



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – 14TH JUNE 2011

SUBJECT: RE FESTIVAL- SPRING 2011

REPORT BY: ESIS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide SACRE with feedback from the Spring 2011, RE Festival events.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 Context

The aim of the National RE festival of England and Wales is to celebrate RE and to raise the profile of the subject on a local and national level. The RE festival provided the perfect opportunity for schools to develop and strengthen links with their local community, including their local faith communities, and to encourage and develop community cohesion.

2.2 Purpose

1. To receive feedback on the RE Festival launch held at Stanwell Comprehensive School on March 2nd 2011.

This was well attended with over 120 people and pupils present. The Archbishop of Wales, Barry Morgan, was the keynote speaker who spoke very eloquently about the role and purpose of religious education and the contribution that RE can make to the curriculum in schools. Faith communities were in attendance and made a number of important contributions reading out personal statements on the *Value of RE in Today's society*. Performances from pupils of local schools included Albert Primary, Evenslode Primary, Stanwell Comprehensive and St Cyres Comprehensive. The Mayor, Leader of the Council and Mr Bryan Jeffreys, Director of Learning and Development were in attendance.

2. To receive feedback on the Central South Consortia event held at Ty Dysgu (ESIS) on March 10th 2011.

This was very well attended by over 200 teachers, pupils and SACRE members. It was an opportunity for schools and SACRE's to celebrate together and showcase the good practice found in schools. There were a number of presentations and performances from primary and secondary schools in the consortium. Caerphilly schools taking part included Cwrt Rawlin primary and St Gwladys Primary who performed dance routines on the themes of Chinese New Year and the Genesis story of Creation. It was a wonderful spectacle of schools presenting what they have done in religious education lessons and included dance, raps and songs including the singing of the national song '*Place of Trust/Hafan Ffydd*'. The Directorate for the authorities introduced their schools and an enjoyable time was had by all present.

Many schools in the authority have undertaken lots of other exciting events to celebrate the festival many of whom have shared their plans with their local authority advisers.

3. Caerphilly Contributions to the National Competition

Two primary schools entered and they were judged by a delegation from SACRE. Two entries were received.

- Hendre Junior School
- St James' Primary School (winning entry forwarded to WASACRE)

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 SACRE note and discuss the report.

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