

**1ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
(SACRE) - 10/10/13**

**ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
(SACRE)  
THURSDAY, 10TH OCTOBER, 2013**

Present:-

**Group A**

N. Goodwin (The Hub Christian Community), C. Wells (Methodist), R. Dyson (Catholic), T. Williams (Bahai), I. Jones (Rotherham Evangelical Church), T. Griffin (Humanist).

**Group B**

G. Atkin (Sheffield Diocese) (in the Chair).

**Group C**

D. Homer (NASUWT), C. Webster (Teacher).

**Group D**

Councillor T. Sharman.

Also in attendance was H. Etheridge (Clerk).

Apologies for absence had been received from: - V. Gregory and G. Raha (A -Hindu), M. Shah (A- Islamic) and G. Gray (A- Methodist).

**32. CONFIRMATION OF THE CHAIR OF THE ROTHERHAM SACRE,  
2013/2014.**

Resolved: - That Nicki Goodwin be appointed to the role of Chair of the Rotherham Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education for the year 2013/2014.

**33. CONFIRMATION OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE ROTHERHAM SACRE,  
2013/2014.**

Resolved: - That Gail Atkin be appointed to the role of Vice-Chair of the Rotherham Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education for the year 2013/2014.

**34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No Declarations of Interest were recorded.

**35. REPRESENTATION.**

D. Homer, Teaching Representative, referred to his retirement from the profession and how he had concerns about being a named representative in Group C due to the length of time that he had not been in the profession and how this might mean that his ability to represent and be an

advocate for the current teaching profession was decreasing.

Resolved: - That D. Homer move over to Group B, representatives of other faiths at future meetings.

**36. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY, 2013.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2013, were considered.

Under matters arising, it was noted that the summer term meeting of the Rotherham SACRE, and the after-event where REwards were presented to the winning categories had been successful. It was the intention of the SACRE to expand and develop the system of recognising, celebrating and sharing good practice in Religious Education across the Borough. It was confirmed that REwards would continue for the 2013/2014 school year. It was also emphasised that they were not limited to one particular faith or group.

Resolved: - (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as an accurate record.

(2) That information about REwards 2013/2014 be circulated to all schools and stakeholders across the Borough.

(3) That REwards information be circulated to all members of the Rotherham SACRE so that they can promote the award within their groups.

**37. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP.**

One application had been received to renew an existing Determination.

Discussion ensued on the best approach to consider/investigate and approve or reject the Determination. It was agreed that, before any decision was taken, a school visit was undertaken and an active of worship was observed.

Discussion ensued in relation to Collective Worship across all Schools. Particular reference was given to the changing education landscape and the obligations of the different types of school.

The draft guidance document for all schools was considered, including the usability of the format, text and background effects, the content, the inclusion of a religious festivals calendar and information about the Rotherham SACRE.

Groups that should receive a copy of the finalised document: -

### **3ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 10/10/13**

- Headteacher forums;
- Diocesan contacts and churches together in south yorkshire;
- Mosque Liaison Network;
- Faith representatives;
- Governor networks;
- Teaching and support staff trade unions;
- Media publicity of the document's launch.

Resolved: - (1) That a working part of the Rotherham SACRE visit Broom Valley Community Primary School to consider their application for their Determination to be extended.

(2) That the two other Schools with Determinations be contacted to determine their needs and future intentions.

(3) That a letter be sent to all Schools reminding them of their obligation to undertake Collective Worship and the need to apply for a Determination if necessary.

(4) That the draft Collect Worship Guidance document be approved for distribution to Schools and stakeholders.

#### **38. GCSE AND AS AND A2 PERFORMANCE, 2012 AND 2013.**

Consideration was given to the GCSE and AS/A2 performance outcomes for 2012 and 2013.

In the absence of the Curriculum Adviser, the SACRE brought together a list of questions relating to the performance: -

- Exam-based courses from 2014;
- What were the factors that led schools to enter pupils for the short-course or the full-course;
- Religious Education's/Studies' role in the method 'carrousel teaching';
- The role of the SACRE in being an advocate for Religious Education/Studies;
- The importance of congratulating the schools that had performed well with a high number entered for the exam;
  - Potential REward nominees.
- Potential for the SACRE to write to the Council and local MPs asking for Religious Education to be given a higher profile and valued more;
- The correlation between entering for exams and schools undertaking regular and high-quality Collective Worship.

Resolved: - That the information shared be noted.

#### **39. REWARDS, 2012/2013 - REFLECTION.**

This item was covered under the minutes and matters arising section of this agenda.

**40. UPDATE ON THE RE TEAM.**

The Chair of the Rotherham SACRE, Nicki Goodwin, gave an overview of the RE Team's work.

- The workload and content of the RE Team's work had grown: -
- The tag line 'Community Education Connection' had been created to reflect the wider scope of the Team;
  - Grown out of the relationship with schools;
  - A package that a school would buy-in over a school year included: -
    - Six Christian assemblies;
    - Six lessons with Year 3 children, sometimes Year 4;
    - Six uses of the godly play room.
- In 2010 there were five volunteers in the team in Rawmarsh. In 2013 there are 30 volunteers in the team, representing a variety of denominations. The RE Team were working in Rawmarsh, Broom, Swinton and would be setting up a based in Mexborough;
- The RE Team was currently working with 15 Schools;
- The RE Team worked in the main with Key Stage Two children, but during 2013 had developed a Senior RE Team to focus on Key Stage Three children;
- Examples of the work the RE Team does with schools and children were shared;
- Fund raising activities. A recent fund raising event with Wingfield Academy had raised £200 for 'Comfort Ministry';
- Rawmarsh Readers: -
  - Reading partnerships between boys and men to increase reading ages;
  - It was hoped that all Rawmarsh Primary Schools would be signed-up by the end of the year.
- All work was conducted along the Christian aspect of the Agreed Syllabus;
- All Volunteers respected professional boundaries and did not dogmatically promote the Christian faith at the expense of other faiths;
- [www.communityeducationconnection.co.uk](http://www.communityeducationconnection.co.uk)

Resolved: - That the information shared be noted.

**41. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

Resolved: - (1) That the next meeting of the Rotherham SACRE take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2013, to start at 4.00 p.m. in the Rotherham Town Hall.

**5ROTHERHAM STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
(SACRE) - 10/10/13**

(2) That the summer term meeting of the Rotherham SACRE take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2013, to start at 4.00 p.m. in the New York Stadium (not 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013, as previously advertised).