



## CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – 8TH JUNE 2009

**SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS (SPRING 2008-SPRING 2009)**

**REPORT BY: ESIS**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To inform the SACRE of the outcomes of the analysis of inspection reports for the period Spring 2008-Spring 2009.

### **2. FINDINGS**

#### **2.1 Primary**

- 2.1.1 Spiritual development is a grade 2 (good features and no important shortcomings) or higher in every school where judgements have been made about SMSC. Where no judgments have been provided it is noted that many schools promote pupils' SMSC effectively. It is noted in one inspection report that some aspects of pupils' spiritual awareness are underdeveloped.
- 2.1.2 It is noted that seven primary schools comply with the statutory requirements for a daily act of collective worship. No information is provided in other inspection reports regarding meeting statutory requirements.
- 2.1.3 Two schools received a short inspection where no subjects were inspected – Machen Primary and Ysgol y Lawnt.
- 2.1.4 Six schools received a standard inspection where RE was not one of the six subjects inspected – Cefn Fforest Primary, Crumlin High Level, Hengoed Primary, Libanus Primary, Markham Primary and Upper Rhymney Primary.
- 2.1.5 Standards of Religious Education are a grade 3 (good features outweigh shortcomings) or higher in the five schools where the subject was inspected.
- 2.1.6 Standards of Religious Education are judged a grade 2 (good features and no important shortcomings) at Bedwas Infants, Pontllanfraith Primary, Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary, Ysgol Ifor Bach and at Ystrad Mynach Primary (KS2 only).
- 2.1.7 Standards of Religious Education were judged a grade 3 (good features outweigh shortcomings) at Ystrad Mynach Primary (key stage 1). It is a recommendation for the school to raise standards by addressing the shortcoming in religious education in key stage 1.

#### **2.2 Good Features**

- Pupils develop good knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world religions.
- Good understanding of the use and significance of religious artefacts.
- Visits made to places of worship in the local and wider community.

- Opportunity to receive visits from people of various faith communities.
- Opportunities provided for pupils to discuss and to reflect on issues.

## **2.3 Shortcomings**

2.3.1 There is a shortcoming noted in one inspection report in relation to pupils being unable to use simple religious vocabulary appropriately when describing what is special about festivals and celebrations in Christianity and other world religions.

## **2.4 Grade Criteria**

2.4.1 Grade 1 = good with outstanding features;  
Grade 2 = good features, no important shortcomings;  
Grade 3 = good features outweigh shortcomings;  
Grade 4 = some good features, but shortcomings in important areas; and  
Grade 5 = many important shortcomings.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to note and discuss the inspection reports.

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### Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Primary School Inspection Reports 2008-2009: SACRE Synopsis
- Appendix 2 Secondary School Inspection Reports for Religious Education – Newbridge School
- Appendix 3 Secondary School Inspection Reports for Religious Education – Oakdale Comprehensive School
- Appendix 4 Secondary School Inspection Reports for Religious Education – Risca Comprehensive School
- Appendix 5 Secondary School Inspection Reports for Religious Education – St Martins Comprehensive School