

# HSACRE



## HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Date:** Wednesday 22 June 2011

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

**Meeting:** Members of the Public and Press  
are welcome to attend this  
meeting

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associated reports can  
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further information.**

### Members

Duncan Struthers (Chairman)  
Mike Gettleson (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Michael Bull  
Councillor Keith Burrows  
Councillor Carol Melvin  
Councillor David Routledge  
Councillor Avtar Singh Sandhu  
Amir Ahmed  
Mary Coulthurst  
Toby Doncaster  
Connie Dusek  
Kevin Guest  
Ian Harper  
Albie Huyser  
Mr Ishaq  
Farina Jussab  
Jay Lakhani  
Angela Lount  
Graham Marriner  
Laura McNamee  
Jean Nunney  
Lil Osborn  
Jamal Pasha  
Kamal Persaud  
Lucy Russell  
Dharmini Shah  
Jasvir Singh Rayat  
Heather Steady  
Hilary Stone  
Graham Sumbler  
Rev. Nicholas Wheeler

# Agenda

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## Chairman's Announcements

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Election of Chairman
- 3 Election of Vice-Chairman
- 4 Minutes of the meetings held on 9 November 2010 and 23 March 2011
- 5 Faith in Schools and Inter-faith Events
- 6 SACRE Action Plan and Budgeting
- 7 News Items including:
  - i) Week of Peace and Week of Faith
  - ii) English Baccalaureate
  - iii) Youth on Religion (YOR) – Brunel University Project
- 8 Review of HSACRE Agreed Constitution
- 9 Dates of Meetings for 2011/2012:  
Wednesdays 9 November 2011 and 29 February **2012**

If you are unable to attend please telephone Nadia Williams on (01895) 277655 to give your apologies, or you can send someone from your Faith Group/Organisation to attend in your place.



**Minutes**

**HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL  
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**9 November 2010**

**Meeting held at Grange Park Junior School,  
Lansbury Drive, Hayes, Middx, UB4 8SF - Civic  
Centre**

	<p>Duncan Struthers (Chairman) Mike Gettleson (Vice-Chairman) Cllr David Routledge Cllr Avtar Sandhu Eric Blaire Mary Coulthurst Connie Dusek Kevin Guest Laura McNamee Jean Nunney Lil Osborn Elenor Paul Lucy Russell Dharmini Shah Heather Steady</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Malcolm Britton, Bishop Ramsey School</p> <p><b>Officer Present:</b> Nadia Williams</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies for Absence had been received from Councillor Carol Melvin, Amir Ahmed, Graham Marriner and Hilary Stone.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2010 AND MATTERS ARISING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT GRANGE PARK - PRESENTATION</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>Laura McNamee, the RE Co-ordinator at Grange Park Junior School spoke about the 2010/2011 calendar produced by the Yeading Junior Cluster. She explained that the calendar had incorporated work from all of the schools in this extended schools cluster. The meeting noted that there was a desire to work on similar calendars in the future, depending on funding.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Laura McNamee Nadia Williams</p>

	<p>The calendar for 2010/2011, which was suitable for use as a religious calendar had been produced and distributed to each family in each of the schools in the cluster.</p> <p>It was suggested that a calendar should be sent to the Council Leader and the 7 Cabinet Members to highlight some of the good work that was being done to promote RE in schools.</p> <p>Those present were advised that there were a few calendars still remaining and copies would be sent on request on a first-come-first served basis. Requests should be sent to Laura McNamee at Grange Park Junior School or by emailing <a href="mailto:lmcnamee@hillingdongrid.org">lmcnamee@hillingdongrid.org</a>.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked staff in Grange Park Junior School for their tremendous work in promoting RE in schools.</p>	
14.	<p><b>PRESENTATION ON FRONTER</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>Kevin Guest, Headteacher at Grange Park Junior School conducted a brief training session for those present on how to access and use FRONTER. This useful virtual learning web tool had been rolled out in all schools in Hillingdon bar one. In introducing the system, He explained that using personal logins, the 'FRONTER' could be accessed by pupils, teachers as well as parents. It was noted that the system also enabled teachers to communicate with pupils as well as parents.</p> <p>SACRE members were advised that they would be given a '<b>read only</b>' access to FRONTER, where they could view the RE room and see the work teachers were doing in schools. Instructions would be circulated separately.</p> <p>Members who are teachers would need to apply for permission to enter the room as teachers to give them access to add and edit materials (Contact Duncan Struthers by email at <a href="mailto:dhstruther@aol.com">dhstruther@aol.com</a>).</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>
15.	<p><b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MONTH</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Eric Blaire sought ideas for celebrating RE in Hillingdon in March 2011, the month in which RE would be celebrated nationally. Members were invited to consider ideas and activities relating to RE within Hillingdon. He advised that the month should be used as an opportunity for swapping ideas and inviting different faith communities in schools.</p> <p>It was noted that ideas could be sought from the REsilience Website at <a href="http://www.RE-silience.org.uk">www.RE-silience.org.uk</a>, where suggestions posted from around the country could be viewed. Attention was drawn to various competitions with closing dates in January 2011 that schools could enter.</p> <p>the suggestions listed below were made in addition to the those</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>

	<p>circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth cross-phase SACRE (Currently being sponsored by Yeading School)</li> <li>• On-going Youth SACRE conference at KS4 (Could mirror the adult SACRE being run in Harrow and Surrey). Also considered for Years 3 &amp; 4 and years 5 &amp; 6 mix</li> <li>• Internal conference with themes, and presented back to pupils – this may be encouraging to students, as they would be aware that they would be getting feedback</li> <li>• Children could invite their teachers into their communities</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that a special planning meeting would be arranged by in February 2011. Those who were interested in attending the planning meeting were asked to contact Nadia Williams (Clerk to SACRE) by email at <a href="mailto:nwilliams@hillington.gov.uk">nwilliams@hillington.gov.uk</a> or by telephoning 01895 277655.</p>	
16.	<p><b>SACRE MEMBER AND OTHER TRAINING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>Attention was drawn to the suggested list of activities as examples of ‘What makes a Good SACRE Member’. SACRE members were asked to select/consider what areas on the list should be focused on. It was suggested that a special evening meeting should be arranged so that the meeting could focus on becoming a better SACRE member.</p> <p>Following a 10 minutes group discussions, feedback from the groups were given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed that training would be very valuable - to be arranged for one evening</li> <li>• Did not consider that there was a need for SACRE members to spend time in school in order to become a ‘good SACRE member’</li> <li>• More information about the role of a SACRE member should be provided</li> <li>• Inform SACRE members as to what it would be like to give advice to schools</li> <li>• There should be contact numbers for faith representatives to enable SACRE members to make contact if needed</li> <li>• There should be induction programme for new members</li> <li>• Did not consider that visiting various schools would be appropriate</li> </ul> <p>Mike Gettleson advised that the annual training organised by the Board of British Jews covered the role of SACRE members as well as new legislations. It was suggested that perhaps Harrow and Hillingdon SACRE members could be invited to future annual British Jews training days, as some of the topics covered would be beneficial.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>

17.	<p><b>HILLINGDON TRUST GRANT - UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Duncan Struthers reported that the Hillingdon Community Trust had given a grant of £6,700 to deliver interfaith dialogue into schools in order to promote better understanding of differing faiths.</p> <p>SACRE members were asked to discuss within their faith communities, the idea of faith representatives going into schools to talk about their faith journeys.</p> <p>It was explained that this proposal would be explored further in 2011 and schools would be contacted and invited to get involved on a voluntary basis. The main aim of the scheme would be to meet the needs of schools. Updates and further details would be provided nearer the time.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Duncan Struthers</p>
18.	<p><b>BRUNEL RESEARCH PROJECT - UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <p>Eric Blaire gave an update on the Brunel Research Project and advised that the first stage of the research which involved the use of questionnaires had been completed. The research was now progressing on to the second stage which would consist of interviews with groups of sixth formers on a group basis, as well as on a one-to-one basis.</p> <p>Further details about the first stage of the Brunel Research Project could be obtained on request by emailing Eric Blaire at <a href="mailto:ericblaire46@gmail.com">ericblaire46@gmail.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Eric Blaire</p>
19.	<p><b>HILLINGDON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SYLLABUS - UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 9</i>)</p> <p>The meeting was advised that following the distribution of the Hillingdon Religious Education Syllabus (RE), some helpful comments had been received. It was noted that the RE Syllabus and Celebrating RE would be discussed at the next meeting of Hillingdon Governors.</p> <p>Any SACRE member interested in becoming a school governor was asked to contact Eric Blaire for further details.</p> <p>Mike Gettleson commented that a website designed in 2000 <a href="http://hsacre.mikrotime.com/contents.html">http://hsacre.mikrotime.com/contents.html</a>, which summarised the work of SACRE and provided information for parents had also been updated with the RE Syllabus. He advised that some visits had been made to the syllabus and that viewers could easily browse through the sections that interested them by simply clicking on the required logo.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Eric Blaire</p>

20.	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 10</i>)</p> <p>A leaflet advertising the Hillingdon Interfaith week from the Hillingdon Inter Faith Network was circulated. Members were encouraged to attend on any of the various events arranged from Sunday 21 to Saturday 27 November 2010. Attention was drawn to the Hillingdon High Schools Inter Faith Conference (on Prejudice) being held on Thursday 25 November at Swakeleys School from 12.30 – 3.30pm. It was suggested that representatives from each of the faith group in the borough should attend this conference.</p> <p>Those who had attended the conference would be asked to post their comments about the conference on FRONTER.</p> <p>Mike Gettleson extended a special invitation to SACRE members to attend the annotated service and explanation service at the Ruislip Synagogue on Friday 26 November from 7pm, which he advised would be less than an hour long.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>
<p>The next HSACRE meeting is on Wednesday 23 March 2011.</p> <p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 9.15 pm.</p>		

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Nadia Williams on 01895 277655. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

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Minutes**HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL  
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

23 March 2011



**Meeting held at Ruislip Synagogue, 9 Shenley  
Avenue, Ruislip Manor, HA4 6BP**

	<p>Mike Gettleson (Chairman) Councillor Carole Melvin Eric Blaire Mary Coulthurst Angela Lount Lil Osborn Elenor Paul Lucy Russell Jamal Pasha</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Naseem Ahmed, Muslim Council and Len Benson, School Governor</p> <p><b>Officer Present:</b> Nadia Williams</p>	
21.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Duncan Struthers, Cllr Avtar Sandhu, Cllr David Routledge, Heather Steady and Hilary Stone.</p>	
22.	<p><b>GRATITUDE AND THANKS</b> (<i>Agenda Item</i> )</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the Board of Management for allowing the SACRE meeting to take place at the Ruislip Synagogue.</p>	
23.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2010</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>The meeting was not quorate; the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2010 were therefore noted. These would be agreed at the next meeting, subject to it being quorate.</p> <p>It was noted that the heading on Item 12 (Minutes) should read June 2010 and not March 2010.</p>	
24.	<p><b>UPDATE ON ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE AND PLACE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>Eric Blaire updated the meeting about a letter NASACRE had sent to Michael Grove, Secretary of State, Department for Education in December 2011, about the inclusion of Religious Education (RE) in the English Baccalaureate. In his response, the Secretary of State had;</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Duncan Struthers</p>

	<p>since it was not compulsory in those other countries.</p> <p>Highlighted in the letter was the fact that the English Baccalaureate had been introduced in order for students to see how well they were doing compared to students in other countries in the core subjects of English Language, mathematics, the sciences, an ancient or modern language and a humanities subject. That it was possible for students to secure GCSEs in these subjects and there was enough time in the curriculum for them to also achieve GCSEs in other subjects or to follow vocational learning.</p> <p>During discussion, it was requested for details to be provided about the number of students that were successful in attaining 'A' level in Religious Studies in 2010.</p> <p>It was suggested that many parents did not place sufficient importance on RE and that schools should perhaps be looking at educating parents of their responsibility in this area.</p> <p>The meeting agreed that a letter of response should be sent to the Secretary of State to reiterate that whilst it was appropriate to retain RE as part of the curriculum, it should still be considered for inclusion as part of the English Bacalaureate.</p>	
25.	<p><b>UPDATE ON FAITH IN SCHOOLS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The meeting was informed that the programme of Faith in Schools was proceeding well and a number of discussion sessions for facilitators had taken place. It was expected that once the facilitators had been trained, they would make presentations to children in a small cluster of schools in the south of the borough. If successful, the scheme would be rolled out to schools in the whole borough.</p> <p>It was noted that a couple of training sessions had already taken place in Minet Infant school, as a pilot but the facilitators had not yet gone into schools. Indication from feedback on the scheme showed that it was a good addition to the syllabus. The idea of the scheme was for the practical working life of a person's faith to be shared with school children.</p> <p>It was noted that prospectus facilitators were lay people who did not have any relationship with schools. A suggestion put forward was that teachers (other than RE teachers) from other departments could also be encouraged to talk about their faiths.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Duncan Struthers Eric Blaire</p>
26.	<p><b>YOUTH ON RELIGION - BRUNEL UNIVERSITY</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Eric Blaire advised that 10,000 children from Hillingdon, Newham and Bradford had completed questionnaires on Youth on Religion conducted by Brunel University in 2010 academic year. The outcome of the survey had yet to be published, but in the meantime, Brunel University had arranged a launch on 6 July 2011 to give an update on their progress.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Eric Blaire</p>

	<p>It was noted that some of the 150 sixth formers who had been individually interviewed about their views would be involved in the launch on 6 July 2011.</p> <p>The meeting heard that further funding was being sought to continue the Youth on Religion, a two year project. Alison Fothergill (on behalf of HSACRE) was producing an analysis from the local data available for Hillingdon. Professor Nicola Madge at Brunel University was the lead on the project funded by the Economic and History Research Council. It was noted that the data would be used to produce a report for Hillingdon alongside the awaited report from Brunel University.</p> <p>The meeting noted that a copy of the questionnaire would be placed on the Council's website and Hillingdon grid.</p>	
27.	<p><b>HEADS OF RE AND RE CO-ORDINATORS - FEEDBACK</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>The meeting was updated on the recent Secondary Heads of RE conference which had taken on place on 14 February 2011 and was advised that another meeting had been arranged for next term. It was intended that these meetings would be self-running on a regular basis and agreed that separate conferences would also be arranged in the future for 'A' level and 'AS' level teachers of RE, probably at Haydon School.</p> <p>An update was also given on the Primary, Infant and Junior RE Co-ordinators' half day Bring and Share conference which took place on 7 March 2011, at which Keith Field was a provider. It was hoped that this type of conference would also become self-functioning but acknowledged that it may be a challenge to get it running.</p> <p>In response to the question of setting up a joint conference, it was noted that this may not be so easy to achieve, as secondary schools were led by exams and primary schools by teaching and learning. However, those present agreed that an annual meeting between secondary and primary Heads of RE would be useful.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Duncan Struthers Eric Blaire</p>
28.	<p><b>REPORT ON SACRE TRAINING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Comments were invited from those who had attended the training session on 17 February 2011. These were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had not heard of Hillingdon SACRE (HSACRE) before. The training session gave an insight into HSACRE and an understanding of different views, religious or otherwise</li> <li>• That HSACRE, whilst it appeared to be very informal, was a statutory body</li> <li>• That HSACRE appeared to be flexible enough to allow individuals to express their own views</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action by</b></p>

29.	<p><b>EXERCISE ON 'WHAT IS AN EFFECTIVE SACRE?' (Agenda Item 8)</b></p> <p>The meeting discussed ways of making HSACRE more effective and made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make agendas more exciting</li> <li>• Practical activities might be valuable</li> <li>• Make presentation on the themes in the Agreed Syllabus</li> <li>• The above points would lead to better attendance and consistently quorate meetings</li> <li>• Update the Constitution</li> <li>• Members to tender their apologies if they are not able to attend and send substitute members where possible.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>
30.	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item )</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date of the next meeting</b> - The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 22 June 2011</li> <li>• <b>RE Assessment Results</b> - It was noted that monitoring RE results should not only be through examination results, as established examinations were not necessarily the best way of assessing what a child had learnt. The meeting considered that given assessments were carried out internally, HSACRE should be able to obtain information on the results of RE from schools.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p>
<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 9.40 pm.</p>		

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Nadia Williams on 01895 277655. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

## HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### AGREED CONSTITUTION

#### A) Aims and Purposes

In accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988 to:-

- (i) advise the Local Education Authority on matters connected with Religious Education;
- (ii) keep under review the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education:
- (iii) advise upon the daily act of collective worship and to consider requests for a waiver of the statutory arrangements according to the needs of the children.

#### B) Membership

The Hillingdon Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education Membership shall be as follows:-

Group A - Christian and other denominations (faiths) which will appropriately reflect the religious traditions of the area (one representative each).

Baptist  
British Humanist Association  
Community Relations Council (Observer)  
Hindu  
Jewish  
Methodist  
Muslim  
Quaker  
Roman Catholic  
Salvation Army  
Sikh  
United Reform Church

Group B - Church of England (six representatives)

Group C - Teachers' Associations (one representative each)

National Union of Teachers  
AMMA  
NAS/UWT  
PAT  
National Association of Head Teachers

Group D - Local Education Authority

5 Members of the Education Committee with Advisers and Officers in attendance

The Standing Advisory Council may co-opt additional representatives as appropriate

## C) Procedure

- (i) HSACRE is a Committee of the LEA and will be serviced by the LEA.
- (ii) HSACRE has the power to regulate its own proceedings subject to:
  - a) each representative group having only one vote.
  - b) Groups A, B and C have the power between them to require a review of the Agreed Syllabus
- (iii) HSACRE shall meet at least once per school term (i.e. a minimum of three times per school year).
- (iv) Each Representative group shall determine its own procedure for holding separate meetings and forming a collective view on issues.
- (v) Any meeting of a representative group shall be minuted and reported to HSACRE. One member for each representative group shall be nominated as minute secretary for this purpose.
- (vi) HSACRE shall be quorate if there is both at least one member of each of the five representative groups and a third (rounded up to the nearest whole number) of the total membership present
- (vii) Members shall serve for at least 2 years and for not more than 3 years if other representatives can be nominated by each faith or organisation.
- (viii) Should any member retire or resign, he or she will be replaced by the LEA requesting the faith or organisation for a replacement. The LEA will select the representative if more than one is proposed.
- (ix) HSACRE may co-opt further persons to serve for one or more meetings in order to provide expertise in particular fields not adequately covered by the existing membership.
- (x) The Chairman shall be elected on an annual basis.
- (xi) The Vice-Chairman shall also be elected on an annual basis and will Chair meetings in the absence of the Chairman.
- (xii) The date of at least the next two meetings shall be confirmed by HSACRE at each meeting. Papers shall normally be sent out to all members at least 10 days in advance of the meeting
- (xiii) Each member may send a deputy in his/her place.