



Meeting of the Surrey SACRE

Date: Wednesday 3rd July – Summer 2024

Time: 3.00-5.00pm

Venue – Church House, Guildford

Hybrid Meeting by Zoom - this meeting was recorded as part of minute taking.

Quorum required – 9 (at least 1 from each group)

Officers present x2 / Clerk x1 / Members Present 10

Present: x13

Officers x2:

Sarah Harris - Chair of SACRE

Rachel Boxer – Adviser to Surrey SACRE/RE Consultant

Clerk: Liz Mitchell - Diocesan Administrator & Clerk to SACRE

(Jane WD – former Clerk to SACRE/ operating Zoom technology)

Group A x7: Jennie Johnson (Chair of Group A) Rosslyn Doney, Sarah Harris (Chair of SACRE), Kawther Hashmi (left at 4.40pm) standing in for Sadia Irfan, Simon Mortimore, Inderjeet Rehncy, Peter Ward

Group B x1: Jane Whittington (Chair of Group B)

Group C x3: Saima Saleh (Co-Chair of Group C), Deborah Jackson, Rashida Nasir (joined at 3.10pm)

Group D: No members present

Item No.	SACRE Business meeting Time convened: 3.00pm. RB informed meeting recorded on Zoom for minuting purposes. No objections.	Actions arising	
		By whom	By when
1.	Welcome and Introductions RB opened the meeting with welcome and introductions.		
2.	Apologies for Absence: Officers - Carrie Traill (Head of Education, Surrey County Council) Group A - Sadia Irfan (Chair SH indicated Kawther standing in for SI), Rev Allan Taylor (Vice Chair of SACRE). Raju Pandya & Patrick Thueanmuenwai - no response. Group B – Shaun Burns, Sarah Hutton Group C – Saadia Nawaz. Alex Page – no response. Louisa Smith (Co-Chair of Group C)– resigned. Group D – Robert Hughes. Jordan Beech, Buddi Weerasinghe & Dennis Booth – no response. Noted day before General Election which may have precipitated non- attendance of councillors. Chair SH asked to be advised of non-respondents. RB advised CT to be robust following up Councillors attendance.		
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meetings: SACRE 13.03.2024 and Extraordinary SACRE 24.04.2024 Clerk circulated previous meetings 13.03.24 and 24.04.24 by email to SACRE members prior to meeting. No comments from members by email or present at meeting - RB advised matters arising to follow through (see next agenda item). Unable to agree/sign off minutes as meeting not quorate Action: To agree/sign off 13.03.24 & 24.04.24 minutes at next SACRE meeting when quorate.	SACRE	Aut 24
4.	Matters Arising: SACRE Meeting 13.03.2024 Chair SH handed over to RB to go through matters arising from SACRE meeting 13.03.2024: LS - voted Lou on as new SACRE Group C member at last meeting. RB explained LS sent email to inform she is now stepping down having been headhunted to be part of RE team supporting curriculum work at the Harris Academy Chain in London. Doesn't know if can commit time to both so for now RB reluctantly let her go with the hope that she may be able to rejoin SACRE in future. Action: Chair SH asked members to put forward any names. RB also following up leads. SCC Contract – RB reported on behalf of CT that the SCC contract is now all in place for 2024 -26 to provide ongoing support for life of the SACRE. RB highlighted whilst a source of funding SACRE needs to find more economical ways of working e.g. committees without need for cost of RB as professional adviser to be always present. Potential additional funding source which RB to share in meeting. Action: Copy of SCC 2024-26 contract arrangements to be filed by clerk.	SACRE Clerk	Aut 24 Aut 24

	<p>CT is due to take up a new position: Chair SH and RB to write formal thanks for all her support. SCC will inform us of new officer to work alongside SACRE.</p> <p>Action: Chair/RB to write letter of thanks to CT</p> <p>Action: SCC to update SACRE of new officer ahead of Autumn term meeting</p> <p>Group B vacancy – JWT advised still no progress re Diocese of London.</p> <p>Action: JWT to chase up.</p> <p><i>RN joined meeting at 3.10pm</i></p> <p>NASACRE/login – Agenda item later in meeting. RB emphasised importance that as a SACRE take responsibility to keep connected to wider network and up to date with NASACRE news. Explained NASACRE increasingly offering free training/recordings of sessions, online resources and termly briefings to help support work and life of Surrey SACRE members.</p> <p>Action: RB/Clerk to circulate login details by email after meeting.</p> <p>Annual Report – is now in right places. Clerk posted on SACRE page of Diocese of Guilford website and sent copy to DfE and NASACRE where can find other SACRE annual reports. RB reminded members of Group A, and any other nominating bodies, that it is their responsibility to pass on copy of Annual Report to their nominating bodies so aware of SACRE work etc.</p> <p>Other matters arising discussed as agenda items later in meeting.</p>	<p>Chair/ RB SCC</p> <p>JWT</p> <p>RB/ Clerk</p>	<p>Asap Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>18.07.24</p>
5.	<p>Matters Arising: SACRE Extraordinary Meeting 24.04.2024</p> <p>Chair SH fed back on matters arising from SACRE Extraordinary Meeting 24.04.2024:</p> <p>Ahmadiyya membership – Chair SH reported that SCC have now agreed Surrey SACRE can have an Ahmadiyya membership and Rashida Nasir has been invited to become member of Group A. RB displayed formal instruction wording on screen from CT on behalf of SCC:</p> <p><i>'Surrey County Council agrees with the decision to appoint a member of the Ahmadiyya community to Surrey SACRE as unanimously voted for by SACRE at the extraordinary meeting on 24th April 2024. The Ahmadiyyas are a valued part of our wider community, and we are sure the representative will only deepen and enrich the work of SACRE. Thank you for your time in working through the process to date, please can you ensure an appropriate representative of the community is invited to join.'</i></p> <p>RB highlighted very clear SCC want us to proceed with appointment of Ahmadiyya representative to Group A but unable to formally appoint until meeting is quorate. Chair SH commented how pleased we will be to have RN finally as a member of Group A.</p> <p>Action: To formally appoint RN to Group A when this meeting is quorate - awaiting Group D to arrive (as this didn't happen, see AOB for decisions made). Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will be notified once this appointment has been made.</p> <p>Diversity within and across religions and beliefs – Chair SH invited RB to comment. RB explained picked up from previous meeting we are perceiving in religious communities SACRE members represent and in schools, a level of understanding about diversity that is lacking on both sides. Aware denominational differences are sensitive issues and although SACRE has explored this in great length with Rashida's appointment as member of Ahmadiyya community to Group A, there are also other denominations within other religions that have equal sensitivities. Recognise need to equip teachers particularly to understand complexity of religion(s) and how to deal with this in appropriate ways in the classroom so children don't become confused or misrepresent people.</p> <p>Request at last meeting that we could use Surrey Bulletin as a means to write a 'think piece' about diversity, together as a SACRE. Also recognises that as a SACRE we are reflecting an increased diversity with welcome giving to Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. This can help teachers understand who they can ask, where they can go to and how SACRE can help them about diversity.</p> <p>In RB's teacher-facing role can then also develop an understanding of 'complexity' which Ofsted use as a key word in their report 'Deep and meaningful', to help teachers give children steps in the process and develop skills we want them to have without being overwhelmed.</p> <p>Discussion took place between SACRE members of examples experienced within teaching scenarios.</p>	<p>SACRE</p>	<p>Aut 24</p>

	<p>IR flagged aim should be to bring people together rather than create segregation and labelling. Raised issue of ‘religious grooming’ and visitors trying to convert which has been seen in London schools. Need fairness, protection, safeguarding, monitoring and measure of action. Discussion by SACRE members of cases happening in schools but keeping it quiet/closing it down. Discussion about level of jurisdiction over academies and independent schools. JWT highlighted good material available to our schools from Surrey SACRE/Diocese for visits and visitors to schools which gives clear guidance around what should expect for visits/visitors to schools, code of conduct, what to do if there is a concern etc. Question is how to ensure teachers have sight of it and how we can make sure gets into the schools to prevent anything adverse happening.</p> <p>PW not hearing of issues and level of conversation SACRE having in RE network he represents e.g. RE Council. IR discussing with MP to get into law to protect everyone. Chair SH recognised IR raised an important point. RB suggested teachers in Group C to be mindful in dealings with students and if something recognise to bring back to SACRE.</p> <p>Action: IR to share social media examples with PW. PW to raise issue in RE networks going forward.</p> <p>Action: to make religious grooming an agenda item to look at, as part of the wider awareness-raising initiative about understanding diversity in an educational context.</p>	<p>PW/ IR</p> <p>Chair/ RB</p>	<p>03.07.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Chair’s Actions: Chair SH addressed action points from last meeting: Thank you letter to Kawther – Chair SH officially thanked Kawther by letter and verbally in meeting for contributions and work for SACRE over her term of office.</p> <p>NASACRE Conference/AGM – Chair SH and RB attended online. Limitations with the link up technology but good content in seminars which available to SACRE members to view on NASACRE website e.g. making your SACRE more efficient. Hybrid meetings are good if can’t get to the venue but works better in person. For future Surrey SACRE meetings Chair SH asked as many members as possible to join in person with core of Chair SH, RB and Clerk in person for every meeting.</p> <p>Interfaith Training update – Chair SH fed back about the interfaith training session in April with the Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum (SMEF) led by Kawther & Sadia. Focus for training was on interfaith engagement in schools, but the delivery of the session was diverted into a complaint about our syllabus, which in KS1/lower stages of KS2 has a teaching focus more on Christianity (51%), Islam and Judaism - has less about the Dharmic religions. Option to include Dharmic religions in thematic units but concern was expressed that children may end up with a superficial knowledge. Syllabus challenged by leader of SMEF - potential issue not fully understanding the syllabus content. RB explained challenges raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - issue of listening to how it ‘feels’ to be part of a what may be labelled ‘minority community’ and not see your traditions reflected in materials schools teach from. Challenge is to give level of respect each belief deserves but give an in depth understanding to children of what is important if can’t teach everything. - importance of our SACRE membership to work hard as a bridge between communities represent to help develop better understanding. <p>Have had meeting with SCC due to level of anxieties raised.</p> <p>Raised two questions for next time review syllabus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how we respond to need for minority communities to feel involved. - working out what next agreed syllabus looks like ahead as can’t change what it is now. Do have capacity in thematic units to give teachers resources to use now that reflect how different religious communities would answer. <p>RB explained with SDP and new SCC Contract in place can decide as a SACRE to think about how we do this.</p> <p>Discussion took place about interfaith experiences in teaching and community religions by SACRE members. Points raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IR: humanity is the main religion. - RN: teaching the selected faiths/religions as part of the curriculum are a pathway into discussing and highlighting that there are commonalities and differences in the world. 		

	<p>RB explained rationale behind document put together. Aim to reassure not excluding anybody but we want schools to take ownership over content they choose to reflect their pupil population, or because they don't have pupil population of religious traditions/beliefs and want children to learn about them.</p> <p>Action: Hindu Dharma concerns to result in a priority action identified on the Development Plan when the sub-committee meet.</p> <p>Action: RB to share link to SACRE members where to find revised syllabus content information on GDBE-Elevate.</p> <p>PSHE training: RB highlighted to teachers in Group C opportunity to have fully funded PSHE training which could be useful as a SACRE member.</p> <p>Action: RB to share funded training details with Group C.</p> <p>Introduction to GDBE Elevate & member registration – RB briefed members on GDBE Elevate and demonstrated to SACRE members how to register on GDBE Elevate to access RE resources provided for schools. Asked not to share access to outside SACRE.</p> <p>IR commented on use of stereotypical symbols on syllabus documents to represent Sikhism. RB noted comment and will follow up in due course.</p> <p>Action: RB to email details of how to register and log-in with instructional video</p> <p><i>Kawther left meeting at 16:40. Thank you note written in chat function to SACRE: 'Thank you everyone, it's been a pleasure to be part of the SACRE, I hope to keep supporting the SACRE via training for people of faith. I will still be around!'</i></p>	<p>SACRE Sub cttee RB</p> <p>RB</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>15.08.24</p> <p>18.07.24</p> <p>16.08.24</p> <p>18.07.24</p>
10.	<p>SACRE Development Plan (SDP) – Paper 10.1 (emailed to SACRE members 18.06.24):</p> <p>Chair SH briefed need to reconvene SDP Sub-Committee to review SDP priorities and set out actions for 2024-26 responding to current issues/requests we have had e.g. from minority communities. Suggested to be an annual meeting for a couple of hours in person at CHG. Asked for members to volunteer to be on sub-committee: Chair SH, RB, JWT, IR, PW, RD agreed.</p> <p>Action: RB/Clerk to email sub-committee online form to agree suggested date/venue for meeting. Meeting confirmed as 15/08/24, will report actions back to next full SACRE meeting</p> <p>Action: Share details of database of accredited places of worship and accreditation training for hosts, on RE Hubs site. Register your place of worship here Register as a place of interest (re-hubs.uk), but subject to attending FREE training</p>	<p>RB/ Clerk</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>Met 15.08.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
11.	<p>Self-Evaluation Tool – Paper 11.1 (emailed to SACRE members 18.06.24):</p> <p>PW brought attention for record to Self-Evaluation Tool Key Area 3F – making best use of National Guidance.</p> <p>PW shared thought that there is no authoritative National Guidance/documentation – it is the RE community that is generating the national documents which often overlooked. Currently in middle of major change in understanding of teaching of RE not talking about. Pre 1970s basically taught Christianity, 1970s started to teach world religions and eventual move to now teaching about the 'Big Six'. Due to pressure on curriculum time to give enough time to every religion the Commission on RE felt another approach is needed and came up with idea of Religion and Worldviews which not fully understood. Revolution going on in RE which possible because Government shies away from it. Throws up problems as to what is a worldview depending on who explains it – element of doing what the community are telling you to do. Links back to Worldviews discussion earlier in meeting.</p> <p>PW flagged Ofsted report uses phrase 'sufficient enough to teach about' which is a difficult concept – religious communities may not think that content is 'sufficient enough' in their eyes.</p> <p>Discussion by SACRE about difficulty of interpretation and understanding of what Worldviews are and the language used.</p> <p>JJ expressed found it hard to use self-evaluation tool.</p> <p>RB explained not a requirement but a helpful tool to evaluate how well we are working.</p> <p>JWT explained take one section at a time in Kingston SACRE.</p> <p>Chair SH suggested move item to next meeting to give time to looking at the self-evaluation tool.</p>		

	Action: Chair SH and RB to make Evaluation tool an agenda item at meetings.	Chair SH/RB	Aut 24
12.	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Appointment of RN to Group A: no representation from Group D – as meeting not quorate unable to formally approve appointment of RN onto Group A. Proposal made to take an informal vote in meeting with members present. Chair SH asked for proposer and seconder to appoint RN as Group A representative for Ahmadiyya community: Proposer – JJ / Seconder – IR and SS No objections received from SACRE members present – RN appointment to Group A as representative of Ahmadiyya Muslim community informally & unanimously approved by SACRE committee present in meeting, subject to Group D approval at the next meeting. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will be formally notified about this appointment after the next meeting. RB informed SACRE Ahmadiyya Muslim community sent a letter in 2020 nominating RN be a representative on their behalf.</p> <p>Action: letter from Ahmadiyya Muslim community to be filed by Clerk and approval of appointment formally recorded at next quorate meeting.</p>	Clerk/ SACRE	Aut 24
13.	<p>Proposed Dates of 2024/25 SACRE Meetings: Autumn 16.10.24, Spring 12.03.25 and Summer 25.06.24.</p> <p>Members agreed to continue with Wednesday as a meeting day. SS flagged 3-5pm time will be a problem due to her school staff meeting being rescheduled to a Wednesday afternoon.</p> <p>Action: Clerk/RB to email members online form to agree dates/time/venue for 2024/25 meetings Chair SH thanked everyone for coming in person or attending online.</p>	Clerk/ RB	16.08.24

The meeting closed at 5.00pm

Signature:ⁱⁱ ___Approved by Surrey SACRE Committee_/ *S.Harris*(Chair)_____ Date: ___06.11.2024___

Minutes to be circulated to:ⁱⁱⁱ SACRE Committee, Local Authority SACRE Officers, Diocese and being also published in the public domain via cofeguildford.org.uk

Summary of actions^{iv} 03/07/2024

Item	Action on	By whom	By when
3.	<p>Minutes from 13.03.24 & 24.04.24 SACRE meetings:</p> <p>Action: To agree/sign off 13.03.24 & 24.04.24 minutes at next SACRE meeting when quorate.</p>	SACRE	Aut 24
4. & 5.	<p>Matters arising from 13.03.24 & 24.04.24 SACRE meetings</p> <p>Action: Chair SH asked members to put forward any names to replace LS. RB also following up leads.</p> <p>Action: Copy of SCC 2024-26 contract arrangements to be filed by clerk.</p> <p>Action: Chair/RB to write letter of thanks to CT</p> <p>Action: SCC to update SACRE of new officer ahead of Autumn term meeting</p> <p>Action: JWT raised vacancy in Group B for Diocese of London – being followed up.</p> <p>Action: RB/Clerk to circulate NASACRE login details by email after meeting.</p> <p>Action: To formally appoint RN to Group A when this meeting quorate, awaiting Group D to arrive (as this didn't happen, see AOB for decisions made). Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will be notified once this appointment had been made.</p> <p>Action: Diversity within and across religions and beliefs - IR to share social media examples of religious grooming with PW. PW to raise issue in RE networks.</p> <p>Action: to make religious grooming an agenda item to look at, as part of the wider awareness-raising initiative about understanding diversity in an educational context.</p> <p>Action: review of SACRE membership and attendance record at meetings</p> <p>Action: Baha'i concept map – draft to be commented on and ready to present to full SACRE meeting for approval</p>	<p>SACRE/RB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Chair/RB</p> <p>SCC</p> <p>JWT</p> <p>Clerk/RB</p> <p>SACRE</p> <p>IR/PW</p> <p>Chair/RB</p> <p>Chair/RB</p> <p>SM</p>	<p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>18.07.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>03.07.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
6.	<p>Chair's Actions:</p> <p>Action: make interfaith training / understanding diversity an agenda item for SACRE to discuss/address how to help religious communities understand content of syllabus as a document with an educational foundation rooted in realities of classroom practice.</p>	Chair/RB	Aut 24
7.	<p>Membership updates:</p> <p>Action: take formal vote to appoint RN from Group C to Group A when quorate</p> <p>Action: carry Worldviews as a concept (incl. Sentientism) forward as an agenda item/comms for Schools Bulletin.</p> <p>Action: RB to look at developing a YouTube training video for SACRE members to access. This package has now been completed and can be accessed from GDBE-Elevate: GDBE elevate (gdbe-elevate.org), under the 'Surrey SACRE – Induction materials' tab. Training video Section 2 is especially relevant to all members.</p>	<p>SACRE</p> <p>Chair/RB</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Emailed 18.07.24</p>
8.	<p>National updates:</p> <p>Action: RB to send link to full National Content Standard document for SACRE members to read through if interested.</p> <p>Action: RB and JWT putting together a survey for our schools re delivery of curriculum – may need to revisit questions on basis of discussion. Aiming to contact as many subject leaders and senior leaders as possible. This is likely to be included in the Development Plan for the next 3 years.</p> <p>Action: RB to keep in contact with SCC who are progressing extra funding conversation re sale of our syllabus to Wiltshire. Some urgency is needed!</p>	<p>RB</p> <p>RB/JWT</p> <p>RB/CT</p>	<p>16.08.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
9.	<p>Local updates:</p> <p>Action: Hindu Dharma concerns to result in a priority action identified on the Development Plan when the sub-committee meet.</p> <p>Action: RB to share link to SACRE members where to find revised syllabus content information on GDBE Elevate.</p>	<p>SDP sub-com</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>Met 15.08.24</p> <p>18.07.24</p>

	<p>Action: RB to share PSHE funded training details with Group C.</p> <p>Action: RB to email details of how to register and log-in with instructional video for access to GDBE Elevate</p>	<p>RB</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>16.08.24</p> <p>18.07.24</p>
10.	<p>SACRE Development Plan:</p> <p>Action: RB/Clerk to email sub-committee online form to agree suggested date/venue for meeting. Meeting confirmed as 15.08.24 - will report actions back to next full SACRE meeting.</p> <p>Action: Share details of database of accredited places of worship and accreditation training for hosts, on RE Hubs site. Register your place of worship here Register as a place of interest (re-hubs.uk), but subject to attending FREE training</p>	<p>RB</p> <p>RB</p>	<p>Met 15.08.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
11.	<p>SACRE Self-Evaluation Tool:</p> <p>Action: Chair SH and RB to make Evaluation tool an agenda item at meetings</p> <p>Action: send notes by SACRE Group to RB of discussions re Section 3 from Group break out discussions at 13.03.2024 meeting</p>	<p>Chair/RB</p> <p>SACRE Group</p> <p>Chairs</p>	<p>Aut 24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>
12.	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Action: letter from Ahmadiyya Muslim community to be filed by Clerk and formally record at next quorate meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk/SACRE</p>	<p>Aut 24</p>
13.	<p>Proposed Dates of 2024/25 SACRE Meetings:</p> <p>Action: Clerk/RB to email members online form to agree dates/time/venue for 2024/25 meetings.</p> <p>Online Meeting Platform - review use of Teams or Zoom platform for future meetings.</p>	<p>Clerk/RB</p> <p>Clerk/RB</p>	<p>16.08.24</p> <p>Aut 24</p>