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# NOTICE OF MEETING

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**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

**WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH 2024 AT 4.30 PM**

**PORTSMOUTH CHANGEMAKER STUDIOS, UPPER SECOND FLOOR,  
PORTSMOUTH GUILDHALL, GUILDHALL SQUARE PO1 2AB**

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## **Membership**

**Group A Representatives - One representative of each of the religions and other bodies listed in the constitution**

Baptist - Geoff Wheeler  
Evangelical Church - Pastor Chris Thomas  
Humanist - Barbara Spiegelhalter  
Humanist - Geoff Wade (nominated reserve)  
Muslim - Sheikh Fazle Abbas Dattoo  
Methodist Church – Revd Ray Goddess  
Jewish – Michael Zeffertt  
Quaker - sarah coote  
Sikhism - Jaswant Singh-Digpa  
United Reformed Church - Christine McMillan

**Group B Representatives - Church of England**

Sue Bowen  
Revd Sam Duddles  
Jane Kelly

**Group C Representatives - Six teachers representing the various key stages and an association recognised by the Authority for the purposes of consultation and negotiation.**

Kari Laing - Post-16 Representative  
Helen Reeder - Teacher Liaison Panel Representative  
Beth Smith - Secondary School Representative  
Fiona Kelly - Primary School Representative

**Group D Representatives - Four representatives of the Authority, at least two of whom shall be elected members of the Authority**

Taki Jaffer  
Councillor Benedict Swann  
Councillor Asghar Shah  
Councillor Abdul Kadir

**Co-opted members**

Jessie Wilson - Council of Portsmouth Students representative

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(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**A G E N D A**

**DIRECTIONS TO THE VENUE**

Upon arrival at the Portsmouth Guildhall main door entrance (underneath the big stairs), please turn left and go through to the Guildhall Reception/Box Office where you'll need to sign-in as a Visitor. Then make your way up the stairs or in the lifts to the Upper Second (U2) floor, go through the double doors on the left. Just past the Council Chamber (on your left), turn left and take the long corridor to the end. Turn right, up a few stairs and through the double doors where you'll come into the Unloc Offices. Keep walking until you reach the Changemaker Studios. Upon leaving the Guildhall, please remember to sign out.

Directions to the Guildhall are attached.

- 1 Welcome and Introductions**
- 2 Moment for Quiet Reflection**
- 3 Apologies for Absence**
- 4 Declaration of Members' Interests**
- 5 Election of Vice Chair of SACRE**

Purpose:

To seek nominations for, and elect, a Vice Chair of the Portsmouth SACRE.

The election for the Vice Chair of the Portsmouth SACRE will be made by a way of a nomination and seconding procedure, followed by a majority vote decision. Those nominated must be aware of their nomination. If more than one nomination is made, an election will be held with each Group (A, B, C and D) having one vote. In the event of a 2:2 vote, there is no casting vote, and the status quo will be maintained until such time as a majority decision is reached. No other persons shall be entitled to vote. If one nomination is received, a vote will not be required.

The role of the Vice Chair includes:

- Contributing appropriate time, effort and skills to support the Chair of SACRE so that the Portsmouth SACRE fulfils its statutory duties and responsibilities.
- Taking the chair at SACRE meetings if the Chair of SACRE is unavailable.
- Being a member of, attending and contributing to, SACRE Monitoring Group meetings.

**RECOMMENDED that the SACRE elects a Vice Chair of the Portsmouth SACRE for 2 years with immediate effect.**

**6 Minutes of the Previous meeting held on 1 November 2023 (Pages 9 - 16)**

The SACRE is asked to:

- a) Agree the draft minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2023.
- b) Discuss any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda including:
  - i) Advice to schools - Ramadan
  - ii) SACRE Annual Report 2022-23 Update
  - iii) SACRE Constitution Review Update
  - iv) Withdrawals from RE and Collective Worship Survey 2024
  - v) Portsmouth Children's Safeguarding Partnership (PCSP)

**7 Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS)**

Representatives of the Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS) will give a presentation.

**8 Interfaith Week 2024**

Purpose

Inter Faith Week will take place 10-17 November 2024. At its last meeting SACRE resolved to discuss Inter Faith Week and future plans at this meeting.

**9 School Website Monitoring Update**

Verbal update by SACRE's Professional Advisor.

**10 SACRE Membership and Member Training report (Pages 17 - 24)**

Purpose

This report updates SACRE regarding its membership, training and other opportunities for the membership.

**RECOMMENDED - that the SACRE:**

- a) **Acknowledges and gives thanks for the contribution Elizabeth Jenkerson (Group A) made to SACREs at a national, regional and Portsmouth level over several decades.**
- b) **Notes that Rachael Osbourne, Primary Headteacher representative (Group C) resigned on 1 March 2024, that it conveys its thanks to her for her significant contribution to the Portsmouth SACRE in recent years and requests that the Authority seeks a replacement Group C representative.**
- c) **Notes the membership vacancies set out in paragraph 4 of this report and that the Authority has approached relevant nominating bodies with a view to appointing additional members.**
- d) **Notes that the SACRE has subscribed to NASACRE for the current academic year, that this allows members to attend its training sessions (set out in Appendix B to this report) free of charge and that members should take advantage of opportunity.**

**11 SACRE Monitoring Group Report (Pages 25 - 28)**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform SACRE of the findings and discussions that took place during the meeting of the SACRE Monitoring Group on 21 February 2024.

The group received updates on professional RE education and monitoring the effectiveness of RE and an update on results from the GCSE examination series in 2023. An update on implementation of Living Difference IV, including training in RE, was received.

**RECOMMENDED - that the SACRE notes the findings of the Monitoring Group meeting.**

**12 SACRE National and Local RE Matters report (Pages 29 - 30)**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to enable SACRE to consider key national and local RE developments.

**RECOMMENDED - that the SACRE notes the report**

**13 Venues for future meetings (Pages 31 - 32)**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to summarise the views of Portsmouth SACRE members on venues for meeting and to make suggestions for this going forward.

**RECOMMENDED - that the SACRE notes the report and approves the recommendations which are:**

- a) **That the SACRE continues to meet in a variety of venues during the year and to promote the work of SACRE across the Local Authority, schools and colleges and different faith and belief groups.**
- b) **If there is a talk or a tour of the venue, this takes place at 4.00 pm prior to the meeting starting at 4.30 pm.**
- c) **Where possible, a Teams link will be offered to an individual if they cannot attend in person.**

**14 NASACRE Conference - Monday 20 May 2024 (Pages 33 - 34)**

To seek volunteers to attend the NASACRE Conference due to be held on Monday 20 May 2024 at the Hilton, York. Theme: How can SACREs support high quality RE and Collective Worship?

Conference Programme attached.

**15 Dates of future meetings**

It is proposed that the next meeting will take place at **4.30pm on Wednesday 12 June 2024** at St Swithun's Catholic Primary School.

Future dates (venues to be confirmed):

Wednesday 6 November 2024  
Wednesday 12 March 2025  
Wednesday 2 July 2025  
Wednesday 12 November 2025

All meetings will take place at 4.30pm. If no venue is available, meetings will take place remotely on Teams.

Members of the public are permitted to use both audio visual recording devices and social media during this meeting, on the understanding that it neither disrupts the meeting or records those stating explicitly that they do not wish to be recorded. Guidance on the use of devices at meetings open to the public is available on the Council's website.