

North Yorkshire County Council  
Children and Young People's Service  
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education  
**SACRE meeting Thursday 2 March 2017**  
**Conference Room, Settle College, BD24 0AU**

**1.00 pm** for Lunch

**2.00 pm – 4.00 pm** for meeting

### Agenda

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2016 (Pages 5 to 10)
3. To Review the Membership of each of the Committee Groups – Nasr Eman
4. Growing-up in North Yorkshire – Minority Religious Report for Information and discussion – Rebecca Swift
5. Revision of Agreed Syllabus next steps – Rebecca Swift
6. Up-date on work towards SACRE receiving an award – Nasr Eman
7. NASACRE-AGM 2017
8. Diversity Day Impact
9. The BIG NASACRE Survey 2017
10. 2017 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IFN
11. All Party Parliamentary Group
12. Any Other Business
13. Date for December 2017 meeting

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

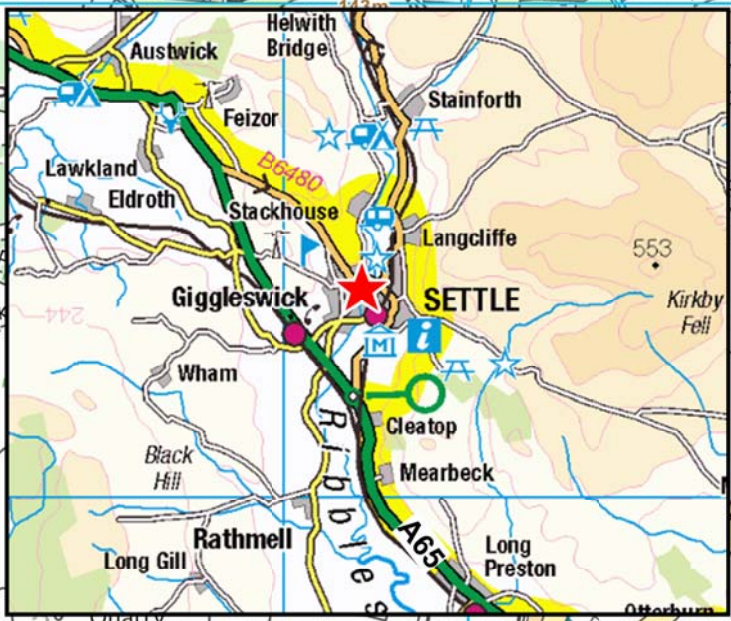
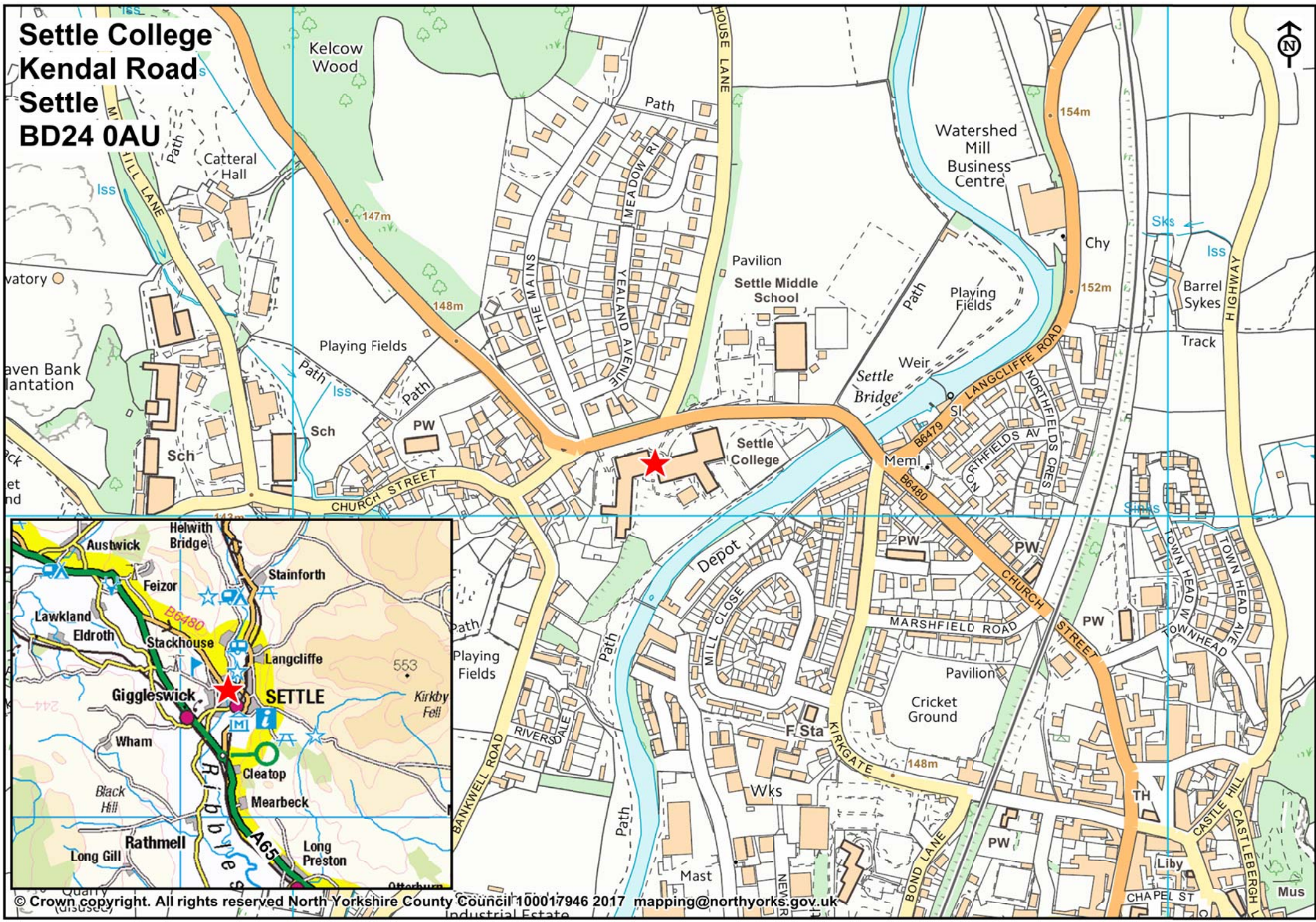
County Hall  
Northallerton

## Membership of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

<p><u>Membership</u></p> <p>County Councillor Bob Baker  County Councillor Jim Clark  County Councillor Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley  County Councillor Robert Heseltine  County Councillor John Savage</p> <p>Vacancy  Mrs B Belsham  Mrs S Bennett</p> <p>Vacancy  Mrs S Beveridge  Mr Mohinder Singh Chana</p> <p>Mr M Dickinson  Mr N M Emam  Mrs M Gibson  Mr M Grassam  Mrs A Head  Mr C Devanny  Mrs R Oates  Dr Neville Packter  Mrs O Seymour  Vacancy  Mrs C Taylor  Vacancy  Vacancy</p> <p><u>Co-opted Members</u></p> <p>Professor J Adams  Mr Mark Cosens</p> <p><u>Officers</u></p> <p>Rebecca Swift</p>	<p>Hindu  Methodist  Church of England - Diocese of Leeds</p> <p>Church of England  Teacher  Sikh</p> <p>Quaker  Muslim  Church of England  Teacher  Teacher  Catholic  Teacher  Judaism  Church of England (Diocese of York)  Church of England  Buddhist  Salvationist  Baptist</p> <p>Humanist  The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  Day Saints</p> <p>Children and Young People's Service</p>
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# Settle College Kendal Road Settle BD24 0AU





## North Yorkshire County Council

### Children and Young People's Service

### Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, commencing at 2.00 pm.

**PRESENT:**

**County Councillors:** Bob Baker and Mrs Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley

Professor John Adams (Humanist), Mrs Barbara Belsham (Methodist), Mr M Dickinson (Society of Friends), Mr Nasr Emam (Islam), Mr Bill Kimberling (The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints), Mrs Margaret Gibson (Church of England), Dr Neville Packter (Judaism), Mrs Olivia Seymour (Church of England) and Mrs Christina Taylor (Buddhism)

**Officers:** Mrs Rebecca Swift (Equalities Adviser – Education and Skills – Children's and Young People's Service), Mrs Sally Mitchell (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

**Also in Attendance:** Ms C Weir (Adviser for RE – Durham & Newcastle Diocese) as an Observer

		Action
65.	<p><b>ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That Mr Nasr Emam be elected Chairman and Mrs Margaret Gibson be elected Vice-Chairman of the SACRE for 2016-17</p>	
66.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from County Councillors Jim Clark, Robert Heseltine and John Savage; Mrs Simone Bennett (Church of England), Mrs Sarah Beveridge (Teacher), Mr C Devanny (Catholic), Mr Mohinder Singh Chana (Sikhism), Mrs Amanda Head (Teacher) and Mrs Rachel Oates (Teacher)</p>	
67.	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.</p>	SAM
68.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING – none</b></p>	

69.	<p><b>SACRE MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>Considered -</p> <p>Constitution and Terms of Reference of North Yorkshire SACRE (2015).</p> <p>Members were advised that there were a number of representative vacancies on SACRE, particularly two vacancies for the Church of England. There were also vacancies for representatives of Hindu, Salvationist and Baptist representatives.</p> <p><b>Resolved –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Mrs Margaret Gibson be appointed to fill one of the two Church of England vacancies to represent the Leeds Diocese.</li> <li>(ii) Sally Mitchell to contact the local groups for the other representatives vacancies. Rebecca Swift to explore representatives for teacher vacancies</li> <li>(iii) A report be brought to the next meeting to review the constitution of the SACRE membership Committees.</li> </ul>	SM RS
70.	<p><b>NATIONAL UPDATES</b></p> <p>Considered -</p> <p>Report updating SACRE on new initiatives in RE, which was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>Olivia Seymour updated Members on the NATRE Secondary RE survey and referred to three major reports which had emerged in the last 12 months relating to the New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools by Linda Woodhead and Charles Clarke; Living with Difference: The Report of the Commission on Religion and Belief in Public Life; and RE for Real: Report on RE in Secondary Schools from the Faiths and Civil Society Unit at Goldsmith's University of London; Religious Studies GCSE Judicial Review 2015 and the Commission on Religious Education Update.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That update report be noted.</p>	
71.	<p><b>REGIONAL UPDATES –Government Green Paper</b></p> <p><b>The Chairman agreed that this item could be considered as a matter of urgency.</b></p> <p>Considered -</p> <p>Schools that Work for Everyone - Government Green Paper – Oral report of Professor John Adams</p> <p>Professor John Adams referred to a current Department for</p>	

**Action**

	<p>Education consultation. Professor Adams outlined the proposals which were being consulted on and particularly drew attention to the proposal which would allow new faith free schools to select up to 100% of pupils based on their faith, whilst ensuring they included pupils from different backgrounds. Members were advised that the consultation period closed on 12 December, 2016, hence the need for urgency and urged SACRE Members to respond, particularly to urge the Government not to remove the current 50% cap on admissions based on faith.</p> <p>Members were advised that responding to consultation as SACRE was not within its formal Terms of Reference, however Members could respond as individuals.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That Members could respond to the Government's Green Paper on 'Schools that work for everyone' as individuals before the deadline date of 12 December 2016 for the close of the consultation.</p>	<p>All to Note</p>
<p><b>72.</b></p>	<p><b>RE INSPIRE PROGRAMME AND LTLRE</b></p> <p>Olivia Seymour informed Members that teachers were currently finishing their modules at the moment which were timed to end with the start of the Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE) project to which funding had been given for this to be expanded into the North of England. There was currently a project in the Chester area and one had just started for the Yorkshire and Humberside region.</p> <p>All the regional SACREs were represented on a steering group and Olivia Seymour advised that a LTLRE project partnered with national research projects and initiatives to improve the quality of RE teaching and learning in schools and commented that two of the teachers who had undertaken the RE Inspire Project had applied for this.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the position be noted and Olivia Seymour provide updates on the projects for the next meeting.</p>	<p>OS</p>
<p><b>73.</b></p>	<p><b>FEEDBACK ON DIVERSITY DAY</b></p> <p>The Chairman described the events of the day and Rebecca Swift displayed photographs of the pupils who had attended the four workshops comprising Islam, Sikhism, Judaism and Buddhism workshops. Rebecca Swift reported that the workshops were very inter-active and the feedback from participants had been extremely positive. Members were informed that there were sufficient funds left from the Westhill Award to purchase another four artefact boxes from the £4,000 grant funding and that Nasr Emam was to produce DVDs and instructions on how to use the artefacts boxes.</p> <p>Braeburn Community Primary School children were intending to lead their own diversity day in their school as a follow on from their</p>	<p>NE</p>

	<p>activities at North Yorkshire's Diversity Day.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift informed Members that the full report on the diversity day was available on the Westhill website.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the thanks of SACRE be expressed to Rebecca Swift on behalf of SACRE for the excellent diversity day.</p>	RS to Note
74.	<p><b>EXAMINATION OUTCOMES</b></p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised Members that 46% of the cohort of students were entered for the GCSE full course in Religious Studies which had been an increase of 124 entries from 2015. 34 centres out of 46 entered pupils for full course GCSE with some schools entering their whole cohort whilst for other schools Religious Studies GCSE was offered as an option. The increase in entries for the full course GCSE paralleled the increase in A Level entries which were up by 6.8% in 2016 compared with 2015. 33 out of 41 secondary schools undertook Religious Education studies.</p> <p>Attainment in full GCSE grades A* to C nationally was 71.6% with North Yorkshire at 70%.</p> <p>203 students were entered for GCSE A2 Level Religious Studies which was 35 more than 2015. 99% of candidates entered achieved a grade A* to E. A2 Religious Studies was studied in 16 of North Yorkshire's secondary schools and the results showed an improvement in pupils achieving the higher grades which was very encouraging.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the position be noted.</p>	
75.	<p><b>GROWING UP IN NORTH YORKSHIRE SURVEY - FEEDBACK</b></p> <p>Rebecca Swift drew Members' attention to the bi-annual survey where all schools including academy schools were invited to take part in the survey specifically relating to Year 2, Year 6, Year 8 and Year 10 students and there was now a pilot questionnaire for Year 12 students. 20,000 students had taken part in the survey this year. Attention was drawn to the fact that 21% of Year 10 boys implied that they found RE lessons not useful at all.</p> <p>Members were informed that there were also reports on vulnerable groups, such as young carers and free school meal pupils and now contained a minority religious report.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the position be noted and a report be brought to a future meeting of SACRE regarding the minority religious report.</p>	

76.	<p><b>RE ANNUAL SURVEY</b></p> <p>Members were advised by Rebecca Swift that 141 schools had completed the RE annual survey. One school had no provision at all at Key Stage 4 and nearly half of North Yorkshire schools provided none at Key Stage 5, which was of concern. 98 primary schools followed the North Yorkshire RE syllabus and the rest were church schools which eight church schools followed the Diocesan syllabus some followed both. It was commented that the special schools found it most difficult to access the RE syllabus. 97% were satisfied with the RE agreed syllabus and those that were not satisfied indicated a lack of specialist teachers and not sufficient time and resources for special educational needs. 66% were aware of the new guidance on collective worship and found it helpful and 78% of schools had a daily act of collective worship.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the position be noted and Rebecca Swift agreed to circulate to all Members of SACRE the slides from her PowerPoint presentation.</p>	RS to Note
77.	<p><b>SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16</b></p> <p>Considered -</p> <p>Draft Annual Report on Religious Education for the School Year 2015/16.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised that it was a legal requirement to produce such an Annual Report and sought Members' approval.</p> <p>Christina Taylor suggested that it would be very useful to have a guide to the major changes in teaching practices and curriculum changes.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>(i) That subject to one or two typographical amendments to the text the Annual Report of SACRE on Religious Education for the school year 2015/16 be approved, as drafted and published; and</p> <p>(ii) A report be brought to a future meeting relating to any major changes to teaching practices or curriculum changes.</p>	RS to Note
78.	<p><b>REVISION OF RE AGREED SYLLABUS</b></p> <p>Considered -</p> <p>A report on SACRE options for agreed syllabus review.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised Members that the North Yorkshire agreed syllabus review was due in September 2018 and that process would need to be started before too long.</p>	



**Action**

	<p>Lat Blaylock had tendered successfully to be North Yorkshire's Consultant for SACRE's 2013 RE agreed syllabus review and had contacted SACRE about possibly supporting the process for 2018. There was a suggestion that a period of time be reserved to undertake the review process if SACRE considered undertaking the review itself.</p> <p>Olivia Seymour advised caution on that way forward as it would entail a massive amount of work and the process was required to be legally compliant.</p> <p><b>Resolved -</b></p> <p>That the process of SACRE reviewing its RE agreed syllabus for 2018 be considered at the next meeting.</p>	RS to Note
<b>79.</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>An Award for North Yorkshire SACRE:</b> The Chairman advised the meeting about an Award with a deadline for completion of 12 December 2016. Rebecca Swift advised Members that it would be a massive amount of work to undertake to be able to complete the required questionnaire and it was suggested that the Chairman organise a small working group of Members to complete this task.</p>	NE
<b>80.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>It was noted that the meeting on <b>Thursday 2 March 2017</b> would be held at Settle College.</p>	

The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm

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