



## CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 5TH MARCH 2014

**SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2013**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform members of the attainment at GCSE and A/AS Level of Caerphilly pupils in Religious Studies and Religious Education for 2013.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report advises Members of attainment at GCSE and A/AS Level of Caerphilly pupils in Religious Studies and Religious Education for 2013.
- 2.2 It should be noted that definitive conclusions cannot be drawn because the figures represent raw scores and do not necessarily reflect the selectivity of the entry and in some cases the numbers are too small to be statistically significant.

### 3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The analysis of examination results links directly to SACRE's duty to monitor and develop the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools and the CCBC Strategic Equality Plan 2012.

### 4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The information for 16 year- olds currently relates to those electing to follow a course n religious studies in Years 10 and 11 or A/ AS level and to those following GCSE short course in Religious Studies as the schools' provision for RE as part of the basic curriculum.
- 4.2 Members are asked to note that the results recorded here are for those pupils entered for the examinations. They do not necessarily reflect the number of pupils following the examination course nor do they indicate how well pupils are performing relative to their ability.
- 4.3 **GCSE Religious Studies (Full Course)**

	<b>Caerphilly 2013</b>	<b>Caerphilly 2012</b>	<b>Caerphilly 2011</b>	<b>Wales 2013</b>
<b>A*-A</b>	27%	35%	34.1%	33%
<b>A*-C</b>	64%	69%	73.7%	73%
<b>A*- G</b>	99%	99%	99.2%	98%
<b>Entry Number</b>	699 13 schools	697 14 schools	615 13 schools	11, 414 students

- There were **699 entries from 13 schools**. Entry numbers are comparable with 2012. All schools have entries in double or triple figures (3 schools). In Wales the entry figure was 11,414, which shows a sharp increase on previous entry figures.
- The overall % of **A\*- A grades was 27%** and is below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 33%.
- The overall % of **A\*- C grades was 64%** and is below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 73%.
- The overall % of **A\*-G grades was 99%** and is comparable with the previous two years' results and the All-Wales figure of 98%

### Conclusions

- Results **are good** this year but does not maintain the performance of previous years and are below All Wales figures at the top grades of A\*-A and A\*-C and comparable with All Wales figures at A\*-G.

#### 4.4 GCSE Religious Education (Short Course)

	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Caerphilly 2011	Wales 2013
<b>A*-A</b>	25%	15%	16.4%	17.9%
<b>A*-C</b>	59%	47%	46.7%	50.6%
<b>A*-G</b>	97%	92%	97.3%	93.4%
<b>Entry Number</b>	1317 13 schools	949 13 schools	901 13 schools	12,765

- Thirteen schools in the Authority entered pupils for the short course and there was a significant increase in entries this year. 7/13 schools have entry numbers in triple figures and thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. 12/13 schools offer GCSE full course as well as short course. Some schools enter pupils for two short courses and their performance has been reflected in the full course results. However, it is important to bear in mind that those pupils entered for two short courses will be mainly the more able and this will reflect on the A\*-A and A\*-C results for Short Course.
- The overall % of **A\*- A grades of 25%** is the best performance of the last three years and better than the All Wales figure of 17.9%.
- The overall % of **A\*- C grades was 59%** and best performance of the last three years and better than the All Wales figure of 50.6%.
- The overall % of **A\*-G grades was 97%** and better than 2012 and the All Wales figure of 93.4%.
- A significant number continues to be entered for short course and this is very encouraging because it provides pupils with the opportunity for accreditation for their KS4 study. We must also bear in mind that pupils do not usually opt to follow the Short Course but it is delivered as part of the statutory requirements for RE.

#### 4.5 GCE Religious Studies (A Level)

	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Caerphilly 2011	Wales 2013
<b>A*-A</b>	20%	19%	19.8%	20%
<b>A*-C</b>	72%	67%	74.4%	79.8%
<b>A*-E</b>	100%	100%	100%	96.3%

<b>Entry Number</b>	67 8 schools	67 8 schools	86 8 schools	1, 422 students
---------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	--------------------

- There were 67 entries from 8 schools and the entry figures and number of schools entering is comparable to 2012. 4/8 schools have entry numbers in double figures. Most schools will only let courses run if they have a minimum number (approx 10).
- A\*-A was achieved by 20% of students and is comparable with previous performance and the All Wales figure of 20%.
- At A\*-C candidates achieved a pass rate of 72% which is better than 2012 and slightly below 2011 performance. It is also below the All Wales figure of 79.8%.
- The pass rate for grades A-E of 100% is excellent and continues the excellent performance of previous years and exceeds the All-Wales figure of 96.3%.

#### 4.6 GCE Religious Studies (AS Level)

	<b>Caerphilly 2013</b>	<b>Caerphilly 2012</b>	<b>Caerphilly 2011</b>	<b>Wales 2013</b>
<b>A</b>	16%	9%	15.2%	N/A
<b>A-C</b>	56%	45%	50.0%	N/A
<b>A -E</b>	92%	77%	77.2%	N/A
<b>Entry Number</b>	100 9 schools	22 7 schools	92 8 schools	N/A

- There was a significant increase in entry numbers in 2013.
- **16% of students** achieved the highest **A** grade and is better than previous performance.
- **56% of students** achieved **A-C** grades and this is better than previous performance.
- At **A-E there was a 92%** pass rate and this is the best result of the last three years.

## 5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report is for information purposes only, so the Council's Equalities Impact Assessment process has not been applied, however Religion and Belief is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 and locally is covered by section 6 (xi) of the CCBC Strategic Equality Plan 2012.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no financial implications attached to this report.

## 7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications attached to this report.

## 8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 There are no consultations responses that have not been reflected in this report.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 That SACRE noted and discuss the examinations results for 2013.
- 9.2 That SACRE consider circulating the findings to Secondary Schools in the Authority.

## **10. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 To inform SACRE of the examination results for 2013.

Author: Vicky Thomas, RE Consultant to SACRE  
Consultees: Keri Cole, Manager (Learning Education and Inclusion)  
Councillor D.M. Gray, SACRE Chair