maximum benefit from the training and support the SACRE offers.

Councillors are pro-active members of the SACRE and we look forward to embedding SACRE's work into the 'bigger picture' education development plans of the Borough.

Teacher network meetings

Primary teachers have again been afforded a termly network meeting offering them updates on both national and local initiatives in RE as well as input on aspects of RE e.g. developing religious literacy and tackling controversial and sensitive issues in RE. These meetings also give opportunities to share good practice as well as to feed back to the SACRE on what support would be helpful.

This year the network meetings have been better attended and all the teachers present have been enthusiastic and dedicated to improving children's RE learning in their schools. SACRE members have started to attend these meetings, thus building relationships with schools, gaining insight into their needs and sharing their successes and commitment.

All primary teachers who have attended meetings/training and SACRE members, have been given a copy of a national publication commissioned by Oxford University, RE: How do I do it? an 8-step guide to planning and delivering high quality RE in the primary school. This has been well-received and some have downloaded the few App version of the publication.

Secondary teachers also have a termly opportunity to meet together at an after-school meeting run jointly with Reading. In this time of change, these sessions offer the chance to discuss concerns, share practice and plan training although increasing pressures mean it is becoming more difficult for secondary teachers to attend after-school meetings.

RE Subject leader training

Some primary subject leaders new to post, attended the training session for them run in partnership with Wokingham SACRE. Each year there is a considerable turn-over in RE subject leaders in primary schools so this annual training seems vital. New subject leaders need to understand the responsibilities of the role and to be offered support to carry it well. Leading a subject across a school is no mean feat.

The Pan-Berkshire joint SACRE conference 2015

The joint SACRE conference was held in September 2016 and will be included in next year's report, as this became a launch event for the Crossing the Bridges Project Phase 2.



The Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub

The Hub came into being in December 2014 when, at the first meeting of all 6 Berkshire SACRE Chairs, over coffee at Rabbi Solomons' house, the commitment to share resources and expertise was evident.

A successful bid on behalf of the Hub, to the Culham St Gabriel's Trust resulted in some funding allowing the 'Crossing the Bridges' Project to be born. This was the first joint project of the newly formed Hub.

Further to that, the SACREs have succeeded in synchronising their meetings, Hub meetings being during the first half of each school term and SACRE meetings during the second half-term. Whilst this seems obvious and simple, it is not that easy to achieve and now offers 6 points of contact each year, thereby facilitating communication and joint working.

On top of this the six SACREs decided to pool some resources to fund a Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub manager (Jan Lever, independent RE consultant) for 9 days a year, to lead and facilitate its work.

She works closely with the advisers to all six SACREs and the Oxford Diocese and the Hub is rapidly becoming an effective and proactive vehicle.

'Crossing the Bridges' Phase 1

Crossing the Bridges between school and religion/belief communities. Crossing the Bridges between pupils' personal worlds and the worlds of religion and belief. Crossing the Bridges in both directions.

Phase 1 of the project resulted in some excellent and useful outcomes: common booking forms, evaluation forms and interactive teaching/learning booklets, all designed to a) facilitate school visits to places of worship and b) make such visits more meaningful in terms of the depth of RE learning achieved from them.

The interactive teaching/learning materials, taking an enquiry approach to visits, are available for teachers across the country to download for free from each of the Berkshire SACRE areas on each Council's website, as well as from <http://discoveryschemeofwork.com/crossing-the-bridges/>

The Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub was eager to build on Phase 1 to create a Directory of host places of worship, with hosts trained to understand the requirements of the agreed syllabus and facilitate RE learning during visits, and schools making good use of the host places of worship and the interactive teaching materials.

Phase 2 has been made possible by the six SACREs agreeing to pool some resources to engage a 'Crossing the Bridges' Project Manager and by the Hub successfully applying for a Westhill/NASACRE Award in June 2016. The funding received from both sources will support:

- A Phase 2 launch conference for SACREs and teachers (September 2016)
- An on-location training day (March 2017), teachers being taken to a range of Berkshire places of worship to try using the Crossing the Bridges teaching/learning materials (as well as increasing their own knowledge and insight)
- 2 training events (November 2016) for hosts from places of worship
- The collation of the Directory
- The dissemination of sample teaching/learning materials

The Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub is excited to see the benefits of this project for pupils and teachers alike.

GCSE Examination Results: Summer 2016

The pan-Berkshire Agreed Syllabus for RE requires that "All students must follow an externally accredited course leading to a qualification in 'Religious Studies' approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000.

There is no requirement that students must sit public examinations but following such courses provides as many as possible with an opportunity to have their learning in the statutory curriculum subject of RE, accredited."

RE Examination results

These will be added as an appendix when the verified results are available.

'Crossing the Bridges'
School feedback to the host Place of Worship

Place of Worship Venue	School
	Contact
	Year Group
	Number of pupils

How many young people learn from the visit?

Were your intentions met?

Did you meet your expectations? YES / NO

Was it suitable for the pupils? YES / NO

Were you fully prepared for your particular requirements? YES / NO

What did you learn from the visit that you would do differently next time? YES / NO

Logos: Bracknell Forest, Reading, Slough, West Berkshire, Windsor & Maidenhead, WOKINGHAM