



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - 5TH MARCH 2014

SUBJECT: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION QUALITY MARK (REQM)

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform SACRE of the Religious Education Quality Mark (REQM) initiative.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The Religious Education Quality Mark (REQM) initiative has been set up to raise the profile of religious education in schools and celebrate a commitment to excellence in religious education.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The report links directly 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 REQM has been set up to:

- raise the profile of religious education in schools;
- celebrate a commitment to excellence in religious education;
- enable dissemination of quality RE through networking;
- provide a framework for measuring, planning and developing the quality of RE teaching and learning;
- encourage schools to increase the range and quality of teaching and learning in religious education to improve standards;
- develop pedagogies which have impact on whole school improvement; and
- provide a structure and framework for dioceses and SACRE's to map high quality religious education.

- 4.2 The RE Quality Mark has two purposes: it recognises good practice in RE and also provides a powerful tool for development. There are five strands to the quality mark:
- learners and learning; teachers and teaching;
 - curriculum;
 - subject leadership; and
 - continuing professional development (CPD).
- 4.3 Preparation includes:
- completion of a school evidence form; and
 - a pupil questionnaire: what do you think about RE in your school?
- 4.4 Assessors visit involves:
- a pupil interview;
 - interview with members of the department and SLT; and
 - scrutiny of evidence.
- 4.5 At the end of the visit, the assessor will inform the school of the level achieved in the REQM. If successful the school will receive the award, certificate and a logo that can be used on letterheads for the next three years.
- 4.6 The cost of REQM is **£475 per school**. All documentation is available in English and Welsh and the strands reflect the educational context of Wales. Further information can be found on the REQM website: www.reqm.org.

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. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in this report

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 SACRE consider informing schools of the availability of the REQM.

10. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To inform SACRE of the Religious Education Quality Mark (REQM).

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