



## CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 10TH JUNE 2013

**SUBJECT: ESTYN THEMATIC REVIEW: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform SACRE of the Estyn Thematic Review.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The purpose of the Estyn Thematic Review was to inform Welsh Government about standards in Religious Education in Secondary Schools.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The report links to SACRE's duty to monitor and develop the provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools and the CCBC Strategic Equality Plan 2012.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The purpose of the Estyn thematic review is to inform the Welsh Assembly Government about standards in RE in secondary schools, including:
- the standards of RE at key stages 3 and 4; and
  - the standards in GCSE Religious Studies for pupils that are entered.
- 4.2 The review will also comment on the learning experiences, the quality of teaching and assessment and the effectiveness of leadership and management. Examples of best practice that encourage practitioners to reflect on, and evaluate, their current practice will also be included.
- 4.3 Estyn visited a sample of about 20 schools between November and December 2012 and this included a visit to one Caerphilly school: **St Martins Comprehensive School**. The visits involved lesson observations, scrutiny of work and relevant documentation and interviews with senior managers, the subject lead and a focus group of learners.
- 4.4 Additional schools were also asked to complete a brief questionnaire about provision for RE. In addition, relevant data and evidence from recent inspections will feed into the work.

The Estyn thematic report will be published on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and will be available on the Estyn website ([www.estyn.gov.uk](http://www.estyn.gov.uk)).

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report is for information purposes only, so the Council's Equalities Impact Assessment process has not been applied, however Religion and Belief is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 and locally is covered by section 6 (xi) of the CCBC Strategic Equality Plan 2012.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications attached to this report.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications attached to this report.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 That the report be emailed to SACRE Members.
- 8.2 That Members of SACRE discuss the content of the report on the thematic review during its autumn term meeting.

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