

## **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)