

NOTICE OF MEETING

Agreed Syllabus Conference

Thursday 8 March 2012, 6.30 pm

Council Chamber, Fourth Floor, Easthampstead House, Bracknell

To: The Agreed Syllabus Conference

Susan Burrow, The Free Churches
Paula Ridgway, The Free Churches
John Baildam, The Free Churches
One Vacancy, The Free Churches
Anne Gibbons, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Carol Nicholls, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Kusum Trikha, Hindu Faith
Joel Roszykiewicz, Buddhist faith
Rabbi Zvi Solomons, Jewish faith
Arfan Rashid, Muslim faith
Ranjit Bilkhu, Sikh Community
David Fawcett, Church of England
Julie Mintern, Church of England
Mark Olney, Church of England
Councillor Andy Blatchford, Bracknell Forest Council
Councillor Dr Gareth Barnard, Bracknell Forest Council
Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes MBE, Bracknell Forest Council
Councillor Peter Heydon, Bracknell Forest Council
Councillor Clifton Thompson, Bracknell Forest Council
Felicity Allen, Associations Representing Teachers (NASUWT)
Madeline Diver, Associations Representing Teachers (VOICE)
Colin Hickson, Associations Representing Teachers (NUT)
Samantha Hunt, Associations Representing Teachers (ATL)
Maria Soulsby, Associations Representing teachers (NAHT)
One Vacancy, Associations Representing Teachers (ACSL)
Kathy Hadfield, Co-opted Member
Rev Michael Bentley, Co-opted Member
ALISON SANDERS
Director of Corporate Services

EMERGENCY EVACUATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 If you hear the alarm, leave the building immediately.
- 2 Follow the green signs.
- 3 Use the stairs not the lifts.
- 4 Do not re-enter the building until told to do so.

If you require further information, please contact: Priya Patel
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**Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
Thursday 8 March 2012, 6.30 pm
Council Chamber, Fourth Floor, Easthampstead House,
Bracknell**

AGENDA

Page No

1. **Election of Chairman**
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 10
November 2011. 1 - 2
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Update on Syllabus Review**
5. **Dates of Next Meeting**



**AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE
10 NOVEMBER 2011
6.00 - 6.35 PM**

Present:

Gordon Anderson, Church of England (Chairman)
Paula Ridgway, The Free Churches
John Baidam, The Free Churches
Anne Gibbons, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Carol Nicholls, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Kusum Trikha, Hindu Faith
Joel Roszykiewicz, Buddhist Faith
Rabbi Zvi Solomons, Jewish Faith
Arfan Rashid, Muslim Faith
David Fawcett, Church of England
Julie Mintern, Church of England
Councillor Blatchford, Bracknell Forest Council (BFC)
Councillor Mrs Hayes, BFC
Councillor Heydon, BFC
Madeline Diver, VOICE
Colin Hickson, NUT
Dr Kathy Hadfield, Co-opted Member
Rev Michael Bentley, Co-opted Member

In Attendance:

Jo Fageant, Advisor to SACRE
Martin Surrell, Children, Young People & Learning (BFC)
Priya Patel, Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for Absence were received from:

Ranjit Bilkhu, Sikh Faith
Councillor Dr Barnard, BFC
Councillor Thompson, BFC
Felicity Allen, NASUWT
Samantha Hunt, ATL

1. Confirmation of Nomination and Appointment of Members

The clerk confirmed that letters had been sent to all nominating bodies to ask if they had any objection to SACRE members being appointed as members of the ASC. It was confirmed that no objections had been received. In addition, the Executive Member had agreed that elected members be appointed to the ASC.

2. Election of Chairman

It was agreed that Gordon Anderson chair the Agreed Syllabus Conference for 2011-12.

3. Coordinated Working Groups – Report on Progress

Jo Fageant reported that the current syllabus was being used as a basis for revisions. The meetings to date had generated lots of good ideas and there had been great enthusiasm from all involved. The quality of discussions had been very good, however it was noted that Bracknell Forest had only been represented at Key Stage 2.

Jo Fageant reported that at the last syllabus review, key parts of the syllabus were turned into questions. These questions would remain unchanged and would essentially become the syllabus and all the remaining detail would be put into appendices to the syllabus. This would address the request from teachers that the syllabus be thinner and clearer, yet the appendices would still provide the detail and support for those that needed it.

Foundation Stage – the introduction and questions had been sharpened up. Requirements remained unchanged.

Key Stage 3 – had also been sharpened up.

Key Stage 4 – the requirement to sit an accredited exam had remained unchanged.

Jo Fageant reported that all changes to the syllabus had been around methodology and ways to make it clearer for teachers to plan RE. The content of the syllabus would be left unchanged, for faith groups to define.

Members thanked Jo for all the work she had undertaken to enthuse teachers and expressed disappointment that Bracknell Forest teachers were not represented except at Key Stage 2, despite being encouraged to attend and supply costs being reimbursed.

4. Confirmation of Approval Process and Timing

There would need to be a meeting of the Agreed Syllabus Conference before the meeting of SACRE on 5 July 2012 to approve the revised syllabus being put forward for approval by the Executive Member at Bracknell Forest Council. It was hoped that this meeting could take place on 15 May 2012. The revised Agreed Syllabus would then go forward to be approved by the Executive Member in June 2012, allowing the Syllabus to be rolled out in schools in September 2012.

5. Date of Meeting for Final Approval of the New Agreed Syllabus

Agreed Syllabus Conference, Tuesday 15 May 2012 at 5pm in the Council Chamber.

CHAIRMAN