

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2008-2009

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

2008-2009

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2008-2009

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 DUTY TO ESTABLISH SACRE

All Local Education Authorities (LEAs) are required to constitute a 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 LEA, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- Associations representing teachers
- The Local Education 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.

1.3 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

The list of members of Caerphilly SACRE is set out in Appendix 1.

1.4 FUNCTIONS OF SACRE

- To advise the LEA 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 LEA 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 LEA and the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills (DCELLS) on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 MEETINGS

SACRE met on four occasions during the academic year 2008 - 2009:

- Thursday, 25th September 2008
- Wednesday, 10th December 2008
- Monday, 24th February 2009
- Monday, 8th June 2009

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2008-2009 members visited three schools and attended an act of collective worship at two of these schools. SACRE also visited The Chapel, Watford Road, by kind invitation of Mr D Brooks (Independent).

1.6 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2008 - 2010. A year on year progress report is included in the plan. The plan can be found in Appendix 3.

1.7 CIRCULATION OF REPORT

A list of the organisations receiving the report can be found in Appendix 7.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary of the advice given to the LEA by SACRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and standards in RE

Action

1. The LEA through its SACRE writes to schools to congratulate those that have good or very good standards in RE in their inspection report. This year letters were sent to 4 primary schools and two secondary schools.
2. SACRE requests the action plan of those schools that have grade 3 or below in RE. Action plans were requested from one primary school and one secondary school graded 3. The secondary school also received a half day support on post inspection issues from the RE Adviser for the local authority.
3. INSET programme addresses issues arising from inspection reports e.g. planning to fulfil agreed syllabus requirements.
4. SACRE writes to Estyn to highlight any errors in reporting procedures in inspection reports, where these occur. This was not necessary in the academic year 2008-09
5. SACRE writes to schools after analysing examination results. The letter includes congratulations for the good results, where appropriate, and raises issues that schools should be addressing as a result of this analysis.
6. The LEA and its SACRE gathers and analyses data regarding KS3 Teacher Assessment in RE. This information is shared with teachers through the distribution of the end of year SACRE Annual report.
7. SACRE discussed the Religious Education Guidance 14-19 issued by DCELLS and resolved to send the summary paper of the various delivery models for 14-19 to all its secondary schools, remind them of the statutory requirement to provide RE for 14-19 year olds and draw their attention to the availability of this document.

THE AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RE

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 to be implemented from September 2008. All schools received a programme of INSET in the Summer 2008 and received a package of support materials to exemplify the new syllabus.

2. In the academic year 2008-09 further INSET was offered to primary schools on planning to implement the agreed syllabus in schools. Separate training was offered to Foundation Phase practitioners and teachers at KS2.
3. Secondary schools were offered training in assessment at KS3, funded by the local authority, to support teachers in their understanding of progression using the level descriptors of the agreed syllabus. It would also prepare schools for the WJEC/DCELLS moderation in Autumn 2009. The local authority circulated a KS3 portfolio of standards to secondary schools to encourage all schools to create their own portfolios of standards in religious education at KS3.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. All schools received a copy of the Holocaust Memorial Day Pack entitled "*Stand Up to Hatred*"
2. All schools received a copy of the CD ROM material *Judaism A Way of Life*.
3. Schools annually receive a *Calendar of Religious Festivals* to support planning.
4. Schools have been informed through INSET and networking meetings of the most recent resources to support the teaching of religious education.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers are able to access appropriate CPD

Action

1. A full range of in- service training, both primary and secondary is provided through the advisory service (ESIS) and the attendance registers and evaluation of courses are reported to SACRE.

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 writes to schools to congratulate those that fulfil statutory requirements and promotes good SMSC. SACRE resolved to send a letter to three secondary schools to express their satisfaction that good progress has been made since the last

inspection in fulfilling statutory requirements for a daily act of collective worship.

2. There was no necessity this year to request the action plan of any primary or secondary school for non-compliance with statutory requirements regarding collective worship.
3. SACRE held three of its meetings this academic year in schools and observed an act of collective worship in two primary schools.
4. The local authority offered to schools a *Collective Worship in the Primary School* course which was extremely well attended with 80 schools in attendance. The provider was Lesley Beadle for RE Today services.

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 (DCELLS). A programme of INSET, funded by the LEA, was provided for all primary and secondary schools during the Summer Term 2008 and support materials, including schemes of work, have been issued to schools. Follow up courses on planning to implement the agreed syllabus were offered to Foundation Phase practitioners and primary school RE co-ordinators in Autumn '08 and Summer '09. Courses on assessment issues were delivered to primary and secondary schools in the Spring term 2009. They included teachers having the opportunity to use and apply the level descriptions of the agreed syllabus to make judgements on pupils work. An electronic KS3 '*Progress in Learning*' file has been distributed to secondary schools in the Spring and Summer 2009.

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.

- School Inspection Reports

SACRE scrutinises the relevant sections of LEA school inspection reports on an annual basis during the Summer Term meeting. SACRE has examined 17 inspection reports for the period Spring 2008 - 2009 consisting of 13 primary schools and 4 secondary schools. Six of these primary schools received a standard inspection and RE was not inspected. Two received a short inspection. Five schools were inspected in relation to RE and standards of RE were satisfactory or better.

Grade Criteria

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

Grade 5 = many important shortcomings

The standards achieved as reported in those inspections are as follows.

Spring 2007 - Spring 2008

Phase	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
KS1		3	1		
KS2		5			
KS3	1	1	1		
KS4 RE/RS	1	1	1		
KS5 RE/RS	1				

At **primary** level standards in RE were satisfactory or better in the five schools where RE was inspected. One primary school graded 3 had the raising of standards in RE as a key issue for action.

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.

Shortcomings

There is a shortcoming noted in one inspection report in relation to pupils at KS1 being unable to use simple religious vocabulary appropriately when describing what is special about festivals and celebrations in Christianity and other world religions.

Secondary

There were **four** secondary schools inspected. One had a standard inspection and RE was not one of the subjects inspected. The good features and shortcomings of the other **three** schools are as follows:

Good Features

- Nearly all pupils have an **outstanding** recall of a wide range of religious terms in the religions studied. (Grade 1)
- At KS4 pupils have an **outstanding** understanding of examination technique (Grade 1)
- Effective pair and group work is **outstanding**(grade 1)
- Agreed syllabus requirements are met.
- Good factual knowledge and understanding of the work covered
- A good understanding of the authority attributed to sacred texts and can show how belief affects behaviour by relating them to contemporary people such as ML King and Gandhi
- Pupils listen well to one another and can engage in good oral debate.
- Most pupils can recognise similarities between and within religion/s

Shortcomings

- Their ability to give extended answers is limited
- A few pupils simply describe beliefs and practices rather than offering explanations or justifications for them

SACRE welcomed the aspects of the reports, which identified good practice, and also the identification of the shortcomings, so providing an agenda for improvement.

Action

1. SACRE resolved that a letter be sent to primary and secondary schools to congratulate them on the good standards in RE identified in their inspection report
2. SACRE requested the action plan from one primary school and one secondary school graded 3.
3. The secondary school received a half day support on post inspection issues from the RE Adviser for the local authority.

Examination Results 2008

Examination results for GCSE and GCE AS / Advanced Level achieved by pupils at secondary schools within the Authority have been analysed and considered. The results are compared with results of the previous 3 years. Cohort entry numbers in comparison to All-Wales figures are also analysed.

In **GCSE Religious Studies** thirteen schools entered 521 pupils. Although this is a decrease over 2007 (584) there has been a year on year increase in entry numbers since 2004. The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was **68.5%**. This is a good result although below last year's performance and the All-Wales figure of 72%. The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **99.4%**. This again is a very good result and comparable with 2007 and better than the All-Wales figure of 98.7%. The overall % of **A*-A** grades for Caerphilly was **27.8%** and comparable with the previous year's performance and the All-Wales figure of 29.7%. There has been a consistency in a significant % of pupils achieving this top grade over a three-year period.

SACRE was very pleased with this performance because the results this year are very good at all grades and generally comparable with previous performance and the All Wales figures. Schools are to be commended at maintaining such good examination results.

At GCSE Short Course in Religious Education there was a significant increase in numbers entered with 1338 entries from 12 schools. The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was **55%** and is comparable to previous performance but below the All Wales figure of 59.7%. The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **96.6%** and is a very good result which is better than previous performance and comparable with the All-Wales figure of 97.4%.

The overall % of **A*-A** grades for Caerphilly was **20.2%** and is better than previous performance and comparable with the All-Wales figure of 21.1%.

There have been very good entry numbers for short course over the last three years. Cohort entry for ¹¹/₁₂ schools exceed All Wales cohort entry numbers. The results at all grade boundaries have improved this year and are comparable with or slightly below All-Wales figures at all grade boundaries. However, SACRE is mindful that this course is not an option for pupils but a fulfilment of statutory requirements and it is very pleasing to see 96.6% of pupils receiving some kind of accreditation for their studies at KS4.

Numbers taking **GCE Advanced Level** were 52 candidates from 8 schools. Although there were less entered this year the number of schools offering A level increased from 6 to 8. Those pupils achieving **A** grade were **36.5%** and this was a significant improvement over the last two years and better than the All Wales figure of 21.6%. The % pass rate for grades **A - C** was **88.5%** and this was better than the last two years performance and the All-Wales figure of 75.7%. The % pass rate for grades **A - E** was excellent at **100%** and retains the excellent pass result of 2007 and is better than the All-Wales figure of 98.4%. SACRE was extremely pleased that the results for 2008 are excellent at all grade boundaries and schools are to be commended at consistently improving their A level results year on year.

At **AS level** there were a total of 71 candidates from 7 schools and the figure is consistent with the numbers entered in 2007. At **A-E** the pass rate was excellent at **100%** and this is better than previous performance and the All Wales figure of 91.5%. At **A-C** the pass rate was **70.4%** and this is better than previous performance and the All Wales figure of 63.1%%. At **A** grade there was a **18.3%** pass rate and this was slightly below last year's performance and the All Wales figure of 19.6%

SACRE is aware that the AS results are an incomplete picture because some students have not yet 'cashed in' their results.

SACRE is extremely pleased with the 100% pass rate at A and AS level.

It should be noted that definitive conclusions cannot 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 also noted the excellent results of Coleg Gwent (Cross Keys campus) for A and AS level.

Action

SACRE resolved that a letter be sent to schools within the Borough expressing congratulations to staff and pupils in their achievements.

ANALYSIS OF KS3 TEACHER ASSESSMENT 2007 AND 2008

The LEA, through its advisory service, conducts an analysis of teacher assessment at the end of key stage 3. Comparisons are made with previous performance in religious education and also with Core and Foundation subjects of the National Curriculum. Pupils' (boys and girls) achieving L5+ was 70% and L6+ was 34.4% and these results are better than the previous two years performance. The gap in performance between boys and girls at L5+ and L6+ has narrowed this year.

A detailed table of KS3 teacher assessment 2007 and 2008 can be found in Appendix 5.

2.3 METHODS OF TEACHING, TEACHING MATERIALS AND TEACHER TRAINING

INSET

A programme of in-service training has been made available to schools for the academic year 2008 - 2009. The courses offered are as follows:

SUBJECT – PRIMARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Course Title	Autumn	Spring	Summer
The revised agreed syllabus for RE	✓		
RE in the Foundation Phase	✓		
Securing Teacher Assessment in RE		✓	
RE and ICT	✓		
Thinking through the Humanities: Next Steps		✓	
Phase 2: Revisiting the agreed syllabus at KS2			✓
Collective Worship in the Primary School			✓

SUBJECT – SECONDARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Course Title	Autumn	Spring	Summer
RE for NQTs	✓	✓	
What's New: Heads of Department Meeting	✓		✓
Securing Teacher Assessment in RE		✓	✓

Attendance figures at INSET can be found in Appendix 6.

Publications

A Calendar of Religious Festivals 2008 - 2009 was circulated to all schools.

All schools received a copy of the Holocaust Memorial Day Pack entitled "*Stand Up to Hatred*".

All secondary schools received an electronic copy of the key stage 3 "*Progress in Learning*" files that have been commissioned by the four local authorities of Caerphilly, Bridgend, Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taf. They are intended to support teachers in making judgments on pupils work. An extensive sample of pupils' work is included and this work has been cross moderated by teachers. It has been designed to help departments develop their understanding of progression. Each piece of work illustrates particular standards characteristics within a level. This document will support schools in creating their own portfolios to exemplify standards in religious education at KS3 in readiness for the WJEC/ DCELLS moderation process scheduled to start in Autumn 2009.

Teaching Materials

All schools received a copy of the free resource CD ROM material '*The Jewish way of Life*' from the Pears Foundation to support schools in their teaching of Judaism.

Schools have been informed of the grants available from the Jerusalem Trust for resources for the teaching of Christianity in schools.

Schools have been informed through INSET and networking meetings of the most recent resource materials available for the teaching of RE.

SECTION 3

ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS

As well as considering the religious education sections of school inspection reports, SACRE scrutinises Key Question 3 and other relevant sections of school inspection reports on an annual basis. During the Summer Term meeting SACRE examined 17 inspection reports for the period Spring 2008-2009 consisting of consisting of 13 primary schools and 4 secondary schools.

The provision for collective worship and SMSC is as follows:

At **primary** level the provision for collective worship meets statutory requirements. Spiritual development is good or better in every school where judgements have been made about SMSC.

At **secondary** level the four schools inspected comply with statutory requirements and progress has been made since the last inspection.

Good Features (Primary)

- The legal requirements for collective worship are met.
- Collective worship plays an important part in developing pupils' understanding of community and celebrating success.
- Strong emphasis on personal responsibility and effectively reinforces school values and a sense of community.
- Promotes a sense of awe and wonder in the natural world..

Shortcomings (Primary)

- Pupils' spiritual awareness is underdeveloped with insufficient opportunities to reflect on issues that arise in their own lives and the world around them.

Good Features (Secondary)

- Assemblies make a positive contribution to pupils' moral, social and spiritual development.
- Pupils often make valuable contributions and participation in collective worship helps pupils to develop spiritual and moral values.

Shortcomings (Secondary)

- The quality of provision in assemblies and tutor groups varies too much and overall collective worship does not contribute enough to spiritual development.

SACRE welcomed the aspects of the reports, which identified good practice, and also the identification of the shortcomings, so providing an agenda for improvement.

3.2 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRAINING

The local authority offered to schools a *Collective Worship in the Primary School* course in May 2009. It provided schools the opportunity to become familiar with statutory requirements for collective worship, to raise awareness of how to develop spiritual awareness through collective worship and to discuss planning and delivery approaches for collective worship. The course was extremely well attended with 80 schools in attendance. The provider was Lesley Beadle for RE Today services.

3.3 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT POST 16

SACRE were informed of the changes to legislation regarding the right of withdrawal being extended to students in sixth forms in schools. The Welsh Assembly Government has informed schools of this change in legislation regarding acts of collective worship for students in post 16 settings. SACRE also considered the additional advisory guidance given by WASACRE, with the consent of the Minister for Education, to support schools in managing this change in a smooth, educational and positive way. Guidance notes were provided for sixth form tutors to discuss the changes in an open and constructive way with students. WASACRE has informed all schools of this guidance.

3.4 SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE ON INSPECTING COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN NON- DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS - ESTYN

SACRE were informed of this guidance. The purpose of the updated guidance is to support inspectors in inspecting collective worship in schools. It took effect from June 2008. SACRE agreed that the guidance is well written and easy to understand. The frequently asked questions sections was regarded as very helpful to schools in addressing many of their queries and concerns. Officers confirmed that headteachers had already been informed of the guidance.

SECTION 4

OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2008-09 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 cc Michael Gray and their professional adviser Ms Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from them. In the Summer 2009 meeting cc Michael Gray became the Chair of WASACRE and Caerphilly SACRE look forward to hosting the meeting of the Association in Autumn 2010.

4.2 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Caerphilly SACRE was informed of this year's Holocaust Memorial Day theme. All secondary schools received a copy of the Holocaust Memorial Day resource packs "*Stand Up to Hatred*" issued by the Holocaust Centre.

Schools were notified of the availability of assembly material created and distributed by Mr Paul Sass, of St Cenydd Comprehensive School. Schools were also encouraged to include reference to issues of prejudice and intolerance during lessons and a list of web sites providing relevant information accompanied this material.

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.

SACRE has been informed that WASACRE, on behalf of SACREs, has spoken to the Minister for Education about holocaust education. WASACRE had recommended that all schools and LAs receive a copy of the HMD packs as a matter of course rather than on request and that the WAG enter into discussions with the Lessons from Auschwitz Director about including Wales in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme for 2010.

4.3 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUIDANCE 14-19 (DCELLS)

The purpose of the guidance is to support the implementation of the National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds in Wales and the locally Agreed Syllabuses. Religious Education is a statutory requirement for 14-19 year olds and must be implemented as required by the locally agreed syllabus.

The document provides guidance on HOW high quality provision of Religious Education might be delivered at 14-19. It emphasises the relevance and benefit of skills and knowledge that young people might acquire through religious education 14-19 and contains case studies of possible delivery models.

Action

SACRE resolved to send the summary paper of the various delivery models for 14-19 to all its secondary schools, remind them of the statutory requirement to provide RE for 14-19 year olds and draw their attention to the availability of this document.

4.4 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

As part of it's training for members SACRE proposed the following:

To keep members updated on developments in RE through regular presentations to SACRE members. This year SACRE received three presentations. Firstly, from pupils of Newbridge Comprehensive School on their visit to Auschwitz-Birkenhau and how this contributes to their understanding of holocaust issues. Secondly, a presentation from Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE on securing teacher assessment at KS3 and a demonstration of the CD ROM '*Progress in Learning at KS3*' (Spring 2009). Thirdly, a presentation from Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE on the '*Planning and Implementing of RE in the Foundation Phase*' (Summer 2009). Teacher representatives made contributions through reference to their own school situations.

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at places of worship as this would provide faith communities the opportunity to conduct a guided tour of the building and an explanation of their main beliefs and practices. SACRE held its Autumn meeting at The Chapel , Watford Road (Independent Church). A short history of the Chapel was given by SACRE member Mr D Brooks. It enabled members to find out about the work of the church in the community.

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Caerphilly for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Three meetings were held this year in schools at Newbridge Comprehensive, Hendre Junior and Park primary school. Members observed an act of collective worship at both primary schools. SACRE wishes to extend their thanks to the schools for hosting the meeting.

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 Thomas, for all her hard work in making such arrangements.

APPENDIX 1 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Councillor DG Carter
Councillor Mrs A Collins
Councillor DM Gray
Councillor GG Hibbert
Councillor Mrs R Potter
Councillor Mrs D Price
Councillor J Taylor

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Miss H Bartley (ATL)
Mrs NL Boardman (NUT)
Miss C Cook (NASUWT)
Mrs E Hawthorn (VALRETA)
Mrs S John (UCAC)
Ms K Mathias (VALRETA)
Mrs C Thompson (NAHT)

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Mr D Brooks (Independent)
Mrs A Fitzgerald (St Helens Roman Catholic Primary)
Mrs E Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)
Mrs J Jones (Church in Wales)
Mrs M Wade (United Reformed Church)
Captain R Waters (Salvation Army)

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

25TH SEPTEMBER 2008, THE CHAPEL, WATFORD ROAD, CAERPHILLY

Main agenda items

- Schedule of Meetings 2008-2009
- Membership Update
- SACRE Annual report 2007-2008
- SACRE Development Plan 2008-2010
- INSET Needs and Plans 2008-2009
- Attendance at INSET 2007-2008
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2009
- Report of WASACRE AGM June 2008 at Mold, Flintshire and representation at next meeting in Monmouthshire
- Correspondence

10TH DECEMBER 2008 AT HENDRE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Main agenda items

- Holocaust Memorial day 2009 - Update
- Analysis of Examination Results 2008
- RE and RS in Wales - Report from Estyn
- Analysis of Teacher Assessment at Key Stage 3 in 2007 and 2008
- Estyn - Supplementary Guidance on Inspecting Collective Worship
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Cwmbran, Monmouthshire and representation at next meeting in Bridgend.
- Correspondence

24TH FEBRUARY 2009 AT NEWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Main agenda items

- A visit to Auschwitz - Birkenhau- Presentation by pupils of Newbridge Comprehensive school
- Progress in Learning at KS3 (Portfolio development) - Presentation by Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE
- Jewish Way of Life (Pears Foundation CD ROM) - Presentation by Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Bridgend and representation at next meeting of WASACRE at Bridgend
- Nominations to the WASACRE executive
- Correspondence

8TH JUNE 2009 AT PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Main agenda items

- Schedule of Meetings 2009-2010
- Analysis of Inspection Reports for Spring 2008 - Spring 2009
- Update on training for implementation of the agreed syllabus - Phase 2
- Religious Education Guidance for 14-19 year olds (DCELLS)
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Bridgend and representation at next meeting at Llangollen
- Executive Voting for WASACRE AGM at Mold
- WASACRE Guidance for Post 16 Collective worship
- Correspondence

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2008 – 2010 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 1: To monitor standards in Religious Education and Religious Studies in order to raise standards.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
1.1 Monitor standards through regular review of inspection reports or school self evaluation reports and recommend, where necessary, action by LEA.	Annual agenda item Termly item from Autumn '09	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LEA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2008-09 Considered 08.06.09. SACRE requested the Action Plan of one primary and one secondary school graded 3. SACRE resolved to consider inspection reports on a termly rather than an annual basis in order to act more quickly to inspection issues.
1.2 Receive information on results of: Teacher Assessment at end of Key Stage 3; GCSE Religious Studies; GCSE Religious Education; A/AS level Religious Studies.	Autumn 08 Autumn 09	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LEA on trends; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools. Offer advice on setting targets for future performance.	2008-09 Considered 10.12.08
1.3 Identify INSET needs, monitor and offer advice on training.	Autumn 08 Autumn 09	Full SACRE	Agenda time	Training programme received along with figures on uptake; advice to LEA.	2008-09 Considered 25.09.08

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2008 – 2010

Aim 2: To produce additional guidance to support the implementation of the agreed syllabus

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
2.1 To update SACRE members of guidance on RE given by DCELLS, Estyn, and other relevant bodies	Updates as appropriate Oct '08 - Post 16 Conference Autumn '09 - DCELLS KS2/3 Conference Autumn '09 WJEC KS3 Moderation Conference Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time Attendance at conferences	Informed SACRE Informed schools	2008-09 Considered Estyn supplementary guidance on collective worship and analysis of examination results 10.12.08 Considered DCELLS guidance on RE for 14-19 year olds and resolved to inform schools 08.06.09
2.2 Materials to support implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE	Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time	Training programme for schools on implementing revised agreed syllabus. Training programme for schools on securing teacher assessment at KS3.	2008-09 A training programme on the revised agreed syllabus Phase 2 was offered to KS2 teacher and they received a CD ROM of course materials. Foundation Phase INSET on planning to implement the agreed syllabus Secondary schools received a CD ROM of exemplification materials during HoDs training.

<p>2.3 Develop intranet information and support materials for Religious Education</p>	<p>Autumn 08 Ongoing</p>	<p>ICT and Advisers</p>	<p>Advisory time</p>	<p>Support materials to be accessed through LA intranet and ESIS website.</p>	<p>2008-09 ESIS website to be made available to schools for the academic year 2009-10. Agreed syllabus and other materials can be accessed through this site.</p>
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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2008 – 2010

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

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
3.1 Monitor provision for collective worship through regular review of inspection reports; recommend, where necessary, action by LEA	Annual agenda item Termly item from Autumn '09	Full SACRE and Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LEA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2008-09 Considered 08.06.09
3.2 To support the implementation of statutory collective worship	Summer '09	Advisory service	Advisory time	Support for CW through: Inset (Summer '09). CW web sites to be put on LA Intranet and ESIS website.	2008-09 A primary Collective Worship course was run in Summer 2009 and was very well attended. Estyn supplementary guidance sent to schools Schools informed of WAG letter and WASACRE guidance on Post 16 student withdrawal.
3.3 Programme of school visits to include observation of Collective Worship where possible	Annually as required	SACRE members	Member time; Adviser / Officer time to arrange visits	Feedback to SACRE to inform discussion on provision.	2008-09 SACRE visited three schools this year and attended collective worship at Hendre Primary & Park primary school.

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2008 – 2010

Aim 4: To provide training for SACRE members

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; input from practising teachers and outside providers	Annually as required	SACRE members, practising teachers, outside providers and LA Advisory Service	Member time Adviser / Officer time	To ensure that SACRE members are aware of their responsibilities and are updated with regard to developments in RE and collective worship both locally and nationally. Visits to places of worship to be more informed of faith stances.	<p>2008-09 SACRE visited on 25.09.08 the Chapel, Watford Road and received a brief history of the building and its community from Mr D Brooks, member of SACRE. SACRE on 24.02.09 received: A presentation from pupils of Newbridge Comprehensive school on their visit to Auschwitz. A presentation on Progress in Learning at KS3 from Mrs V Thomas, RE Adviser. A demonstration of CD ROM Jewish Way of Life. SACRE on 08.06.09 received: A presentation on RE in the Foundation Phase from Mrs V Thomas, RE Adviser.</p>
4.2 Programme of school visits	Annually as required	SACRE members and Adviser/ officers	Member time; Adviser / Officer time to arrange visits	To ensure that members are aware of provision for RE and collective worship in schools.	<p>2008-09 SACRE visited 2 primary and 1 secondary school this year. They attended an act of collective worship at two schools.</p>

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2008

GCSE Religious Studies Full Course 2008

	Caerphilly 2008	Caerphilly 2007	Caerphilly 2006	All Wales 2008
A* - A	27.8%	28.3%	32.2%	29.7%
A* - C	68.5%	72.9%	78.2%	72.0%
A* - G	99.4%	99.3%	99.6%	98.7%
Entry	521 13 schools	584 x 13 schools	490 x 13 schools	8137

Cohort entry for Religious Studies Examination 2008

School	Year 11 cohort	Number entered for examination	% Year 11
Bedwas High	156	24	15.4%
Blackwood Comprehensive	201	41	20.4%
Cwmcarn Comprehensive	158	137	86.7%
Heolddu Comprehensive	150	17	11.3%
Lewis Girls	190	12	6.3%
Lewis School	184	15	8.2%
Newbridge Comprehensive	211	21	10%
Oakdale Comprehensive	104	7	6.7%
Pontllanfraith Comprehensive	185	5	2.7%
Rhymney Comprehensive	176	64	36.4%
Risca Community Comprehensive	103	0	0
St Martins	180	100	55.6%
St Cenydd	203	58	28.6%
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	198	20	10.1%

All Wales cohort entry = 20.9%

GCSE Short Course (Specification B) Religious Studies 2008

	Caerphilly 2008	Caerphilly 2007	Caerphilly 2006	All Wales 2008
A* - A	20.2%	17.1%	13.5%	21.1%
A* - C	55.0%	54.0%	53.9%	59.7%
A* - G	96.6%	92.2%	94.7%	97.4%
Entry	1338 X 12 schools	1013 x 12 schools	1193 x 12 schools	16543

Cohort entry for Religious Studies (Specification B) 2008

School	Year 11 cohort	Number entered for examination	% Year 11
Bedwas High	156	110	70.5%
Blackwood Comprehensive	201	0	0
Cwmcarn Comprehensive	158	149	94.3%
Heolddu Comprehensive	150	80	53.3%
Lewis Girls	190	170	89.5%
Lewis School	184	152	82.6%
Newbridge Comprehensive	211	170	80.6%
Oakdale Comprehensive	104	86	82.7%
Pontllanfraith Comprehensive	185	139	75.1%
Rhymney Comprehensive	176	82	46.6%
Risca Community Comprehensive	103	72	69.9%
St Martins	180	110	61.1%
St Cenydd	203	18	8.9%
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	198	0	0

All Wales cohort entry = 41.7%

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2008

GCE Religious Studies Advanced Level 2008

	Caerphilly 2008	Caerphilly 2007	Caerphilly 2006	All Wales 2008
A	36.5%	23.9%	12.3%	21.6%
A - C	88.5%	83.6%	63.0%	75.7%
A - E	100%	100%	95.9%	98.4%
Entry	52 x 8 schools	67x 6 schools	73 x 8 schools	1016

School	Entry	A%	A-C%	A-E %
Bedwas	5	0%	100%	100%
Cwmcarn	19	36.8%	89.5%	100%
Heolddu	5	40%	80%	100%
Lewis school Pengam	0			
Lewis Girls	2	50%	50%	100%
Rhymney	4	25%	75%	100%
St Cenydd	4	25%	100%	100%
St Martins	7	57.1%	85.7%	100%
Cwm Rhymni	6	50%	100%	100%
LEA totals /averages		36.5%	88.5%	100%

GCSE AS Level Religious Studies 2008

	Caerphilly 2008	Caerphilly 2007	Caerphilly 2006	All Wales 2008
A	18.3%	19.4%	16.7%	19.6%
A - C	70.4%	65.3%	64.1%	63.1%
A - E	100%	95.8%	92.3%	91.5%
Entry	71 X 7 schools	72 x 7 schools	78 x 6 schools	1391

School	Entry	A%	A-C%	A-E %
Bedwas	4	25%	100%	100%
Cwmcarn	18	27.8%	83.3%	100%
Heolddu	0			
Lewis School Pengam	0			
Lewis Girls	10	10%	80%	100%
Rhymney	8	0%	50%	100%
St Cenydd	3	0%	33.3%	100%
St Martins	14	28.6%	50%	100%
Cwm Rhymni	14	14.3%	78.6%	100%
LEA totals /averages		18.3%	78.6%	100%

APPENDIX 5: CAERPHILLY SACRE

Key Stage 3: Year 9 Religious Education Levels 2007

BOYS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	1127	0	13	142	359	366	176	71	3	1127			
Percentages		0.0	1.2	12.6	31.9	32.5	15.6	6.3	0.3	100	54.7	22.2	0

GIRLS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	1132	0	11	57	221	379	289	153	17	1130			
Percentages		0	1	5	19.5	33.5	25.5	13.5	1.5	99.8	74.0	40.5	0.2

ALL PUPILS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	2249	0	24	199	580	745	465	222	20	2247			
Percentages		0	1.1	8.8	25.8	33.1	20.7	9.9	0.9	99.9	64.6	31.4	0.1

Key Stage 3: Year 9 Religious Education Levels 2008

BOYS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	995	0	9	82	304	337	188	126	4	990			
Percentages		0	0.9	8.2	30.6	33.9	18.9	12.7	0.4	99.5	65.8	32.0	0.5

GIRLS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	1035	1	5	44	156	387	298	135	7	1033			
Percentages		0.1	0.5	4.3	15.1	37.4	28.8	13.0	0.7	99.8	79.9	42.5	0.2

ALL PUPILS	NOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total	% L 5+	% L 6+	% NL
Total numbers	2030	1	14	126	460	724	486	201	11	2023			
Percentages		0.0	0.7	6.2	22.7	35.7	23.9	9.9	0.5	99.7	70.0	34.4	0.3

APPENDIX 6: ATTENDANCE AT INSET 2008-2009

PRIMARY INSET COURSES 2008-2009

INSET	B	C	RCT	MT	Other	Total
The revised agreed syllabus for RE 2C026P - 23/09/08	5	7	11	4	0	27
RE in the Foundation Phase 2A036P - 2/10/08	5	13	17	5	1	41
Securing Teacher Assessment in RE 2A037P - 10/3/09	2	5	11	4	1	23
RE and ICT 6B028P - 13/11/09	4	2	1	1	0	8
Thinking through the Humanities: Next Steps 2D002P - 10/2/09	1	3	14	1	1	20
Phase 2: Revisiting the agreed syllabus at KS2 2CP014 - Summer 2009	17	22	38	8	0	85
Collective Worship in the Primary School 2CP013 - May 2009	19	17	37	8	1	82

SECONDARY INSET COURSES 2008-2009

INSET	B	C	RCT	MT	Other	Total
RE for NQTs NQT10S- 10/10/08 & 5/3/09	0	3	4	2	0	9
What's New: Heads of Department Meeting 2D008S -28/11/08	4	10	13	1	1	29
Securing Teacher Assessment in RE 2B008S- 15/1/09	0	10	14	1	1	26
Securing Teacher Assessment in RE 2BS002-15/5/09	7	3	5	2	0	17
What's New: Heads of Department Meeting 2CS011 -17/6/09	8	5	8	1	0	22

APPENDIX 7 CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Caerphilly Education Authority

Department for Curriculum, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills (DCELLS)

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

Principal and Governing Bodies of any Foundation and Community schools within the County Borough

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

University College of Wales, Newport

Religious Education Department, University of Wales College, Cardiff

University of Wales Institute, Cardiff

Humanities Department, University of Glamorgan

Religious Studies Resource Centre, Trinity College, Carmarthen

All members of SACRE

All members of the Education Authority

Education School Improvement Service (ESIS)

All Welsh SACREs

WASACRE

Welsh National Centre for Religious Education, Bangor

National Library of Wales

Religious Education Movement (Wales)

Chair of Education Scrutiny

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

ESTYN