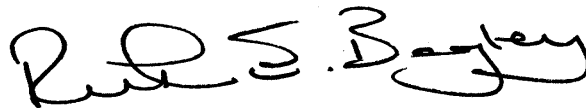


Date of issue: 5th October 2010

MEETING	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
DATE AND TIME:	WEDNESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2010 AT 4.30 PM
VENUE:	COMMITTEE ROOM 2, TOWN HALL, BATH ROAD, SLOUGH
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	CLAIRE GRAY 01753 875120

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are requested to attend the above Meeting at the time and date indicated to deal with the business set out in the following agenda.



RUTH BAGLEY
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
	Apologies for absence.	
1.	Election of Chair	
2.	Election of Vice-Chair	
3.	Welcome and Introductions	

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
4.	Minutes of the Last Meeting	1 - 4
5.	Matters Arising	
6.	Membership Update and Suggested Amendments to the SACRE Constitution	5 - 6
7.	SACRE Art Exhibition at St. Mary's Church	7 - 8
8.	Update on the Slough Religious Studies Centre	
9.	Report on the Joint SACRE Conference held on 15th June	
10.	The Annual SACRE Report	
11.	Issues Raised at the Joint SACRE Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>RE Trails</i> - <i>Value and continuance of the Joint SACRE's Conference including a consideration of funding arrangements</i> - <i>RE syllabus review process</i> - <i>Training opportunities for teachers of RE in special schools</i> - <i>Training opportunities for members of SACREs</i> 	
12.	Applications for a Determination: Baylis Court	9 - 16
13.	Any Other Business <i>(Please contact the Chair jo.fageant@oxford.anglican.org in advance of the meeting if you wish for an item to be included in AOB at the meeting)</i>	
14.	Date of Next Meeting - <i>Wednesday, 9th February, 2010</i>	

Press and Public

You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before the Committee considers any items in the Part II agenda. Special facilities may be made available for disabled or non-English speaking persons. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer shown above for further details.



Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – Meeting held on Wednesday, 9th June, 2010.

Present:-

Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths

Igan Hayati – Baha'i Faith

Sue Elbrow – Free Churches

Committee 2 – Church of England

Andrew Allen

Alan Bignell

Christine Isles

Committee 3 – Representatives of Teacher Associations

Committee 4 – Representatives of the LEA

Councillors Bains, Basharat, Maclsaac and Mann

Also Present: Shabana Kauser (Clerk)

Apologies for Absence: Lynda Bussley, Jo Osborne, Jo Fageant and Annie Keighley.

PART I

1. Election of Chair

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Reverend Alan Bignell was elected as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February, 2010

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 February 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

Slough Religious Studies Centre

The Chair reported that membership to the RE Centre had been steadily declining for a period of time. It was reported that a telephone enquiry was due to be carried out to ascertain what the needs of the users were and whether these were being adequately catered for by the Centre.

4. Application for a Renewal of Determination for Godolphin Infant School

Members were advised that a request for a renewal of a determination granted to Godolphin Infants School on acts of collective worship had been received. It was reported that the Senior Adviser, Standards and Achievement

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had visited the school in May 2010, following which it was recommended that the determination be extended.

Whilst endorsing the application for renewal, Members expressed their surprise that there were so few festivals celebrated in the school assemblies in light of the comments made by the Headteacher to the Senior Adviser following her visit in May 2010.

In the subsequent discussion it was also raised that the minutes of the Governing Body submitted within the agenda, did not refer to the approval for the determination by the governors.

Resolved – That the renewal for determination for Godolphin Infant School be approved subject to a copy of the minutes being submitted showing the approval for the determination by the Governors.

5. Reports on Determination visits for Montem Primary School and James Elliman Primary School

Members were reminded that at the meeting of SACRE in February 2010, applications for renewals of determinations for James Elliman Primary School and Montem Primary School were approved subject to a satisfactory visit taking place by the Senior Adviser, Standards and Achievement. Following visits to James Elliman Primary School in May 2010 and Montem primary School in March 2010, the Officer's recommendation was for the determinations to be extended.

6. Feedback from the QCDA NASACRE Conference

Christine Isles updated Members with regard to her attendance at the QCDA /NASACRE Conference in March 2010. A detailed session was held with regard to the new primary curriculum which was due to be implemented in September 2011. However, it was brought to the meeting's attention that this had been rescinded by the new Education Secretary.

An overview relating to the new RE guidance was provided which clarified the relevant legislation and explained the duties of SACRE.

It was reported that the conference had been very informative and had provided an opportunity to share experiences with other SACRE bodies. It was agreed that information relating to the conference would be included in a future newsletter.

7. AOB

Art In Heaven Project

Members were provided with a copy of a letter that had been circulated to all Headteachers regarding participating in a local version of the Art In Heaven project. It was noted that the closing date for entries was 22nd July 2010 and it

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was anticipated that a community exhibition would be held in the autumn term.

Recent Publications

Copies of the OFSTED Executive Summary on RE and Religious Education in English Schools: Non Statutory Guidance 2010 were provided to Members.

Joint SACREs Conference

The Clerk reported that any member wishing to attend the Joint SACREs Conference needed to have confirmed their attendance by 15th June 2010. Sue Elbrow and Christine Isles indicated that they would be attending the conference and would confirm acceptance direct to Jo Fageant.

SACRE Members Handbook

Sue Elbrow informed Members she had recently attend a SACRE meeting and had received a handbook for SACRE Members and commented that the handbook would be an invaluable introduction and guide to the work of the SACRE for new members. It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase 10 copies of the booklet for distribution to members at the next meeting.

8. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Wednesday 13th October 2010 and that the venue was to be confirmed.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 4.15 pm and closed at 5pm)

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SLOUGH STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

The SACRE is established in accordance with Section 11 of the Education Reform Act 1988 (as amended by Section 255 of the Education Act 1993) by Slough Borough Council acting as Local Education Authority.

Membership

1. The Members of the SACRE shall be appointed by the Authority so that they shall represent the following groups.

Committee 1 – Christian denominations and other religions (12)

The Free Churches (1)
The Black Free Churches (1)
The Roman Catholic Church (1)
Hinduism (1)
Islam (4)
Judaism (1)
Sikhism (2)
Baha'is (1)

Committee 2 – The Church of England (4)

Committee 3 – Associations representing teachers (6)

National Union of Teachers
Professional Association of Teachers
National Association of Head Teachers
Secondary Heads Association
National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers
Association of Teachers and Lecturers

Committee 4 – The Authority (5)

2. Committee 4 shall be subject to the proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
3. No Member appointed to the Cabinet shall be appointed to the SACRE.
4. The SACRE shall be appointed by the Council.
5. Where a nominated representative fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the SACRE and fails to give their apologies s/he, shall cease to be a member of the SACRE and the nominating body shall be invited to nominate another representative provided that:
 - (a) the Clerk to the SACRE has advised the member in writing of the provision of this clause following the second missed meeting and at least a 10 working days before the third meeting.

- (b) SACRE does not decide to disapply this rule for reasons of extenuating circumstances.

Terms of Reference

1. In accordance with Section 11 of the Education Reform Act 1988 (as amended by Section 255 of the Education Act 1993) to advise the Council on such matters connected with religious worship in schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to it or as it may see fit. To advise, in particular, on methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.
2. On application made by a Head Teacher of any Slough school after consultation with the governing body to consider whether it is appropriate for the requirement for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of that school, or in the case of any class or description of pupils at that school. The SACRE shall arrive at its decision and communicate it to the Head Teacher in accordance with the provisions of Section 12 of the Education Reform Act 1988.
3. The representative groups on the SACRE other than that representing the authority may at any time require a review of any agreed syllabus for the time being adopted by the authority.
4. The SACRE shall each year publish a report on its proceedings and those of its representative groups, the report to specify any matters on which the SACRE has given advice to the authority and the reasons for offering that advice.
5. The SACRE shall take any action assigned to it by the authority in relation to the consideration and disposal of any complaint concerning worship or religious education in compliance with Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988.

Schoolchildren's religious paintings on five themes on display in church

Art in heaven and on earth

By Nick Mayo

nicholasm@baylismedia.co.uk

A RELIGIOUS education theme was fitting for art displayed in a church.

Slough's standing advisory committee on religious education (SACRE) launched an exhibition at St Mary's Church on Thursday last week.

The Church Street venue is displaying art created by schoolchildren following a

competition by SACRE.

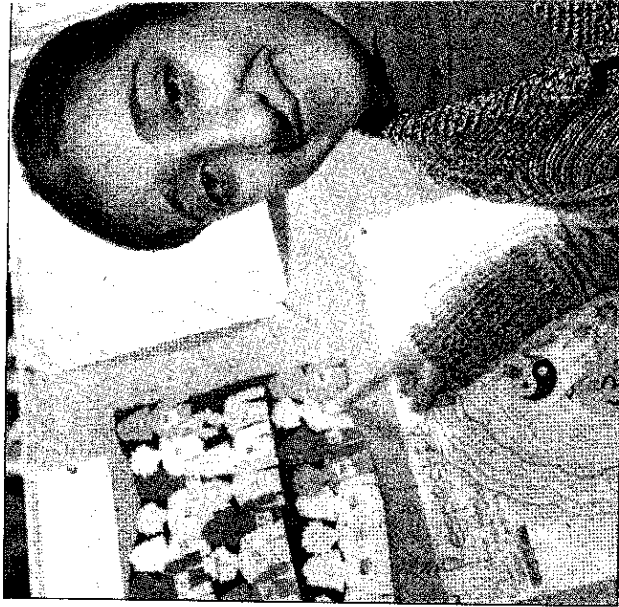
It gave senior and primary pupils, from Priory, Baylis Court Secondary and Wexham Secondary schools the chance to create art around five themes - respect, celebrating life, celebrating love, spiritual space, talking to God: where is God? and mystery stories.

Each pupil who entered also wrote a short explanation on why they portrayed their ideas in the way from 3.30-5.30pm, finishing tomorrow (Saturday).

The exhibition is on display at lunchtimes and from 3.30-5.30pm, finishing tomorrow (Saturday).

Jo Pageant, chair of Slough SACRE, said: "We have been overwhelmed by the quality of the art the schoolchildren have created and the thought and feelings they have put into it. "It is a snapshot of how local children feel about religion and we hope local residents will come and see the amazing work."

The exhibition is on display at lunchtimes and from 3.30-5.30pm, finishing tomorrow (Saturday).



I DID THAT: Kiran Nasim, 15, with Art In Heaven. Ref:107741

■ **PRIORY PUPIL:** Top right, Chloe Bailey, nine, from Priory Primary School, with her work. Ref:107747-5

■ **SACRE-D ART:** Far right, art on display from schoolchildren in Slough. Ref:107747-11

■ **HANDS ON:** Right, artwork by Alian Labal, from Baylis Court School. Ref:107747-8

■ **WEXHAM WORK:** Far right, Elizabeth Maklin and Jasleen Kalsi. 15. Ref:107747-15



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**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
APPLICATION FOR A DETERMINATION ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The Head Teacher of a school seeking a determination under Section 12 of the Education Reform Act, 1988 is asked to complete this form and send it to the Clerk to the SACRE.

1. Name and Address of School

Baylis Court School
Gloucester Avenue
Slough SL1 3AH

2. Age range of School

11-18

3. Number on Roll

850

4. Date on which the Governing Body was consulted on this application

(Please enclose a copy of the relevant item in the Governing Body's minutes)

5. Have the parents of children at the school been consulted and if so, what views did they express?

As parents are satisfied with our current practice we have not felt the need for further consultation, although Parent Governors are informed at Governor Meetings

6. How many children are withdrawn by their parents from collective worship?

None

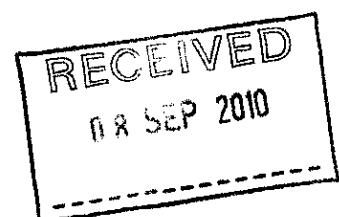
7. Which faith background do these children come from?

N/A

8. Does the application cover the whole school? Yes/No

If no, what is the class or description of children for whom a determination is sought?

Yes



9. Information you consider relevant about the family backgrounds of the children in question.

As we are a multi faith school our collective worship reflect this.

10. What kind of collective worship are you seeking to provide for the children covered by this application?

The school is committed to an active and evolutionary approach to collective worship in the belief that it is a significant element in our attempt to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils reflecting the background of pupils.

With collective worship we intend to bring the school community together to develop a strong moral code and an awareness of the variety of faith backgrounds within pupils and staff.

11. Does this represent a continuation of present practice or would it be an innovation?

Continuation of present practice.

12. What practical arrangements do you plan to make? (e.g. timing, location, who will organise it)

There is a regular pattern of assemblies each week as follows:

Monday	Years 7 and 8	Hall*
	Year 11	Dining Room
	Years 9, 10 and 12/13	Tutor Room
Tuesday	Years 9 and 10	Hall*
	Year 7	Dining Room
	Years 8, 11 and 12/13	Tutor Room
Wednesday	Years 7, 8 and 9**	Hall*
	Year 10	Dining Room
	Years 11 and 12/13	Tutor Room
Thursday	Years 10, 11 and 12/13**	Hall*
	Year 8	Dining Room
	Year 8	Tutor Room
Friday	Years 7 and 9	Hall*
	Years 11 and 12/13	Dining Room
	Year 9	Tutor Room
	Years 7, 8 and 10	Tutor Room

13. If there are any children not covered by the application, what arrangements do you plan to make for them?
All pupils are covered by the arrangements.

14. Is there any other information you would like the SACRE to take into account?

Signed U-Ball Date 3.9.10

(Please return to Claire Gray, Clerk to the SACRE, Democratic & Member Services, Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough, SL1 3UQ)

continue to monitor this taking into account that the information will be affected by Government changes and subject to adjustment over time.

5. Building Schools for the Future

Mrs Ball advised that the recent bid by Slough Borough Council for funding was not successful and that a decision has now been made to put in a new bid by September. A Strategic Planning Group has been formed to produce a Readiness to Deliver (RTD) proposal with draft papers to be ready by the end of August.

6. New Sub Station

Mrs Ricketts reported that a new sub station has been installed to boost the electrical supply to the school site. Scottish and Southern Electricity has expressed an interest in purchasing the plot of land it is built on. The preferred option for the school would be to grant them a 99 year peppercorn lease. This option was proposed by Mrs Elmes-Matthews, seconded by Mrs Silvester with all in favour.

7. Headteacher's Report

Mrs Ball presented her report highlighting a 100% turnout at the recent new year 7 parents' information evening. Despite serious measures to encourage some year 11 pupils to engage with their GCSE learning their general apathy may well have an impact on this year's GCSE results.

8. Policies

8.i Whistleblowing – This was proposed by Mrs Ball, seconded by Dr Dias with all in favour.

8.ii Rarely Cover – Despite Baylis Court staff coming up with an agreement suitable to them, local agreements are now deemed illegal. The newly drafted policy was ratified by the Governors with unanimous agreement before being presented to the Unions.

8.iii Special Leave – The amended copy of this to take into account inclement weather was proposed by Mrs Elmes-Matthews, seconded by Mrs Parkes with all in favour.

8.iv Complaints – Mr Reekie reported that a draft copy of this needs further work following discussion between himself and Mrs Ball. Thereafter it will be given to Staff and Parent Governors for further comment.

9. Governor Visits to School

A review of the policy will be carried out at the next Full Governor meeting. In the meantime all Governors continue to be encouraged to come in to the school.

10. Confidential Matters

Two items are detailed in part II of these minutes.

11. Committee Reports

These were all confirmed and accepted by the Governors.

12. Circulation Items

- School newsletter
- 'Governors' magazine

13. Any Other Business

- Mrs Dickson reported how much she enjoyed the recent Arts showcase and encouraged Governors to attend future events.
- Mrs Ball advised that Child Protection/Safeguarding policies are being written up.
- Mrs Ball advised that she has received a letter from the new Government advising that Baylis Court School is eligible to become an academy under the new criteria offering this to outstanding schools.
- Mrs Ball advised the high cost of implementing an electronic learning gateway system, already in use by other schools. A decision to use this has been put on hold until a final decision is made by the new Government on whether or not this will still be a legal requirement.
- Mrs Ball informed the Governors about the reapplication to the Standard Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for a determination on collective worship. The Governors confirmed their support for this application to go ahead.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 7th October 2010 at 4.30pm. Governors are also invited to the school Inset day on 1st September and to the staff conference and evening meal on Thursday 21st October.

Determination Application – Baylis Court School

Rationale

The school had requested an extension of the previous determination. The purpose of this report is to support the application.

Findings of the SACRE LA Officer

Date of visit: 27.09.10

Overview

Having met with senior staff within the school I can confirm that this application is based on a continuation of practice previously agreed. The school has a multi faith population and wants their collective worship to reflect this. Current the numbers on roll (850) make it impossible for the whole school to meet in one place due to accommodation restrictions. A pattern of assemblies has therefore been developed to ensure all pupils have access to assemblies in different settings each week. Two take place in the school hall, two in tutor rooms and 1 in the canteen.

All assemblies follow weekly themes that are published in a booklet for each term. These themes cover broad moral and spiritual topics and reflect different cultural and religious beliefs. Two assemblies in each week are led by the pupils themselves and it is clear that they bring the school community together to develop a strong moral code and awareness of a variety of faith backgrounds and help develop social and community cohesion. This has been remarked on by Ofsted, as a strength of the school. As a specialist Arts College, the school encourages the sharing of performance arts as a prelude to each assembly in the hall.

My judgement is that the school provides a comprehensive and well-planned programme of assemblies that is appropriate to the background and needs of its students.

Observation of Assembly

The assembly I observed was very well organised. It was well led by the member of staff who was leading the assembly. The focus was on the challenges that face all of us, and how we may strive to do our best. This was compared to the striving to be **the** best in relation to any activity, with examples being drawn from competitive sport, and the temptation faced by athletes to cheat. The assembly encouraged engagement from the girls, who participated very actively, and made many interesting points and observations. Overall the experience was stimulating, thought provoking and quite moving and pupils participated with due respect and attention.

Recommendation

I was impressed with the thought, care and sensitivity with which the assembly programme has been put together and the way in which the assemblies are delivered. I have no hesitation in recommending that SACRE agree to the determination being extended.

Dennis Kitchener
Interim Head of Standards
Slough Borough Council
30.09.10

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