



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

SUBJECT: THE WASACRE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 2ND 2011 AT STANWELL SCHOOL

REPORT BY: ESIS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform SACRE of the discussion and deliberations of WASACRE.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The issues were as follows:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Members were welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor and Mayoress of the Vale of Glamorgan. A warm welcome was also extended by Cllr Gordon Kemp, Leader of the Council and Chair of Vale of Glamorgan SACRE.

2. Report from the Executive Committee held on 3 February 2011

It was reported that a delegation of WASACRE representative would be meeting with the Minister on March 23rd. Questions would be prepared on REsilience, Estyn and monitoring RE, Collective Worship, and guidance materials.

3. Dates of future meetings:

June 24th 2011 at Llangefni, Anglesey

November 24th 2012 at Cardiff

The meeting closed

The 'Celebrating RE' National Festival event

The Wales launch of Celebrating RE in Wales followed the meeting.

Derek Jones, Acting Headteacher of Stanwell school welcomed delegates to Stanwell school and said that he was pleased that WASACRE had made the decision to host the launch of the RE Festival at the school. This was followed by words of welcome from Bryan Jeffreys, Director of Learning and Development in the Vale of Glamorgan who expressed his delight that pupils from primary and secondary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan were taking part and showcasing all the good practice that takes place in RE in schools. He thanked all the contributing schools for their hard work.

The official launch of 'Celebrating RE' in Wales was led by the Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan who emphasised the importance of learning about religion and faith as a vital part of a child's education. He noted the contribution and the importance RE in educating the whole person, broadening horizons and helping pupils understand the world they live in.

At the event representatives of various faith communities in Wales – Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim Sikh, Buddhist and Baha’i –spoke about the value of RE. India Dance Wales also gave a presentation about their work with schools.

Pupils from the Vale of Glamorgan contributed to the launch with the opening contribution being a joint choir from Evenlode and Albert Primary Schools singing the song written especially for the event ‘Place of Trust’. Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg performed a dramatic presentation entitled ‘Reflections on the Holocaust’; there were recitations from the Qur’an and a performance by a Gospel choir from St Cyres School and a ‘Holy Week Rap’ from Stanwell School. The event concluded with the audience joining Stanwell School in a rendition of ‘Place of Trust’/Hafan Ffydd.

Presentations were made to those schools in Wales that had been successful with the national competition offered by Gill Vaisey of Books@ Press. Phil Lord, introduced the Wales Association Of SACREs competition offered to schools in Wales and explained that the competition was now open for entries.

A transcript of the Archbishop’s speech as well as the statements by members of the faith communities is available on the WASACRE website – www.wasacre.org.uk

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 SACRE note the discussions and deliberations of WASACRE.

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