



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2019

Members

Group A: *Patricia Alder, Dr Bernard Arambepola, Hasan Boluceh, Nick Chanda, Andrew Gaudion, Muhammad Ibrahim, Rabbi Yuval Keren, Rabbi Emanuel Levy, Marina Robb, Jill Saxton, Navaratnam Shanmuganathan, Rubbina Umar, Sirvan Karakis and 7x vacancies*

Group B: *The Revd. Ian Crofts, The Revd. Gordon Giles, Stephen Miller, Sally Moore. The Revd. Tina Kelsey and 1x vacancy.*

Group C: *Sabah Raza (Chair), Hannah Croton and 5x vacancies.*

Group D: *Cllr Ergin Erbil, Cllr James Hockney, Cllr Michael Rye OBE, Clara Seery and Cllr Mahtab Uddin*

Italics denotes absence

Also Attending

Cllr Tolga Amaraz

Saima Chowdhury – Merryhills Primary

Lucia Silva-Clark - Observer

Israfil Erbil- Observer

Peter Nathan – Director of Education

Josh Newham- Headteacher Forty Hill Primary School

Ozlem Onay- Observer

Becky Shah - Observer

Pauline Swain – SACRE Administrator

Lorraine Feyi-Shonubi - Minute Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Group A

Apologies for absence were received from Patricia Alder, Nick Chanda, Mark Meatcher, Marina Robb and Rubbina Umar.

Group B

Apologies for absence were received from Revd. Tina Kelsey.

Group D

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr James Hockney, Cllr Michael Rye OBE, Cllr Ergin Erbil and Clara Seery.

2. MEMBERSHIP AND WELCOME

Members present and Peter Nathan, Director of Education were welcomed. A warm welcome was given to Lucia Silva- Clark who had been unwell for four months.

The following amendments to membership were reported by the Chair:

(a) Appointments

- Hasan Boluceh – Alevi, Group A

(b) Vacancies

- Revd Dr Gordon Giles informed that there had been some personnel changes at the Baptist Church, but he would follow up on the vacancy.
- Sikhism – the Chair stated that she had contacted the Sikh community and was awaiting a reply.
- Reverend Meatcher was still looking for a representative to fill the United Reformed Church vacancy.
- Clara Seery had written to Headteachers seeking a representative and had furthermore raised the vacancies at the Primary Headteachers' Briefing and Josh Newham had consequently attended the meeting today.
- Religious Society of Friends – A representative was still awaited

(c) Resignation

It was reported that following an unfortunate accident, Lucia Silva-Clark had tendered her resignation as a teacher and as a result no longer met the criteria for membership and as such, resigned with immediate effect.

On behalf of SACRE, the Chair thanked Lucia for her support and for attending the meeting and stated that she was welcome to contribute her ideas for the Secondary RE TeachMeet and training course for Secondary RE teachers in the Summer Term.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The following issues arose through consideration of the Minutes:

- (a) Item 2 - the Chair confirmed that she had sent letters of thanks to members who had resigned.
- (b) Item 3(iii) – it was confirmed that letters had been sent to those members who were being considered for removal due to non-attendance.
- (c) Item 7 (ii) RE Survey for Schools

Revd Dr Gordon Giles tabled the RE Survey Data for primary schools. He stated that two surveys were conducted: one for secondary schools and the other for primary schools, however only four secondary schools had completed the survey, therefore not

enough data to draw conclusions had been collected and suggested that the surveys stays open. This was agreed by members.

A brief analysis of comments from the primary school survey was provided. 24 schools had responded, and the following salient points were noted:

- in instances where children were withdrawn from collective worship or RE, in most cases it involved just one or two children;
- 66.67% of schools were using the Enfield Agreed Syllabus however the data included responses from three Catholic School and one Church of England school.

In response to a comment about the schools that did not use the Enfield Agreed Syllabus, a member commented that from her experience, a number of teachers confused the Agreed Syllabus with the Schemes of Work and this confusion might have extended to the responses. Revd Dr Gordon Giles confirmed that responses did indicate a confusion between the two.

The Chair took this opportunity to express that the Local Authority (LA) recognised that the current Schemes of Work provided by the LA were outdated (written in 2007) and had not been updated due to the LA financial constraints. SACRE would need approximately £5k extra funding for a new Scheme of Work which met the statutory requirements of the Enfield Agreed Syllabus.

A discussion ensued regarding the new Schemes of Work. In response to a query, the Chair explained that there was a Scheme of Work which was made up of 33 units and if all units were taught, the Enfield Agreed Syllabus criteria would be met.

Peter Nathan, Director of Education agreed that this was an important issue and that Enfield SACRE should explore options for a new scheme of work that incorporates current pedagogy and submit these to him.

Resolved

- (a) to keep the survey for secondary schools open and resend in order to collect more responses;

Action: Revd Dr Gordon Giles

- (b) the Chair to explore new Schemes of Work and submit a request for funding to Peter Nathan, Director of Education.

Action: Chair

- (d) Item 7 (iii)(d) Update on newsletter for the RE Quality Mark – The new style Enfield SACRE newsletter was successfully launched and copies were tabled. It contained information, updates and links to support schools with the teaching of high-quality RE. It was hoped that more schools would apply for the Religious Education Quality Mark (REQM). The Chair further stated she was proposing to hold a half day surgery in May for schools to book in half an hour support if they had signed up for REQM but presently not enough schools had applied to be able to warrant and justify the costs to run the surgery.

- (e) Item 10- members reviewed the meeting start time to consider daytime meetings with a focus on well-being and a best fit time to ensure more members could attend.

Members also discussed the possibility of holding the meetings at different venues such as schools or Places of Worship. Members agreed to trial if possible, an earlier start time of 3:30pm until 5:30pm at the meeting on June 16th 2020 and if successful future meetings would be hosted during that time.

Resolved that Pauline Swain checks whether there is a meeting room available at the Civic Centre for a 3:30pm start for the meeting in June 2020 and advise members at the next meeting.

Action: SACRE Administrator

BUSINESS ITEMS

Improving standards in religious education and collective worship

5. FEEDBACK FROM INTER FAITH WEEK

In the absence of Cllr James Hockney, Revd Dr Gordon Giles reported that a successful Inter-Faith Week event featuring Tally Koren's 'Vision of Hope' was held last Sunday to conclude the week-long event. The event was well attended and the stalls showcasing places of worship across Enfield were great.

The Chair thanked SACRE members who had attended, Rabbi Yuval Keren and Revd Dr Gordon Giles for setting up a stall and to all who took part. She further stated that the event was held to strengthen interfaith relations and was part of the SACRE Development Plan. The event had gone well and there was an array of entertainment and a World Café serving a variety of food. The message of the day was to engage in conversation with someone new.

In answer to a question, it was confirmed that it was a one-off event.

6. NASACRE GUIDANCE ON COMPLIANCE TO TEACH RE

A DfE guidance document on Compliance with the duty to teach Religious Education had been circulated ahead of the meeting.

The Chair drew members' attention to the section about handling reports in respect of schools not meeting their duties to teach RE. It was explained that in such instances, the LA and SACRE would follow this up by first contacting the school and give the opportunity to explain or clear any miscommunication. This could be through a face to face meeting with a view to help and support rather than expose failure to meet obligations. If the response provided was satisfactory no further action would be taken. If there was failure to respond or the response was unsatisfactory a second formal letter would be written on behalf of SACRE and it would mention a formal complaint. If the Headteacher failed to respond again, the SACRE would need to consider making a formal complaint to the DfE.

A member asked whether the SACRE/LA were involved in the case with academies. In response, Revd Dr Gordon Giles stated that statistics revealed that one in four academies were not meeting their obligations and the SACRE might need to investigate such instances and find ways of working together.

7. REVIEW OF THE TWO YEAR SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO DATE

Received the Enfield SACRE Development Plan 2018 - 2020.

The Chair stated the SACRE Development Plan had been changed from a one-year plan to a two-year plan. The Plan was now entering its second year. An evaluation of the 2018 - 2019 academic year had been undertaken to see where Enfield SACRE were in terms of the five dimensions of the Ofsted 'SACRE and Self-Evaluation'. The evaluation showed that a great deal had been accomplished. The following actions/strategies were highlighted:

- The Enfield Primary RE TeachMeet events were started last year with one being held in the Summer term and one this term. The event was well attended, and the aim was to empower RE leaders in schools in delivering RE. The Chair stated that she would be willing to support Becky Shah who was thinking of setting up a TeachMeet event for secondary school RE leaders if she decided to go ahead with the plans.
- Secondary schools had not any RE training, therefore an RE Advisor had been identified to deliver RE training. The Chair stated she needed to hear from secondary school teachers on what they would like support with to ensure high quality relevant RE training was delivered.
- Agreed actions had been completed - The Inter Faith event and the RE survey had been created.
- The monitoring of school websites had been discussed and agreed earlier.

8. WEBSITE MONITORING

Noted that it was a legal requirement for schools to publish their RE content on their school websites.

It was agreed that a check list with names of schools be distributed and each member checks the website of their five allocated schools with a view to complete the checks before the next meeting in February 2020; feedback to be submitted via an online questionnaire.

Action: Questionnaire design By Revd Dr Gordon Giles/ review of websites by all members present today

9. ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019 SUMMARY

Members undertook a ten minute activity to identify and write their contributions to the SACRE during the academic year 2018-2019. The information was collected by the Chair who would write an Annual Report on behalf of the SACRE.

10. SACRE WEBSITE

Noted that this item was taken under Item 4. with Item 4 – Update on CD Roms upload to the SACRE website.

Received the document titled "Update regarding SACRE website".

Pauline Swain informed members that that the SACRE website was currently hosted by Fronter, a part of the London Grid for Learning (LGfL) however Fronter had now been updated to Fronter19 and the old version would become obsolete from 19th December. It was further stated that the LA was not renewing the subscription to Fronter19 and an alternative solution had been sought and approved. The LA would create their own SACRE website through the Centre for Learning (CLC) which they would have full control of. In answer to a question regarding the domain name it was stated that the domain name Enfield SACRE <http://enfieldsacre.co.uk/> had been purchased.

Once the design interface of the new website was agreed, Pauline would work with the CLC team on how to easily update the site. All materials uploaded to the new website would be accessible to the public and sections not open to the public would be username and password protected, allowing access to Enfield SACRE members only. Moreover, the website would be user friendly and fully accessible from mobile devices.

A member questioned the use of CD Roms and whether they had any future. In answer, it was explained that the six new units of the RE scheme of work referred to those specific CD Rom clips which would be uploaded but could be downloaded to any preferred format.

11. **HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENT**

The Chair reported that the Holocaust Memorial Day 2020 on 27 January would mark 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The theme this year was “Stand Together”.

Resolved that Pauline Swain liaise with the Community Engagement Officer about ticket availability for SACRE members who would like to attend.

12. **UPDATE ON SACRE’S TEDDY MASCOT**

Noted that the Buddhist temple, Church of England and the Synagogue had hosted the Enfield SACRE Teddy Mascot to promote the places of worship in Enfield. Dr Bernard Arambepola shared that the teddy called ‘Revd Freddy’ had attended a prayer session. Members were encouraged to take and share photos and host Revd Freddie to help promote visits to Places of Worship.

- a) A member raised an issue about the difficulty to visit Places of Worship due to their location with limited transport links. Some suggestions were shared, and it was agreed that a list of places to visit and faith leaders willing to visit schools be re-distributed for ease of access to information.

Action: Chair

13. **SACRE MEETING DATES – ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 - 2020**

Noted the following dates all on Tuesdays:

11 February 2020

16 June 2020

17 November 2020

CLOSE OF MEETING