



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 14TH NOVEMBER 2013

SUBJECT: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2014

REPORT BY: INTERIM DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform SACRE of the resources available to schools in order to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2014.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Holocaust Memorial Day is an annual event that marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz- Birkenhau concentration camp by soviet troops in 1945.

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 Holocaust Memorial Day is an annual event that takes place on January 27th. HMD was established in the UK in 2000 and the first HMD was held in January 2001. January 27th marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz- Birkenhau concentration camp by soviet troops in 1945. Holocaust Memorial Day seeks to change the future by learning from and remembering the past. Schools are encouraged to participate in Holocaust Memorial Day in order to remember the victims of the Holocaust and more recent genocides. It provides a framework to explore issues of morality, human reactions, individual experiences, responsibilities and larger questions of the role of governments and democracies. The government, including the Welsh Government, encourages schools and LAs to commemorate this event in some way.
- 4.2 The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust produces materials specific to the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day. **The theme for 2014 is 'Journeys'**. The experience of those affected by the Holocaust and genocide is characterised by forced journeys. Many of these journeys ended in death: persecutors forcibly moved huge numbers of people - in trains, cattle trucks and on death marches, from homes in villages and towns and across countries. Some journeys ended in survival: when those persecuted made journeys to escape, some in disguise, some into hiding. There are journeys too, made after liberation: to life in new countries, or returning home to the places where neighbours may have contributed to the persecution.

4.3 Further information about the theme and free educational resources containing material suitable for primary to post 16 students is available online at <http://education.hmd.org.uk>

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 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 To circulate to schools the information on HMD and reference the website for appropriate resources www.hmd.org.uk.

9. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

9.1 As part of SACRE's statutory duty to monitor and develop religious education and collective worship.

10. CONSULTATION

10.1 All comments have been reflected in this report.

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