

**MINUTES OF THE AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE
WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2006**

* Present

Group A: Christian Denominations and other Faiths represented in Haringey:

Mr Peter Ward, (Diocese of Westminster (RC), *Mr M. Ibrahim (Muslim Educational Trust), Mr Alli (North London Islamic Cultural Society), Ms Sarah Joy Leviten (Board of Deputies of British Jews), Mr Barnabus Mishi (Greek Orthodox), Ms B Parsons (Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's), Karuna Gita (North London Buddhist Centre), *Mr K Ranganathan (Hindu (Shiva) Temple Trust), *Jenny Stonhold (United Reformed Church), *Rev R Allaway (Baptist Churches), Ms M Huntley (Methodist), Peter Adeniyi (Pentecostal Churches).

Vacancies:

Salvation Army FCFC
Quaker
Seventh Day Adventists

Group B: Church of England:

Mr E Griffith, Mrs J Jamieson, *Mr G Mariner, *Mr A Ryder, Revd Dr Jonathan Trigg.

Group C: Professional Associations:

*Ms N Parmar (NUT), Mr N Bradley (NUT), Ms Aurelie Bivigou (NUT), Mr H Ward (NUT) Mr A Yarrow (SHA),

Vacancies:

NUT
NASUWT

Group D: Local Education Authority Group:

Cllr E. Jones, Cllr L Santry, Cllr S. Rainger, Jennifer James, Livinius Emmanuel Onyearugbulem.

Co-opted Non-Voting Members:

Mr N Bacrac (British Humanist Association), Mr T Hall (Jehovah's Witness).

LC1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Jenny Stonhold agreed to serve as Chair of the meeting.

LC2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Santry, Cllr Rainger, Nick Bradley and Peter Ward.

LC3. PLAN FOR REVIEW OF AGREED SYLLABUS - BACKGROUND

Ms Chaplin, the RE advisor, explained to the members of the Committee that Haringey's agreed syllabus – being more than 5 years old – needed to be reviewed.

Following discussions between herself and senior officers in the Children's Service, Ms Chaplin informed the Committee that the review needed to be expedient. This meant that it was unlikely the Committee would be in a position to draft a new syllabus from scratch.

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The alternative option was to buy the rights to edit the syllabus of another borough. She explained that the intellectual rights to the syllabus could be bought from another borough who had already produced an Agreed Syllabus that incorporated the National Non-Statutory Framework.

The view was expressed by the representative of the teaching profession present that her colleagues would prefer an agreed syllabus which included units for classroom use. This would assist with lesson planning. Furthermore, there needed to be an assessment scale to aid with 'levelling' (i.e. assessing the achievements and knowledge) of children. Teachers needed to be able to see whether a child was attaining, for example, Level 2 or Level 3.

LC4. POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD - DISCUSSION OF CIRCULATED AGREED SYLLABUS MATERIALS

The Lambeth and the Tower Hamlets agreed syllabuses had been circulated to members of the Committee for their perusal. The Lambeth syllabus contained detailed specifications for units on all of the major faiths. It was based on the Waltham Forest agreed syllabus, which Lambeth had bought the rights to modify.

The Lambeth syllabus had detailed units where Christianity and Islam are taught in each of the Key Stages 1 to 3. Other faiths are introduced at Key Stages 1, 2 and 3. There was also a unit on inter-faith dialogue.

The Tower Hamlets syllabus was less prescriptive. It gave minimum requirements for what should be taught about each faith and each key stage.

It was agreed that the approach taken by the Lambeth syllabus was the approach that members preferred. It would be more helpful for teachers to have information about units for each faith that they could use as a script to assist them. This was felt to be of special importance for non-specialist teachers.

It was agreed that SACRE would recommend that the rights be bought from Waltham Forest to modify their Key stage 1 and 2 syllabus. The syllabus would then be modified to take into account the concerns and views expressed by SACRE members, such as those outlined by Rev. Allaway in his submission (see attached).

SACRE would recommend that the rights be bought from Greenwich to modify their Key stage 3 syllabus and the Lambeth Key stage 3 Interfaith Unit

The modifications will need to include information about local religious sites.

The revised Haringey Syllabus should be available on CD rom and include assessment within the units.

We should aim to get the new syllabus into schools by July 07 for use in September 07.

LC5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting would be at 6pm on 14 December 2006 prior to the next SACRE meeting.

Jenny Stonhold

Chair