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**Date: 24th February 2016**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Members are asked to arrive at the school by 1.45 pm – visitor parking is located near the school entrance. Please report to the main reception office upon arrival.**

A meeting of the **Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education** will be held at **Lewis School Pengam, Gilfach, Bargoed, CF81 8LJ** on **Thursday, 3rd March, 2016** at **2.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

**Chris Burns**  
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## A G E N D A

Pages

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 Declarations of Interest  
Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

**A greener place Man gwyrdach**

Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat



3 Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) - 2nd November 2015. 1 - 8

4 To receive a presentation from Mrs Laura Strange, Head of Religious Education, Lewis School Pengam.

To receive and consider the following reports:-

5 Analysis of Examination Results 2015 (report attached). 9 - 12

6 Revised Criteria for GCSE and GCE Specifications - Update (report attached). 13 - 22

7 National Curriculum Review and Assessment - Update (report attached). 23 - 30

8 Holocaust Memorial Day 2016 Feedback (verbal update).

9 Correspondence (verbal update).

WASACRE:-

10 Feedback from the WASACRE meeting in Blaenau Gwent - 25th November 2015 (report attached). 31 - 42

11 Nominations to the WASACRE Executive Committee (verbal update).

12 Representation at forthcoming WASACRE meetings (verbal update):-

- 8th March 2016 - Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire;
- 23rd June 2016 – Denbighshire.

**Circulation:**

Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, D.G. Carter, Mrs G.D. Oliver, Mrs M.E. Sargent and J. Taylor (Chair)

And Appropriate Officers; Trade Union Representatives and Religious Organisations



## CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON MONDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER 2015 AT 2.00 P.M.

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PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair

Councillors:

Mrs E.M. Aldworth, D.G. Carter, Mrs M.E. Sargent

Representing Teaching Organisations: Miss H. Bartley (ATL), Mrs L. Strange (NASUWT)

Representing Religious Organisations: Captain C. DiPalma (The Salvation Army), Mrs J. Jones (Church in Wales), Mr M. Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)

Co-opted Members: Mr E. Mushayanyama (Race Equalities Wales)

Together with:

Mrs V. Thomas (RE Consultant), Mrs J. Elias (ALN Service Manager) and Miss R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

### 1. WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Members were pleased to welcome back Mr Martyn Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese) who had recently recovered from an extended period of illness. A warm welcome was also extended to Mrs Jacquelyn Elias (ALN Service Manager) who was attending the meeting on behalf of Mrs Tanis Cunnick (Manager – Community, Youth Service and Adult).

Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth was welcomed to her first meeting of Caerphilly SACRE, having replaced retired Member Councillor D.M. Gray.

It was noted that Carl Di-Palma (The Salvation Army) had recently been promoted from Lieutenant to Captain. Members congratulated Captain Di-Palma on his achievement.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs N. Boardman (NUT), Mrs B. Davies (UCAC), Mr C. Parry (NAHT), Mrs E. Hawthorn (United Reformed Church) and Rev. E Williams (Baptist Union of Wales), together with Mrs T. Cunnick (Manager – Community, Youth Service and Adult).

## **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

## **4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR TO CAERPHILLY SACRE**

Nominations were sought for the position of Vice-Chair to Caerphilly SACRE.

Councillor Mrs M.E. Sargent was nominated but regretfully declined, owing to a number of other commitments.

A nomination for Mrs Janet Jones was moved and seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that she be appointed as Vice-Chair of Caerphilly SACRE.

## **5. MINUTES – 10TH JUNE 2015**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 10th June 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **6. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2015-2016**

SACRE noted the dates of the next two meetings:-

The Spring Term meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd March 2016 (2pm) at Lewis School, Pengam.

The Summer Term will be held on Tuesday 14th June 2016 (2pm) - venue to be confirmed.

It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE will seek a suitable primary school venue within the county borough for the Summer Term meeting and inform Members once this is secured.

## **7. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE 2015-2016**

Mrs Vicky Thomas (RE Consultant to SACRE) referred Members to the current list of SACRE membership as contained within the agenda papers.

A Councillor vacancy within the membership list was noted, as Councillor W. David had recently resigned from Caerphilly SACRE owing to other commitments. Members thanked Councillor David for his contribution to the Committee and it was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would seek a replacement Member from amongst local authority Councillors.

SACRE were pleased with the news that the vacant NAHT teaching association position had recently been filled by Mr Chris Parry, Headteacher at Lewis School Pengam. SACRE noted the contents of the report.

## **8. CAERPHILLY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

Mrs Thomas presented the draft Caerphilly SACRE Annual Report for 2014-2015 for Members' consideration and approval prior to its submission to the Welsh Government's Department for Education and Skills (DfES) by 31st December 2015.

The Annual Report outlined the activities of SACRE during the academic year 2014-2015 and Members' comments were welcomed. The RE Consultant referred Members to the executive summary of advice given by SACRE, and highlighted specific issues and the actions taken by SACRE to ensure it met all its statutory requirements.

Members were asked to check the Annual Report for accuracy and amendments were noted to the Membership of SACRE listed within Appendix 1 of the report. It was agreed that the final version of the Annual Report be submitted to DfES and circulated electronically to WASACRE (who will include the Annual Report on their website), together with schools and other relevant parties.

Subject to the above amendments, it was unanimously agreed that the SACRE Annual Report for 2014-2015 be approved.

## **9. SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2018**

The report detailed the new Caerphilly SACRE Development Plan for the academic years 2015-2018, which identifies the key issues that need to be addressed in respect of RE provision across all schools in the county borough.

A copy of the completed Development Plan for 2012-2015 was detailed in the SACRE Annual Report, which outlined the actions identified, outcomes required and progress made in respect of RE provision over the past three academic years.

Members were referred to the new SACRE Development Plan for 2012-2015 as contained within the agenda papers, and its four main aims were outlined:-

1. To monitor standards in Religious Education and Religious Studies;
2. To review the agreed syllabus (as appropriate) and support its implementation;
3. To monitor provision and provide support for collective worship;
4. To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues related to RE and collective worship within schools.

Mrs Thomas outlined the plan of action for each of these aims, appropriate timelines, the involvement of relevant persons, time and costs to implement these actions, and the required outcomes.

Reference was made to the Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum and its implications for the future of Religious Education within the agreed syllabus. Mrs Thomas explained that regular meetings were being held between RE Advisors to SACRE across Wales to discuss such implications and confirmed that SACRE would be kept updated on any developments on a termly basis.

Having fully considered the report, Members noted the content and planned actions of the SACRE Development Plan 2015-2018.

## 10. CAERPHILLY SCHOOLS INSPECTION REPORTS ANALYSIS AUTUMN 2014 - SUMMER 2015

The report outlined the main RE findings derived from the Estyn inspection of thirteen Caerphilly schools between Autumn 2014 and Summer 2015. The analysis focused on comments in relation to spiritual development and collective worship. The context of the report was explained to SACRE and that the focus of SACRE's remit was on RE and collective worship findings and not the general inspection results of the school, which could significantly vary in other areas.

Mrs Thomas provided a detailed summary of the findings for each of the inspected schools, including details relating to spiritual development, the quality of collective worship and whether the school met statutory legal requirements in relation to collective worship. Other comments and issues were also outlined in the findings.

The report explained that the Estyn Common Inspection Framework notes that inspectors should only report on instances where the school does not comply with statutory requirements relating to collective worship. The inspection report for Lewis Girls School stated that the school does not comply with the statutory collective worship requirements. SACRE agreed that the action plan for the school be requested, together with an update on progress made in addressing this recommendation.

In Autumn 2014, a lack of inspector comments regarding the promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development and the quality of acts of collective worship had been noted by Caerphilly SACRE, who had subsequently written to the Chief Inspector of Estyn to request that this matter be addressed. SACRE were pleased to note that in 2014-2015, all inspections made reference to SMSC development and six of the Estyn inspections commented on the quality of collective worship in schools

A number of positive outcomes were derived from the analysis and detailed to SACRE Members, including the finding that pupils have opportunities to reflect on spiritual and moral values and to reflect on their decisions during class lessons and in collective worship. Pupils take an active part in collective worship, which contributes well to their learning. School assemblies also provide a wide range of benefits, namely the fostering of shared values and opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of different emotions and characteristics. During a 'Shoe Box' assembly held in one school, pupils were able to reflect on the significant differences in their own lives and those of people in poorer parts of the world. In another school, the local church holds services in the school hall for pupils and members of the local community, and this helps to develop the spiritual dimension of pupils' development well. One school report identified that opportunities for pupils to reflect on the world around them during collective worship sessions are limited.

It was noted that there was a comment listed against Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta which explained that the school does not always ensure a balance of subjects and therefore does not meet the statutory requirements in respect of ensuring consistency in the provision for religious education. SACRE agreed to request the action plan for the school, together with an update on progress made in addressing this recommendation.

During consideration of the report, discussion took place regarding the meaning of the Estyn assessment of "adequate" against current performance and prospects for improvement within a number of schools. Mrs Elias clarified the meaning of the term "adequate" against the Estyn framework and explained to Members that this meant that there were no urgent issues identified against the assessed school.

Mrs Thomas expressed the need for a clear definition to be made between general school performance and that of Religious Education/collective worship in Estyn inspections, explaining that it was feasible that school performance could be assessed as “excellent” in terms of RE/collective worship but not in other areas (or vice versa). Mrs Elias confirmed that she would include this comment in Caerphilly Council’s response to the findings of the Estyn inspections.

A Member suggested that those schools with an Estyn assessment of “excellent” against current performance/prospects for improvement could share their teaching methods with those schools assessed as “adequate” in these areas. Mrs Elias outlined the benefits of sharing good practice and confirmed that she would relay the suggestion to the appropriate agencies.

Following consideration of the report, Members noted the analysis of the Estyn inspection reports. Schools are expected to draw up an action plan, which shows how they intend to address the recommendations arising from the inspections, and Estyn will monitor the school progress. As two schools had a recommendation related to RE and collective worship it was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would request an update from Mrs Keri Cole (Chief Education Officer), in relation to the action plans for Lewis Girls School and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta and how they intend to meet the statutory requirements as identified by Estyn.

## **11. RE AND THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM - UPDATE**

The report provided an update on the review of assessment arrangements and the National Curriculum in Wales, which is led by Professor Graham Donaldson and includes two phases. Phase 2 of the review has focused on curriculum design at each phase/stage of education to ensure that there is a broad and balanced curriculum which is fit for the 21st Century. It included consideration of the Basic Curriculum (which is where RE sits within the curriculum).

Members were informed that in Summer 2014, the Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis AM, made comment about proposed changes to RE in the curriculum, which were widely reported in the press. WASACRE wrote to the Minister asking for clarification on his comments and a response was received, a copy of which was attached to the report.

The letter voiced acceptance of the Donaldson recommendations and welcomed engagement from schools, practitioners and other key stakeholders in designing and developing the new curriculum. WASACRE Executive Members were invited to attend regular meetings with Welsh Government officers so that a productive working arrangement could be implemented. At the first meeting, a number of matters were clarified:-

1. Confirmation that RE will remain a statutory subject as suggested in the Review;
2. Assurances that full consultation will take place on a proposed name change for Religious Education (to include Moral Education and Philosophy);
3. Confirmation that all legislation relating to RE, Collective Worship and SACREs’ standing in such legislation will be reviewed by WG
4. Confirmation of a non-prescriptive framework for each Area of Learning (with RE to sit in the Humanities area of learning), with key stakeholders (including WASACRE) involved in the shaping of the new curriculum.

Discussion took place regarding the specifics of the non-prescriptive framework and the implications of the proposed name change from RE to Moral Education and Philosophy in respect of the subjects this would potentially encompass as part of the new syllabus. Mrs Thomas referred to the statement from the Minister for Education and Skills for regional education consortia to work with their schools and lead on the design and development of the new curriculum alongside other key stakeholders and the plans to progress Professor Donaldson’s recommendations. She explained that the future shape of Religious Education

as part of the National Curriculum would become clearer once this engagement process had been established. Members also discussed the impact of current and future legislation on the proposed changes.

Having considered and discussed the key points within the report, Members noted the update in respect of proposed changes to Religious Education within the National Curriculum.

## **12. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2016**

The report informed Members of the resources available to schools in order to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2016.

The RE Consultant advised that the theme for 2016 is “Don’t Stand By”, which refers to the inactivity of bystanders during the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. Further information on the theme and free educational resources are available through the Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) website at [www.hmd.org.uk/content/for-educators](http://www.hmd.org.uk/content/for-educators).

Reference was made to an exhibition and memorial that took place at Blackwood Miners Institute during Holocaust Memorial Day 2015 to remember the victims of the Holocaust and other atrocities. It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would contact Council colleagues to determine whether any such events were taking place this year.

Members noted the theme and resources available to schools in order to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2016 and it was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would write to all schools to make them aware of these resources and encourage them to commemorate the event.

## **13. REQUEST TO ISSUE THE PRESENTATION MADE TO WASACRE “MUSLIM FOOTBALLERS IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE” TO ALL RE SECONDARY SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS IN CCBC**

Earlier in the year, Mrs Mary Parry (a local authority RE Advisor) delivered a presentation to WASACRE in response to an Estyn inspection which identified an issue around the motivation of boys in the study of RE. During this presentation, Mrs Parry shared a scheme of work for KS3 pupils that she had developed, entitled “Muslim Footballers in the Premier League”. The scheme contains a number of tasks which aims to engage and motivate boys, raise standards, implement the Literacy and Numeracy Framework, and develop religious education skills and thinking skills.

A copy of this scheme of work was tabled during the Summer 2015 meeting of Caerphilly SACRE and Members had been pleased to note the informative range of activities outlined within the scheme and how they related to RE. The scheme identified a number of Muslim footballers throughout the Premier League and contained activities which asked pupils to consider the ways in which Islam affect players’ lives on and off the football pitch. By making Islamic study adaptable and relevant to a topic that they could identify with, it was hoped that this scheme of work would engage boys in RE and raise their standards.

Mrs Thomas advised Members that since that time, she had received permission from Mrs Parry to copy and distribute copies of the teaching resources for use in schools, which were accompanied by a CD-ROM disc

Caerphilly SACRE extended their thanks to Mrs Parry for waiving copyright on these valuable teaching resources. It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would distribute a copy of the resources to all RE secondary school departments in the county borough.



#### **14. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk to SACRE informed Members that details of a free one-day RE Conference which was hosted by the University of Wales, Swansea, had recently been circulated to all secondary schools in the county borough. This information had also been emailed to SACRE Members.

Members were advised that the Autumn Term 2015 edition of the RE Ideas newsletter, which is issued Religious Education Movement Wales (REMW), had recently been circulated to all schools in the county borough. A copy of this newsletter had also been sent to SACRE Members.

Members noted correspondence recently received in respect of Scholarships offered by the Farmington Institute, Oxford, for the academic year 2016/2017. Details of the eligibility and composition of the Scholarships were outlined and Members agreed that this information be circulated to all schools in order to raise awareness of the opportunities provided by the Institution. It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would circulate a PDF version of the information leaflet to all Head Teachers and RE contacts.

Miss Helen Bartley (ATL) also advised that Newbridge School had recently received a letter from a Humanist representative, who has offered to attend a school assembly to present a Humanism perspective on religion. Mrs Thomas explained that it would be for the school to make a decision on whether they wished to take up this offer.

#### **15. WASACRE – FEEDBACK FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN MOLD – 25TH JUNE 2015**

Members were updated on the discussions and deliberation of WASACRE at its Annual General Meeting in Mold on 25th June 2015.

Reference was made to a presentation given by Mrs Libby Jones which outlined training on collective worship and how to deliver it effectively, together with a presentation made by Mr Phil Lord which shared case studies of good practice partnership working between schools and churches. WASACRE discussed a lack of Welsh representation on the RE Council for England and Wales and they will follow up on this matter. Information was also shared from the Welsh Government regarding World War I commemorations and the availability of a grant to all departments in schools. Further information will be made available on the WASACRE website.

In noting that concerns had been raised by WASACRE regarding the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification and its potential to eliminate GCSE Religious Studies as an option subject (due to its inclusion within the list of options choices), Members discussed how this had affected the availability of the RE Short Course offered within schools. Mrs Thomas advised that WASACRE and individual SACREs had been asked to closely monitor the situation.

Members expressed concern regarding the differences in the Welsh Baccalaureate and GCSE Religious Education syllabuses, which could be compounded by the National Curriculum changes arising from the Donaldson Review. Mrs Thomas confirmed that she would raise this matter with the National Advisory Panel and monitor how other local authorities are addressing the situation.

SACRE noted the discussions and deliberations of WASACRE at the Annual General Meeting in Mold.

**16. REPRESENTATION AT THE NEXT MEETING OF WASACRE IN BLAENAU GWENT**

Members were advised that the next WASACRE meeting would be held on **25th November 2015** in Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent, and nominations for representation were sought from Caerphilly SACRE.

Councillor J. Taylor advised that he might be able to attend, subject to other commitments. It was noted that Mrs J. Jones and Mrs V. Thomas would be in attendance. It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would circulate agenda papers nearer to the meeting date and confirm attendance from interested representatives.

The Chair thanked the Members of Caerphilly SACRE for their attendance at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.31 pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2016, they were signed by the Chair.

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CHAIR

## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION

**DATE:** 3RD MARCH 2016

**SUBJECT:** ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2015

### **A PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform SACRE Members of the attainment at GCSE and A/AS level of Caerphilly pupils in Religious Studies and Religious Education for 2015.

### **B BACKGROUND**

The information for 16-year olds currently relates to those electing to follow a course in 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.

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.

### **C RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That SACRE note and discuss the examinations results for 2015.
2. To consider circulating the findings to secondary schools in the Authority.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**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.**

## GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES 2015 (FULL COURSE)

	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Wales 2015
<b>A* - A</b>	28.3%	25.6%	27%	30.0%
<b>A* - C</b>	71.4%	73.0%	64%	75.0%
<b>A* - G</b>	98.4%	98.8%	99%	98.0%
<b>Entry Number</b>	679 13 schools	656 14 schools	699 13 schools	11,167

- There were **679 entries** from 13 schools. Entry numbers are higher than previous numbers but number of schools entering candidates has decreased this year. 10/13 schools have entries in double figures and 2/13 in triple figures
- The overall % of **A\* - A grades was 28.3%** which is the best result of the last three years but just below the All Wales figure of 30%.
- The overall % of **A\* - C grades was 71.4%** which is below 2014 performance but better than 2013 performance. This again is below the All Wales figure of 75%
- The overall % of **A\* - G grades was 98.4%** and is comparable with previous performance and slightly better than the All-Wales figure of 98%

### Conclusions

- Results continue to be good and compare with or just below All Wales figures at
- A\* - A and A\* - C. At A\* - G they are slightly better than All Wales figures.

## GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2015 (SHORT COURSE)

	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Wales 2015
<b>A* - A</b>	18.6%	10.8%	25%	14.0%
<b>A* - C</b>	60.9%	49.7%	59%	52.0%
<b>A* - G</b>	91.5%	95.0%	97%	93.0%
<b>Entry Number</b>	647 13 schools	866 13 schools	1317 13 schools	10,098

- Thirteen schools in the Authority continue to enter pupils for the short course but there was a significant decrease in entries again this year. 3/13 schools have entry numbers in triple figures and thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. 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 18.6%** is much better than 2014 performance and better than the All Wales figure of 14%.
- The overall % of **A\* - C grades was 60.9%** is the best result of the last three years and is also better than the All Wales figure of 52%.
- The overall % of **A\* - G grades was 91.5%** and is below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 93%.
- A significant number continue 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.

### GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES 2015 (A LEVEL)

	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Wales 2015
<b>A* - A</b>	13.0%	17.2%	20%	23.0%
<b>A* - C</b>	73.0%	89.1%	72%	81.0%
<b>A* - E</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Entry Number</b>	100 8 schools	64 8 schools	67 8 schools	1441

- There were 100 entries from 8 schools and the entry figures are very good this year and an increase on previous entry figures. 7/8 schools have entry numbers in double figures.
- A\* - A was achieved by 13% of students and is below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 23%.
- At A\* - C candidates achieved a pass rate of 73% which is the below 2014 performance and slightly better than 2013. It is also below the All Wales figure of 81%
- The pass rate for grades A - E of **100%** is excellent and continues the excellent performance of previous year.

### GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES (AS LEVEL)

	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Wales 2015
<b>A</b>	4.5%	21.1%	11.5%	N/A
<b>A - C</b>	36.4%	47.4%	53.8%	N/A
<b>A - E</b>	72.7%	100%	69.2%	N/A
<b>Entry Number</b>	22 8 schools	19 6 schools	26 7 schools	N/A

**Please Note:**

Data includes only those who have cashed in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2015, but have not yet cashed the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cashed in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

- There were 22 entries from 8 schools and the entry figures and number of schools entering has increased this year.
- Grade A was achieved by 4.5% of students and is below previous performance.
- **6.4%** of students achieved A\* - C which is below previous performance.
- **72.7%** pass rate for grades A - E and although does not match the excellent 100% of last year is better than 2013.

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## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**DATE:** 3RD MARCH 2016

**SUBJECT:** REVISED CRITERIA FOR GCSE AND GCE SPECIFICATIONS - UPDATE

### A THE REPORT

#### GCSE

- A Full Course and Short Course option will be continued
- All specifications must ensure that another religion in addition to Christianity is studied. (See attached draft specifications).
- This had presented an issue for those RC schools who currently do two RC options. RC schools will now study Judaism as the second religion. Discussion still ongoing as whether that will be 50% for each religion or as the Church would prefer 75% from the Christian Catholic perspective and 25% Judaism.
- The Welsh specifications will remain unitised:
  - Unit 1:** Religious responses to Philosophical Themes - Life and Death & Good and Evil
  - Unit 2:** Religious responses to Ethical Themes - Relationships & Human Rights
- There is a book by Hodder called *Illuminate* which will be available for the new specifications. It ties in with the English specifications but should prove useful for Welsh specifications also.

#### GCE (A and AS)

- There are two different specifications for two different countries (England and Wales).
- In England AS and A2 will be stand alone qualifications whereas in Wales AS will still feed into A2. There will be 3 separate papers in Wales and not one paper at the end as in England.
- No exam in January in England or Wales.

#### Process and Timescale

- **Revised Specifications for AS and A level** and Sample Assessment Materials were submitted to Qualification Wales for approval at the end of Nov 2015. This is Stage 2 in the process. This material is currently being translated and when this is done, these draft proposals will be put up on the WJEC website - provisional date

18th January 2016. Note - there is a draft one page summary of the AS and A level proposal currently on the WJEC website.

- The **GCSE RS** draft Specification was submitted to Qualification Wales for Stage 2 approval before Christmas and the Sample Assessment Materials will be submitted before long – WJEC are working towards the submission date of 15th January 2016. These **draft** proposals will then go to translation and will subsequently be put up on the website (hopefully by the end of January, but there is no guarantee given that the translation unit is inundated at present). On 19th January 2016 a one page draft summary of the GCSE proposal became available on the WJEC website.
- Qualification Wales will respond to the submitted specifications and advise on necessary changes. The Qualifications Development Manager at WJEC feels that Qualifications Wales may provide this feedback on the specifications before the end of January although they do reserve the right to take longer. Following the feedback from Qualification Wales, the necessary revisions will be made to the specs by WJEC and then resubmitted for approval. It is not possible to predict the timeline for making the required revisions, resubmission, actual final approval by Qualifications Wales, translation and publication of the actual specifications.
- Training programme currently programmed to take place February 2016 for A/AS level and March 2016 for GCSE at Cardiff, Carmarthen and Mold.
- Implementation from Autumn 2016.

## Issues

- The delay in approval for RS specifications - in comparison to other subjects - has an impact on the teaching of the subject. It will mean that support resources, OAMs and specimen papers are likely to be late and this has an impact on teaching and learning. Some schools start teaching GCSE courses in May and the specifications may still be in draft form. This has implications for option choices, timetabling and staffing issues, preparation of materials for teaching and availability of resources for teaching. Welsh resources likely to follow even later than English resources.
- Letters have been sent from Mary Parry to WJEC on behalf of Carmarthenshire SACRE regarding this delay in approval for RS specifications in comparison to other subjects. It asks for a delay in introduction to 2017. She has also sent the same letter to Huw Lewis, Qualifications Wales and Estyn. Mark Campion at Estyn acknowledged the email and said that he would look into it.
- WASACRE has also sent a letter to WJEC in a similar vein raising the issues and asking for a deferment of either both - or at least one - of the specifications (see attached letter).
- NAPfRE (National Advisory Panel for Religious Education) also sent a letter (see attached).
- On the recommendation of the RE Consultant to SACRE (Vicky Thomas) secondary schools have been informed of the current situation regarding specifications and timescales outlined above. They have also been informed that



on 19th January 2016 a one page draft summary of the GCSE became available on the WJEC website.

**B RECOMMENDATION**

For SACRE to note the report and for an oral update to be given at the meeting if further news is received.

**C SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Appendix 1 WJEC GCSE Religious Studies Wales – Summary of Assessment (Draft Specifications)

Appendix 2 WASACRE Letter to WJEC re changes to GCSE and GCE specifications

Appendix 3 NAPfRE Letter to WJEC re changes to GCSE and GCE specifications

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# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES (Wales)

For teaching from 2016

For award from 2018

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

**Unit 1: Religious Responses to Philosophical Themes**  
**Written examination: 2 hours**  
**50% of qualification** **126 marks**

**Part A:** Candidates must study two core beliefs/teachings and two practices of Christianity **OR** Catholic Christianity **AND** one other of the six main world religions\*: Judaism OR Islam OR Hinduism OR Sikhism OR Buddhism

**\*Candidates taking the Catholic Christianity option will study a further two beliefs/teachings and two practices from the Jewish perspective**

**Part B:** Candidates must also study the two philosophical themes (below) from the perspective of Christianity **OR** Catholic Christianity **AND** one other of the six main world religions\*: Judaism OR Islam OR Hinduism OR Sikhism OR Buddhism

**Life and Death**  
**Good and Evil**

Candidates must also consider non-religious beliefs, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists (this will be explicitly assessed in the (e) question in the Life and Death theme)

**\*Candidates taking the Catholic Christianity option will study both themes from the Catholic and Jewish perspectives.**

## Unit 2: Religious responses to Ethical Themes

Written examination: 2 hours

50% of qualification

126 marks

**Part A:** Candidates must study two core beliefs/teachings and two practices of Christianity **AND** one other of the six main world religions: Judaism OR Islam OR Hinduism OR Sikhism OR Buddhism

**Part B:** Candidates must also study the two ethical themes (below) from the perspective of Christianity **AND** one other of the six main world religions: Judaism OR Islam OR Hinduism OR Sikhism OR Buddhism

### Relationships Human Rights

Candidates must also consider non-religious beliefs, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists

## Unit 3: Catholic responses to Ethical Themes

Written examination: 2 hours

50% of qualification

126 marks

**Part A:** Candidates must study four core beliefs/teachings and four practices of Catholic Christianity.

**Part B:** Candidates must study the two ethical themes (below) from the perspective of Catholic Christianity.

### Relationships Human Rights

Candidates must also consider non-religious beliefs, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists

Candidates study **two** units.

Candidates taking Unit 1 and Unit 2 will be entered for GCSE Religious Studies.

Candidates taking Unit 1 and Unit 3 will be entered for GCSE Religious Studies (Catholic Theology and Judaism).

This unitised qualification will be available in the summer series each year. There will be an opportunity to enter for Unit 1 in summer 2017. The full qualification will be awarded for the first time in summer 2018.

This draft summary provides an outline for the specification and sample assessment materials that are being developed for review by the regulator in Wales.



*Cadeirydd/Chairman:*  
Phil Lord

*Ysgrifennydd/Secretary:*

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4 Patten Close  
Hawarden  
Deeside  
CH5 3TH

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1 December 2015

Gareth Pierce  
Chief Executive  
WJEC  
CARDIFF  
CF5 2YY

Dear Sir

At the Wales Association of SACREs (WASACRE) meeting on 25/11/15 members (and teacher members in particular) raised the issue of the current change to GCSE and GCE specifications. WASACRE members welcome the efforts made by your subject officers to retain a unitised approach at GCSE, the retention of a Short Course and the modular approach at AS to A level. However, some real concerns were voiced not only about the proposed changes to the content of the specifications but the pace at which implementation is projected to take place (September 2016).

Their concerns included the following:

1. Schools have been able to access through your website the A Level draft proposals, but these are not available for GCSE. We understand that the proposed specifications will be rolled out in a CPD programme in spring 2016. However, some schools begin the process of teaching GCSE in the summer term and even if the syllabus has been accredited by then it is an unrealistic expectation for teachers to work with this specification at such short notice and with no support materials in place.
2. The current GCSE specifications A and B will be merged and teachers need to see the detail of this so that they can assess the impact of this on teaching and learning and they can make decisions about content and option choices.
3. At AS and A level there will be some major changes also, including the requirement to teach Philosophy and Ethics. For some teachers this will be totally new and they will need CPD, SAMs, assessment criteria and resource material to support them in their planning. This needs to take place in a timely fashion and not be crammed into a short space of time adding additional pressure upon teachers.
4. Each time new specifications are introduced resources and support materials are produced after courses have started to be taught- and Welsh resources follow even later than this. This has huge implications for teacher planning, teaching and assessing, but also disadvantages pupils – especially pupils in Welsh medium, schools.

5. There is concern that teachers will be under pressure to deliver both GCSE and GCE specifications at the same time- with changes that are quite substantial to the current specifications.

The Association request that you consider postponing implementation. We believe there are three possibilities that will help to alleviate the pressure brought about by the change in GCSE and GCE specifications.

1. Both GCSE and GCE specifications are delayed until September 2017 so that teachers can be appropriately prepared and trained and support materials can be produced in both English and Welsh.
2. To delay **one** of the specifications till September 2017 so that teachers are not expected to take on GCSE and GCE simultaneously.
3. That finalised GCSE and GCE specifications- or certain units from them - are put up on the WJEC website so that teachers can begin the planning process.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your consideration of our concerns and reassure you that that WASACRE supports WJEC and we are happy to work with you as we have done so through regular dialogue with your Subject Officers who attend NAPfRE and WASACRE meetings. We hope that such professional discussions will continue.

Yours faithfully,



Libby Jones  
**Secretary to WASACRE**

Mr Gareth Pierce  
 Chief Executive  
 WJEC  
 Cardiff CF5 2YX

Dear Mr Pierce

I am writing on behalf of the National Advisory Panel for Religious Education. Most of our members have worked as RE advisors, but now support the SACREs in most of the local authorities in Wales as subject and curriculum specialists.

The teacher representatives at our recent SACRE meetings have expressed their concerns regarding the lack of documentation, resources and guidance to help them prepare new WJEC GCE A/AS Level and GCSE Religious Studies examinations which will be taught for the first time in September 2016. We are writing to share those concerns with you and hope that you can provide us with answers or advice which will help them to prepare for the new specifications.

1. Schools are already advising Year 9 pupils on the GCSE options which will be available to them in Y10. Some schools have presumed that they can continue to offer, for example, a RS GCSE Specification B short course as an accredited course for the statutory Religious Education, and offer a RS GCSE Specification A as a full course for those pupils who want to study Religious Studies as a GCSE option. We are well aware of the success of the GCSE RS Syllabus B course in engaging our young people in religious studies.
  - a. When will schools be advised that WJEC will provide **only one** GCSE Religious Studies Syllabus from September 2016?
  - b. What is your advice to schools regarding the timetabling of a GCSE RS short course as an accreditation for the statutory Religious Education at KS4?
  
2. Many schools in Wales now begin the Y10 timetable in May. We understand that our teachers have not yet seen any specification, examination materials or assessment criteria to help them prepare for the new course. The training courses offered by the WJEC in March 2016 will give them very little time to prepare new teaching materials and assessment tasks and it's unlikely that publishers and resource developers will be able to respond quickly in order to provide relevant bilingual resources.
  - a. When will the revised WJEC syllabus be published (even in draft form) on the WJEC website?
  - b. What bilingual resources will be available by May 2016 for those schools who choose to start teaching the new specification with Year 10 after the Whitsun half term holiday?
  
3. Our RS A level teachers eagerly await the final version of the A/AS RS specification. Many are aware that they will have to teach compulsory elements which they have not taught before and are concerned that there will be little time to prepare new teaching materials and assessment tasks. In most of our school, the teachers will be trying to respond to new A/AS and GCSE specifications at the same time. Once again the lack of Welsh language resources is a matter of concern.
  - a. When will the final accredited version of the syllabus be published on the WJEC website?
  - b. What is your advice to teachers who are trying to resource and prepare for the new examination syllabus through the medium of English and Welsh?

RS results are scrutinised at SACRE meetings annually and SACRE members regularly celebrate and congratulate the sustained success of many of our Religious Education departments. As NAPfRE members we are well aware of the extra commitment made by many of our secondary teachers in ensuring that their students achieve a GCSE RS qualification. They often deliver the course under considerable time constraints and students often have to attend lunch time and after-school lessons in order to complete the course.

We appreciate the good relationship that has been developed between schools and the WJEC and hope that you can address the concerns of our teachers and SACRE members. We look forward to receiving your reply.

Diolch yn fawr  
 Bethan James  
 Chair of NAPfRE

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## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**DATE:** 3RD MARCH 2016

**SUBJECT:** NATIONAL CURRICULUM REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT - UPDATE

### **A BACKGROUND**

On 1st October 2012 the Minister for Education and Skills, announced a review of assessment and the National Curriculum in Wales. Professor Graham Donaldson was tasked with conducting this review of Key Stages 1 - 4. In February 2015 Professor Donaldson brought out his report and recommendations in the document *Successful Futures - Independent Review of Curriculum and Assessment Arrangements in Wales*.

In that report Recommendation 9 stated: *Religious education should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience, and should remain a statutory curriculum requirement from reception.*

The Minister for Education and Skills has accepted this along with all of Professor Donaldson's recommendations

In October 2015 a further document was issued called 'A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life' which is the plan for taking forward Professor Donaldson's recommendations

Pioneer schools and stakeholders will have a say in the shape of the curriculum and they will set up a series of meetings to plan and discuss this. WASACRE will be a high level Stakeholder in the review implementation process through the Pioneer Network. The first meeting took place in **December 2015** and some details from the minutes are below.

- First stage for Curriculum Pioneers would be a high level definition of an Area of Learning and Experience framework.
- Detail around content would follow on from this initial phase.
- New Deal Pioneers would focus on the pedagogy and leadership needed to deliver the requirements of the new curriculum as it develops.
- Members queried the best process for getting research and evidence to the Pioneer schools and agreed that the Strategic Stakeholder Group would be the most appropriate forum for this- a call for evidence would form a regular part of meetings and members could submit written evidence to the Secretariat between meetings. The next meeting of the Stakeholder group is March 2016.

At its Autumn 2015 meeting the National Advisory Panel for RE (NAPfRE) began the process of drawing up guidelines on *What makes good RE* for WASACRE representatives to submit to the pioneer network for consideration when working on the shape of the RE curriculum.

## **B RECOMMENDATION**

SACRE to note and discuss the developments relating to the position of RE in the curriculum.

## **C SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- Appendix 1 'A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life' Welsh Government document 2015 – Timeline
- Appendix 2 List of Pioneer Schools

***A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life***  
**(Welsh Government document October 2015)**

## Timeline

Our ambition is to design, develop and realise our new curriculum within six years so that it can be available for first teaching in settings and schools by September 2021. Below we set out the high level key milestones to help us achieve our ambition together.

2015	2016	2017	2018	2021
Pioneer Network established by Jan 2016				
Design and development phase of the new curriculum				
	Digital Competence Framework available			
			New curriculum and assessment arrangements available	
		Practical support to schools to prepare for the new curriculum		
				New curriculum and assessment arrangements in place.

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### List of Pioneer Schools – leading on curriculum design and development

School Name	Region	Sector
Abercynon Community Primary	CSC	Primary
Abertillery Primary School	EAS	Primary
Albert Primary School	CSC	Primary
Alun School	GwE	Secondary
Bishop Hedley Catholic High School	CSC	Secondary
Blackwood Comprehensive School	EAS	Secondary
Coed Eva Primary School	EAS	Primary
Crickhowell High School	ERW	Secondary
Crownbridge School	EAS	Special
Crynallt Primary School	ERW	Primary
Darran Park Primary School	CSC	Primary
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	3-16
Eveswell Primary School	EAS	Primary
Garnteg Primary School	EAS	Primary
Glan Usk Primary School	EAS	Primary
Gwyrosydd Primary School	ERW	Primary
Hawarden High School	GwE	Secondary
Hendredenny Park Primary School	EAS	Primary
Lewis School Pengam	EAS	Secondary
Llandybie Primary School	ERW	Primary
Llanrhidian Primary School	ERW	Primary
Llysfaen Primary School	CSC	Primary
Maesteg Comprehensive School	CSC	Secondary
Malpas Court Primary School	EAS	Primary
Malpas Park Primary School	EAS	Primary
Mount Street Junior School	ERW	Primary
Mount Stuart Primary School	CSC	Primary
Mynydd Cynffig Primary School	CSC	Primary
Parkland Primary School	ERW	Primary
Pencoed Comprehensive School	CSC	Secondary
Penllwyn Primary School	EAS	Primary
Pentrepoeth Primary School	EAS	Primary
Phillipstown Primary School	EAS	Primary
Plascrug Community Primary School	ERW	Primary
Pontarddulais Comprehensive School	ERW	Secondary



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Radnor Valley CP School	ERW	Primary
Rhydypenau Primary School	CSC	Primary
Shirenewton Primary School	EAS	Primary
St Cadoc's Catholic Primary School	CSC	Primary
St Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School	GwE	Secondary
St Joseph's RC High School	ERW	Secondary
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	CSC	Primary
St Philip Evans RC Primary School	CSC	Primary
The Hollies School	CSC	Special
Trallwn Primary School	ERW	Primary
Trellech Primary School	EAS	Primary
Whitchurch Primary School	CSC	Primary
Ysgol Babanod T. Gwynn Jones	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Bryn Gwalia	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Bryngwyn & Ysgol Glan-y-Môr	ERW	Secondary
Ysgol Clawdd Offa	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	EAS	Secondary
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin	ERW	Secondary
Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig	CSC	Primary
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Gwaen Cae Gurwen	ERW	Primary
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Lôn Las	ERW	Primary
Ysgol John Bright	GwE	Secondary
Ysgol Melyd	GwE	Primary
Ysgol O.M. Edwards	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Pen Coch	GwE	Special
Ysgol Pen y Bryn	ERW	Special
Ysgol Uwchradd Tywyn, Ysgol Ardudwy, Ysgol y Berwyn, Ysgol y Gader, Ysgol y Moelwyn	GwE	Secondary
Ystruth Primary School	EAS	Primary



### List of Pioneer Schools – leading on the New Deal

School Name	Region	Sector
Blaenavon Heritage VC Primary School	EAS	Primary
Bryngwyn Comprehensive School	ERW	Secondary
Caldicot Comprehensive School	EAS	Secondary
Cardiff High School	CSC	Secondary
Cardinal Newman RC School	CSC	Secondary
Cefn Hengoed Community School	ERW	Secondary
Christchurch Primary School	ERW	Primary
Coedcae School	ERW	Secondary
Connahs Quay High School	GwE	Secondary
Cowbridge Comprehensive School	CSC	Secondary
Craig yr Hesg/Cefn Primary Fern Federation	CSC	Primary
Crickhowell High School	ERW	Secondary
Cwmtawe Community School	ERW	Secondary
Duffryn High School	EAS	Secondary
Dwr-y-Felin Comprehensive School	ERW	Secondary
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	3-16
Eveswell Primary School	EAS	Primary
Ferndale Community School	CSC	Secondary
Flint High School	GwE	Secondary
George Street Primary School	EAS	Primary
Gilwern Primary School	EAS	Primary
Glan Usk, Primary School	EAS	Primary
Herbert Thompson Primary School	CSC	Primary
Héronsbridge Special School	CSC	Special
Langstone Primary School	EAS	Primary
Lewis School Pengam	EAS	Secondary
Llangattock Church in Wales School	ERW	Primary
Llanishen Fach Primary School	CSC	Primary
Maesteg School	CSC	Secondary
Millbrook Primary School	EAS	Primary
Oldcastle School	CSC	Primary
Pembroke Dock Community School	ERW	Primary
Penmaes School	ERW	Special
Pontarddulais Primary School	ERW	Primary
Priory Church in Wales School	ERW	Primary
Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School	EAS	Primary
Rhydypenau Primary School	CSC	Primary
Romilly Primary School	CSC	Primary



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

St Albans RC High School	EAS	Secondary
St Gwladys Bargoed Primary School	EAS	Primary
St Joseph's RC High School	EAS	Secondary
St Julian's Primary School	EAS	Primary
Stanwell Comprehensive School	CSC	Secondary
Treorchy Comprehensive School	CSC	Secondary
Y Pant School	CSC	Secondary
Ysgol Gynradd Aberteifi	ERW	Primary
Ysgol Bro Banw	ERW	Primary
Ysgol Bro Pedr	ERW	Secondary
Ysgol Bro Tryweryn	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Cynwyd Sant	CSC	Primary
Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen	GwE	Secondary
Ysgol Eirias	GwE	Secondary
Ysgol Glan Gele	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Gwynedd	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg	CSC	Secondary
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	EAS	Secondary
Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr	ERW	Secondary
Ysgol Gymraeg Aberystwyth	ERW	Primary
Ysgol Gymraeg Castell Nedd	ERW	Primary
Ysgol John Bright	GwE	Secondary
Ysgol Manod	GwE	Primary
Ysgol O. M. Edwards	GwE	Primary
Ysgol Pen Coch	GwE	Special
Ysgol y Preseli	ERW	Secondary
Ysgol Y Strade	ERW	Secondary
Ysgolion Uwchradd Meirionnydd	GwE	Secondary
Ystrad Mynach Primary School	EAS	Primary



# Agenda Item 10



Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, Ebbw Vale, 25 Tachwedd 2015  
(10.30am – 3pm)

*Wales Association of SACREs meeting, Ebbw Vale, 25 November 2015*  
(10.30am – 3pm)

<p><b>Ynys Môn / Anglesey</b> Bethan James Rheinallt Thomas</p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b> Gill Vaisey Bev Womersley Chris Abbas R Wayne Evans Soam Sharma Denise O'Donnell Diane Rowberry John Morgan Diana Wrobel Ilona Dziedzic Angela Lloyd Fran Bellinghan Karen Fairburn Liz Arthur Roy Watson</p> <p><b>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend</b> Vicky Thomas Edward Evans</p> <p><b>Caerffili/ Caerphilly</b> Vicky Thomas Janet Jones</p> <p><b>Caerdydd / Cardiff</b> Gill Vaisey</p> <p><b>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire</b> Mary Parry Meinir Wynne Loader Aled D. Jones</p> <p><b>Ceredigion</b> Alwen Roberts</p> <p><b>Conwy</b> Phil Lord</p>	<p><b>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire</b> Phil Lord</p> <p><b>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire</b> Phil Lord</p> <p><b>Gwynedd</b> Bethan James</p> <p><b>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil</b> Vicky Thomas Mark Prett Ernie Galsworthy Kate Moran</p> <p><b>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire</b> Gill Vaisey Sharon Perry-Phillips Neeta Singh Baicher Sue Cave</p> <p><b>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot</b> Jen Malcolm</p> <p><b>Casnewydd / Newport</b> Huw Stephens Vicky Thomas Sally Northcott Joanne Crawley</p> <p><b>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</b> Huw George</p>	<p><b>Powys</b> John Mitson</p> <p><b>Rhondda Cynon Taf</b> Gill Vaisey Mathew Maidment</p> <p><b>Abertawe / Swansea</b> Vicky Thomas Rev'd Nick Perry Rachel Bendall</p> <p><b>Torfaen / Torfaen</b> Vicky Thomas Ian Thomas Kenneth Jacob</p> <p><b>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan</b> Gill Vaisey Dafydd Treharne</p> <p><b>Wrecsam / Wrexham</b> Libby Jones</p> <p><b>Sylwedyddion / Observers</b> Tudor Thomas (REMW) David Sargent (Welsh Government)</p>
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## Cofnodion/Minutes

<p><i>Ensemble</i> Cerddorol a chôr plant o ysgolion Blaenau Gwent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Grŵp Gitâr Canolfan Gerdd Blaenau Gwent</li><li>- Côr ysgol gynradd St Iltyd</li></ul> <p>1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso / <i>Introduction and welcome</i></p> <p>Dechreuodd y Cadeirydd newydd, Phil Lord, y cyfarfod drwy groesawu'r aelodau i'r Swyddfeydd Cyffredinol ym Mlaenau Gwent a diolchodd i'r plant am eu croeso cerddorol. Diolchodd Phil hefyd i Gavin Craigen am y gwaith aruthrol a wnaeth i Gymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru yn ystod ei flynyddoedd hir o wasanaeth i'r Gymdeithas. Eglurodd wrth yr aelodau fod Gavin wedi ymddiswyddo fel Cadeirydd CYSAGauC yn yr haf.</p> <p>Croesawyd yr aelodau yn swyddogol gan Lynnette Jones, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg Blaenau Gwent a Keren Bender, Cadeirydd CYSAG Blaenau Gwent gyda dymuniadau gorau am gyfarfod diddorol a chynhyrchiol.</p> <p>Rhoddodd disgyblion Blwyddyn 9 <i>Cyfnod Uwchradd Cymuned Ddysgu Ebbw Fawr</i> gyflwyniad ar pam fod gwersi addysg grefyddol yn bwysig iddyn nhw, a chafwyd cân a oedd yn procio'r meddwl gan gôr Ysgol Gynradd St Iltyd "Think before we speak".</p> <p>Yn dilyn y cyflwyniadau hyn cafwyd dwy deyrnged deimladwy i gydweithwyr a chyfeillion a fu farw eleni. Roedd y naill i Ben Wigley, gan Rheinallt Thomas, a'r llall i Denize Morris, gan Gill Vaisey. Yn dilyn y teyrngedau safodd yr aelodau am funud o dawelwch.</p> <p>2. Adfyfrio tawel / <i>Quiet reflection</i></p> <p>Gofynnodd Phil i'r aelodau feddwl am gyfraniadau Ben a Denize i CCYSAGauC, byd AG yng Nghymru, a thu hwnt. Gofynnodd i'r aelodau ystyried hefyd eu cyfraniadau eu hunain.</p>	<p>Musical ensemble and children's choir from Blaenau Gwent schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Blaenau Gwent Music Centre Guitar Ensemble</li><li>- St Iltydd's primary school choir</li></ul> <p>1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso / <i>Introduction and welcome</i></p> <p>New Chair, Phil Lord began the meeting by welcoming members to the General Offices in Blaenau Gwent and thanking the children for their musical welcome. Phil also thanked Gavin Craigen for the extensive work he had done for WASACRE during his many years' service to the Association and explained to members that Gavin resigned as Chair of WASACRE this summer.</p> <p>Lynnette Jones, Director of Education for Blaenau Gwent and Keren Bender, Chair of Blaenau Gwent SACRE made the official welcome to members and wished them well for an engaging and productive meeting.</p> <p>Year 9 Pupils from <i>Ebbw Fawr Learning Community Secondary Phase</i> gave a presentation on why religious education lessons are important to them, and children from St Iltydd's Primary School choir sang a thought provoking song called "Think before we speak".</p> <p>Following these introductions two moving tributes were paid to our colleagues and friends who had very sadly passed away this year. The first was to Ben Wigley, by Rheinallt Thomas and the second to Denize Morris, by Gill Vaisey. Following the two tributes members joined together in a minute silence.</p> <p>2. Adfyfrio tawel / <i>Quiet reflection</i></p> <p>Phil asked members to think of Ben and Denize's contributions to WASACRE, the RE world in Wales, and beyond. He also asked members to consider their own contribution.</p>
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<p>3. Ymddiheuriadau / <i>Apologies</i></p> <p>Tania ap Sion, Yr Athro Leslie Francis, Helen Gibbon, David Kitchen, Lyndon Lloyd, Margaret Evitts, Stuart Wheatman.</p> <p>4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd yn Yr Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 / <i>Minutes of meeting held in Mold, 25 June 2015</i></p> <p>Derbyniwyd y cofnodion fel adlewyrchiad cywir o'r cyfarfod.</p> <p>5. Materion yn codi / <i>Matters arising</i></p> <p>Eitem 3. Cadarnhaodd LJ fod llythyr o ddiolch wedi'i anfon at Tudor Thomas ar ei ymddoliad o CBAC a bod CCYSAGauC wedi cael ateb gan Tudor.</p> <p>Eitem 5. Y Fagloriaeth Gymreig. Codwyd pryderon unwaith eto am ddiogelu addysg grefyddol yn CA4 gyda chymhwyster statudol y Fagloriaeth Gymreig yn cael ei ddysgu fel pwnc ar yr amserlen. Roedd yr aelodau'n pryderu fod rhai ysgolion yn defnyddio amser AG ar yr amserlen i ddysgu'r Fagloriaeth. Dywedodd cynrychiolydd athrawon yn y cyfarfod ei bod yn anodd darparu ar gyfer yr AG craidd o fewn y Fagloriaeth a bodloni'r gofyniad statudol ac y bydd yn her i unrhyw ysgol neu adran AG sy'n gorfod gwneud hyn. Cytunodd yr aelodau fod angen monitro'r sefyllfa'n ofalus.</p> <p>Gweithredu: LJ i ddrafftio llythyr cyn Nadolig i Glercod CYSAG i ofyn am wybodaeth am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn eu hysgolion lleol. Anfonir holiadur syml y gellir ei anfon i bobl ysgol i'w lenwi a'i ddychwelyd, yn cyfeirio at y ffaith fod CYSAGau'n pryderu am yr amserlennu ac yn dymuno cefnogi'r ysgolion.</p> <p>Eitem 6. Cyflwyniad PYCAG (NAPfRE) gan Mary Parry yng nghyfarfod mis Mawrth. Diolchodd Gil Vaisey i Mary am rannu'i gwaith ac am gynhyrchu'r adnodd defnyddiol hwn ac</p>	<p>3. Ymddiheuriadau / <i>Apologies</i></p> <p>Tania ap Sion, Professor Leslie Francis, Helen Gibbon, David Kitchen, Lyndon Lloyd, Margaret Evitts, Stuart Wheatman.</p> <p>4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd yn Yr Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 / <i>Minutes of meeting held in Mold, 25 June 2015</i></p> <p>Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>5. Materion yn codi / <i>Matters arising</i></p> <p>Item 3. LJ confirmed that the thank you letter was sent to Tudor Thomas on his retirement from WJEC and that WASACRE has received a reply from Tudor.</p> <p>Item 5. Welsh Baccalaureate. Concerns were raised again over the security of religious education in KS4 with the implementation of the statutory Welsh Baccalaureate qualification as a timetabled subject. Members were concerned that some schools are using RE time on the timetable to teach Welsh Bacc. A teacher representative at the meeting said that it is hard to make provision for core RE within the Welsh Bacc that meets statutory requirement and that it will be a challenge for any school or RE department who has to do this. Members at the meeting agreed that the situation needs to be carefully monitored.</p> <p>Action: LJ will draft a letter before Christmas to SACRE Clerks to request information regarding what is happening in their local schools. A simple open ended survey will be attached which can be sent to each school to complete and return, making reference that SACRE's were concerned about the timetabling issue and want to support schools.</p> <p>Item 6. NAPfRE presentation by Mary Parry in March meeting. Gill Vaisey thanked Mary for sharing her work and for producing this useful resource and so generously making the CD Rom</p>
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yn garedig iawn yn sicrhau fod y CD Rom ar gael i bob ysgol uwchradd yng Nghymru. Mae athrawon yn ei ddefnyddio ac mae'n gweithio'n dda iawn mewn cynlluniau gwaith AG.

Eitem 9. Cynhadledd EFTRE. Gofynnodd Phil Lord i'r aelodau oedd yn bresennol fwydo gwybodaeth yn ôl i'w CYSAGau eu hunain am gynhadledd EFTRE a gynhelir rhwng 31 Awst a 3 Medi 2016. Am ragor o wybodaeth am y gynhadledd, cyfeiriwyd yr aelodau at wefan EFTRE.

Eitem 10. Dogfen ganllaw Addysg Grefyddol. Mae Gill yn dod ymlaen yn dda ar y canllawiau hyn ac atgoffodd yr aelodau mai'r prif bwrpas yw rheoli'r hawl i esgusodi disgyblion o addysg grefyddol. Gofynnodd Gil am astudiaethau achos gan ysgolion/CYSAGau.

Eitem 10. UFA. Cadarnhaodd Rheinallt Thomas fod *RE ideas* mewn lliw erbyn hyn ac mae'n cael ei anfon i bob Clerc CYSAG. Rhoddwyd gwahoddiad agored i athrawon i helpu gyda *RE ideas*. Mae athro o Wrecsam wedi bod yn helpu eleni. Cadarnhaodd Rheinallt hefyd fod yr athrawon yn cael eu talu am eu hamser a'u gwaith.

6. Cyflwyniad PYCAG/ *NAPfRE presentation*:

Archwilio Ffydd yn yr Ysgol Gynradd gan Liz Arthur gydag athrawes Ysgol gynradd o Flaenau Gwent/ *Exploring Faith in the Primary School by Liz Arthur and Karen Fairburn from Ebbw Fawr Learning Community Primary Phase, in Blaenau Gwent*

Cynhaliodd Cyfnod Cynradd, Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr, wythnos AG a Chelf lwyddiannus fel rhan o'r rhaglen flynyddol o 'wythnosau pwnc'. Drwy gydol yr wythnos gwahoddwyd nifer o westeion o amryw o gymunedau ffydd i'r ysgol i gwrdd â'r plant a gweithio gyda nhw. Prif amcan yr wythnos oedd i'r disgyblion gyfarfod a rhyngweithio â phobl o wahanol ffydd. Cafodd amrywiaeth o gynrychiolwyr

available to all secondary schools in Wales. Teachers are using it and it is working very well within RE schemes of work.

Item 9. EFTRE Conference. Phil Lord asked members present to feed information back to their own SACREs about the EFTRE conference which will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> Aug to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. For more information regarding the conference, members were directed to the EFTRE Website.

Item 10. Religious Education guidance document. Gill is making good progress on this guidance and reminded members that the focus for it is on managing the right of withdrawal from religious education. Gill requests case studies from school/SACREs

Item 10. AOB. Rheinallt Thomas confirmed that *RE ideas* is now in colour and is being sent to all SACRE Clerks. An open invitation was given to teachers for them to help with *RE ideas*. A teacher from Wrexham has helped this year. Rheinallt was able to confirm also that teachers are paid for their time and work.

6. Cyflwyniad NAPfRE/ *NAPfRE presentation*:

Archwilio Ffydd yn yr Ysgol Gynradd gan Liz Arthur gydag athrawes Ysgol gynradd o Flaenau Gwent/ *Exploring Faith in the Primary School by Liz Arthur and Karen Fairburn from Ebbw Fawr Learning Community Primary Phase, in Blaenau Gwent*

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community, Primary Phase, held a very successful RE and Art Week as part of the yearly programme of 'subject weeks'. Throughout the week a number of guests from a range of faiths were invited in to school to meet and work with the children. The main objective of the week was for pupils to meet and interact with people of different faiths. A range of faith representatives and Christian

ffydd ac enwadau Cristnogol eu cynrychioli. Cymerodd y plant ran mewn pob math o weithgareddau yn ystod yr wythnos a gafodd eu cynllunio a'u cyflwyno gan y cynrychiolwyr ffydd gyda chymorth yr athro oedd yn arwain yr wythnos a hefyd gan Gill Vaisey, a ddarparodd rai o'r adnoddau.

Roedd yr ymateb gan y disgyblion ar ddiwedd yr wythnos yn cynnwys sylwadau fel, "Roedd hynna'n wirioneddol ddiddorol, Miss, mae'n llawer mwy cyffrous dysgu gan berson go iawn", a, "Nes i fwynhau cwrdd â Mr Sharma, fe oedd y darn gorau. Roedd e'n gwybod lot am yr arteffactau a sut maen nhw'n cael eu defnyddio". Ymhlith ymatebion y staff ar ddiwedd yr wythnos roedd sylwadau fel, "Roedd y plant wrth eu bodd ac yn gofyn cwestiynau call achos roedden nhw wir eisiau gwybod mwy am y grefydd yna" a, "Roedd y rhyngweithio â'r plant yn eithriadol ac fe ddysgais i lwytho bethau newydd am grefyddau".

Diolchodd Phil Lord i Liz Arthur a Karen Fairburn am rannu'r cyflwyniad, a gafodd nifer o sylwadau cadarnhaol o'r llawr. Cafwyd awgrymiadau gan yr aelodau ar ddatblygu'r wythnos, sef: cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o enwadau gwahanol o'r crefyddau heb fod yn Gristnogol hefyd; gofyn i rieni anfon arteffact crefyddol i mewn gyda'u plentyn i wneud arddangosfa yn ystod yr wythnos a'r plant i egluro i'w gilydd beth mae'r arteffact yn ei olygu iddyn nhw a sut mae'n cael ei ddefnyddio yn eu teulu, fel rhan o weithgaredd sgwrs rhyng-ffydd; cynnwys cyfeiriadau at y Fframwaith AG presennol a lefelau cyrhaeddiad i AG wrth gynllunio'r digwyddiad.

7. Diweddariadau/*Up-dates*:

**Cysylltiadau a chyfarfodydd Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government contacts and meetings – Libby Jones**

Cyflwynodd Libby David Sargent, y cyswllt newydd yn Llywodraeth Cymru a oedd yn

denominations were represented. The children participated in a variety of activities throughout the week which were planned and delivered by the faith representatives with help from the teacher leading the week and also from Gill Vaisey, who provided some of the resources.

The responses from pupils at the end of the week included comments like, "That was really interesting Miss, it's more exciting learning from a real person" and, "I really enjoyed meeting Mr Sharma, he was the best bit. He knew lots about the artefacts and how they are used". The responses from staff at the end of the week included comments like, "Children loved it and asked sensible questions because they really did want to know more about the religion" and, "Interaction with the children was outstanding and I learnt an amazing amount about religions I didn't know".

Phil Lord thanked Liz Arthur and Karen Fairburn for sharing the presentation, which received lots of positive comments from the floor. Suggestions from members about how the week could be developed were: to include representatives from different denominations from the non-Christian faiths also; to ask parents to send their child in with a religious artefact for a display during the week and for the children to explain to each other what the artefact means to them and how it is used in their family, as part of an interfaith dialogue activity; to include references to the current RE Framework and levels of attainment for RE in the planning of the event.

7. Diweddariadau/*Up-dates*:

**Cysylltiadau a chyfarfodydd Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government contacts and meetings – Libby Jones**

Libby introduced David Sargent, the new Welsh Government contact who was present at the

bresennol yn y cyfarfod. Diweddarwyd yr aelodau ar y trafodaethau a gynhaliwyd yn ystod y cyfarfod ar 20 Medi gyda chydweithwyr Llywodraeth Cymru, Steve Price, John Pugsley (Is-adran Cwricwlwm) a Karen Cornish (Pennaeth tîm gweithredu'r adolygiad). Prif bynciau'r cyfarfod oedd Yr Adolygiad o'r Cwricwlwm, Dyfodol Llwyddiannus a CYSAGau, roedd yr eitemau eraill a drafodwyd yn cynnwys yr Adolygiad o Adroddiadau Blynyddol CYSAG a chadarnhawyd y byddai hyn yn dal yn gylch 3 blynedd, a cheisiadau Llywodraeth Cymru am wybodaeth ganllaw ar addoli ar y cyd ac am wybodaeth ynghylch nifer y Dyneiddwyr sy'n aelodau ar CYSAG.

Dywedodd Mary Parry wrth yr aelodau am gynlluniau NAPfRE i gynhyrchu disgrifiad o'r hyn sy'n gwneud addysg grefyddol dda a chynnig y ddogfen ganllaw hon i ysgolion Arloesi sy'n gyfrifol am ysgrifennu/datblygu'r cwricwlwm ar gyfer AG neu'r Dyniaethau fel rhan o gam nesaf y broses adolygu.

**CCB Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol a chyfathrebu cyffredinol/ *Religious Education Council AGM and general communication*—  
Gill Vaisey and Phil Lord**

Cynhaliwyd y Cyfarfod Blynyddol yn y Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, yn Llundain ac roedd yn cynnwys adroddiad gan y Cadeirydd newydd, Trevor Cooling ac araith gan Rudi Lockhart, y Prif Weithredwr newydd. Eglurwyd wrth yr aelodau fod yr holl wybodaeth a rannwyd yn y Cyfarfod Blynyddol yn benodol i addysg grefyddol yn Lloegr yn unig ac er mwyn gwella'r sefyllfa hon, mae Gill Vaisey, sy'n cynrychioli CCYSAGauC yng nghyfarfodydd y Cyngor, wedi cynnig anfon yr wybodaeth briodol o Gymru cyn pob cyfarfod os gall hi gael araith y Prif Swyddog Gweithredol ymlaen llaw fel y gofynnwyd amdani.

Roedd yr eitemau ar yr Agenda yn cynnwys:

*Llysgenhadon Ifanc - Young Ambassadors*, gyda

meeting. Members were up-dated on the discussions which took place during the meeting on 30 September with Welsh Government colleagues, Steve Price, John Pugsley (Curriculum Division) and Karen Cornish (Head of review implementation team). The main focus of the meeting was on The Curriculum Review, Successful Futures and SACREs, other items discussed included the Review of Annual SACRE Reports, which, it was confirmed, would remain at 3 year cycle, and Welsh Government requests for guidance information on collective worship and for information regarding the number of Humanists who are members on SACRE.

Mary Parry made members aware of NAPfRE's plans to produce a description of what good religious education is and to offer this guidance document to Pioneer schools who are responsible for writing/developing the curriculum for RE or Humanities as part of the next stage of the review process.

**CCB Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol a chyfathrebu cyffredinol/ *Religious Education Council AGM and general communication*—  
Gill Vaisey and Phil Lord**

The AGM took place at Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, in London which included a report from the new Chair, Trevor Cooling and an address from Rudi Lockhart the new Chief Executive. Members were informed that all information shared at the AGM was specific to religious education in England only and in order to improve this situation Gill Vaisey, who represents WASACRE at REC meetings, has offered to send the appropriate information from Wales before each meeting if the CEO's address is sent to her in advance as requested.

Items on the Agenda included:

*Young Ambassadors*, which involved a video

fideo a chyflwyniad. Mae 12 ysgol yn cymryd rhan yn y cynllun hwn ar hyn o bryd, yn cynnwys Ysgol Aberconwy o Gymru. Roedd Gill Vaisey'n gobeithio y gallai Phil Lord helpu'r ysgol gan ei bod yn ei ardal ef. Cynigiwyd gwahoddiad agored i grwpiau Ffydd estyn allan i'r llysgenhadon ysgol ar gyfer AG, er mwyn eu cefnogi ac i gael cefnogaeth.

*Adolygu'r fframwaith cyfreithiol ac ehangach i AG, gyda thrafodaethau o gwmpas y bwrdd.*

*Ymgyrch Recriwtio Athrawon, a dangoswyd fideo proffesiynol ynglŷn â hyn.*

Yn nhyb Gill, mae'n werth chweil ac yn bwysig parhau i ddatblygu'r berthynas hon â'r REC. Gall Cymru helpu Lloegr gymaint ag y gall Lloegr helpu Cymru. Cadarnhaodd Phil fod Rudi Lockhart wedi bod mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd ag ef yn barod ac mae'n ymwybodol o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru.

*Cyfarfod y Fforwm Ffydd/ Faith Forum meeting – Phil Lord*

Cyfarfu Phil â nifer o gynrychiolwyr ffydd o bob cwr o Gymru ddydd Llun 23 Tachwedd. Eu prif bryder oedd yr hyn yr oedd y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau wedi ei ddweud yn ei araith ddiweddar ynghylch newid enw AG ayb. Mae Phil wedi cytuno i driongli gwybodaeth gyda'r cynrychiolwyr fel y gellir rhannu gwybodaeth bob ffordd.

Yn dilyn hyn cododd yr aelodau rai cwestiynau am gynllun y cwricwlwm newydd ar gyfer AG a holwyd a oedd y Gweinidogion yn gwbl ymwybodol o sut olwg sydd ar AG yng Nghymru heddiw. Dywedodd Phil y byddai'n rhoi gwybod y diweddaraf i'r aelodau.

**Cynhadledd Addoli ar y Cyd / Collective Worship Conference – Gill Vaisey**

Rhannodd Gill gyflwyniad PowerPoint a oedd yn crynhoi'r prif bwyntiau a drafodwyd yn y gynhadledd ac fe'i cynhwysir fel atodiad i'r

and presentation. 12 schools are currently involved in this initiative, including Ysgol Aberconwy from Wales. Gill Vaisey hoped that Phil Lord may be able to support the school as it was local to his area of work. An open invitation was offered to Faith groups to reach-out to the school ambassadors for RE, in order to support them and to receive support.

*Reviewing the legal and wider policy framework for RE, which involved table discussions.*

*Teacher Recruitment Campaign, for which a professional video was shown.*

Gill urged that it is worthwhile and important to continue to develop this relationship with the REC. Wales can support England as much as England can support Wales. Phil confirmed that Rudi Lockhart has already been in regular contact with him and is aware of what is happening in Wales.

*Cyfarfod y Fforwm Ffydd/ Faith Forum meeting – Phil Lord*

Phil Lord met with a number of faith group representatives from across Wales on Monday 23 November. Their main concern was what the Minister for Education and Skills had said in his recent speech regarding changing the name of RE etc. Phil has agreed to triangulate information with the representatives so that knowledge can be shared both ways.

Following this members raised some questions regarding the design of the new curriculum for RE and whether Ministers are fully aware of what RE is like today in Wales. Phil said that he would keep members up-dated.

**Cynhadledd Addoli ar y Cyd / Collective Worship Conference - Gill Vaisey**

Gill shared a PowerPoint presentation which summarised the main points covered at the conference and which is attached to the minutes

cofnodion. Cyfeiriodd Gill at Adroddiad a ddisbarthwyd yn ystod y gynhadledd. Mae copi o'r Adroddiad ar gael yn:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3ijyaknnt5cl9jx/AC8PyyvpTS9t-zxPxs\\_E2Vta?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3ijyaknnt5cl9jx/AC8PyyvpTS9t-zxPxs_E2Vta?dl=0)

Sicrhaodd Gill yr aelodau mai'r cyfan a wna'r adroddiad yw gosod allan y ffeithiau fel y maent a'r nod yw ysgogi meddwl o'r newydd ar bwnc addoli ar y cyd mewn ysgolion.

Gweithredu: Bydd LJ yn trefnu'r cyfarfod rhwng cydweithwyr Llywodraeth Cymru, yr academyddion sy'n arwain ar y cynllun hwn a'r cynrychiolwyr o CCYSGauC.

8. Cyflwyniad PYCAG / *NAPfRE presentation:*

Manylebau TGAU diwygiedig ar gyfer Astudiaethau Crefyddol/ *Revised GCSE Specifications for Religious Studies- Lynda Maddock, CBAC*

Lynda Maddock yw Swyddog Pwnc newydd Astudiaethau Crefyddol TGAU. Mae ei chydweithiwr Andrew Pearce yn gyfrifol am Astudiaethau Crefyddol A2 ac A2 a chyfeiriodd Lynda'r rheiny oedd â chwestiynau am AS neu A2 at Andrew.

AS ac A2: Sicrhaodd Lynda'r aelodau fod yr wybodaeth am yr AS a'r A2 presennol ar gael ar wefan CBAC. Yng Nghymru gall y cymhwyster AS (Uwch Gyfrannol) sefyll ar ei ben ei hun ond mae hefyd yn cyfrif tuag at Lefel A. Yn Lloegr ar y llaw arall, mae'r cymhwyster AS yn sefyll ar ei ben ei hun yn unig ac **nid yw'n** cyfrif tuag at lefel A. Mae'r cymhwyster lefel A yn Lloegr yn sefyll ar ei ben ei hun.

Dywedwyd wrth yr aelodau fod Hodder yn cyhoeddi llyfrau ar gyfer y fanyleb RS yn Lloegr, ond ni phenderfynwyd ar unrhyw beth eto i Gymru. Mae CBAC wedi gorfod cynnwys credoau heb fod yn rhai crefyddol yn o leiaf un rhan o'r fanyleb Astudiaethau Crefyddol yn sgil lobïo gan y Dyneiddwyr.

as an appendix. Gill made members aware of a Report that was given out at the conference. A copy of the Report is available at:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3ijyaknnt5cl9jx/AC8PyyvpTS9t-zxPxs\\_E2Vta?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3ijyaknnt5cl9jx/AC8PyyvpTS9t-zxPxs_E2Vta?dl=0)

Gill assured members that the report merely sets out the facts as they stand today and the aim of the Report is to stimulate fresh thinking on the subject of collective worship in schools.

Action: LJ will arrange the meeting between Welsh Government colleagues, the academics leading this initiative and representatives from WASACRE.

8. Cyflwyniad NAPfRE / *NAPfRE presentation:*

Manylebau TGAU diwygiedig ar gyfer Astudiaethau Crefyddol/ *Revised GCSE Specifications for Religious Studies- Lynda Maddock, WJEC*

Lynda Maddock is the newly appointed Subject Officer for Religious Studies at WJEC. Her colleague Andrew Pearce is responsible for Religious Studies AS and A2 and Lynda directed those who have questions about AS or A2 to Andrew.

AS and A2: Lynda assured members that information on the current AS and A2 is available on the WJEC website and that in Wales the AS qualification can be standalone but also counts towards A Level if it is sat. Where as in England, the AS qualification is standalone only and **does not** count towards A level. The A level qualification in England is standalone.

Members were informed that Hodder are publishing books for the RS specification in England, but that nothing has been decided yet for Wales. WJEC have had to include non-religious beliefs in at least one part of the Religious Studies specification due to Humanist lobbying.



TGAU: Gofynnodd CBAC am gael gohirio'r fanyleb AG newydd am flwyddyn, ond mae Cymwysterau Cymru wedi gwrthod eu cais.

Disgrifiodd Lynda y fanyleb newydd yn Lloegr gan egluro ei bod yn berthnasol i Gymru yn yr ystyr ei bod yn rhaid cael cydraddoldeb yn ansawdd a safon y ddau gymhwyster er mwyn sicrhau tegwch a chyfartaledd i fyfyrwyr yn y ddwy wlad.

Yng Nghymru dim ond un fanyleb fydd a bydd yn cadw dull unedig fel y gall disgyblion Blwyddyn 10 ddal eistedd Cwrs Byr wedi blwyddyn o astudiaeth. Cadarnhawyd hefyd y gall disgyblion eistedd un arholiad Cwrs Byr yn unig (Naill ai Uned 1 neu Uned 2) ar ddiwedd y ddwy flynedd, neu eistedd y ddau arholiad Cwrs Byr (Uned 1 ac Uned 2) er mwyn cael cymhwyster Cwrs Llawn. Gobeithir y bydd Uned 1 yn debyg i'r Fanyleb B bresennol, ac Uned 2 yn debyg i Fanyleb 2.

Mae Uned 1 yn debygol o gynnwys ymatebion crefyddol i faterion athronyddol, lle y gofynnir i'r myfyrwyr ddewis dwy grefydd ac astudio themâu ynddynt fel Bywyd a Marwolaeth a Da a Drwg. Yn ychwanegol at hyn bydd y myfyrwyr yn astudio credoau, dysgeidiaethau ac arferion craidd dwy grefydd.

Mae Uned 2 yn debygol o gynnwys ymatebion crefyddol i faterion Moesegol, lle y gofynnir i'r myfyrwyr ddewis dwy grefydd a thrwyddynt astudio themâu fel Perthynas, a Hawliau Dynol. Yn ychwanegol at hyn bydd y myfyrwyr yn astudio credoau, dysgeidiaethau ac arferion craidd dwy grefydd.

Mae'n fwy na thebyg mai Cristnogaeth fydd y grefydd orfodol yn y fanyleb hon a bydd gofyn i'r myfyrwyr ddewis un grefydd arall i'w hastudio. Bydd y ddwy Uned yn gwneud cwrs llawn a dim ond un Uned yn gwneud cwrs byr.

Roedd gwybodaeth arall yn cynnwys y canlynol: Bydd Ysgolion Catholig yn gwneud 75%

GCSE: WJEC have requested a year's postponement for the new RE specification, but Qualifications Wales has rejected their request.

Lynda described the new specification for England explaining that it has relevance for Wales in as much as, there needs to be parity in the quality and standards of both qualifications to ensure fairness and equality for students in both countries.

In Wales there will be one specification only and it will retain a unitised approach so that Year 10 pupils can still be entered for a Short Course after one year of study. It was confirmed that pupils can also sit just one Short Course exam (Either Unit 1 or Unit 2) at the end of the two years, or sit both Short Course exams (Unit 1 and Unit 2) to receive a Full Course qualification. It is hoped that Unit 1 will be similar to the current Spec B, and Unit 2 will be similar to the current Spec A.

Unit 1 is likely to include religious responses to philosophical issues, where students will be asked to choose two religions through which to study themes like, life & Death and Good & Evil. In addition to this students will study the core beliefs teachings and practices of two religions.

Unit 2 is likely to include religious responses to Ethical issues, where students will be asked to choose two religions through which to study themes like, Relationships, and Human Rights. In addition to this students will study the core beliefs teachings and practices of two religions.

It is most likely that Christianity will be made the compulsory religion for this specification and students will be required to choose one other religion to study. Both Units will make a full course and only one Unit will make a short course

Other information included the following: Catholic Schools will do 75% Catholicism and

<p>Pabyddiaeth a 25% Iddewiaeth a bydd teitl y cwrs yn adlewyrchu hyn; Ni fydd gwaith cwrs yn TGAU Astudiaethau Crefyddol; Mae'r manylebau diwygiedig a'r sampl o ddeunydd asesu i fod i fynd i Cymwysterau Cymru ar 18 Rhagfyr a gobeithir y bydd y drafft terfynol yn barod ar gyfer Hyfforddiant Mewn Swydd CBAC i athrawon yn y gwanwyn.</p> <p>Gwahoddir CYSAGau i ysgrifennu at Brif Weithredwr CBAC os oes ganddynt unrhyw bryderon.</p> <p>Gweithredu: LJ i ysgrifennu at CGAC i leisio pryderon CCYSAGauC yn cynnwys cais i ohirio'r fanyleb am flwyddyn ac i ofyn am gael gwybodaeth am Uned 1 ar y wefan ym mis Ionawr, i helpu athrawon gyda'u cynllunio. Bydd LJ yn anfon copi o'r llythyr i Glercod CYSAG cyn Nadolig.</p> <p>Diolchodd Phil i Lynda am ei chyflwyniad a sicrhodd bawb a oedd yn bresennol y bydd CCYSAGauC yn parhau i gefnogi a gweithio gyda CBAC.</p> <p>9. Adolygiad Cwricwlwm / <i>Curriculum Review</i>- Libby Jones</p> <p>Mae diweddariad ysgrifenedig ar yr eitem hon ynghlwm wrth y cofnodion fel atodiad.</p> <p>Diolchodd Bethan James, Cadeirydd PYCAG i Phil am gynrychioli CCYSAGauC (a PYCAG) a gofynnodd am ddiweddariad ysgrifenedig byr i'r CYSAGau o'r cyfarfod ym mis Rhagfyr er mwyn helpu cydweithwyr i ateb unrhyw gwestiynau a ddaw gan athrawon. Cytunodd Phil i wneud hyn.</p> <p>Adroddiad ar gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 30 Medi 2015 / <i>Report from the Executive Committee held on 30 September 2015</i></p> <p>Derbyniwyd yr adroddiad a chytunwyd ei fod yn gywir.</p>	<p>25% Judaism and the title of the course will reflect this; There will be no course work for the RS GCSE; The revised specifications and sample assessment material are due to go to Qualifications Wales on 18 December and it is hoped that the final draft will be ready in time for the WJEC Inset for teachers in the spring.</p> <p>SACREs are invited to write to the Chief Exec of WJEC to voice any concerns that they have.</p> <p>Action: LJ will write to WJEC to voice WASACRE's concerns including a request to delay the specification for one year and to request information about Unit one to go on the website in January, to help teachers with their planning. LJ will send a copy of the letter to SACRE Clerks before Christmas.</p> <p>Phil Thanked Lynda for her presentation and assured those present that WASACRE will continue to support and work with WJEC.</p> <p>9. Adolygiad Cwricwlwm / <i>Curriculum Review</i>- Libby Jones</p> <p>A written up-date on this item is attached to the minutes as an appendix.</p> <p>Bethan James, Chair of NAPfRE thanked Phil for representing WASACRE (and NAPfRE) and requested a brief written up-date for SACREs from that meeting in December in order to help colleagues answer any questions they receive from teachers. Phil Agreed to do this.</p> <p>Adroddiad ar gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 30 Medi 2015 / <i>Report from the Executive Committee held on 30 September 2015</i></p> <p>The report was accepted and agreed as accurate.</p>
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<p>10. Gohebiaeth /<i>Correspondence</i></p> <p>Rhannodd Libby nifer o lythyrau ac e-byst o dan gohebiaeth, y rhan fwyaf ohonynt wedi cael sylw yn y cyfarfod.</p> <p>11. U.F.A. / <i>A.O.B.</i></p> <p>12. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf / <i>Date for next meeting</i>: 8 Mawrth 2016, Sir Benfro / 8 March 2016, Pembrokeshire</p> <p>Dyddiadau cyfarfodydd yn y dyfodol / <i>Future meeting dates</i>: Haf / Summer 23/6/ 2016 Sir Ddinbych / <i>Denbighshire</i>; Hydref / Autumn 18/11/2016 Sir Gaerfyrddin / <i>Carmarthenshire</i>;</p> <p>Gwanwyn / Spring 2017 Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire.</p> <p>Diolch i'r Clerc, Emma Bailey a Rheolwr y Swyddfeydd Cyffredinol, Lisa Osborne, Alan Williams, y Swyddog Gwella Ysgol a drefnodd y gerddoriaeth, a Steffan y cyfieithydd.</p>	<p>10. Gohebiaeth /<i>Correspondence</i></p> <p>Libby shared a number of letters and emails as correspondence, most of which had already been dealt with in the meeting.</p> <p>11. U.F.A. / <i>A.O.B.</i></p> <p>12. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf / <i>Date for next meeting</i>: 8 Mawrth 2016, Sir Benfro / 8 March 2016, Pembrokeshire</p> <p>Dyddiadau cyfarfodydd yn y dyfodol / <i>Future meeting dates</i>: Haf / Summer 23/6/ 2016 Sir Ddinbych / <i>Denbighshire</i>; Hydref / Autumn 18/11/2016 Sir Gaerfyrddin / <i>Carmarthenshire</i>;</p> <p>Gwanwyn / Spring 2017 Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire.</p> <p>Thanks to Clerk Emma Bailey and Manager of the General Offices, Lisa Osborne, Alan Williams, the School Improvement officer who arranged the music, and Stephan the Translator.</p>
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