

**OXFORDSHIRE
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Minutes of the Oxfordshire SACRE Meeting
held online, Thursday 3rd March 2022 at 4:00 pm**

Present: [SD = standing deputy]

Committee A: World Faiths, Christian Denominations

Giles Beck (SD)
Sarah Montagu
Sheikh Ramzy

Committee B: Church of England

Committee C: Teacher representatives

Nigel Fancourt [Chair]

Committee D: Local Authority

Councillor Bob Johnston

Co-opted Members

Shahin Bekhradnia
Margaret Godden
Arzhia Habibi

In attendance:

Helen Batten (Clerk)
Bill Moore (RE Advisor)
Jane Ratcliffe (Local Authority)

Apologies:

Steve Beegoo (A)
Rae Hancock (C)
Christian McGuinness (C)
Helen Norman (B)
Christine Price-Smith (B)
Councillor Nigel Simpson (D)

1 Introduction

- NF welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Apologies received were accepted.
- Without a Committee B representative, the meeting was not quorate and it was noted that any decisions will require ratification in due course. It was also agreed to recommend that OCC accepts GB as a teacher representative.

3 Minutes of 24th November 2021 & matters arising

- Minutes were approved without amendment.
- Agreed actions were complete, or would be covered by the current agenda.

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- Although it had been agreed that no further actions will be taken with schools regarding the impact of Covid, NF noted that SACRE itself has been affected and the ongoing restrictions have reduced the amount of progress that has been possible since November.

4 Annual Report 2020-21

- BM introduced the draft report which had been circulated, explaining that it follows the format developed by NASACRE in partnership with the government. The draft covers all requirements although the order of some information will need to be adjusted.
- NF reviewed the contents of the report, emphasising that that it captures the position reached in July 2021, although some of this work has subsequently developed further. Exams information has been retained for reference.
- In response to a question, it was clarified that the impact of school closures due to Covid was included in the Chairman's introduction to the 2019-20 report. However this is an ongoing point which will be included again in the Chairman's introduction.
- Members approved the report, subject to the changes discussed.
Action: BM will finalise and distribute the annual report 2020-21.

5 SACRE strategic plan

The November meeting agreed to define SACRE priorities that will link into OCC strategic aims and will help to show how SACRE activities contribute to meeting them. However, it is not clear whether the new OCC strategic aims have been finalised and this work will need to wait until there is clarity. JR advised that the school improvement team has an internal plan and it was agreed to look at this in the meantime, alongside the OCC vision which has been published.

Action: BM will liaise with JR to look at how SACRE priorities link to school improvement priorities.

6 Monitoring school websites

BM introduced the circulated allocation of schools and report template to take forward the review of websites previously discussed. There will be some degree of subjectivity as a judgement will be required in assessing how well the school covers the agreed syllabus. It will also be useful to look at how academies present their use of the syllabus.

Action: SACRE members will complete monitoring of three websites and return reports to BM by 8th March.

7 AOB

- No AOB had been notified.
- A suggestion was raised that SACRE could look at linking with schools to promote the aims of City of Sanctuary, an organisation whose aim is to work with other groups to build a movement of welcome for people seeking sanctuary in the UK. It was agreed to look at this in more detail, including understanding what being a 'school of sanctuary' would entail.

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Action: SR will provide further information for consideration at the next meeting.

8 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 7th June, 4:00 pm. It is hoped to meet in person, and this will be confirmed.

NF thanked everyone for their attendance and input and closed the meeting at 4:55 pm.