

## **Agreed Syllabus Working Group**

**held on Tuesday, 27 January, 2009 at 4.30 p.m.**

**at Pleck Methodist Church, Bescot Road, Walsall**

### **Present**

Reverend Elizabeth Snowden (Chairman)

Mrs. V. Morris

Mrs. M. Gibbons

Mrs. S. Blackmore

Mr. Ismail Dangor

Father J. Nankivell

### **In attendance**

Mr. D. Taylor – Consultant to Education Walsall

Mrs. G. Ensor – Walsall MBC

### **Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor Ault.

### **Notes of meeting held on 26 November, 2008**

The notes of the meeting held on 26 November, 2008 were submitted:-

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

That the notes of the meeting held on 26 November, 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **Late items to be introduced by the Chairman**

There were no late items for introduction by the Chairman.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

There were no items for consideration in private session.

## Review of Agreed Syllabus

Mr. Taylor circulated the first draft of the revised Agreed Syllabus and a copy of an extract showing concepts and content in RE with the new secondary curriculum and confirmed that it was proposed to include concepts in the primary element of the Agreed Syllabus.

The Group **AGREED** that inclusion of the concepts in respect of primary and secondary RE would assist schools in the delivery of RE.

Mr. Taylor confirmed that RE should be taught in line with other subjects; Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 non statutory guidance would also adapt itself to primary RE. Reference had been made to citizenship and community cohesion.

Mr. Taylor confirmed that Gloucestershire's Agreed Syllabus had been used as a model; Gloucestershire used the national framework but it would be necessary for Walsall to include sections to assist schools to plan and deliver the service. The time allocation for studying RE would be 5% of the school timetable.

Mr. Taylor circulated an extract from RE Today advising that the information contained therein could be used for all key stages, and would include an assessment focus; "P" statements would also need to be included. SACRE could consider including a transitional unit that would follow pupils from Year 6 into Year 7.

Mrs. Blackmore indicated that a "day activity" should be included in order that whole school RE could be covered on a specific day.

For clarification purposes, Mr. Taylor indicated that the average age of pupils would be included in the levels of attainment. The "I Can" statements would be attached as an appendix and these would require evidence of hearing / seeing / doing and pupils should be able to provide the evidence themselves.

Other appendices could be included to address an overview from teachers; resources; key teaching points regarding the five major faith groups (this could be provided by the faith groups themselves); pronunciation; do's and don'ts and places to visit that would be relevant to various age groups.

Father Nankivell undertook to produce a list of churches that could take visitors and include artefacts, resources and contact details.

Mrs. Morris referred to the need to include a curriculum link as an appendix showing a link to subjects these could include sciences and creativity as well as humanities.

The syllabus would need to show how it challenged the more able pupils.

Mr. Taylor referred to the benefits to all schools if they could join the National Association of Teachers of RE which included a subscription to "RE Today".

**Resolved**

1. That the draft Agreed Syllabus, together with the extract from “RE Today” and “Every Child Matters” be received;
2. That SACRE be recommended to subscribe to “RE Today”;
3. That a further draft of the Agreed Syllabus, including additional information as requested, be submitted to the next meeting.

**Termination of meeting**

The meeting terminated at 5.50 p.m.