

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015

**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

2014-2015

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2014- 2015

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 Duty To Establish SACRE

All Local Authorities are required to constitute Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) within their local area.

1.2 Composition Of SACRE

Representation on SACRE is required as follows:-

- Such Christian and other religious denominations as, in the opinion of the Local Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- Associations representing teachers
- The Local Authority

The Local Authority determined that the SACRE should comprise of six elected members, five representatives of religious bodies and six representatives of teachers' associations. In addition, the Authority allowed for two other individuals to be co-opted. Both co-opted places are currently filled.

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The list of members of Caerphilly SACRE is set out in Appendix 1. Every effort has been made to seek representation from non-Christian communities but SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding such representation. SACRE commissioned the Clerk to SACRE to find out the composition of religions in Caerphilly County Borough Council and it was evident that statistically there are very few non-Christian religions represented in the area. The Clerk to SACRE contacted VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council) to see if a wider representation can be found. Mr Eddy Mushayanyama (Race Equality Wales) now serves as a co-opted member of SACRE to bring his experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

1.4 Functions of SACRE

- To advise the Local Authority on worship and the religious education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus including methods of teaching, advice on materials and the provision of training for teachers
- To consider whether to recommend to the local authority that its current agreed syllabus should be reviewed by convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- To consider whether the requirement that religious worship in a county school should be 'broadly Christian in nature' should be varied (determinations)
- To report to the Local Authority and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2014-2015.

Thursday 6th November 2014

Monday 9th March 2015

Wednesday 10th June 2015

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2014-2015 SACRE held two meetings at schools in the county borough and one at the Council Offices.

1.6 Development Plan

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2012-2015. A year on year progress report is included in the plan. The plan can be found in Appendix 3.

1.7 Circulation of Report

Copies of this report are circulated electronically to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 5. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ADVICE GIVEN BY SACRE

Summary of the advice given to the local authority by SACRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and standards in RE

Action

1. SACRE considers and analyses school inspection reports. If there are any issues regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. During 2014-2015 there were no RE subject specific issues identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.
2. SACRE, in consultation with the local authority and its schools resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor provision and standards in RE. A review of school self evaluation reports took place in 2012-2013 and a summary report was presented to SACRE at its Spring meeting. No further SE has taken place. The process was not as effective as expected and SACRE endeavours to visit schools on an annual basis and receive a presentation on RE at the school so that strengths and weaknesses can be identified and issues can be addressed directly.
3. SACRE analyses examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data. Schools are informed of the outcomes of this analysis and SACRE raises any issues schools should be addressing as a result of this analysis. In 2014 SACRE were concerned about uptake at AS level and schools were asked to complete a pro forma for SACRE identifying future trends in take up for AS level which showed an upward trend. Members were pleased to note that following on from its audit there has been a significant increase in entries this year which endorsed the schools' predictions. In the academic year 2014-2015 schools were informed of the analysis of examination performance and any issues that have emerged.

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and ensure the agreed syllabus is being implemented in schools

Action

1. In 2008 Standing Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools, which was implemented from September 2008.
2. In June 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review.
3. SACRE was informed of the progress of the National Curriculum Review and its main messages. One of these was that RE should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and should remain a statutory curriculum requirement from reception. The implications of this for agreed syllabus

development was discussed and it was agreed to wait until Welsh Government provide more details on this before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. The National Advisory Panel for RE and WASACRE have responded to the WG questionnaire and a formal response to Welsh government was also made from Caerphilly SACRE.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. All schools were informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Keep The Memory Alive' and that free Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk - these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post-16 students.
2. At its Summer 2015 meeting SACRE were informed of resources created by Mary Parry (Carmarthenshire LA) addressing the issue of raising the attainment of boys. The resource on "Muslim Footballers in the Premier League" covers aspects of the Five Pillars of Islam and raises issues regarding how the beliefs of Muslim footballers affect their lives. With the permission of Mary Parry, SACRE have agreed to circulate to each secondary school's RE department a copy of the resource materials and its accompanying CD-ROM.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers are able to access appropriate CPD.

Action

1. With the current Welsh Assembly Government's emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy no subject specific training is on offer.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Issue

To ensure that schools fulfil statutory requirements for collective worship and provide a worthwhile experience for pupils.

Action

1. SACRE monitors the sections of inspection reports that are concerned with collective worship and SMSC and the LA follows up on any non-fulfilment of statutory requirements by requesting their action plan. The provision for collective worship had positive comments stating that schools were promoting pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development well but a key recommendation is made regarding non-fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship in one primary school. SACRE followed this up with the school, requesting their action plan, and SACRE were pleased that the LA was working closely with Estyn to monitor that statutory requirements were met.

2. SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
3. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g. HMD 2015.
4. SACRE had resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. A review of school self evaluation reports took place during 2012-2013 and a summary report was presented to SACRE at its Spring meeting. No further SE has taken place.

OTHER ISSUES:

Aim: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues.

1. SACRE has maintained its membership of WASACRE and receives termly feedback from the meetings of the Association.
2. Members have received presentations on a number of issues:
 - (1) WJEC presentation - "*What Does The Data Tell Us?*"
 - (2) The Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum;
 - (3) Mary Parry's presentation - "*Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE*".
 - (4) Ysgol y Lawnt presentation - "*RE in the Primary School*"
 - (5) Newbridge School presentation - "*RE in the Secondary School*"

SECTION 2: ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

In 2008 the Standing Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools to be implemented from September 2008. The agreed syllabus closely relates to the National Exemplar Framework for RE. During the 2012-2013 academic year SACRE was made aware of the announcement by the Minister of a pending review of assessment and the National Curriculum in Wales. This review would involve the introduction of the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework and the identification of revisions to the current assessment and curriculum arrangements. During the Summer Term 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the current syllabus with an understanding that the syllabus would undergo review once the outcomes of the review of assessment, the National Curriculum and the Foundation Phase are made available. SACRE has been updated on the NC review and Professor Donaldson has reported to WG. SACRE have responded to the WG questionnaire on the recommendations of Donaldson. SACRE are awaiting further details from Welsh Government on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review.

2.2 Standards In RE

SACRE has adopted a number of strategies for monitoring standards being achieved in religious education in the Authority's schools that include the following:

2.2a School Inspection Reports

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinised relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for the period academic year Autumn 2013-Summer 2014. If any issues emerge regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. Fourteen schools were inspected consisting of 1 infant school, eleven primary schools, and 2 secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

At primary and secondary level, comments were positive, stating that curriculum and statutory requirements were met and that schools studied other cultures, had opportunities to reflect on the practices of different religions and celebrated diversity. There were strong links with local churches and pupils benefit from a variety of visits and visitors. There was good provision for global citizenship and education for sustainable development. There were no RE subject specific issues identified in the reports and therefore no follow-up action was necessary.

2.2b Examination Results 2014

Examination results for GCSE and GCE AS/Advanced Level achieved by pupils at secondary schools within the Authority have been analysed and considered. A three-year analysis is conducted so that a comparison can be made and trends identified. Cohort entry numbers are also analysed and a comparison is made to All-Wales figures (where available).

In **GCSE Religious Studies** fourteen schools entered 656 pupils. Entry numbers are below previous numbers but number of schools entering candidates has increase this year. 13/14 schools have entries in double or triple figures. In Wales the entry figure was 11,368 which is an increase on previous entry figures.

The overall % of **A*-A grades was 25.6%** and is similar to 2013 but below the performance of 2012 and the All-Wales figure of 31%.

The overall % of **A*-C grades was 73%** and is the best results of the last three years and slightly better than the All-Wales figure of 72%

The overall % of **A*-G grades was 98.8%** and is comparable with the previous two years' results and the All-Wales figure of 98%

SACRE notes that results are good this year particularly at A*-C and that figures compare with All-Wales figures at A*-C and A*-G.

At GCSE Short Course in Religious Education numbers have significantly decreased this year after an increase last year. Thirteen schools in the Authority continue to enter pupils for the short course. Three 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 10.8%** and is below 2013 the performance of the last two years and the All-Wales figure of 15%.

The overall % of **A*-C grades was 49.7%** and is below 2013 performance and slightly better than 2012 performance. It also falls below the All-Wales figure of 53%.

The overall % of **A*-G grades was 95%** and is comparable with the All-Wales figure of 94%.

SACRE is pleased that a significant number of pupils continue to be entered for Short Course and that 95% of pupils receive some kind of accreditation for their studies at KS4, especially when this course is usually delivered as part of statutory requirements for RE rather than an option subject.

At **GCE Advanced Level** entry figures are comparable to last year with 64 entries.

A*-A was achieved by **17.2%** of students and is below previous performance and comparable with the All-Wales figure of 18%.

At **A*-C** candidates achieved a pass rate of **89.1%** which is the best result of the last three years and better than the All-Wales figure of 79%.

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 98%.

At **AS level** there was a decrease in entry numbers this year with 19 candidates from 6 schools.

Grade **A** was achieved by **21.1%** of students and is the best performance of the last three years

47.4% of students achieved **A*-C** which is below 2013 but slightly better than 2012.

100% pass rate for grades **A-E** is excellent and the best performance of the last three years.

The data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2014, but have not yet cached the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cached in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

It should be noted that definitive conclusions could not 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.

A detailed table of examination results is found in Appendix 4.

SACRE resolved to write to schools informing them of the examination analysis.

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teaching Materials And Teacher Training

Continuing Professional Development

The local authority informed SACRE that the South East Wales Consortium advertises their courses through CPD online. With the current Welsh Assembly Government's emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy no subject specific training is on offer.

RE News

SACRE agreed to inform all schools of the RE News website and encourage schools to submit articles <http://www.religious-education-wales.org>

The website is now available free of charge to anyone who wishes to use it.

It is suitable for both primary and secondary schools and is fully bi-lingual.

Teaching Materials

Holocaust Memorial Day 2015 Resources

All schools were informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of '*Keep The Memory Alive*' by exploring and sharing the powerful stories of survivors in a year that marks two important anniversaries – the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica, Bosnia.. Further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk - these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

Resources to Support Boys Attainment

At its Summer 2015 meeting SACRE were informed of resources created by Mary Parry (Carmarthenshire LA) addressing the issue of raising the attainment of boys. The resource on "*Muslim Footballers in the Premier League*" covers aspects of the Five Pillars of Islam and raises issues regarding how the beliefs of Muslim footballers affect their lives. With the permission of Mary Parry, SACRE have agreed to circulate to each secondary school's RE department a copy of the resource materials and its accompanying CD-ROM.

SECTION 3: ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 School Inspection Reports

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinised relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for the period academic year Autumn 2013- Summer 2014. If any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. Fourteen schools were inspected consisting of 1 infant school, eleven primary schools, and 2 secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

The provision for collective worship had positive comments stating that schools were promoting pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development well. Good features included comment that assemblies support pupils in developing respect for their own culture and for other cultures; that they celebrate pupils' progress and achievement well; that they provide suitable opportunities for pupils to reflect upon moral and spiritual issues and that they give pupils a very good understanding of right and wrong. At secondary level acts of collective worship were well planned and contribute well to SMSC.

However, there was a key recommendation regarding non-fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship in one primary school. SACRE followed this up with the school. The school had produced an action plan demonstrating how they intended to meet the requirements. SACRE noted the progress made and were informed that the LA was working closely with Estyn to monitor that statutory requirements were met.

Comments on spiritual development were evident in 12 out of the 14 reports analysed. The majority of reports show inspectors are making comment under 2.3 *Care Support and Guidance* section of the report. However, SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors (in their next e-shot) that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.

SACRE resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable. They also resolved to continue to request the action plans of any schools identified as not fulfilling statutory requirements.

3.2 Applications for Determinations

No applications were received from schools for determinations to be made on the lifting of the requirements for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

3.3 Estyn Reporting on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

SACRE monitors that statutory requirements for collective worship are met by examining Estyn inspection reports for comments on the development of spiritual and moral education and the contribution made by acts of collective worship. The majority

of reports show inspectors are making comment under 2.3 *Care Support and Guidance* section of the report. However, some inspectors are failing to make such a comment resulting in lack of consistency in the reporting procedure. SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. This would support SACRE to fulfill its monitoring role.

3.4 School Visits

SACRE appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. Members had the opportunity to host their SACRE meeting at one primary school and one secondary school this year but did not attend an act of collective worship.

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SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2014-2015 academic year issues considered at WASACRE meetings have been fully reported back to SACRE and full discussions have taken place. SACRE welcomes the pro-active work of WASACRE in taking up issues that have implications for RE and keeping member SACREs fully informed. SACRE is represented on the WASACRE Executive committee by their professional consultant Mrs Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from Mrs Thomas and those representing SACRE at WASACRE meetings.

4.2 Holocaust Education

Caerphilly SACRE was informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Keep The Memory Alive*' and that further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk.

SACRE resolved to inform schools about the availability of these resources and encourage them to commemorate HMD in some way. SACRE discussed how some schools were embracing the issues raised by HMD very seriously and reference was made to some primary and secondary schools who were conducting activities and acts of collective worship to commemorate the day.

4.3 Welsh Government National Curriculum Review

SACRE were informed of the progress of the National Curriculum Review and its main messages. One of these was that RE should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and should remain a statutory curriculum requirement from reception. The implications of this for agreed syllabus development was discussed and it was agreed to wait until Welsh Government provide further details on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and also to receive advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. SACRE have responded to the recommendations made in the report through completing the WG questionnaire.

4.4. Revised Criteria for GCSE and GCE Specifications

SACRE were informed of the proposed changes to specifications and assessment practices for GCSE and GCE. Schools will be consulted on these changes and will be expected to complete a questionnaire. SACRE were informed of the process and timescale for its development with an implementation date of Autumn 2016

4.5 RE News

Members discussed developments in relation to RE News with future copies being published online and free of charge to schools. SACRE resolved to inform schools of the changes and to encourage schools to submit articles sharing good practice in RE.

4.6 Training of SACRE Members

As part of its training for members SACRE proposed the following:

To keep members updated on developments in RE through regular presentations to SACRE members. Mrs Vicky Thomas made a number of presentations this year,

including feedback on the WJEC presentation “*What Does The Data Tell Us?*”, feedback on the Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum and feedback on Mary Parry’s presentation, *Motivating Boys and Improving Boys’ Achievement in RE*.

SACRE, where possible, holds meetings at places of worship in the county borough. This year no visits were made to places of worship.

SACRE, where possible, holds meetings at schools in Caerphilly for Members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Meetings were held at a primary and a secondary school this year. The Autumn 2014 meeting was held at Ysgol y Lawnt and Members received a presentation on RE at the school from the RE coordinator. The Summer 2015 meeting was held at Newbridge School and Members received a presentation on RE at the school from the Head of RE. SACRE wishes to extend their thanks to the two schools for hosting the meetings.

SACRE is very appreciative of these opportunities for training and visits and would like to extend their appreciation to all concerned. A special note of thanks is extended to the Clerk to SACRE (Rebecca Barrett) for all her hard work in making such arrangements this year.

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APPENDIX 1: SACRE MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Councillor D.G. Carter

Councillor W. David

Councillor D.M. Gray (Chair) to May 2015 and replaced by Councillor J. Taylor (10.06.15)

Councillor Mrs G.D. Oliver

Councillor Mrs M.E. Sargent

Councillor J. Taylor (Vice-Chair) and nominated Chair 10.06.15

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Miss Helen Bartley (ATL)

Mrs Nicola L. Boardman (NUT)

Mrs Bethan Davies (UCAC)

Mrs Helen Marsh (ASCL)

Vacancy (NAHT)

Mrs Laura Strange (NASUWT)

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Rev Eryl Williams – (Baptist Union of Wales)

Mr Martyn Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)

Mrs Enfys Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)

Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales)

Lieutenant Carl Di-Palma (The Salvation Army)

CO OPTED MEMBERS

(1) Race Equality Wales representative – Mr Eddy Mushayanyama

(2) Primary school representative – Ms Rhianne Bradshaw (St James Primary School)

OFFICERS

Mrs Keri Cole (Learning, Education and Inclusion Manager) - replaced by Mrs Tanis Cunnick (Community, Youth Service and Adult Manager) 10.06.15

Mrs Vicky Thomas (Independent RE Consultant)

CLERK TO SACRE

Miss Rebecca Barrett

NOTE

SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding representatives from religious groups other than Christianity. SACRE had commissioned the clerk to SACRE to find out the composition of religions in Caerphilly County Borough Council and it was evident that statistically there are very few non-Christian religions represented in the area. The clerk to SACRE had contacted VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council) to see if a wider representation could be found. It was agreed that a co-opted place would be given to VALREC/Race Equality Wales so that they could bring their experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

A request for membership of SACRE was made on behalf of the British Humanist Association who asked to make a presentation to SACRE. This was granted. After lengthy discussion by the Committee, Members voted in their three respective committee groups and unanimously agreed that a co-opted place be refused.

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

Thursday 6th November 2014 at Ysgol y Lawnt

Main Agenda Items

- Presentation on RE at Ysgol y Lawnt – Mrs Bethan Davies (RE Coordinator)
- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings
- Membership Update and Humanist Request for Co-Option
- SACRE Annual Report 2013-2014
- SACRE Development Plan 2012-2015: Progress Report (see Annual report)
- Analysis of Caerphilly Inspection Reports Sept 2013-July 2014
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2015
- RE News Website
- WASACRE Issues - including Report of WASACRE AGM at Powys, Executive Appointments and representation at the next meeting in Port Talbot
- Correspondence

Monday 9th March 2015 at Penallta House Council Offices

Main Agenda Items

- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Action Plan Rhydri Primary School – Acts of Collective Worship
- Membership Update and Humanist Request for Co-option
- Analysis of Examination Performance 2014
- WJEC presentation to WASACRE “*What Does The Data Tell Us?*”
- Revised criteria for GCSE and GCE specifications
- Update on National Curriculum Review and Assessment
- Estyn Reporting of Collective Worship
- WASACRE Issues - including feedback from meetings at Torfaen and Port Talbot, nominations to the WASACRE Executive and representation at the next meeting in Mold, Flintshire
- Correspondence

Wednesday June 10th 2015 at Newbridge School

Main Agenda Items

- Appointment of Chair of SACRE
- Presentation on RE at Newbridge School – Miss Helen Bartley (Head of RE)
Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings 2015-2016
- Membership Update
- Feedback on Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum
- Feedback on WASACRE presentation - *Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE* by Mary Parry
- WASACRE Issues - including report of WASACRE meeting at Port Talbot, representation at the next meeting in Mold, and Executive Voting for the Period 2014 –2015
- Correspondence

APPENDIX 3: CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012-2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 1: To monitor standards in Religious Education and Religious Studies

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
1.1 Monitor standards through regular review of inspection reports/ Estyn thematic reviews/ school self evaluation reports and recommend, where necessary, action by Local Authority.	Annual/termly agenda item	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 and 10.6.13. No issues relating to RE have been identified in the reports. A review of school self evaluation was considered on 28.2.13 2013-2014 SACRE agreed an annual analysis would take place in the autumn of each academic year. Next analysis Autumn 2014 2014-2015 Considered 6.11.14.
1.2 Receive information on results of: Teacher Assessment at end of Key Stage 3; GCSE Religious Studies Full and Short Course; A/AS level Religious Studies.	Autumn/ Spring Term	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools.	2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 2013-2014 Considered 5.3.14 2014-2015 Considered 9.3.15. Schools informed of outcomes.
1.3 Identify INSET needs, monitor and offer advice on training.	Autumn Term	Full SACRE	Agenda time	Training programme received along with figures on uptake; advice to LA.	2012-2013 Considered 2.10.12 2013- 2014 No INSET provided by LA or SEWC Consortia. WASACRE provided subject

					specific training through their Conference Oct 2013 2014-2015 No INSET provided by LA or SEWC Consortia.
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CAERPHELLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 2: To review the agreed syllabus (as appropriate) and support its implementation

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
2.1 To review the agreed syllabus for Religious Education	Summer 2012 onwards (or as appropriate)	Full SACRE Adviser Working group NAPfRE	Advisory time to review the agreed syllabus. Establish a working group (if applicable). Convene a Standing Conference to adopt the syllabus Publication/ translation costs (as appropriate)	Agreed syllabus reviewed and adopted by Standing Conference. Agreed Syllabus training programme for schools (if required) Agreed syllabus to be implemented the Autumn term after adoption.	<p>2012-2013 Standing Conference was held on 10.6.13 and the syllabus was re -adopted and will be reviewed once the outcomes of the review of the national curriculum are known.</p> <p>2013-2014 Awaiting outcomes of NC Review. WASACRE has met Prof Donaldson to discuss implications of review on RE and agreed syllabuses.</p> <p>2014-2015 Prof Donaldson has reported to WG. SACRE are awaiting further details from Welsh Government on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. SACRE have responded to WG on the recommendations</p>

					of Donaldson.
2.2 Materials to support implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE	Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time	Support materials available to schools and accessed through Consortium website.	2012-2013 Not Applicable 2013-2014 Schools informed of RE Quest resources 2014-2015 Schools sent materials from Carmarthenshire LA

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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 3: To monitor provision and provide support for collective worship.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
<p>3.1 Monitor provision for collective worship through regular review of inspection reports/ school self evaluation reports; recommend, where necessary, action by LA.</p>	<p>Annual/ termly agenda item</p>	<p>Full SACRE and Adviser</p>	<p>Agenda time Adviser time for analysis</p>	<p>Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.</p>	<p>2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 and 10.6.13. Action plans from two secondary schools have been requested. A review of school self evaluation was reported to SACRE at its meeting of 28.2.13</p> <p>2013-2014 SACRE agreed an annual analysis would take place in the autumn of each academic year. Next analysis Autumn 2014. 14.11.13 SACRE considered the action plans of two schools not fulfilling statutory requirements.</p> <p>2014-2015 Considered 6.11.15. SACRE followed up with one primary school not complying with statutory requirements for collective worship and the school was now fully complying with statutory requirements.</p>
<p>3.2 To support the implementation of statutory collective worship</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Advisory service</p>	<p>Advisory time</p>	<p>Provision of INSET (if applicable) Schools informed of resources and websites for collective worship. Schools informed of guidance materials available for collective</p>	<p>2012-2013 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2013 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p> <p>2013-2014 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2014 including</p>

				worship	resources for acts of collective worship. 2013-2014 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2015 including resources for acts of collective worship.
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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR

Aim 4: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues related to RE and collective worship in schools.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
4.1 To update members on the role of SACRE and its implications; recent developments in RE and collective worship; guidance materials from relevant bodies; input from practising teachers and outside providers	Annually as required	SACRE members, Adviser, practising teachers, outside providers	Member time; Adviser / Officer time	SACRE members fully aware of their responsibilities. SACRE and schools updated and informed of recent developments and initiatives, both local and national.	<p>2012-2013 SACRE presentations 2.10.12 presentation on the work of the RE department from Cwmcarn High school. 28.2.13 presentation on the teaching of RE from an NQT perspective.</p> <p>2013-2014 SACRE visited three schools this year, attended two acts of collective worship and received two presentations. 12.6.14 presentation on <i>The Role and Functions of a SACRE</i> by V. Thomas 12.6.14 presentation on <i>The History and Work of The Salvation Army</i> and tour of Citadel by C. Di-Palma</p> <p>2014-2015 SACRE received several presentations this year. <i>What Does The Data Tell Us?</i> (WJEC); <i>Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum</i>; <i>Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE</i>;</p>
4.2 Programme of school visits.	Annually as required	SACRE members,	Member time; Officer	More informed SACRE on provision and practice	<p>2012-2013 SACRE visited three schools this</p>

		Adviser/ Officers	time to arrange visits	regarding RE and collective worship in schools.	<p>year, attended two acts of collective worship and received two presentations.</p> <p>2013-2014 SACRE visited one school this year and attended an act of collective worship.</p> <p>2014-2015 SACRE visited two schools this year and received two presentations.</p>
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APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2014

GCSE Full Course Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	25.6%	27%	35%	31%
A*-C	73.0%	64%	69%	72%
A*- G	98.8%	99%	99%	98%
Entry Number	656 14 schools	699 13 schools	697 14 schools	11,368

GCSE Short Course Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	10.8%	25%	15%	15%
A*-C	49.7%	59%	47%	53%
A*-G	95.0%	97%	92%	94%
Entry Number	866 13 schools	1317 13 schools	949 13 schools	12,191

GCE A Level Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	17.2%	20%	19%	18%
A*-C	89.1%	72%	67%	79%
A*-E	100%	100%	100%	98%
Entry Number	64 8 schools	67 8 schools	67 8 schools	1,432

GCE AS Level Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A	21.1%	11.5%	9.1%	N/A
A-C	47.4%	53.8%	45.5%	N/A
A -E	100%	69.2%	77.3%	N/A
Entry Number	19 6 schools	26 7 schools	22 7 schools	N/A

Please Note:

Data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2014, but have not yet cached the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cached in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

APPENDIX 5: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the Local Authority website and the WASACRE website for interested parties to download.

Members of Caerphilly County Borough Council

Chair of Education Scrutiny

Regional Director of SEWC

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

All members of SACRE

Principals and Governing Bodies of all Tertiary Colleges within the County Borough

Wales Association of SACRE's (WASACRE)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

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