

From: Nicky Younosi

To: Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Subject: Meeting of SACRE Chairs on 9 October 2017

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To receive an update of the SACRE Chairs from East Sussex, West Sussex, Brighton and Hove, Hampshire County Council.

Recommendation: SACRE is asked to note the Meeting of the SACRE Chairs

- SACRE Chairs from East Sussex, west Sussex, Brighton and Hove, Hampshire County Councils attended. Kent SACRE was represented by Steve Manion and Nicky Younosi. Also in attendance was the East Sussex RE Consultant.
- Meeting was called and hosted by East Sussex to explore ways of supporting regional SACREs, sharing ideas, information and best practice. The group agreed this was a positive way forward.
- Role of SACRE was discussed along with the RE Commission Interim Report and the State of the Nation report.
- Information share:
 - the group was made aware of the geography and size of Kent; the counties present were small in comparison, in fact the number of schools in these counties was, if not the same then, less than schools in one Kent district.
 - One local SACRE holds an annual conference for teachers with workshops on the various faiths represented in the county. This was to enable teachers who often are not RE specialists and find even teaching Christianity difficult.
 - Some SACREs look at OfSTEd reports. SACRE members are allocated schools and after OfSTED read the reports on line and report to the Chair. If needed SACRE contacts and supports the school.
 - SACREs advise schools on faith issues
 - Some SACREs have a co-opted member to represent Academies.
 - Some SACREs have training and induction for new members.
 - Some SACREs have regular training days for members.
 - Foundation Stage was discussed. It was agreed SACREs should contact FS and offer training and advise to ensure RE is positively part of this stage curriculum.
- Future collaboration was a positive way forward. It was agreed the group meets twice a year. The next meeting to be in Kent on 09.04.2018.
- Medway SACRE to be invited to join the group.

Contact Details:

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