

## **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

**held on Monday, 14 March, 2016 at 6.25 p.m.**

**at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall**

### **Present**

Councillor Craddock  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Rochelle  
Mr. P. Prasadam,  
Mr. C. Hopkins (Chairman)  
Ms. Karen Donnellan  
Mrs. B. Groombridge  
Dr. G. Gomez  
Mr. D. Lomax (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr. M. Lad  
Mrs. D. Barrett

### **In Attendance:-**

Ms. M. Daniels (Queen Mary's High School)  
Ms. Anna Meer (Rushall Primary School)  
Ms. R. Broughton (Lower Farm Primary School)  
Mr. A. Martin (Blue Coat Academy)  
Ms. V. Heydon-Matterface (Children & Family Worker for the Brownhills & Willenhall Methodist Circuit) (Observer)  
Mr. S. Flynn (Children's Services)

### **1/16 Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Phillips, Mrs. S. Blackmore, Mr. D. Thakker, Mrs. M. Gibbons, and Mr. R. Askari.

### **2/16 Late items to be introduced by the Chairman**

There were no late items for introduction by the Chairman.

### **3/16 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items for consideration in the private session.

#### **4/16 Minutes – 12 October, 2015**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 October, 2015 were submitted:-

See annexed

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October, 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **5/16 Presentation by Blue Coat C.E. Academy on the outcome of their recent National Society Statutory Inspection**

A copy of the National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools report was submitted:-

See annexed

Members welcomed Mr. A. Martin, Head of R.E. at Blue Coat Academy who gave a short presentation on the work undertaken by the school which led to their 'Outstanding' Inspection which took place on 24 and 25 September, 2015. In going through the report, Mr. Martin confirmed that a whole school assembly took place at St. Matthews Church, for 20 minutes at the beginning of the school day, every Friday and everyone attended whatever their faith.

The Chairman stated that the school welcomed anyone to attend the assemblies; no one withdrew from the assembly and other faith groups felt very welcome.

Members thanked Mr. Martin for the information provided and congratulated the school on its achievement and in particular achieving 'outstanding' for 'collective worship'.

#### **6/16 Agreed Syllabus Update**

The Agreed Syllabus which had been submitted and considered by the Agreed Syllabus Conference was submitted:-

See annexed

#### **Resolved**

- (1) That the revised Agreed Syllabus to be implemented in Walsall Schools From 1 September, 2016 be approved;
- (2) That Cabinet be requested to recommend Council to approve the Revised Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, as endorsed by the Agreed Syllabus Conference, for implementation in Walsall schools from 1 September, 2016.

## **7/16 Pupil Conference – Update**

Mr. Flynn confirmed that the Pupil Conference would take place on 13 May, 2016 at Walsall Football Club; pupils from 10 primary schools with facilitators from 2 secondary schools had been invited. A good response had been received so far and Grace Academy had agreed to provide facilitators. Members of SACRE were welcome to attend.

### **Resolved**

That the update on the Pupil Conference to be held on 13 May, 2016 at Walsall Football Club be noted.

## **8/16 Examination results**

A report containing the 2015 GCSE examination results was submitted:-

See annexed

Mr. Flynn informed members that page 3 and appendix A of the report contained the updated information on the number of entries and the overall GCSE examination results in respect of R. E. He drew the Committee's attention to the results for Blue Coat Academy which recorded 76% of pupils achieving A\* - C. Fewer schools were taking the short course.

### **Resolved**

That the report be noted.

## **9/16 Community Cohesion – data report from the Scrutiny Committee working Group**

The report to the Scrutiny Committee was submitted:-

See annexed

Councillor Craddock informed SACRE that the working group had held a series of meetings with and taken evidence from various community groups, youth groups, the Chief Executive of the Council, WHG, and police. The evidence would be used to put forward some recommendations to the Council.

Members requested that the final report on the outcomes of the working group be submitted to SACRE for information.

### **Resolved**

That the report be noted and the final report on the outcomes of the Community Cohesion working group be submitted to a future meeting of SACRE.

**10/16 Late items**

There were no late items.

**11/16 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on 18 July, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.

**Termination of meeting**

The meeting terminated at 7.05 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....