

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2010-2011

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

2010- 2011

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2010 - 2011

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 DUTY TO ESTABLISH SACRE

All Local Education Authorities (Local Authorities) are required to constitute 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 local authority, 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. Every effort has been made to seek representation from non-Christian communities.

1.4 FUNCTIONS OF SACRE

- To advise the local authority 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 local authority 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 local authority 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 2010-11.

Wednesday September 29th 2010
Monday December 6th 2010
Monday February 14th 2011
Tuesday June 14th 2011

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2010- 2011 members visited two schools and two churches.

1.6 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2010 - 2013. 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 local authority by SACRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and standards in RE

Action

1. The local authority 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 2 primary schools. With the lack of specific reference to subjects, including RE under the new Common Inspection Framework SACRE resolved at its Summer meeting to use school self evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor provision and standards in RE. SACRE to receive an overview of findings on an annual basis.
2. SACRE requests the action plan of those schools that have grade 3 or below in RE. No action plans were requested this year.
3. Primary and secondary schools receive a full programme of INSET to address issues of concern to RE and to support the raising of standards in RE.
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 2010-11
5. SACRE analyses examination results over a three year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against All Wales data. Schools informed of the outcomes of this analysis and this year schools were congratulated on their achievements.
6. The local authority and its SACRE gather 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 and during Heads of Department meetings.

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, which was implemented from September 2008. All schools received a programme of INSET in the Summer 2008 and received a comprehensive package of support materials to exemplify the new syllabus including *Schemes of Work*.
2. A programme of in-service training has been made available to schools to support teachers in their understanding of agreed syllabus requirements.
3. The local authority has circulated *Progress in Learning at KS3* files to support schools in creating their own KS3 portfolios. All secondary schools have received training over the last few years on KS3 assessment in preparation for the WJEC moderation and INSET has been offered to primary schools on assessment in RE.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. SACRE has discussed the DCELLS document *Religious Education: Guidance at KS2 and KS3* and resolved to inform schools of the availability and usefulness of this resource.
2. Materials to support schools with the implementation of the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RE have been made available on the LA advisory service website. (www.esis.org.uk)
3. All schools were informed of the 2011 theme 'Untold Stories' and that Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk - including a CD ROM of material about listening to survivors talking about their experiences.
4. Schools have been informed of the RE Festival 2011 website and of the excellent resources available to teachers on that website www.celebratingre.org
5. Secondary schools have been informed of the REsilience Project and encouraged to visit the website www.re-silience.org.uk. Those wishing to be part of the project will receive Gateway documents and other support materials.
6. Schools annually receive a Calendar of Religious Festivals to support planning. The *Calendar of Religious Festivals 2010 - 2011* was circulated to all schools.
7. 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. (see Appendix 6)

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 four primary schools to express their satisfaction at the comments in their reports on SMSC and collective worship.

2. SACRE resolved at its summer meeting that it would fulfil its statutory responsibilities to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship by taking advantage of the self evaluation practices currently used by headteachers and teachers and invite schools to share their self evaluation of Collective Worship with SACRE.
3. 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.
4. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools.
5. Guidance materials on collective worship have been made available to schools on the LA advisory service website www.esis.org.uk. The materials include Estyn's updated (Sept 2010) *Supplementary Guidance on Inspecting Collective Worship in Non-Denominational Schools* and WASACRE's *Guidance on Collective Worship Post 16*.

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 yearly programme of INSET has continued and specific training on the agreed syllabus has been offered. Comprehensive support materials, including *Schemes of Work* and electronic *Progress in Local Learning* files for secondary schools, have already been issued to schools.

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 /Self Evaluation**

SACRE scrutinises the relevant sections of local authority school inspection reports on a twice-yearly basis during the Autumn and Summer Term meetings. At its December meeting SACRE received reports from 5 schools inspected during the Summer term 2010. Three schools had a short or standard inspection and RE was not inspected. Standards in religious education were inspected in two schools and standards were judged to be a grade 2 (good features, no important shortcoming) in both schools.

Good features

- Pupils develop a good knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world religions.
- Visits made to places of worship in the local community.
- Good understanding of the use and significance of religious artefacts.
- Opportunities provided for pupils to discuss and to reflect on religious and moral issues especially environmental issues.

Shortcomings

No shortcomings were identified in the reports where RE was inspected as a subject.

From Autumn 2010- Spring 2011 eight schools were inspected under the revised Common Inspection Framework consisting of one infant, one junior and six primary schools. These were considered from the point of view of comments made about collective worship and spiritual development. The new Estyn Common Inspection Framework no longer makes specific reference to subjects, including RE, and SACRE considered using school self evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory duty to monitor provision and standards in RE. In consultation with the local authority education directorate it was agreed at its summer meeting that a pro forma be used as a tool for monitoring using the schools self evaluation report. Discussion is still ongoing with schools as to the frequency of completion of this monitoring form for SACRE. An overview of findings to be reported to SACRE on an annual basis

SACRE resolved to continue to capitalise on the opportunities offered by schools to host SACRE meetings and receive presentations on RE in the school.

SACRE was informed of the meeting of the WASACRE Executive with the Minister for Education (March 2011) where the issue of Estyn conducting a thematic review of RE was taken up with the Minister. The Minister's response was a positive one and the Minister agreed to support the inclusion of a thematic review of religious education in Estyn's next remit. SACRE look forward to using this information as a benchmark to assess standards in RE in the LA.

Action

1. SACRE resolved that a letter be sent to primary schools inspected Summer 2010 to congratulate them on the good standards in RE identified in their inspection report.
2. The LA to ask primary and secondary schools to submit a summary of the school's self evaluation at a frequency decided by the LA and its SACRE in consultation with schools.

• Examination Results 2010

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** eleven schools entered 575 pupils. This is a decrease in entry numbers and schools entering over 2009.

The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was 76.9%. This is a very good result and better than last year's performance and better than the All-Wales figure of 74.3%.

The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **99.8%**. This again is a very good result and shows year on year an excellent pass rate comparable with the All Wales figure of 99%

The overall % of **A*-A** grades for Caerphilly was 30.4% and is very good although below last year's performance and the All Wales figure of 32%. 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. Schools are to be commended at maintaining such good examination results.

At GCSE Short Course in Religious Education there continues to be good entry numbers. There were 1295 entries this year from 12 schools. Numbers have remained consistent.

The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was **58.5%** and is the best performance of the last three years and comparable to the All Wales figure of 59.7%

The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **96.4%** and is comparable with previous performance and with the All-Wales figure of 97.7%

The overall % of **A*-A** grades for Caerphilly was 22% and is the best performance of the last three years and comparable to the All Wales figure of 21.1%

It should be noted that in some schools more able pupils are entered for two short courses and their results are shown in the full course results. However, this does have implications for Short Course results particularly at A*-A and A*-C in those schools.

SACRE is very pleased to see 96.7% of pupils receiving some kind of accreditation for their studies at KS4.

At **GCE Advanced Level** there were 73 candidates from 8 schools - this shows an increase in entry figure and in number of schools entering. There has been a year on year increase in entries.

Those pupils achieving **A** grade were 20.5% and although below 2009 performance is comparable with the All Wales figure of 21.7%

Grades **A - C** maintains excellence with 84.9% pass rate and exceeds the All Wales figure of 78.5%

The % pass rate for grades **A - E** was very good again this year at 97.3% and is comparable with the All-Wales figures of 97.5%.

At **AS level** there were a total of 122 candidates from 9 schools. This figure has risen year on year and the number of schools entering for AS have also increased. At **A** grade the pass rate was 19.7% and although below 2009 excellent performance is better than the All Wales figure of 17%.

At **A-C** the pass rate was 71.3% and this is comparable with previous performance and significantly exceeds the All Wales figure of 48.1%

At **A-E** the pass rate was very good at 95.9%% and comparable with last year's very good result, and significantly exceeds the All Wales figure of 83% and

At all grade boundaries results are very good and are better than the All Wales figures. SACRE is extremely pleased with the AS / A level results this year.

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 results of Coleg Gwent (Cross Keys campus) for A and AS level.

Action

SACRE resolved that schools within the Borough be informed of the outcomes of the SACRE analysis and congratulations expressed to staff and pupils in their achievements.

▪ Analysis of KS3 Teacher Assessment 2009 and 2010

The local authority, 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 68.4% and L6+ was 29.2%. Results have improved this year at L5+ and remain unchanged for L6+. The gap in performance between boys and girls at L5+ had narrowed in 2009 (12%) but increased to 16% in 2010. This gender gap in performance is also evident in English and History. The gap in performance between boys and girls at L6+ has remained consistent at 10% over the last three years.

A detailed table of KS3 teacher assessment 2009 and 2010 can be found in Appendix 5

2.3 METHODS OF TEACHING, TEACHING MATERIALS AND TEACHER TRAINING

A programme of in-service training has been made available to schools for the academic year 2010 - 2011. The courses offered are as follows:

Primary

Religious Education for the Newly Appointed Coordinator	September 28 th 2010
A 'Novel' Approach' RE, History & English	December 1 st 2011
What do we know about Islam?	November 23 rd 2010
Sharing Good Practice in ICT and RE	January 11 th 2011
We're Going on a Journey - RE, History & Geography	January 27 th 2011

Secondary

What's New: Heads of Department Meeting	November 19 th 2010
RE for NQTs	October 6 th 2010 February 15 th 2011
Sharing Good Practice in ICT and RE Course cancelled	January 13 th 2011

Attendance figures at INSET can be found in Appendix 6

Publications

A Calendar of Religious Festivals 2010 - 2011 was circulated to all schools.

Teaching Materials

Materials to support schools with the implementation of the Caerphilly agreed Syllabus for RE has been made available on the LA advisory service website. (www.esis.org.uk)

All schools were informed of the 2011 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Untold Stories*' and that Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – including a CD ROM of material about listening to survivors talking about their experiences.

Schools have been informed of the RE Festival 2011 website www.celebratingre.org and of the excellent resources available to teachers on that website.

Secondary schools have been informed of the REsilience Project and encouraged to visit the website www.re-silience.org.uk and to register their interest. Those wishing to be part of the project will receive Gateway documents and other support materials.

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

SACRE scrutinises relevant sections of school inspection reports on a twice yearly basis.

SACRE has examined 13 primary inspection reports and one secondary inspection report for the period Summer 2010-Spring 2011.

The provision for collective worship and SMSC is as follows:

At **primary** level the provision for collective worship meets statutory requirements.

The inspection reports identify positive features in relation to collective worship in many of the schools inspected.

Good features:

- Most schools promote learners' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively
- Collective worship makes a positive contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral and personal development.
- Opportunities are provided for pupils to reflect.
- There is a strong emphasis on values and learners' needs.
- Acts of CW promote racial equality and respect for diversity well through themes such as harvest festivals in countries around the world.

Shortcomings:

No shortcomings are noted in the inspection reports in relation to collective worship.

At **secondary** level one school was inspected and they meet the statutory requirement to provide a daily act of collective worship for all pupils.

Comments on SMSC and collective worship include:

Good Features:

- Pupils make very good progress in their moral development
- The exceptional quality of the ethos within the school enables pupils to express and explore their viewpoints openly and honestly, and they respect the views of others.
- They develop their own personal values and learn to appreciate the values of others.
- Learning experiences contribute particularly well towards developing the learners' personal, moral, spiritual, social and cultural development.

Shortcomings:

- Collective worship does not always contribute effectively to pupils' 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.

The new ESTYN Common Inspection Framework (Autumn 2010) provides limited information on collective worship and spiritual development. SACRE resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable. SACRE considered how it could fulfil its statutory duty to monitor quality and provision of collective worship in the light of less evidence from Estyn reports. In consultation with the local authority education directorate it was agreed that a pro forma be used as a tool for monitoring collective worship and an overview of findings reported to SACRE on an annual basis

3.2 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP RESOURCES

Schools were informed of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools.

Guidance materials on collective worship have been made available to schools on the LA advisory service website www.esis.org.uk. The materials include Estyn's *Supplementary Guidance on Inspecting Collective Worship in Non-Denominational Schools* and WASACRE's *Guidance on Collective Worship Post 16*. Schools have also been sent copies of these documents.

SECTION 4 OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. Caerphilly SACRE took great pleasure in hosting the meeting of the Association in Autumn 2010. During the 2010-11 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 as Chairperson of WASACRE and their professional adviser Mrs Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from them. Councillor Gray and Mrs Thomas were part of the WASACRE deputation to meet the Minister for Education at the Welsh Assembly Government to put to the Minister some questions of concern to SACREs and the Wales Association.

4.2 REVIEW OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN CAERPHILLY SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The local authority as part of its Review and Development programme with its advisory service reviewed 14 out of the 16 schools in Caerphilly in the academic year 2010-2011. The focus for the review was Teaching and Learning and Assessment for Learning in religious education. The findings are as follows:

- 20 lessons were observed.
- 85% of lessons were graded Excellent or Good for Teaching and Learning
- 85% of lessons were graded Excellent or Good for Assessment for Learning
- The breakdown of lesson grades was:

	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Unsatisfactory
Teaching & Learning	9 (45%)	8 (40%)	3 (15%)	
Assessment for Learning	11 (55%)	6 (30%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)

The LA and its SACRE were informed of the outcomes and each school was given a report on its areas of strength in religious education and recommended areas for development. SACRE was pleased with the very good outcomes from the review of RE.

4.3 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Caerphilly SACRE was informed of the 2011 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Untold Stories*' and that Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – a CD ROM of material is also included about listening to survivors talking about their experiences. .

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 was informed that Wales had been included in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme for 2011. SACRE was invited to receive a presentation from students at Bedwas High School on their experiences of attending the LFA visit to Auschwitz in 2010.

4.4 THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FESTIVAL MARCH 2011

SACRE has been fully involved in organising and participating in events to celebrate the National RE Festival for England and Wales that took place in March 2011. The purpose of the festival was to celebrate and publicise the value and importance of RE for schools and communities. It provided an opportunity for schools in the authority to showcase all the good practice that takes place in RE and for schools to develop and strengthen links with their local community to encourage and develop community cohesion. SACRE ensured schools were fully informed of the events and directed to the national website www.celebratingre.org for further information and a range of ideas for classroom activities.

Caerphilly SACRE members attended the 'Celebrating RE' National Launch at the Vale of Glamorgan on March 2nd 2011. The Chair of Caerphilly SACRE cc Michael Gray (also Chair of the Association) attended the launch of the RE Festival in England at Westminster on behalf of the SACREs of Wales.

Schools and SACRE members from Caerphilly, were involved in the Central South Consortia event held at Ty Dysgu in Treforest on March 10th 2011. This was very well attended by over 200 teachers, pupils and SACRE members. It was an opportunity for schools and SACREs 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. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymmni also took part. 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.

Two primary schools, Hendre Junior School and St James' Primary School, entered the WASACRE National RE Competition and they were judged by a delegation from Caerphilly SACRE and the winning entry forwarded to WASACRE for final judging by the Association.

4.5 THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

SACRE and schools have been informed of the REsilience project managed by the RE council of England and Wales under contracts with DCELLS (Wales) and DCSF (England). Its purpose is to support teachers of religious education in maintained secondary schools whilst also supporting the government's community cohesion strategy. It has been initiated to equip RE teachers with the knowledge and skills to increase their confidence in addressing contentious issues which arise in classrooms - particularly those that relate to religion, belief, ethnicity, negative stereotyping and religious extremism. It funds support for departments or individuals to deal with such contentious issues through the use of a mentor to support each school, identifying a catalogue of resources, with 'gateway' documents which give a brief overview of a contentious issue and 'signposts' pointing to reliable and relevant resources for the teacher to research further.

SACRE informed secondary schools of the project and encouraged them to register their interest by registering online at their website www.RE-silience.org.uk. Some Caerphilly schools have registered to take part in the project and the roll out to

schools has been extended to the end of the summer term 2011. A presentation from Heolddu Comprehensive entitled '*The Resilience Project: A School's Perspective*' has been arranged for the autumn 2011 meeting of SACRE.

4.6 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: GUIDANCE FOR KEY STAGES 2 AND 3

SACRE examined and discussed the DCELLS guidance, published March 2011. These documents have already been sent to schools. It provides some key messages for planning learning and teaching. It comes with an accompanying CD ROM containing PDF versions of the National Exemplar Framework for RE and The Skills Framework. It also contains some 'Additional Guidance: Exemplifying learner profiles at Key Stages 2 and 3 in religious education'. They are part of a series of materials that help teachers at KS2 and KS3 to implement the revised curriculum and its associated assessment arrangements.

Both documents are for reference when teachers wish to:

- Review their learning plans and activities
- Consider the standards set out in the National Exemplar Framework for RE for 3-19 year olds in Wales and locally agreed syllabus for RE
- Work with other teachers to reach a shared understanding of the level descriptions
- Prepare and make judgments at the end of the key stage
- Develop their own learner profiles
- Support transition from KS2-KS3.

4.7 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 two presentations.

- (1) Lessons from Auschwitz Programme- presentation by sixth form students at Bedwas High School
- (2) Presentation on the work of VALREC (*Valleys Racial Equality Council*) by Mr Darren Ralph

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at places of worship in the Borough and this year visits were made to the United Reform Church, Van Road in Caerphilly and Cross Keys Methodist Church.

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Caerphilly for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Two meetings were held this year at Bedwas High School and Ysgol Penallta (the new Welsh Medium primary school) where members observed an act of collective worship. 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 current clerk to SACRE (Emma Sullivan) and the previous clerk to SACRE (Rebecca Thomas) for all their hard work in making such arrangements this year.

APPENDIX 1 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Peter Bailie (till June 2011)
Mrs Anne Blackman (from June 2011)
Dave Carter
Mrs Anne Collins
Michael Gray (Chairman)
Mrs Rosa Potter
John Taylor (Vice-Chairman)

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Miss Helen Bartley (ATL)
Mrs Nicola L Boardman (NUT)
Mrs Bethan Davies (UCAC)
Ms Kathy Mathias (VALRETA)
Ms Sue Rivers (ASCL)
Mrs Christine Thompson (NAHT)
Mrs Diane Williams (NASUWT)

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Mr David Brooks (Independent) - resigned Summer 2011
Mr Tim Crosse/Mrs A Fitzgerald (St Helens RC Primary)
Mrs Enfys Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)
Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales)
Captain Richard Waters (Salvation Army)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr Darren Ralph (VALREC) - from February 2011

OFFICERS

Mrs Jill Lawrence (Asst. Director - L, E & I)
Mrs Vicky Thomas (ESIS RE Advisor)

CLERK TO SACRE

Rebecca Thomas (till December 2010)
Emma Sullivan (from January 2010)

SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding representatives from religious groups other than Christianity. SACRE commissioned the clerk to SACRE to find out the composition of religions in Caerphilly County Borough Council and it was evident that statistically there are very few non-Christian religions represented in the area. The clerk to SACRE has contacted VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council) to see if a wider representation can be found. Mr Darren Ralph (VALREC) has agreed to become a co-opted member of SACRE to bring his experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 29TH 2010, BEDWAS HIGH SCHOOL, CAERPHILLY

Main agenda items

- Presentation-‘ Lessons from Auschwitz’ visit by 6th Form students
- Schedule of Meetings 2010-11
- Membership Update
- SACRE Annual report 2009-2010
- SACRE Development Plan 2010-2013
- INSET Needs and Plans 2010-2011
- The National RE Festival March 2011
- Revised Supplementary Guidance on Collective Worship - Estyn
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2011
- Report of WASACRE AGM June 2010 at Wrexham and representation at next meeting in Caerphilly
- Correspondence

DECEMBER 6TH 2010 AT THE UNITED REFORM CHURCH

Main agenda items

- Presentation from VALREC by Mr Darren Ralph
- Analysis of Examination Results 2010
- Analysis of Teacher Assessment at Key Stage 3 in 2009 and 2010
- Inspection reports analysis (up to Summer 2010)
- Monitoring standards in RE (Oral Update)
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Caerphilly and representation at next meeting/launch of RE Festival at Vale of Glamorgan
- Correspondence

FEBRUARY 14TH 2011 AT CROSS KEYS METHODIST CHURCH

Main agenda items

- Cross Keys examination data 2010; Update
- The National RE Festival
- SACRE Monitoring of Standards in RE
- The REsilience Project update.
- Representation at next meeting of WASACRE at Vale of Glamorgan
- Nominations to the WASACRE executive
- Correspondence

JUNE 14TH 2011 AT YSGOL PENALLTA

Main agenda items

- Attend an act of collective worship
- Schedule of Meetings 2011- 2012
- Analysis of Inspection Reports for Autumn 2010- Spring 2011
- SACRE Monitoring of Standards in RE and provision and quality of Collective Worship
- Review of Religious Education in Caerphilly secondary schools
- Religious Education: Guidance for Key Stages 2 and 3 (DCELLS)
- INSET 2011-2012
- RE Festival March 2011- Feedback Presentation -Vicky Thomas

- Report of WASACRE meeting at vale of Glamorgan and representation at next meeting at Anglesey
- Executive Voting for the Period 2011 –2013
- Correspondence

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010 – 2013 (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/ Estyn thematic reviews or school self evaluation reports and recommend, where necessary, action by Local Authority.	Annual/ termly agenda item	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2010-2011 Considered 6.12.10 and 14.6.11. No action plans requested. Report of the LAs Review & Development programme received 14.6.11 SACRE endorsed on 14.6.11 the use of school self evaluation as an additional means of monitoring RE in schools.
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 '10 Autumn '11 Autumn '12	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools.	2010-2011 Considered 6.12.10.
1.3 Identify INSET needs, monitor and offer advice on training.	Autumn '10 Autumn '11 Autumn '12	Full SACRE	Agenda time	Training programme received along with figures on uptake; advice to LA.	2010-2011 Considered 29.9.10 and 14.6.11.

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010 – 2013 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 2: To ensure a fully informed SACRE; review agreed syllabus (as appropriate) and produce 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 (now DfES) Estyn, and other relevant bodies	Updates as appropriate Attendance at DCELLS Conferences(as appropriate) Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time Attendance at conferences (as appropriate)	Informed SACRE Informed schools	2010-2011 Advisers attended WJEC/ DCELLS moderation meeting (Oct 2010) and reported back to SACRE Considered 14.6.11 DCELLS Guidance on RE at KS2-3 and resolved to inform schools.
2.2 To review agreed syllabus for Religious Education	Summer 2012 (or as appropriate)	Full SACRE Adviser Working group	Advisory time to conduct and analyse a survey. Working group (if applicable) Publication/ translation costs (as appropriate)	Training programme for schools on implementing revised agreed syllabus (as applicable). Revised agreed syllabus to be implemented into schools Autumn 2013 (or as appropriate).	2010-2011 Not applicable

2.3 Materials to support implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE	Ongoing for current syllabus. Summer 2013 or as appropriate for revised syllabus.	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time	Support materials in place	2010-2011 All new materials disseminated through INSET. Secondary schools received a CD ROM of exemplification materials during HoDs training
2.4 Develop intranet information and support materials for Religious Education	Ongoing	Advisers	Advisory time	Support materials to be accessed through LA intranet and ESIS website.	2010-2011 ESIS website made available to schools with regular updates on RE issues posted on website. Agreed syllabus and other statutory documents available on website.

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010 – 2013 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

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/ Estyn thematic review or school self evaluation reports; recommend, where necessary, action by LA.	Annual/termly agenda item	Full SACRE and Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2010-2011 Considered 6.12.10 and 14.6.11. No action plans requested. SACRE endorsed on 14.6.11 the use of school self evaluation as an additional means of monitoring CW in schools.
3.2 To support the implementation of statutory collective worship	Autumn '10 Ongoing	Advisory service	Advisory time	Support for CW through Inset (2011-2012). CW web sites publicised through ESIS website.	2010-2011 Considered Estyn revised supplementary guidance on collective worship 29.9.10 and revised document was sent to schools. Collective worship in the primary school course planned and put in programme for next academic year 2011-2012

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.	2010-2011 Act of collective worship observed by SACRE 14.6.11 at Ysgol Penallta
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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010 – 2013 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 4: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues related to RE and collective worship in schools.

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. SACRE visits to places of worship to be more informed of faith stances. Support community cohesion and local communities.	2010-2011 SACRE on 6.12.10 visited the United Reform Church in Van Road by kind invitation of Envis Hawthorn, SACRE member and received a brief history of the building and its community. SACRE on 14.2.11 visited Cross Keys Methodist Church by kind invitation of the Chair cc Michael Gray. SACRE on 29.9.11 received a presentation on the LfA project from Bedwas High School.
4.2 To support the National RE Festival March 2011	Pre and Post Spring 2011	SACRE members Schools Local Authority	Adviser / Officer time	Celebrate the contribution of RE to education. Showcase good practice in RE. Support community	2010-2011 Members of SACRE attended the WASACRE National Launch of the RE Festival in Penarth on 2.3.11 Caerphilly schools and SACRE

				cohesion and local communities.	members were involved in the Central South Consortia event held on 10.3.11 organised by the LAs advisory service (ESIS) Attendance of over 200 teachers, pupils and SACRE members and an opportunity for schools and SACREs to celebrate together and showcase good practice. Two Caerphilly schools entered the WASACRE National RE Competition and judged by a delegation from SACRE. The winning entry forwarded to WASACRE for final judging by the Association.
4.3 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.	2010-2011 Two school visits took place this year. Bedwas High School gave a LFA presentation on 29.9.10 SACRE observed an act of collective worship at Ysgol Penallta on 14.6.11.

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2010

GCSE Full Course Religious Studies 2010

	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	Caerphilly 2008	All Wales 2010
A* - A	30.4%	34.0%	27.8%	32.0%
A* - C	76.9%	72.9%	68.5%	74.3%
A* - G	99.8%	99.7%	99.4%	99.0%
Entry	575 11 schools	630 14 schools	521 13 schools	8831

Cohort entry for Religious Studies Examination

School	Year 11 cohort	Number entered for examination	% Year 11
Bedwas High	134	26	19.4
Blackwood Comprehensive	194	40	20.6
Cwmcarn Comprehensive	140	115	82.1
Heolddu Comprehensive	114	26	22.8
Lewis Girls	153	0	0
Lewis School	168	0	0
Newbridge Comprehensive	178	27	15.2
Oakdale Comprehensive	141	92	65.2
Pontllanfraith Comprehensive	147	4	2.7
Rhymney Comprehensive	171	51	29.8
Risca Community Comprehensive	117	28	23.9
St Martins	171	67	39.2
St Cenydd	193	60	31.1
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	206	43	20.9

All Wales cohort entry for Full Course = 24%

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2010

GCSE Short Course (Specification B) Religious Studies 2010

	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	Caerphilly 2008	All Wales 2010
A* - A	22%	19.7%	20.2%	21.1%
A* - C	58.5%	57.5%	55.0%	59.7%
A* - G	96.4%	96.7%	96.6%	97.7%
Entry	1295 12 schools	1290 X 12 schools	1338 X 12 schools	18,363

Cohort entry for Religious Studies Specification B Short Course Examination

School	Year 11 cohort	Number entered for examination	% Year 11
Bedwas High	134	76	56.7
Blackwood Comprehensive	194	0	0
Cwmcarn Comprehensive	140	120	85.7
Heolddu Comprehensive	114	92	80.7
Lewis Girls	153	145	94.8
Lewis School	168	147	87.5
Newbridge Comprehensive	178	161	90.4
Oakdale Comprehensive	141	130	92.2
Pontllanfraith Comprehensive	147	112	76.2
Rhymney Comprehensive	171	107	62.6
Risca Community Comprehensive	117	102	87.2
St Martins	171	84	49.1
St Cenydd	193	19	9.8
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	206	0	0

All Wales cohort entry for Short Course = 49%

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2010

GCE A Level Religious Studies 2010

	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	Caerphilly 2008	All Wales 2010
A*-A	20.5%	27.4%	36.5%	21.7%
A *- C	84.9%	90.3%	88.5%	78.5%
A *- E	97.3%	100%	100%	97.5%
Entry	73 x 8 schools	62 x 7 schools	52 x 8 schools	1242

GCE AS Level Religious Studies 2010

	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	Caerphilly 2008	All Wales 2010
A	19.7%	27.7%	18.3%	17%
A - C	71.3%	71.3%	70.4%	48.1%
A - E	95.9%	95.0%	100%	83%
Entry	122 x 9 schools	101 x 7 schools	71 X 7 schools	1767

APPENDIX 5: ANALYSIS OF KS3 TEACHER ASSESSMENT 2009 & 2010

Key Stage 3: Year 9 Religious Education Levels 2009

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	1218	0	15	127	385	380	228	68	6	1209			
Percentages		0	1.2	10.4	31.6	31.2	18.7	5.6	0.5	99.3	56.0	24.8	0.7

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	1145	0	7	80	265	394	241	130	24	1141			
Percentages		0	0.6	7.0	23.1	34.4	21.0	11.4	2.1	99.7	68.9	34.5	0.3

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	2363	0	22	257	660	774	469	198	30	2350			
Percentages		0	0.9	8.8	27.9	32.8	19.8	8.4	1.3	99.4	62.3	29.5	0.6

Key Stage 3: Year 9 Religious Education Levels 2010

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	1097	0	13	73	320	408	213	52	6	1093			
Percentages		0	1.2	6.7	29.2	37.2	19.4	4.7	0.5	99.6	61.9	24.7	0.4

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	1065	0	5	32	216	440	248	113	9	1063			
Percentages		0	0.5	3.0	20.3	41.3	23.3	10.6	0.8	99.8	76.1	34.7	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	2162	0	18	105	534	848	451	165	15	2156			
Percentages		0	0.8	4.9	24.7	39.2	20.9	7.6	0.7	99.7	68.4	29.2	0.3

APPENDIX 6: ATTENDANCE AT INSET 2010-2011

Course Title	Date	B	C	M	RCT	Other	Total
Religious Education for the Newly Appointed Coordinator	September 28 th 2010	2	7	2	10	0	21
Religious Education for the Newly Appointed Coordinator	October 8 th 2010	3	4	3	5	1	16
A 'Novel' Approach' RE, History & English	December 1 st 2011	6	6	2	11	0	25
What do we know about Islam?	November 23 rd 2010	6	3	4	7	0	20
Sharing Good Practice in ICT and RE	January 11 th 2011	4	2	0	2	0	8
We're Going on a Journey - RE, History & Geography	January 27 th 2011	3	2	6	12	5	28
A 'Novel' Approach' RE, History & English	June 29 th 2011	2	4	5	18	0	29

SECONDARY INSET COURSES 2010- 2011

Course Title	Date	B	C	M	RCT	Other	Total
What's New: Head of Department Meeting	November 19 th	7	8	1	12	2	30
RE for NQTs	October 6th 2010	1	1	1	3	0	6
RE for NQTs	February 15 th 2011	1	1	1	2	0	5
Sharing Good Practice in ICT and RE Course cancelled	January 13 th 2011						

APPENDIX 7: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Caerphilly Education Authority

Chair of Education Scrutiny

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 Saint David University, 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)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

ESTYN