

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DATE: 14TH JUNE 2016

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SUBJECT: INCERTS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

A BACKGROUND

Incerts Programme

At the March 2016 meetings of the National Advisory Panel for RE and WASACRE concern was raised by members about the Incerts software that tracks pupils' progress in National Curriculum subjects and Religious Education. The concerns are as follows:

1. There are two options for schools to choose from regarding level descriptions for RE and it is not made obvious which set of Levels are the correct Levels for use by maintained and voluntary controlled schools.
2. Incerts have been advising some schools in Wales that there are no statutory Level Descriptions for RE and that schools are free to choose which set of Level Descriptions they use in the Incerts programme - this is incorrect. There are statutory Level Descriptions for schools in Wales. Schools do not have a choice regarding which Level Descriptions they are to use.
3. Any schools that have started using the wrong Levels option will have to start the assessment process again when they switch to the correct option.

Information from Incerts website:-

Incerts is an independent, non-profit organisation working to transform assessment practices in schools on a local, national and international scale. With help from our support staff, teachers and school leaders use our online system to get more than they thought possible from assessment.

Assessment for Learning

As soon as teachers have recorded their assessments, Incerts highlights the skill-by-skill strengths and weaknesses of individual pupils. Incerts also identifies groups of pupils with common skill profiles to support planning and differentiation in the classroom.

Assessment of Learning

School leaders are able to access a live view of attainment across the school at any time. Our analysis tools facilitate the tracking of vulnerable groups in detail, helping to identify trends and anomalies within the academic year, or across a Key Stage.

Reporting of Learning

Incerts uses on-going teacher assessments to create personal and readable reports for parents in a fraction of the time usually spent. Our online Reportal also provides a practical outlet for sharing evidence with parents and teachers can share the media they have uploaded through our dedicated evidence capture app, Incerts Snap.

B RECOMMENDATION

That the LA and its SACRE writes to all schools in the Local Authority to reiterate the need to ensure that they are using the correct option for RE within the Incerts programme.

C SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1 Draft Letter to Headteachers and Religious education co-ordinators of all primary and special schools in Caerphilly