



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION VALUES AND ETHICS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN PENALLTA HOUSE AND VIA MICROSOFT
TEAMS ON THURSDAY 29TH JUNE 2023 AT 3.00 P.M**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair

Councillors: Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, and A. Whitcombe.

Representatives of Faith and Belief: Mrs. J. Jones (Church in Wales and Caerphilly SAC on RVE Vice Chair), and Mr K. Chamberlain (Wales Humanists).

Teacher Union Representative: Miss H. Bartley (NEU), Mrs. C. McLaughlan (NASUWT), Miss J. Davenport (NEU), and Mrs T. Lloyd (NAHT).

Together with:

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE), V. Bodenham (School Improvement Officer), and J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer).

Also in attendance: A. Carter (Hengoed Primary School).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

Caerphilly SAC on RVE was reminded that the meeting was being live-streamed and would be made available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#) It was noted that voting on decisions would take place by way of Hands Up and roll call.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M. Jones (UCAC), Mrs K. McCullough (NASUWT), and Mr. M. Gray (The Methodist Church).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 13TH MARCH 2023.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2023 be approved as a correct record, and by way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 13th March 2023 (minute nos. 1-8) be approved as a correct record.

4. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

It was noted that there were no matters arising on this occasion.

5. UPDATE FROM THE RVE ADVISOR.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on recent developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE.

Members were advised that the Hwb resource had now gone live and were given a demonstration of the system during the meeting. Members were informed of its content, which included modules for Head Teachers secondary schools and primary schools.

Members were updated on the EAS professional learning and the provision of collective worship in schools. A collective worship survey is due to go out to schools in September.

Members were informed that the curriculum design course had been launched this week, which was attended by the Vice Chair, and was the first of four sessions. The Vice Chair noted that it was really beneficial and recommended others to attend.

Members were advised of the consultation period ending for the Qualification Wales. This qualification included wider options and was equivalent to a GCSE. There would be RVE modules within the qualification or a specific qualification in RVE. Schools can decide which modules they wish to cover. The results of the consultation will be circulated to members when they are available.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the RVE Advisor update.

6. HENGOED PRIMARY SCHOOL – RVE CURRICULUM PRESENTATION.

Members were given a presentation by Alys Carter, a year 5 teacher, from Hengoed Primary School on the RVE provision within the school. Members were informed of the way in which the subject is covered with the pupils and their own personal beliefs, and the aims of RVE. Members were advised that they provide a two-year rolling programme of teaching RVE and also cover the RVE lenses within the cycle. The school also incorporated parents' workshops, school trips to religious premises and the Bible Exhibition, and bread making into the lessons.

The Chair thanked Alys Carter for her presentation.

Members noted the excellent work that was being done at primary school level and thanked Alys for her contribution. A Member queried the resources that were used at the school.

Members were advised that Lat Blaylock was used at Hengoed Primary School and the HWB for resource information and the EAS website. Members were also referred to an email link which would be shared with members following the meeting.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the presentation.

7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF THE CHANGES TO LEGISLATION AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE) CURRICULUM.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) and Mrs Victoria Bodenham (School Improvement Officer), introduced the report which updated members on the implementation of RVE and the new Agreed Syllabus. Members were also provided with an overview on the support provided by the EAS for schools, and an update on the engagement of schools with RVE and the Agreed Syllabus. The report also identified ways forward for RVE in Caerphilly schools.

Members were advised that the report had been presented to SMT and the Chief Education Officer, and the Officers had been invited back next year to provide feedback on the report going forward.

Members thanked Hayley Jones for all her work and the support that she provided to Caerphilly schools.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the report.

8. MEMBERS TRAINING (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised members that training was planned for September 2023 to welcome new members and to provide a refresher for existing members. Members were informed that they would shortly receive a Microsoft voting form via email which would allow them to indicate a preference on proposed dates and times. Members were also requested to attend 'in person,' if possible, in order to gain as much as possible out of the training session and meet with other members of the Caerphilly SAC on RVE.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the update.

9. CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE.

Members were referred to the report which provided an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SAC on RVE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SAC on RVE since the last meeting.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the correspondence update.

10. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023/24.

Members were advised that the Autumn Term meeting was scheduled for 6th December 2023 and the meeting invite would be circulated to Members as soon as possible. Members were also advised that dates were being confirmed for the Spring and Summer Term meetings in 2024, and invites would be sent in due course.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the schedule of meetings update.

11-12. FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE SPRING TERM MEETING HOSTED BY PEMBROKESHIRE ON 21ST MARCH 2023 AND FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE SUMMER TERM MEETING AND AGM HOSTED BY DENBIGHSHIRE ON 19TH JUNE 2023 (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised members that the agreed syllabi of the 22 local authorities would be subject to an informal monitoring process completed by WASACRE in line with Wesh Government. Members were advised that feedback would be circulated when it became available.

Members were informed that the WJEC is working towards the deadline for completing a new specification for GCSE by September 2024, to commence teaching in September 2025. WJEC is currently looking for teachers who wish to take part, and members were referred to the WJEC website if they were interested.

Members were also informed of the current decline in the take up for RE at GCSE and AS levels. It was suggested that the provision of GCSE in schools should be monitored and that the changes to the new qualification could lead to an increase in the numbers at GCSE level.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the updates.

13. EXECUTIVE VOTING 2023 – WASACRE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised members that information on the elections and voting was previously circulated to members. Members were informed of the election results for the WASACRE Executive Committee, Jenny Downes, together with Marged Williams and Tyler Saunders were now the new members of the Executive Committee.

The Chair noted that there had been a low level of response from Caerphilly SAC on RVE for the above elections and suggested this may have been due to the elections taking place prior to the Caerphilly SAC on RVE Summer term meeting. He requested that, in future, members should ensure that they respond to the voting correspondence so that a proper vote could be submitted from Caerphilly SAC on RVE.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the update.

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation.

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2023.

CHAIR