

SACRE Hub – Meeting Notes

Attendance: Julie Siddiqui – Slough SACRE chair
Jan Lever – Adviser to Wokingham & Reading
Catherine Jinkerson – Wokingham SACRE and teacher Directory producer
Stephen Vegh – Wokingham SACRE chair
Beth Rowland – Wokingham SACRE Vice- chair
Bernard Eggleton – West Berks SACRE vice-chair
Jo Fageant – Adviser to Slough & West Berks
Karen Butler – RBWM Vice-chair
Anne Andrews – Adviser to Bracknell Forest and RBWM
Madeline Diver – Bracknell Forest SACRE vice-chair
Zvi Solomon – Reading SACRE Chair & member of Bracknell Forest SACRE

1. Minutes from last meeting on 18th May; particularly of note is that the project was successful with the NASACRE /Westhill Award
2. Hub conference 28th September was discussed and the draft programme was shared:
 - a. 6.00 pm Introductions
6.20 pm Review of the Crossing the Bridges Project so far – using the information that was presented to the Culham St Gabriel’s Trust event on 30th June
6.30 pm Benefits of RE visits – which will also recap on good practice so far
7.00 pm Enquiry based RE – a recap on the methods of teaching promoted by the locally agreed syllabus
7.30 pm Light Supper
8.00 pm Dialogue to cross bridges – members of various faith communities to offer their response to some of the syllabus questions, followed by a Q&A session
8.45 pm Next Steps – development for the project and how people can participate
9.00 pm Evaluation and close
It is to be noted that the conference will now be a launch event for the continuing project as this was a condition of the Westhill award. Training of SACRE members will need to be organised by individual SACREs.
 - b. Members present were encouraged to contact SACRE members and schools as SACREs have agreed to pay for 4 members and with the Westhill Award each SACRE can have 6 free places for teachers. Jan has already emailed most of the schools, but as yet take-up has been slow. Places cost £35 if SACREs have more than 10 people who wish to participate
 - c. **ACTIONS:** JL to check whether invoices have been sent to SACREs for the conference; AA to circulate the questions and ask for volunteers; ZS to invite the press and arrange additional publicity

3. Crossing the Bridges Project. The revised project plan was explained in detail and as a result of the Westhill Award it is hoped that the materials can be made more generally useable and available. Particular features include the conference (see item 2) and the way that this will relaunch the project. Additionally, there is now a plan to run an on location day – visiting a variety of places of worship. With Westhill funding this can be offered free to schools. The creation of the directory, by Catherine Jinkerson has also been facilitated by the award as two additional days can now be funded. The contacts created in the directory can be used to find locations for the on location day. The directory will use the project information sheets as a way of sharing the details of the places of worship. Some amendments were suggested to the information sheets. See ACTIONS below. Catherine’s work in creating the directory will also establish contacts for the two Host training afternoons in November.
 - a. 14th November at the synagogue in Maidenhead
 - b. 17th November at the LDS in Reading

The on location day and the two afternoon sessions will allow some completed copies of the booking and feedback forms and the pupil materials to be collected. These materials will in due course be collated and available on the websites that will host the materials.

ACTIONS: AA to produce flyers for the afternoon sessions; JL to add cost (fixed/donation/no charge); directions/parking information and Post-16 provision boxes to the information forms

4. Westhill /NASACRE award – the successful application for this award has made the project more achievable and enhanced the likely success. Discussion indicated that as a result of this award we may be able to get wider recognition of the project and RE online may be approached to host the materials.

ACTIONS: AA to write a blog for RE online post conference; wider publicity to be sought by members.
5. Draft timescale for syllabus review – no proposals to start until summer next year, hopefully after the completion of the Crossing the Bridges Project and when the national situation becomes clearer.
6. Accord Inclusivity Award. After much discussion, and some unease about some of the aims of this award, the decision was taken to review it upon completion of the project
7. AOB: ZS drew attention to the possibility of hosting the Jewish Way of Life exhibition and venues are to be explored; ZS also drew attention to the latest GCSE material for Judaism:

Judaism GCSE Religious Studies – The Definitive Resource

Written by Clive Lawton and supported by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, this is a new educational resource – a guide for those teaching Judaism in GCSE Religious Studies.

Entitled, ‘Judaism GCSE Religious Studies – The Definitive Resource’, it provides an unbiased description of the diversity within the Jewish community, and highlights the issues that are of most importance. The 140-page resource is designed to be easy to use and provides information for both students and teachers. Each topic is headed by a list of

key facts, which is followed by fuller explanatory material. Vocabulary for the key facts has been carefully regulated to ensure it is easily accessible to GCSE pupils.

It is available to download and buy at a price of £9.99 (online) and £14.99 (hard copy).<http://www.bod.org.uk/judaism-gcse-religious-studies-the-definitive-resource-order-your-copy-here/order-form-for-judaism-gcse-resource/>

Date of next meeting: 10th January 4.15-6 pm at Shute End, Wokingham