



Caerphilly County Borough Council

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Annual Report
2011 - 2012

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2011-2012

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

2011- 2012

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2011- 2012

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. Both co-opted places are currently filled.

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 but SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding such representation. 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 serve as a co-opted member of SACRE to bring his experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

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 Education and Skills (DfES) on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 MEETINGS

SACRE met on four occasions during the academic year 2011-12.

Thursday September 29th 2011
Thursday December 8th 2011
Monday February 20th 2012
Thursday June 21st 2012

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2011- 2012 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

Copies of this report are circulated to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 7. It is also available on the WASACRE website.

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. SACRE considers and analyses school inspection reports. If there are any issues regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. During the academic year 2011-2012 no such follow up action was necessary.
2. SACRE resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor provision and standards in RE. Schools have been consulted on this and a time scale agreed. There was no review of school self-evaluation this academic year but will be undertaken in 2012-2013.
3. Primary and secondary schools receive a full programme of INSET to address the raising of standards in RE. This year the emphasis has been on the development of RE skills and literacy skills.
4. SACRE analyses examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against All Wales data. Schools are informed of the outcomes of this analysis and any issues raised by SACRE.
5. 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.
6. The Chief Moderator's Report for the WJEC/DfES moderation of Teacher Assessment at KS3 has been considered by SACRE with the main messages shared with teachers during INSET and school visits

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*. In preparation for the five yearly review of agreed syllabuses the RE Adviser to SACRE has attended meetings with other

professional colleagues on NAPfRE/WASACRE to discuss the review process in order to make recommendations to SACREs.

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 been trained on KS3 assessment and INSET has been offered to primary schools on assessment in RE. The outcomes of the 2012 WJEC/DfES moderation exercise of Teacher Assessment at KS3 are expected in July and SACRE will take any necessary course of action that supports schools in securing teacher assessment at KS3.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. 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)
2. All schools were informed of the 2012 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Speak up, Speak Out*' and that Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students
3. SACRE reviewed the RE Quest CD ROM 'Reflections' that was distributed to all secondary schools in Wales. Schools have been informed about the usefulness of this resource through INSET sessions.
4. The *Calendar of Religious Festivals 2011 - 2012* was circulated to all schools to support planning.
5. 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 the LA follows up on any non- fulfilment of statutory requirements by requesting their action plan. This year one school was asked to submit their post inspection action plan to demonstrate how they intend to address the issues raised. SACRE also resolved to send to the school copies of Estyn's *Supplementary Guidance on Collective Worship in Schools* and the WASACRE *Guidance on Collective Worship in Schools*. Where good comments on SMSC occur SACRE endeavours to host a SACRE meeting at the school and observe an act of collective worship or receive a presentation on collective worship at the school.
2. SACRE has resolved to use school self evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. There was no review of school self evaluation reports this academic year but it will be undertaken in 2012 – 13.
3. SACRE has discussed WASACREs *Guidance on Collective Worship in Schools* and has informed schools about its availability.
4. A collective worship training day was offered to primary schools by the local authority and this was well attended.
5. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools.
6. Guidance materials on collective worship have been made available to schools on the LA advisory service website (www.esis.org.uk).

OTHER ISSUES:

Aim: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues.

1. SACRE has maintained its membership of WASACRE and receives termly feedback from the meetings of the Association.
2. Members have received presentations on a number of national issues:
 - A secondary school's perspective on the REsilience project
 - RE and Literacy
 - Holocaust Education
3. Members considered the main messages and recommendations noted in the Welsh Government Review of SACRE reports 2004 -2008.

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. 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. In preparation for the five yearly review of the agreed syllabus the SACRE adviser for RE has met with NAPfRE/WASACRE representatives to discuss the review process in order to make recommendations to SACRE.

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**

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinise relevant sections of school inspection reports on a twice-yearly basis and if there are any issues regarding RE, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. SACRE has examined 13 inspection reports consisting of one infant school, 9 primary schools and 3 secondary schools for the period Summer 2011-Spring 2012. There were no issues relating to RE identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.

SACRE has resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor provision and standards in RE. Schools have been consulted on this and a time scale agreed. There was no review of school self evaluation reports this academic year but it will be undertaken in 2012 – 13.

SACRE has been informed of the intent by the Minister for Education to support a thematic review of religious education by the school inspectorate Estyn in the academic year 2012-2013. The LA and its SACRE look forward to using this information as a benchmark against which to measure standards in RE.

- **Examination Results 2011**

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 615 pupils and this is an increase in entry numbers and schools entering over 2010.

The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was **73.7%**. This is a very good result, which is similar to previous performance and comparable with the All-Wales figure of 73%

The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **99.2%**. This 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 34.1% and is again a very good result and slightly better than the All Wales figure of 33%. 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 although numbers have decreased this year there continues to be healthy entry figures with 901 entries from 13 schools. The overall % of **A*-C** grades for Caerphilly was **46.7%** and is the lowest performance of the last three years and below the All Wales figure of 58%. The overall % of **A*-G** grades for Caerphilly was **97.3%** is the best result of the last three years and comparable with the All Wales figure of 98%. The overall % of **A*-A** grades for Caerphilly was **16.4%** and is below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 21.7%.

It should be noted that in some schools more able pupils are entered for two short courses - with their results being shown in the full course outcomes - and this does have implications for Short Course results at the top grades of A*-A and A*-C.

SACRE is very pleased that 97.3% of pupils receive some kind of accreditation for their studies at KS4.

At GCE Advanced Level there were 86 candidates from 8 schools - this shows an increase in entry figures this year with a trend of year on year increase in entries. Those pupils achieving **A*-A** grade was **19.8%** and is similar to 2010 and just below the All Wales figure of 21%

The % pass rate for grades **A* - C** was **74.4%** and below previous performance and the All Wales figure of 78%

The 100% pass rate for grades **A* - E** was excellent this year and is better than previous performance and the All-Wales figures of 98%.

At AS level there were a total of 92 candidates from 8 schools. This entry figure has significantly decreased this year and the number of schools entering for AS have also decreased. At all grade boundaries results are below previous performance.

At **A-E** the pass rate was significantly down this year at 77.2% in comparison to previous performance of 95%.

At **A-C** the pass rate was 50% and this is again significantly below previous performance.

At **A** grade the pass rate was 15.2% and again below previous performance.

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.

- **Analysis of KS3 Teacher Assessment 2010 and 2011**

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 some Core and Foundation subjects of the National Curriculum. All schools in the LA submitted their results.

At L5+ pupils' (boys and girls) achieving L5+ was 68.3% and remains consistent with 2010 (68.4%). However the gap in performance between boys and girls has narrowed to 7% in 2011.

At L6+ pupils' (boys and girls) achieving L6+ was 25.9% and is below 2010 performance (29.2%). The gap in performance between boys and girls has again narrowed at L6+ to approx 3% in 2011.

The gap in performance between boys and girls has narrowed in 2011 at both L5+ and L6+. This is better than the gender gap in performance in All Wales English (13%) and History at L5+ (11%) and at L6+ (13%)

A detailed table of KS3 teacher assessment 2010 and 2011 can be found in Appendix 5.

Schools are currently going through a DfES/WJEC moderation process on Securing Teacher Assessment at KS3 and the moderation process has raised some issues about teacher assessment in RE at KS3 in Wales.

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 2011 - 2012. The courses offered are as follows:

Primary

Literate RE at KS2	October 12 th 2011
RE in the Foundation Phase	November 29 th 2011
RE in the Foundation Phase	December 5 th 2011
Addressing the RE skills of Engaging, Exploring and Expressing at KS2	January 24 th 2012
Inspiring Collective Worship	February 28 th 2012

Secondary

What's New: Head of Department Meeting	October 4 th & Feb 1 st 2012
Critical Literacy at KS3	October 18 th 2011
Addressing the RE skills of Engaging, Exploring and Expressing at KS3.	February 8 th 2012

Cross Phase – Transition Training

A Developmental Approach to Engaging with Fundamental Questions	February 24 th 2012
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Attendance figures at INSET can be found in Appendix 6

Publications

A Calendar of Religious Festivals 2011 - 2012 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 2012 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Speak up, Speak Out*' and that Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

SACRE reviewed the RE Quest CD ROM 'Reflections' that has been distributed to all secondary schools in Wales. Schools have been informed about the usefulness of this resource through INSET sessions.

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 inspection reports consisting of one infant school, 9 primary schools and 3 secondary schools for the period Summer 2011-Spring 2012.

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 and spiritual development.

Good features:

- appropriate opportunities for personal reflection and promoting pupils' spiritual development
- encouraging children to respect and celebrate diversity
- helping pupils to focus on what they are doing well as a school community and where they need to improve
- promoting children's awareness of important values such as respect and fairness.

Shortcomings:

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

At **secondary** level three schools were inspected and one school did not meet the statutory requirement to provide a daily act of collective worship for all pupils.

Comments on SMSC and collective worship include:

Good Features:

- There are many opportunities both within and outside the curriculum that promote well pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Daily assemblies help to promote pupils' spiritual development..
- Daily assemblies give pupils appropriate opportunities for reflection and help to promote pupils' spiritual development.

Shortcomings:

- One school did not meet the statutory requirement for a daily act of collective worship

SACRE welcomed the aspects of the reports, which identified good practice, and also the identification of the shortcomings, so providing an agenda for improvement. They requested the action plan of the one secondary school that does not meet statutory requirements.

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 that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable.

3.2 SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION

SACRE has resolved to use school self evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. An overview of findings will be reported to SACRE on an annual basis. There was no review of school self evaluation reports this academic year but it will be undertaken in 2012 – 13.

3.3 APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATIONS

No applications were received from schools for determinations to be made on the lifting of the requirements for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

3.4 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP INSET

The local authority offered primary schools an *Inspiring Collective Worship* course in February 2012. It provided the opportunity for schools to become familiar with statutory requirements for collective worship, to raise awareness of how to develop spiritual awareness through collective worship, to discuss planning and delivery approaches and raise awareness of the most recent resources to support the delivery of collective worship. The provider was Fiona Moss from RE Today services.

3.5 WASACRE GUIDANCE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN SCHOOLS

SACRE members were informed of this guidance to support schools in ensuring effective acts of collective worship. SACRE agreed that the guidance would be useful for schools in addressing many of their queries and concerns and supporting them to deliver meaningful acts of collective worship. SACRE resolved to send the guidance to all schools drawing attention to the supporting case studies.

3.6 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.

3.7 SCHOOL VISITS

SACRE appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. During the Autumn term members had the opportunity to host their SACRE meeting at Bedwas Junior School and attended an act of collective worship combined with the Christmas assembly.

SECTION 4 OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2011-12 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 outgoing Chairperson of WASACRE and their professional adviser Mrs Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from them.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Caerphilly SACRE was informed of the 2012 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Speak Up, Speak Out*' and that Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk. SACRE resolved to inform schools about the availability of these resources and encourage them to commemorate HMD in some way. 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 have been informed of those schools in the LA who have been involved in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project 2012.

SACRE received a presentation on the animation work of a sixth form student of Art at St Martins School who had gained a Grade A at A level. The animation called 'The Train' establishes the ideas of a journey which ends with arrival at a destination - Auschwitz. His initial inspirations came from his experiences at commemoration events for Holocaust Memorial Day 2011, from pictures of Auschwitz from the internet and also a visit he made to Auschwitz. The student's portfolio depicted the events that occurred at Auschwitz during the Holocaust using some iconic pictures of Auschwitz- Birkenhau and a 'mood board' of images from Auschwitz. The purpose of the animation was educational and also as a record of horror, sadness and confusion.

4.3 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). 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. At its Autumn meeting SACRE received a presentation from a secondary school involved in the project (Heolddu Comprehensive School). The presentation entitled '*The Resilience Project: A School's Perspective*' outlined their involvement in the project and the benefits resulting from their involvement

4.4 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND LITERACY

A presentation was received in the Spring term from Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE on the topic of Literacy and RE. Information was shared with members of key messages presented to primary and secondary schools during recent RE training

and members had an opportunity to participate in some of the activities shared during the training.

4.5 SECURING TEACHER ASSESSMENT AT KS3

Members considered the key messages contained in the Chief Moderator's Report 2011 on the WJEC/DfES Securing Teacher Assessment at KS3 moderation exercise. The moderation process has raised some issues about teacher assessment in RE at KS3 in Wales. The outcomes of the 2012 moderation exercise are expected in July 2012. SACRE agreed that they will await the outcomes of this exercise before taking any course of action deemed necessary to support schools in securing teacher assessment at KS3.

4.6 WELSH GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF SACRE REPORTS 2004 -2008

Members discussed the review of SACRE reports for the period 2004-2008. SACRE felt there were some useful messages and recommendations contained in the report and were pleased that they already addressed many of the recommendations made. The report was useful in opening up the debate about the work of SACREs. However, members felt that it was not helpful to have a report covering a 4/5 year period because some of the comments and issues identified were already out of date. A short report distributed to SACREs on an annual basis would be a better option.

4.7 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

As part of its 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.

- (1) *'The Resilience Project: A School's Perspective'* by Heolddu Comprehensive School
- (2) *'Literacy and RE at Key Stages 2 and 3'* by Vicky Thomas, Adviser for RE
- (3) *'Holocaust Education: Sixth Form Art Project'* - St Martin's Comprehensive School

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at places of worship in the Borough and this year visits were made to Bargoed Baptist Church and Beulah Baptist Church, Abertridwr.

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 at schools this year namely Heolddu Comprehensive School and Bedwas Junior School. 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 (Emma Sullivan) for all her hard work in making such arrangements this year.

APPENDIX 1 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

September 2011- May 2012

Mrs Anne Blackman
Dave Carter
Mrs Anne Collins
Michael Gray (Chairman)
Mrs Rosa Potter
John Taylor (Vice-Chairman)

Post May 2012

D.G. Carter,
W. David,
D.M. Gray,
Mrs. G.D. Oliver,
Mrs M.E. Sargent
J. Taylor

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) - Vacancy
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) - till June 2012
Lieutenant Carl Di -Palma (Salvation Army) - from July 2012

CO OPTED MEMBERS

- (1) Mr Darren Ralph - VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council)
- (2) Mr Phil Jones Headteacher of Heolddu Comprehensive School

OFFICERS

Mrs Jill Lawrence (Asst. Director - L, E & I) till December 2011
Mrs Keri Cole (from February 2012)
Mrs Vicky Thomas (ESIS RE Adviser)

CLERK TO SACRE

Emma Sullivan

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 serve as 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 2011, HEOLDDU COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL, CAERPHILLY

Main Agenda Items

- Presentation- *The Resilience Project: A School's Perspective* by Heolddu Comprehensive School.
- Schedule of Meetings 2010-11
- Membership Update
- SACRE Annual Report 2010 -2011
- SACRE Development Plan 2010 – 2013 (see Annual report)
- INSET needs and plans 2011-2012
- Review of SACRE reports 2004- 2008 (DfES)
- The National RE Festival March 2011- Presentation
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2012
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Anglesey and representation at next meeting at Cardiff
- RE Quest- new resources
- Correspondence

DECEMBER 8th 2011 AT BEDWAS JUNIOR SCHOOL

Main Agenda Items

- Bedwas Junior School Christmas Assembly
- Analysis of Examination Results 2011
- Analysis of Teacher Assessment at Key Stage 3 in 2010 and 2011
- Inspection reports analysis
- Report of WASACRE meeting at Cardiff and representation at next meeting at Aberaeron
- Correspondence

FEBRUARY 14TH 2011 AT BARGOED BAPTISTCHURCH

Main Agenda Items

- Welcome and tour of Bargoed Baptist Church
- Holocaust Education- LfA and St Martins School Art Project
- Presentation 'Literacy and RE at KS2 &3' by Vicky Thomas. Adviser for RE
- Key Stage 3 Moderation of Teacher Assessment in Religious Education (see Chief Moderators report)
- Representation at next meeting of WASACRE at Aberaeron
- Nominations to the WASACRE executive
- Correspondence

JUNE 21st 2012 AT BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH, ABERTRIDWR

Main Agenda Items

- Welcome and tour of Beulah Baptist Church
- Schedule of Meetings 2012- 2013
- SACRE Membership Update
- Examinations Analysis Update: Short Course and Entry Level
- Analysis of Inspection Reports for Autumn 2011- Spring 2012
- INSET attendance 2011-2012
- WASACRE document '*Guidance on Collective Worship in Schools*'

- Report of WASACRE meeting at Aberaeron and representation at next meeting at Llandudno Junction
- Executive Voting for the Period 2012 –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. 2011-2012 Considered 8.12.11 & 21.6.12. There was no review of school self evaluation this academic year but will be undertaken in 2012-2013.
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. 2011-2012 Considered 8.12.11

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. 2011-2012 Considered 29.9.11 & 21.6.12
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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. 2011-2012 The main findings of the Chief Moderator's Report on KS3 moderation were shared with members on 14.2.12
2.2 To review the 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 2011-2012 In preparation for the five yearly review of the agreed syllabus the RE Adviser to SACRE has attended meetings with other professional colleagues on NAPfRE/WASACRE to discuss the review process in order to make recommendations to SACRE.

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	<p>2010-2011 All new materials disseminated through INSET. Secondary schools received a CD ROM of exemplification materials during HoDs training</p> <p>2011-2012 All new materials disseminated through INSET. Primary and Secondary schools receive a CD ROM of exemplification materials during training</p>
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.	<p>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.</p> <p>2011-2012 As above</p>

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.	<p>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.</p> <p>2011-2012 Considered 8.12.11 & 21.6.12. There was one secondary school that did not fulfil statutory requirements for collective worship. SACRE resolved to ask for the school's action plan for scrutiny and to send CW guidance documents to the school. There was no review of school self evaluation this academic year but will be undertaken in 2012-2013.</p>

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.	<p>2010-2011 Considered 29.9.10 Estyn <i>Revised Supplementary Guidance on Collective Worship</i> and resolved the revised document be sent to schools. Collective worship in the primary school course planned and put in programme for next academic year 2011-2012</p> <p>2011-2012 Inspiring Collective Worship in the Primary School course run on 28.2.12. and well attended. Considered 21.6.12 the WASACRE '<i>Guidance on Collective Worship in Schools</i>' document and SACRE resolved that schools be informed.</p>
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.	<p>2010-2011 Act of collective worship observed by SACRE 14.6.11 at Ysgol Penallta.</p> <p>2011-2012 Act of collective worship/ Christmas assembly observed by SACRE 8.12.11 at Bedwas Junior School.</p>

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. 2011-2012 SACRE on 14.2.12 visited Bargoed Baptist Church by kind invitation of cc David Carter, SACRE member and on 21.6 12 visited Beulah Baptist Church by kind invitation of cc John Taylor, Vice Chair of SACRE. On both occasions

					<p>members received a brief history of the building and its community.</p> <p>SACRE on 29.9.11 received a presentation on the REsilience project from Heolddu Comprehensive School.</p> <p>SACRE on 20.2.12 received two presentations one on a Holocaust Art Project and another on Literacy and RE</p>
4.2 To support the National RE Festival March 2011	Pre and Post Spring 2011	SACRE members Schools Local Authority	Adviser / Officer time	<p>Celebrate the contribution of RE to education.</p> <p>Showcase good practice in RE.</p> <p>Support community cohesion and local communities.</p>	<p>2010-2011</p> <p>Members of SACRE attended the WASACRE National Launch of the RE Festival in Penarth on 2.3.11</p> <p>Caerphilly schools and SACRE members were involved in the Central South Consortia event held on 10.3.11 organised by the LAs advisory service (ESIS)</p> <p>Attendance of over 200 teachers, pupils and SACRE members and an opportunity for schools and SACREs to celebrate together and showcase good practice.</p> <p>Two Caerphilly schools entered the WASACRE National RE Competition and judged by a delegation from SACRE. The winning entry forwarded to</p>

					<p>WASACRE for final judging by the Association.</p> <p>2011-2012</p> <p>N/A</p>
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.	<p>2010-2011</p> <p>Two school visits took place this year to Bedwas High School on 29.9.10 and SACRE observed an act of collective worship at Ysgol Penallta on 14.6.11.</p> <p>2011-2012</p> <p>Two school visits took place this year to Heolddu Comprehensive School on 29.9.11 and on 8.12.11 to Bedwas Junior school.</p>

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2011

GCSE Full Course Religious Studies 2011

	Caerphilly 2011	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	All Wales 2011
A* - A	34.1%	30.4%	34.0%	33%
A* - C	73.7%	76.9%	72.9%	73%
A* - G	99.2%	99.8%	99.7%	99%
Entry	615 13 schools	575 11 schools	630 14 schools	9464

GCSE Short Course (Specification B) Religious Studies 2011

	Caerphilly 2011	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	All Wales 2011
A* - A	16.4%	22%	19.7%	21.7%
A* - C	46.7%	58.5%	57.5%	58.0%
A* - G	97.3%	96.4%	96.7%	98.0%
Entry	901 X 13 schools	1295 12 schools	1290 X 12 schools	18,318

GCE A Level Religious Studies 2011

	Caerphilly 2011	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	All Wales 2011
A*-A	19.8%	20.5%	27.4%	21%
A* - C	74.4%	84.9%	90.3%	78%
A* - E	100%	97.3%	100%	98%
Entry	86 x 8 schools	73 x 8 schools	62 x 7 schools	1301

GCE AS Level Religious Studies 2011

	Caerphilly 2011	Caerphilly 2010	Caerphilly 2009	All Wales 2010
A	15.2%	19.7%	27.7%	N/A
A - C	50.0%	71.3%	71.3%	N/A
A - E	77.2%	95.9%	95.0%	N/A
Entry	92 x 8 schools	122 x 9 schools	101 x 7 schools	N/A

APPENDIX 5: ANALYSIS OF KS3 TEACHER ASSESSMENT 2010 & 2011

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

Key Stage 3: Year 9 Religious Education Levels 2011

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	1151	0	11	60	326	465	244	43	0	1147			
Percentages		0.0	1.0	5.2	28.3	40.4	21.2	3.7	0.0	99.7	65.3	24.9	0.3

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	1079	0	3	48	255	483	233	57	3	1075			
Percentages		0.0	0.3	4.4	23.6	44.8	21.6	5.3	0.3	99.6	71.9	27.2	0.4

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	2238	0	14	108	581	948	477	100	3	2230			
Percentages		0.0	0.6	4.8	26.0	42.4	21.3	4.5	0.1	99.6	68.3	25.9	0.4

APPENDIX 6: ATTENDANCE AT INSET 2011-2012

To inform the SACRE of the attendance at INSET Courses running from Autumn 2011- Spring 2012

PRIMARY INSET COURSES 2011-2012

Course Title	Date	B	C	M	RCT	Other	Total
Literate RE at KS2	October 12 th 2011	0	5	1	5	0	11
RE in the Foundation Phase	November 29 th 2011	3	8	4	15	0	30
RE in the Foundation Phase	December 5 th 2011	3	12	1	10	0	26
Addressing the RE skills of Engaging, Exploring and Expressing at KS2	January 24 th 2012	2	5	3	4	0	14
Inspiring Collective Worship	February 28 th 2012	6	6	2	7	0	21
We're going on a journey Course cancelled	March 7 th / 8 th 2012						

SECONDARY INSET COURSES 2011- 2012

Course Title	Date	B	C	M	RCT	Other	Total
What's New: Head of Department Meeting	October 4 th & Feb 1 st 2012	3	6	3	6	0	18
Critical Literacy at KS3	October 18 th 2011	2	2	0	4	3	11
Addressing the RE skills of Engaging, Exploring and Expressing at KS3.	February 8 th 2012	1	0	2	2	3	8

CROSS PHASE – TRANSITION TRAINING

Course Title	Date	B	C	M	RCT	Other	Total
A Developmental Approach to Engaging with Fundamental Questions	February 24 th 2012	5	6	4	4	9	28

APPENDIX 7: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the WASACRE website for interested parties to download.

Members of Caerphilly Education Authority

Chair of Education Scrutiny

Regional Director of SEWC

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

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

All members of SACRE

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 SACREs in Wales

Wales Association of SACREs (WASACRE)

Welsh National Centre for Religious Education, Bangor

National Library of Wales

Religious Education Movement (Wales)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

ESTYN