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Dear Colleague

Information for SACRE and schools

Please would you draw the attention of your SACRE to the following initiative which is of relevance to RE in Wales.

On 1 August 2008 the St Mary's Centre at St Deiniol's Library was established to support religious education in Wales. The Centre has been created through a dynamic partnership between St Deiniol's Library, Hawarden (internationally recognised as a residential centre of excellence for the promotion of research and scholarship in theological and religious education) and the St Mary's College Trust (which has a long tradition of promoting religious education in Wales). The mission of the St Mary's Centre is to promote excellence in religious education in Wales and to represent Wales on both the UK and international RE scenes.

The St Mary's Centre is working to promote excellence in religious education by:

- supporting curriculum development through the publication of resources for religious education;
- providing Welsh medium primary and secondary materials for collective worship in collaboration with SPCK;
- producing a free online journal for RE professionals called REview;
- coordinating the Wales arm of UK and international research projects relevant to religious education;
- offering credit-earning courses in partnership with York St John University for teachers and clergy in the fields of religious education, church school studies, rural theology, and implicit religion;

- hosting national and international conferences concerned with religion and religious education;
- establishing collaborative partnerships with publishers and other bodies within the UK to develop and promote quality resources relevant to religious education in Wales.

More information about the St Mary's Centre is available on our websites:

www.st-marys-centre.co.uk (English)

www.cymraeg.st-marys-centre.co.uk (Welsh)

We would be very grateful if you would be willing to inform your schools of this significant additional resource for religious education in Wales.

With best wishes,

Tania ap Siôn

Director of the St Mary's Centre