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PUBLIC

To: Members of Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education

Friday, 11 March 2022

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the **Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education** to be held at **1.30 pm** on **Monday, 21 March 2022** in **The Members Room**, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG, the agenda for which is set out below.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen E. Barrington'.

Helen Barrington
Director of Legal and Democratic Services

A G E N D A

PART I - NON-EXEMPT ITEMS

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. To receive apologies for absence (if any)
3. To receive Declarations of Interest (if any)
4. To confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the SACRE held on 8 November 2021
5. Matters Arising from the minutes

6. Ministerial Statement on RE
7. Case studies of good practice in Schools
8. Journeys of Destiny - update
9. Future training for Schools - Draft Proposals
10. Any Other Business

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** held at County Hall, Matlock on 8 November 2021.

P R E S E N T

LEA Representatives (Committee D)

Councillors C Dale, R Flatley (In the Chair) N Gourlay (substitute member) and G Hickton (substitute member)

Teacher's Associations (Committee C)

Ms A Howes

Church of England Representatives (Committee B)

Mr J Clapham and Mrs N O'Callaghan

Other Christian and Non-Christian (Committee A)

Mrs I Newberry

In attendance - Mr S Ford (Childrens Services) Ms M Sharma & Mr I Walters (Commissioning, Communities and Policy)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors A Dale, J Patten & S Swann, and Mr K Gibbs, Ms D Hammond, Ms E Johnson Mrs S Lewer, and Rev S Watson

There were no declarations of interest.

07/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the SACRE held on 15 March 2021 be received.

08/21 **EXPRESSION OF THANKS FROM THE CHAIRMAN** The Chairman wished to place on record his thanks and appreciation to the former members of the Committee who had retired since the last meeting and thanked them for the work they had carried out during their time on the SACRE. He also recognised the hard work being undertaken in schools and the many challenges faced, during what had been a difficult couple of years due to the continuing covid pandemic

09/21 **FEEDBACK ON THE AGREED RE SYLLABUS AND TRAINING**
Steve Ford informed members that the Derby and Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus had been produced before the lockdown and had been very well received within schools.

The publication of the syllabus had run alongside an extensive training programme provided by RE Today, which had also been very successful.

Steve also outlined that a further discussion was required with colleagues in schools about what training might look like in the future.

RESOLVED to note the update

10/21 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SCHOOL POST-COVID Steve Ford informed the meeting that it was the intention to recommend RE Today as the main providers of training in schools.

The authority had worked alongside RE Today for 15 -20 years and they were seen as the cutting edge in this area, and would provide tailor made training courses to include, new colleagues; the role of the subject leader; and how RE can be successfully taught in both primary and secondary schools.

RESOLVED that Steve Ford contact RE Today with regards to them providing the continuing professional development training in schools

11/21 LAUNCH OF DERBYSHIRE PSHE GUIDANCE AND LINKS TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Steve Ford informed Members that PSHE Matters was designed to:

- Provide a PSHE spiral curriculum that's accessible to all
- Ease teacher's workload by providing creative ideas and links to resources
- Improve pupil's emotional literacy
- Help pupils stay safe and healthy
- Support schools to meet statutory requirements for Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (RSHE)

The learning took place through 12 modules over a 2 year cycle

PSHE Matters linked with the RE Syllabus in the following ways:

- By promoting the development of positive values and attributes. kindness, patience etc. including respect for self and others
- An emphasis on mental wellbeing is embedded, supporting the dignity of each person
- Includes teaching of British values and the celebration of difference of diversity
- Is inclusive of a range of protected characteristics (e.g. through the scenarios)
- Its flexibility allows schools to incorporate the faith perspective of pupils
- Spiritual wellbeing is promoted using mindfulness activities, including breathing, and relaxation, e.g. through the 5 ways to well being
- Its use is compatible and supportive of the principal aim of RE as stated in the Derbyshire and Derby City Agreed Syllabus, in that it provides opportunities to address and reflect on a range of spiritual and moral questions

Steve suggested that colleagues from the Advisory Service be invited to attend the Development Day in March to discuss the delivery of PSHE further.

Following discussion amongst members it was noted that some caution needed to be exercised with PSHE in that it was not a course of study and could not be used by schools as a means of meeting their responsibilities in delivering the RE curriculum. This was seen as a challenge for some primary Schools and a significant number of secondary schools.

RESOLVED to note the update

12/21 OFSTED RESEARCH REVIEW OF RE John Clapham outlined how it had been a very challenging 20 months for schools and that it continued to be so.

The OFSTED Research Review was a comprehensive document which was available on-line and for those who hadn't yet seen it a link would be circulated.

The document was based on extensive research by OFSTED in conjunction with other bodies. OFSTED had focussed its research into what makes effective learning. They broadly based it around the three I's : Intent, Interpretation, and Impact.

John gave a brief summary of the key information that was included and outlined that OFSTED were very much looking at schools providing a knowledge based curriculum. focussing on knowing more and remembering more.

Members made a number of observations and asked questions which were duly noted or answered.

The Chair thanked John for his interesting and informative presentation.

13/21 JOURNEYS OF DESTINY Steve Ford informed members that Journeys of Destiny and Destinies had recently won the Arts & Culture National Award

The project run by Ava Hunt included interviews with the actors in the production in which they gave their accounts of Syria 10 years on, and the impact that Journeys of Destiny had on young people in Derbyshire. A recording of the evening including these interviews had been made and was publicly available and members had been forwarded the link prior to the meeting

Work continued with looked after young people and unaccompanied asylum seekers across the city and county to produce Destinies. The production was filmed in July working with Derby City's Sinfonia Viva and Orchestra Live, and animation created by the young people. This film would

be screened on Monday 15th November at Derby Theatre to young people and schools at 7.30pm.

Steve suggested that Ava and perhaps some of the young actors be invited to the Development day in March, with the hope of providing a live performance or a recording of it.

RESOLVED to note the report

14/21 PLANNING OF DEVELOPMENT DAY The Development Day would take place on the morning of 21 March with colleagues from Derby City Council invited to join, prior to the main SACRE meeting in the afternoon.

Suggestions for guests and speakers already included Journeys of Destiny and PSHE.

15/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS The next meeting would be on 21 March 2022 (Development Day)

Baslow St. Anne's C of E Primary visit to Kolkata, India.

Baslow St. Anne's C of E Primary is a small school in the heart of the Peak District with 123 children on roll. As a Church school our Christian vision and values threads through everything we do:

'Life in all its fullness.... growing healthy minds and hearts together.'

Respect, Kindness and Diversity

As Headteacher at Baslow St. Anne's Primary School it is a privilege to be able to work together as a strong team and community to enable our children to thrive and enhance our children's experiences and awareness beyond our rural village of Baslow. Through our SIAMS and self-evaluation, we are aware that the need to drive courageous advocacy and global awareness is an imperative part of our curriculum. Therefore, when the opportunity to work alongside the Diocese of Derby to work out in Kolkata came up, I snapped up the opportunity.

On January 24th 2020 myself and 39 teachers and students from Derby University set out from Birmingham Airport heading to Kolkata and what an incredible experience my visit to India proved to be! From the minute we landed in Kolkata, it was a non-stop exciting week of the most amazing experiences. From seeing the Ganges and peoples' lives around this river, temples and being fully immersed in a Hindu festival, to spending three days with a host family out in the village of Mahamaya and really getting a flavour of true Indian life: cooking, shopping, going to the water pump for water, cows and goats wondering along the paths – a really simple, but content life.



A highlight was being based in a school where, although a very early start, the children came in so keen to learn and be at school. Working alongside the committed teachers and finding ways to further improve classroom life and learning for these children, who sat on hard wooden floors with a

simple blackboard and piece of chalk. This was a real learning curve for our children at Baslow, where they could see the difference in their school lives and the way we learn and the privileges we have. This instigated our School Council to organise raising funds to enhance provisions for our link school and children in Kolkata.



A visit to the slums and Brace Bridge School really left an impression and although the surrounding area of the slums and the poor living conditions were a challenge to see, this little oasis of a school central to this was thoroughly uplifting.



The finale was a hot day (although the children were wrapped up in hats, jumpers and scarves, whilst we had sunhats and sun cream on for the 25-degree heat) with over 500 children from the schools that we had worked with coming together to enjoy a celebratory sports day: everything from the traditional sack race, football and three-legged race to enjoying activities with the parachute. The children then all had their lunch of rice, curry, fruit and salad followed by an ice-cream...smiles beamed from the sports field.



I feel privileged to have had the experience and the importance for us as a school to keep this link with Mahamaya School strong and as a prominent part of our curriculum, global awareness, alongside courageous advocacy and fundraising. Please do take a look at our school's website: Baslow.School under: News and Events – India.

Marie Clark

Headteacher – Baslow St. Anne's C of E Primary School

St. Andrew's CE Junior school – SACRE Case Study

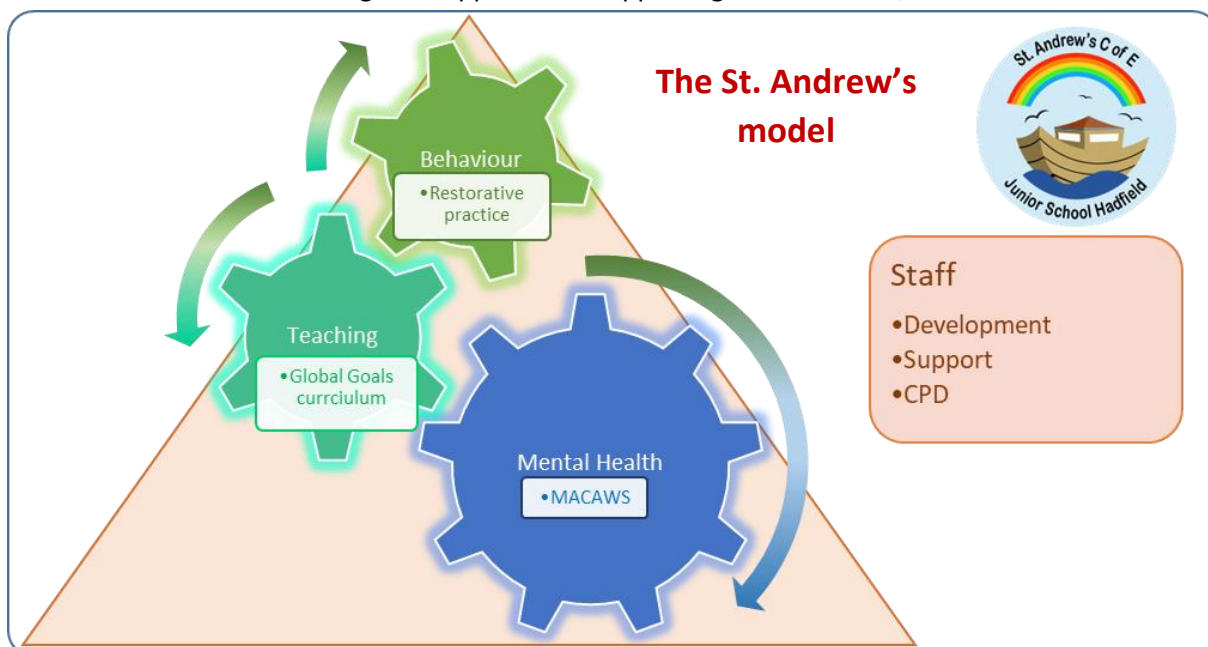
Our Vision

Through experiences rooted in Christian Values and through mutual Respect, we guide children to develop Compassion, Responsibility and Resilience in a caring environment.

St. Andrew's CE Junior school is located in the small town of Hadfield, North West Derbyshire with just over 200 pupils and is double form intake. Our recent OFSTED inspection (November 2021) resulted in a strong Good rating overall with Personal Development rated as Outstandingⁱ. As a Church of England school, the Christian ethos is at the centre of everything we do. Jesus recognised that true healing was not just about the physical, but the inner person; time and again he addressed that inner aspect of people's lives.

Recognising this, we seek to develop the inner-self alongside teaching and learning with a focus on moral integrity and the development of courageous advocacy. We realised that a strong, resilient self-image is key to good learning, so focusing on mental health is just as important as effective teaching. We want our children to become self-aware, problem solvers who are resilient and able to resolve conflict effectively. What does this mean in practice?

It means that we have an integrated approach to supporting mental health, illustrated below.



At the centre of our mental health provision lies MACAWS (**M**otivating **A**ll **C**hildren to **A**chieve **W**ith **S**upport)ⁱⁱ. It is our main priority to help all children to achieve the best they can, both academically and personally. However, we understand that sometimes life doesn't always go to plan and that children may need a little extra support to ensure both mental and emotional well-being whilst they are in our care.

MACAWS does this in a number of ways including a special sensory quiet area where children can go if they need time alone, a MACAWS room where lead staff can help children with their issues, and Mental Health Champions – year 5 and 6 pupils who provide a mentoring and support role within the school. We also run Relax Kids sessions to help children regulate their emotions and learn self-soothing techniques. MACAWS is fully integrated with our SEND provision, but is there to support all children who might need it.

We encourage roles of responsibility as an important part of personal development, and alongside our Mental Health Champions there are various roles including Head Boy and Girl, Garden Gang, Pupil Task Force, Collective Worship Leaders, Dojo Den Crew, House Captains and Sports Leaders.

Our curriculum is based on Oxfam Global Goalsⁱⁱⁱ and is both linked in to our Christian values (one value is selected each half-term alongside the current Global Goal) and this is reflected in our daily celebration

services and formal teaching; embedded within RHSE but linked through into all subjects. Hadfield has a predominantly White demographic, so we are keen to bring world culture to our children, giving them a knowledge and appreciation of the wonderful diversity of human culture, and imparting a sense of equality and justice. We use the Lyfta application^{iv} to support this, with its extensive library of worldwide cultural showcases. Just one example of how this works its way out, is that our Year 6 pupils independently decided to get involved with, and campaign for, a local environmental concern “Save Roughfields”^v. They wrote to the local MP and had a front page article in the local newspaper.

At St. Andrew’s you’ll find a happy, mutually respectful environment where children work well together, behaviour is good, bullying is rare and the atmosphere is positive and enthusiastic. We link our approach to mental health and behaviour management using restorative practice^{vi} – both children and staff learn a vocabulary of positive engagement, and where things do go wrong, the emphasis is on restoration, not punishment.



Alongside this sits our staffing resource. There is a strong emphasis on giving staff the support they need both in terms of professional development and personal need. The result is high morale and trust at all levels, and a genuine collaboration between teaching and non-teaching staff.

ⁱ <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/112869>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.standrewshadfield.org/macaws-1/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://oxfamilibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/620105/edu-global-citizenship-schools-guide-091115-en.pdf>

^{iv} <https://www.lyfta.com/>

^v <https://www.questmedianetwork.co.uk/news/glossop-chronicle/hadfield-school-pupils-make-personal-plea-about-green-space/>

^{vi} <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-andrews-cofe-junior-school/UploadedDocument/6039a86145f2488fa2496eea5e525c4a/st-andrews-restorative-practice-and-behaviour-policy-2021-final.docx.pdf>

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Short Report on *Journeys of Destiny* and *Destinies*

March 2021 *Journeys of Destiny* and *Destinies* – companion pieces – were awarded Children & Young People Now Arts and Culture Award.

Destinies started rehearsals in 2019 and was originally planned to be a rehearsed play reading for April 2020 with a subsequent tour of schools based on *Journeys of Destiny* model. The piece would explore themes of emotional resilience and the challenges/experience of making new friends in a host community. When Covid happened we had to change our plans.

Destinies was a co-created theatre piece with young people with care experience and unaccompanied asylum seekers in partnership with Derbyshire Virtual School, Sinfonia Viva and Orchestra Live. Young people developed characters, songs, musical composition, animation and performance skills. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVsErtZr060>

November 2021 Two years later *Destinies* culminated in a filmed theatre production which was screened at Derby Theatre as part of Culture Cares conference – a national conference bringing together leading practitioners, artists and young people with care experience. Many of the young people had gained significant opportunities to develop new skills, grow in confidence but most importantly made new friendships and felt connection. The film has not been released to a wider public audience yet. All the work has been funded by the Arts Council and supported by Derbyshire Virtual School via their Creative Mentors scheme.

May 2021 Amnesty International (Wirksworth) asked us to contribute to an on-line celebration of Amnesty's 60th year & Social Justice Festival. It was also the 10th year of the Syrian war and we filmed an interview with Saad AlKassab – whose story was at the heart of JoD. This interview can be viewed from 30 minutes into the footage link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjYOQOLIfUw&t=9s>



Due to a lack of ongoing funding, there are currently no plans to re-tour ***Journeys of Destiny*** into schools. AHT continues to work with young people using drama as a pedagogy delivering workshops that explore values and citizenship in Adult Education centres across the county. We developed these workshops with Sally Siner (Prevent Officer for Derby City).

AHT remains open to discussion about how we might fund and continue to use live theatre/drama or our digital theatre resources (as detailed above) to work in schools and further support to the aims and objectives of SACRE.

Ava Hunt
February 2022

Derby and Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus launches

RE Today Services were delighted to work again with Derbyshire SACRE and for the first time with Derby SACRE to produce the 2021-2026 Joint Derby and Derbyshire Agreed syllabus.

We planned to hold either 6 or 7 face to face events with schools paying for delegates to attend bringing in considerable funds for the local authority. The training was planned, written and delivered by Fiona Moss and Lat Blaylock from RE Today services. These day long face to events were spread across the county to ensure they were accessible to all schools.

The first four events in February and early March 2020 were held and were a great success with over 250 delegates attending from primary and secondary schools across the city and county. Due to the Pandemic lockdown the next three events were postponed in the hope that they would be able to be held face to face. It became clear that this was not possible and so three virtual full day Syllabus launches were held in October 2020. These events were delivered by Fiona Moss and Lat Blaylock and hosted on their virtual training platform. More than 100 delegates attended these three events and a recording of the event was provided to some other schools who were unable to attend. Again schools paid the local authority to attend these training days.

In total over face to face, virtual and recordings of the training almost 400 teachers of RE have been trained on using the syllabus. Overall teachers graded the launch 94% very good and 5% good.

- Thank you, you've both been fab!
- Thank you for today, it has been really useful and given me lots of ideas to take back into school. Thanks again :-)
- Brilliant training, really useful and well structured. Very inspiring x
- I liked the interactive sharing of resources and demonstration of how these could be applied in the classroom. The delivery of information from Lat and Fiona was captivating!
- Thank you so much for a productive and informative day!

Possible RE Today training for Derby City and Derbyshire schools

Help I'm the RE subject leader: Primary

1 day: can be provided as a face to face event or a virtual event.

This course is ideal for new subject leaders and will take place face to face/online. If you have been an RE subject leader for a while and have not attended similar training you will also find this useful. This gives great support to a new subject leader in a community or a church school during their early days of leading the subject

The three sessions during the day will provide you with the knowledge and confidence to be an effective and inspirational RE subject leader in the primary school. Explore the role of the subject leader, using practical activities to develop your understanding of RE and your leadership and management skills. Focus on creative task setting, planning a scheme of work using your locally agreed syllabus, and effective and manageable monitoring and self evaluation.

Leading:

- Understanding of the statutory requirements for RE
- The role of the subject leader
- What is RE for? Exploring the aims and purposes of RE
- RE in your school – activities to share with colleagues

Enthuse, empower and inspire:

- Creative and effective task setting in RE
- Activities for children from 4-11 that will challenge, inspire and inform

RE and the curriculum Knowing where you're going:

- Effective and manageable monitoring and evaluation
- Bringing about necessary change.

RE in the Early years

1 day or half a day: this works best as a face to face event

How does RE fit into the new EYFS requirements?

This course will provide ideas for teaching and learning that fit with the new requirements. We will give time for practitioners to share ideas and resources. There will be suggestions of how to include story, festival art and song into RE in the reception class.

Deep diving into RE: Primary and Secondary

Ideally 2 x 2 hour online sessions with a gap task or (less ideal) 1 x 4 hour long afternoon

These sessions/this session helps teacher to consider what a good RE curriculum looks like and how to answer any questions on RE provision, quality and progression in the subject from visitors including OFSTED inspectors.

We will look carefully at the OFSTED research review and consider what that might mean for RE in our schools.

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