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For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Julie Lloyd
(Tel: 01443 864246 Email: lloydj4@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Date: 29th November 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

A multi-locational meeting of the **Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religion, Values and Ethics** will be held in Penallta House, and via Microsoft Teams on **Monday, 5th December, 2022 at 3.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. Councillors and the public wishing to speak on any item can do so by making a request to the Chair. You are also welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, both these requests require a minimum notice period of 3 working days. A simultaneous translation will be provided on request.

Members of the public or Press may attend in person at Penallta House or may view the meeting live via the following link: <https://civico.net/caerphilly>

This meeting will be live-streamed and a recording made available to view via the Council's website, except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items. Therefore the images/audio of those individuals speaking will be publicly available to all via the recording on the [Council's website](#).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Harrhy'.

Christina Harrhy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

	Pages
1 To receive apologies for absence.	

A greener place Man gwyrddach



2 Declarations of Interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

- 3 Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) - 6th July 2022. 1 - 6
- 4 To consider actions and matters arising from the minutes (verbal update).

To receive and consider the following reports:-

- 5 To receive a presentation from Lewis School Pengam on RVE and Collective Worship (verbal update).
- 6 Caerphilly SACRE Annual Report 2021-2022. 7 - 28
- 7 Update from the RVE Advisor. 29 - 30
- 8 Monitoring Provision and Standards - Caerphilly School Inspection Reports. 31 - 40
- 9 Holocaust Memorial Day 2023. 41 - 42
- 10 Correspondence Update. 43 - 44
- 11 Schedule of Meetings 2023. 45 - 46

WASACRE:-

- 12 Feedback from the virtual WASACRE Summer Meeting and AGM on 29th June 2022. 47 - 58
- 13 Representation at forthcoming WASACRE Meetings (verbal update).
 - 21st March 2023 (Pembrokeshire).

Circulation:

Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, J. Taylor (Chair) and A. Whitcombe

And Appropriate Officers

HOW WE WILL USE YOUR INFORMATION

Those individuals that attend committee meetings to speak/give evidence will be named in the minutes of that meeting, sometimes this will include their place of employment or business and opinions expressed. Minutes of Meetings including details of speakers will be publicly available to all via the Council website at www.caerphilly.gov.uk. except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items.

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CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY 6TH JULY 2022 AT 3.00 P.M

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair
Mrs. J. Jones (Church in Wales) - Vice Chair

Representatives of Faith and Belief: Mr M. Gray (The Methodist Church)

Teacher Union Representative: Miss H. Bartley (ATL)

Together with:

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE), V. Bodenham (School Improvement Officer), J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer), M. Afzal (Committee Services Officer), and J. Thomas (Committee Services Officer).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

SACRE was reminded that the meeting was being filmed and would be made available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). It was noted that voting on decisions would take place by way of Hands Up and roll call.

Due to technical difficulties the meeting was not live-streamed.

CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT – RESIGNATION OF MRS ENFYS HAWTHORN

The Chair advised SACRE that Mrs Enfys Hawthorn (United Reformed Church) had recently resigned from her role on Caerphilly SACRE. Members were advised that Mrs Hawthorn had served on Caerphilly SACRE in several capacities since its inception in 1996, initially as a RE teaching representative and in later years as a faith representative through her work with the United Reformed Church. The Chair expressed his appreciation to Mrs Hawthorn for her long service and observed that her input and contributions to the meetings would be greatly missed.

It was noted that the Clerk to SACRE would write to Mrs Hawthorn following the meeting to express the thanks of SACRE for her long service and dedication to the work of the committee.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs K. McCullough (NASUWT), Mrs M. Jones (UCAC), Mrs T. Lloyd (NAHT), Mrs C. McLaughlan (NASUWT), Mr K. Chamberlain

(Humanists Wales), and Major P. Hubbard (The Salvation Army).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 28TH MARCH 2022.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2022 be approved as a correct record and by a show of Hands Up this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 28th March 2022 (minute nos. 1-10) be approved as a correct record.

4. MINUTES OF STANDING CONFERENCE (AGREED SYLLABUS) OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 28TH MARCH 2022.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2022 be approved as a correct record and by a show of Hands Up this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Standing Conference (Agreed Syllabus) of Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 28th March 2022 (minute nos. 1-4) be approved as a correct record.

5. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

It was noted that there were no matters arising on this occasion.

6. UPDATE FROM THE RE ADVISOR.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE and advised Members that the new Agreed Syllabus for RVE had been officially approved by the Local Authority on 20th June 2022 and they are in the process of providing training and an introduction to the new Agreed Syllabus which commences on 7th July. A presentation on the new Agreed Syllabus had also been provided to CCBC Officers.

Members were informed that a termly newsletter would be going out to schools in the Caerphilly Borough and would look to raise the profile of SACRE in the humanities newsletter. Members were advised that they would be included in the circulation list for this newsletter and were also offered the opportunity, if they wished, to have some input into the information provided in the newsletter.

Members were advised that EAS had created a partnership with the Church in Wales and have launched a spirited arts competition for the summer term. Schools were invited to enter pieces of work including, art, dance, and music on a specific theme. EAS will be judging the entries with the results being announced in September.

Members were also informed of the ongoing work and sharing resources on the EAS twitter page and preparation for the new term in September.

There were no questions received and SACRE noted the details of the update.

7. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CAERPHILLY SACRE

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on the proposed revisions to its Terms of Reference ahead of the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales in September 2022. Members were advised that Religious Education will be renamed 'Religion, Values and Ethics' and in line with this change, SACREs will be re-named Standing Advisory Councils (SACS) on Religion, Values and Ethics. As from September 2022, Caerphilly SACRE will become known as Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religion, Values and Ethics (or Caerphilly SAC on RVE). Members were advised that there would be some minor revisions to the Caerphilly SACREs Terms of Reference to reflect the forthcoming change of name and to increase the term of service from 4 years to 5 years to realign with local elections.

A Member queried whether the change of name would reflect any changes to the content of the curriculum. Members were advised that there were no changes to the curriculum but that the change of name reflected the existing content.

A Member also queried whether the content of the Terms of Reference needed to be amended to reflect the changes and Members proposed that there will be a rolling review of the terms of reference in relation to Religion, Values, and Ethics, which will be followed by a further report in due course.

It was moved and seconded that the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference as attached to the report be approved, subject to being noted that there will be a rolling review of the Terms of Reference in relation to Religion, Values and Ethics, which will be followed by a further report in due course and by a roll call this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference as attached to the report be approved, subject to being noted that there will be a rolling review of the Terms of Reference in relation to Religion, Values and Ethics, which will be followed by a further report in due course

8. CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE.

Members were referred to the report which provided an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SACRE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE since the last meeting.

A Member referred to the training opportunities for new Members of the Committee and requested that this information be circulated to the Committee. It was confirmed that this information would be circulated to SACRE Members in due course.

SACRE noted the details of the correspondence update.

9. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2022/23.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members that Officers are looking to arrange SACRE dates for the whole of the academic year 2022-23 and will update SACRE Members once confirmed.

A Member wished to note that the multi-locational meetings were beneficial to those who were attending the meeting remotely and were able to attend from their place of work. Members were advised that all future meetings would continue to be multi-locational.

SACRE noted the details of the schedule of meetings update.

10. FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY NEATH PORT TALBOT ON 6TH APRIL 2022.

There were no questions received and Caerphilly SACRE noted the details of the feedback from the WASACRE Spring meeting.

11. FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE SUMMER MEETING AND AGM ON 29TH JUNE 2022.

Ms Hayley Jones provided an update to Members and advised that Swansea Council gave an update on issues in their local authority, including the monitoring of the provision of RVE, which had been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Members were also advised that Head Teachers had been requested to include a specific section on RVE, and how it is being monitored, in their termly reports to Governors, together with teacher audit and pupil voice.

Members were advised that the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus needed to be sent to Welsh Government for information purposes and storage. Welsh Government were also looking into the legal section of the RVE Guidance for clarification.

Members were informed that the right to withdraw from RVE was also discussed at the meeting and is no longer an option under the new curriculum. Welsh Government intend to communicate with parents on this matter, with information due to be sent to schools before the end of the summer term and again in September.

Hwb resources are being prepared to support RVE, and the first of 5 modules is due to be released in September, together with an RVE policy which is being produced by NAPfRE to assist schools in the provision of RVE.

A Member queried whether there was still provision to withdraw from collective worship in schools. Members were informed that withdrawal from collective worship was still an option although withdrawal from RVE will no longer be an option. Members were also informed the delivery of RVE is compulsory in primary schools.

Caerphilly SACRE noted the details of the feedback from the WASACRE Summer meeting and AGM.

12. EXECUTIVE VOTING 2022 - WASACRE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.

Ms. Hayley Jones advised Members that the results of the elections had not yet been released but would be disclosed to Members in due course. It was noted that nominees were being contacted by WASACRE this week.

Caerphilly SACRE noted the information in relation to the voting for the WASACRE Elections 2022.

13. REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING WASACRE MEETINGS.

The Chair advised Members that the Autumn meeting date has yet to be confirmed but the Committee Clerk would contact Members nearer the time to confirm if any Members wished to attend and would provide meeting papers and the link to attend online. A Member queried who would be hosting the Autumn meeting and Members were advised that this information would also follow as soon as possible.

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation and advised Members that they would be informed of the date for the SACRE Autumn Term meeting in due course.

The meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022.

CHAIR

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION,
VALUES AND ETHICS

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To offer to members of SAC the draft Annual Report for 2021-2022 for approval.

B. BACKGROUND

This is the draft Annual Report for Caerphilly SACRE. This report outlines the activities of SAC during the academic year 2021-2022.

C. RECOMMENDATION

Members of the SAC are requested to consider, note, and approve the contents of the draft Annual Report and agree any final amendments for inclusion in the document. The finalised version of the Annual Report will then be translated and sent to Welsh Government by 30th December 2022. The Annual Report will also be circulated to other interested parties as outlined in the report.

D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1 Draft SACRE Annual Report 2021-2022

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

A MESSAGE FROM CAERPHELLY SACRE MEMBERS

The 2021-2022 academic year has continued to be an unprecedented time for people due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The thoughts of SACRE members are with all those who have been affected by the virus, including those who have become ill and who may have lost loved ones. Members would also like to express gratitude to everyone in the education sector for the sterling work you are doing to provide children and young people in Wales with care, support, and education despite the many challenges and uncertainties presented as a result of the pandemic.

Practitioners will be aware that, as part of the new Curriculum for Wales, Religious Education in Wales has been renamed and will be known as Religion, Values and Ethics from September 2022. This has also resulted in a name change for SACREs across Wales, which will be known as Standing Advisory Councils on Religion, Values and Ethics (or SACs on RVE) as of September 2022.

Members would like to remind practitioners engaged with Religion, Values and Ethics, that Caerphilly SAC on RVE is here to support you with advice on teaching, learning and resources for RVE, as well as advice on RVE in the new Curriculum for Wales. All schools are reminded of the guidance and resources included in the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE, which was adopted by the Local Authority in June 2022 and circulated to schools ahead of implementation in September 2022.

Additionally, support from Caerphilly SAC on RVE is also available for the Daily Act of Collective Worship.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE welcomes correspondence via the contacts below

Julie Lloyd, Clerk to Caerphilly SACRE
lloydj4@caerphilly.gov.uk

Hayley Jones, Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) - South East Wales EAS
hayley.jones@sewaleseas.org.uk

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

2021- 2022

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

2021- 2022

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 Duty to Establish SACRE

All Local Authorities are required to constitute a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) within their local area.

1.2 Composition of SACRE

Representation on SACRE is required as follows: -

- (i) Such Christian and other religious denominations and non-religious philosophical convictions as, in the opinion of the Local Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area. Since 2018, on the Direction of the Welsh Government Cabinet Minister for Education, humanists can be full members of this Committee as well as other belief groups analogous to religious belief;
- (ii) Representatives of teachers' associations;
- (iii) Representatives of the local authority.

The Local Authority determined that the SACRE should comprise of six elected members, seven bodies representative of religion and belief and seven representatives of teachers' associations. In addition, the Authority allowed for two other individuals to be co-opted.

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The membership list showing the position for September 2021 – August 2022 is attached at Appendix 1.

SACRE are continuing to make efforts to seek representation from religious organisations other than Christianity, but have experienced delays in finding such representation because of the Covid-19 restrictions and changes to working practices.

With regards to Committee A, advice has been sought from Cytun (Churches Together in Wales). With regards to Committee B, SACRE is in the process of contacting schools to seek expressions of interest for the two vacant places on the committee (ASCL and NEU).

Caerphilly SACRE have also allocated their two co-opted places to youth representatives and work is ongoing to fill these places. SACRE look forward to young people joining the Standing Advisory Council (SAC) in the future in order to incorporate learner voice.

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 to Welsh Government on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2021-2022.

25th November 2021

28th March 2022

6th July 2022

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. However, due to restrictions around the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021/22, SACRE were unable to meet in person and therefore all three SACRE meetings were held online via Microsoft Teams.

1.6 Circulation of Report

Copies of this report are circulated electronically to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 3. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ADVICE GIVEN BY SACRE

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 2021-2022 this process was put on hold and will be re-examined for the academic year 2022-2023.
2. SACRE usually visits schools on an annual basis to receive a presentation on RE at the school. However, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic SACRE did not visit any schools during 2021-2022.
3. It has been the practice of SACRE to analyse examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data. However, in recent year, this process has been put on hold and will be re-visited for the academic year 2022-2023.

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 June 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the existing Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education that was adopted in 2008, with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review.
2. SACRE were updated on a termly basis of developments with the National Curriculum review and the development of the Humanities curriculum. Schools were advised that they should follow the current agreed syllabus until further notice.
3. In May 2019, Standing Conference agreed to readopt the current Agreed Syllabus until the implementation of the new curriculum in 2022.
4. In January 2022, Welsh Government released guidance on the new Curriculum for Wales framework. which allowed local authorities across Wales and their SACREs to begin preparations on the adoption of a new Agreed Syllabus. The guidance from Welsh Government made provision for local authorities to adopt or adapt this guidance as their Agreed Syllabus.
5. At the meeting of Standing Conference held on 14th February 2022, Standing Conference Members agreed that the WG Guidance on RVE should be

adopted as the basis of the new Agreed Syllabus for the local authority, subject to the inclusion of a covering foreword document which will be relevant to Caerphilly County Borough Council as the local authority in delivering RVE. It was also agreed that a Working Group be set up following the meeting in order for Members and Officers to contribute to the foreword and finalise the content, ahead of presentation of this finalised Agreed Syllabus to a further meeting of Standing Conference for approval.

6. The Standing Conference Working Groups were held in March 2022, comprising of representatives from across Caerphilly SACRE. The Working Group representatives discussed and analysed the WG guidance in detail across the two sessions and drafted and refined a covering Agreed Syllabus document which is relevant to Caerphilly as the local authority, and which set out the main points of note across the WG RVE guidance for teacher and practitioners to have regard to when preparing their curriculum and lesson planning. The draft Agreed Syllabus document also provided guidance for teachers on key areas such as collective worship and the removal of the right to withdraw in the Curriculum for Wales.
7. Once completed, the working draft Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus document was sent out to all SACRE Members for consultation and to provide them with the opportunity to put forward any final comments or views for inclusion within the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus document ahead of its presentation to Standing Conference.
8. The final draft of the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics, based on the Curriculum for Wales RVE Guidance, was presented to the meeting of Standing Conference on 28th March 2022, where it was endorsed and approved as the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE, and was recommended to the local authority for adoption and implementation from September 2022.
9. The local authority subsequently adopted the new Agreed Syllabus in June 2022 and the document was circulated to all schools in July 2022 ahead of the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales in September 2022.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources for RE.

Action

Schools were sent the following information and resources, with SACRE Members also sent a copy of the information:

1. Information on the Holocaust Memorial Day theme for 2022 and the resources available were sent to all schools. These can be found on the HMD website www.hmd.org.uk and include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post-16 students.

2. Information on the Farmington Institute Scholarships for 2022-2023, for headteachers and UK secondary and primary school RE teachers and teachers of RE to children with Special Educational Needs, was sent to all schools.
3. All schools were sent details of an opportunity to participate in the WASACRE RVE Professional Learning Development Team (Curriculum for Wales).
4. In July 2022, all schools were sent a copy of the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE to be implemented from September 2022.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers can access appropriate professional learning.

Action

The EAS has provided RE specific training to secondary school practitioners via the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. During 2021-2022 the EAS provided RVE specific PL to both primary and secondary school practitioners via Learning Network Schools heads of Humanities meetings and Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. The focus of the training provided for Humanities and RVE included the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022, the changes to legislation around RVE and Diversity. Practitioners attending also received updates on the work of SACREs, WASACRE and other relevant bodies. There was also a focus on providing space for practitioners to share their experiences of trying to navigate the Covid-19 pandemic, sharing good practice and collaboration in the development of resources for Religious Studies.

The EAS Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACs also provided bespoke training for Caerphilly schools on the Agreed Syllabus. The focus was to inform schools on the changes to the Agreed Syllabus as schools move forward with implementing the CfW. Schools in the region were also provided with RVE Headteacher Briefings, with the aim to understand the mandatory requirements of RVE, develop understanding of RVE and how it has evolved in the context of the curriculum for Wales and consider some of the planning or implementation issues that may arise because of the new RVE framework in schools.

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. However, in recent

years, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this process has been put on hold and will be re-visited for the academic year 2022-2023.

2. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g. HMD 2022.
3. SACRE resolved to hold meetings at schools in the Borough and observe an act of collective worship where possible to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. Due to the restrictions around the Covid-19 pandemic, SACRE were unable to observe collective worship during this academic year.

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. The RE Adviser to SACRE is a member of NAPfRE and regularly attends meetings on SACRE's behalf.
3. SACRE members receive regular training to keep up to date with legislative and educational changes and to understand the role and function of SACREs.
4. SACRE takes Holocaust Education seriously and advises the LA and its schools on this.
5. SACRE has received regular updates from their professional advisor, Mrs Hayley Jones, on the development and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022 and the implications for religious education. SACRE has responded to Welsh Government consultations on Curriculum for Wales.
6. SACRE, where possible, hold meetings at schools in Caerphilly for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. This year it was not possible to hold a meeting within a school due to the restrictions around the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SECTION 2: ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

In June 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the existing Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education that was adopted in 2008, with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review. SACRE were updated on a termly basis of developments with the National Curriculum review and the development of the Humanities curriculum. Schools were advised that they should follow the current agreed syllabus until further notice.

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Once completed, the working draft Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus document was sent out to all SACRE Members for consultation and to provide them with the opportunity to put forward any final comments or views for inclusion within the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus document ahead of its presentation to Standing Conference.

The final draft of the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics, based on the Curriculum for Wales RVE Guidance, was presented to the meeting of Standing Conference on 28th March 2022, where it was endorsed and approved as the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE, and was recommended to the local authority for adoption and implementation from September 2022.

The local authority subsequently adopted the new Agreed Syllabus in June 2022 and the document was circulated to all schools in July 2022 ahead of the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales in September 2022.

2.2 Standards In RE

SACRE has adopted several strategies for monitoring standards being achieved in religious education in the Authority's schools that include the following.

School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SACRE to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Caerphilly county borough and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2021-2022 this process was put on hold and will be re-examined for the academic year 2022-2023.

SACRE have resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable.

Examination Results 2021

It has been the practice of SACRE to analyse examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data. However, in recent years, this process has been put on hold and will be re-visited for the academic year 2022-2023.

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teaching Materials and Teacher Training

Professional Learning

South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS) advertises their courses through CPD online. The Education Achievement Service appointed Mrs Hayley Jones as a full time Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) from November 2021. Mrs Hayley Jones offered bespoke support for Religious Education within the region during 2021-2022.

The EAS has provided RE specific training to secondary school practitioners via the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. During 2021-2022 the EAS provided RVE specific PL to both primary and secondary school practitioners via Learning Network Schools heads of Humanities meetings and Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. The focus of the training provided for Humanities and RVE included the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022, the changes to legislation around RVE and Diversity. Practitioners attending also received updates on the work of SACREs, WASACRE and other relevant bodies. There was also a focus on providing space for practitioners to share their experiences of trying to navigate the Covid-19 pandemic, sharing good practice and collaboration in the development of resources for Religious Studies.

The EAS Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACs also provided bespoke training for Caerphilly schools on the Agreed Syllabus. The focus was to inform schools on the changes to the Agreed Syllabus as schools move forward with implementing the CfW. Schools in the region were also provided with RVE Headteacher Briefings, with the aim to understand the mandatory requirements of RVE, develop understanding of RVE and how it has evolved in the context of the curriculum for Wales and consider some of the planning or implementation issues that may arise because of the new RVE framework in schools.

Learning Network Schools for Religious Education

The work of the Learning Network Schools (LNS) in each consortia has continued through 2021-2022 and the guidance and support arising from the LNS, together with the work undertaken between colleagues across SACREs and NAPfRE, has been cascaded to teachers of RE.

Teaching Materials

A range of teaching materials have been circulated to schools on behalf of SACRE as follows:

Farmington Scholarships 2022-23

SACRE provided Caerphilly schools with information about Farmington Scholarships 2022 - 2023 which are free to teachers of religious education in the UK. Practitioners can study any aspect of religious education they wish but preference will be given to applicants whose work can be seen to be of direct value to the teaching of RE in schools. The Scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, essential local travel and, by negotiation with the school, the salary of a replacement teacher up to point 6 of the main pay scale.

School/home-based Scholarships may be taken in the form of day release, for instance for one day a week over a term or over the year or for continuous periods up to a maximum of 30 days.

University-based Scholarships awarded may be taken in the form of day release up to 30 days, with the Scholarships to be taken within university terms.

More information for schools can be found at www.farmington.ac.uk or E-mail: farmington@hmc.ox.ac.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 Resources

All schools were informed of Holocaust Memorial Day for 2022, which is an annual event that takes place on 27th January each year and is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

Caerphilly schools were informed that the theme for 2022 was "One Day", which hoped that there may be One Day in the future with no genocide, and gave examples of how to interpret and explore the theme, including a focus on One Day in history, One Day when life changed, One Day at a time, or One Day in the future, in order for communities to come together and learn from the Holocaust and genocides for a better future.

Schools were informed by SACRE that further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk, including lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/ assembly material and worksheets. Holocaust Education Trust also offers resources and information on the Holocaust theme and is available online at www.het.org.uk.

EAS Humanities Newsletter

An EAS Humanities Newsletter is emailed to all school on a termly basis. The newsletter contains useful information around the teaching and delivery of RVE together with updates relating to the work and function of SACRE.

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SECTION 3: ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SACRE to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Caerphilly county borough and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2021-2022 this process was put on hold and will be re-examined for the academic year 2022-2023.

SACRE have resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable.

3.2 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.

3.3 School Visits

SACRE appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. Members did not have the opportunity to host a SACRE meeting at a school or observe an act of collective worship during 2021-2022 due to restrictions around the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives from Caerphilly have attended its meetings. During the 2021-22 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. Caerphilly SACRE has received regular feedback from Mrs Hayley Jones and those representing SACRE at WASACRE meetings.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 Resources

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place on 27th January each year and is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. The theme for 2022 was "One Day" which hoped that there may be One Day in the future with no genocide, and gave examples of how to interpret and explore the theme, including a focus on One Day in history, One Day when life changed, One Day at a time, or One Day in the future, in order for communities to come together and learn from the Holocaust and genocides for a better future.

Information on the Holocaust Memorial Day theme for 2022 and the resources available was circulated to all schools in September 2021.

At its Spring Term meeting in March 2022, SACRE were provided with an update on the activities held across the county borough to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day, the social media posts by Caerphilly Council to raise awareness of Holocaust Memorial Day and the theme of "One Day", and were shown examples of school activities to mark this day. These included examples of letters written by Blackwood Primary School pupils, which explored their own experiences during the pandemic and related these in a diary extract to Anne Frank describing lockdown, which displayed some good examples of empathy and compassion amongst the pupils

4.3 CURRICULUM FOR WALES 2022

SACRE has received termly updates on the developments being made with regards to Religious Education and the new Curriculum for Wales. SACRE received for information an embargoed copy of the CfW RVE guidance in December 2021 and were able to commence preparations on the new Agreed Syllabus (as an Agreed Syllabus Conference) in early 2022 following the publication of the guidance by Welsh Government.

4.4 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS CONSULTATIONS

Details of Caerphilly County Borough Council's 21st Century Schools proposals in relation to Llancaeach Juniors and Llanfabon Infants, Plasyfelin Primary, and a Pupil Referral Unit at the former Pontllanfraith School Site, were sent to Caerphilly SACRE

during 2021-22 as statutory consultees, and Members were invited to respond as individuals.

4.5 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

SACRE members receive training on the Roles and Responsibilities of SACRE at the beginning of each academic year and this will be arranged during 2022-23.

4.6 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

The current membership list showing the position as of August 2022 is attached at Appendix 1.

The following positions are currently vacant:

Co-opted places x 2 – SACRE have agreed to co-opt two youth representatives onto the Committee and work is ongoing in this area.

Committee A – Work is ongoing to fill the one remaining vacancy for the non-Christian faith representative. The long-serving representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and United Reformed Church tendered their resignation to SACRE during Spring-Summer 2022, and work is currently ongoing to secure replacement members to fill these vacancies.

Committee B – Two positions remain vacant for a NEU Representative and ASCL Representative, and SACRE are in the process of writing to schools to seek expressions of interest to fill these places.

4.7 PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT TO CAERPHILLY SACRE

Mrs Victoria Bodenham and Mr Paul Warren provide support to SACRE in their role as the Local Authority Education Officers.

Mrs Hayley Jones, the EAS Curriculum Partner for SACs and RVE, took up post in November 2021 to provide professional support to Caerphilly SACRE and Professional Learning within the EAS region.

Miss Rebecca Barrett continued to act as Clerk to SACRE, and Members are very grateful to Miss Barrett's work which is vital to the effective and efficient functioning of Caerphilly SACRE.

APPENDIX 1: CAERPHILLY SACRE MEMBERSHIP AUTUMN 2021-SUMMER 2022

REPRESENTATIVES OF FAITH AND BELIEF - COMMITTEE A

Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales) (SACRE Vice-Chair)
Major Paula Hubbard (The Salvation Army)
Mr Michael Gray (The Methodist Church)
Mr Ken Chamberlain (Wales Humanists)

Vacancy – Free Church representative – Mrs E. Hawthorn resigned 23.06.22
Vacancy – Roman Catholic Church – Mr M. Western resigned 03.03.22
Vacancy - non-Christian faith group/religion – approved by Council Oct 2018

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS - COMMITTEE B

Primary Schools

Mrs Tara Lloyd (NAHT)
Ms Meinir Jones (UCAC)

Secondary Schools

Miss Helen Bartley (NEU)
Ms Katherine McCullough (NASUWT)
Mrs Claire McLaughlan (NASUWT)

Vacancy – NEU Representative
Vacancy - ASCL Representative

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMMITTEE C

Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth
Councillor M. Chacon-Dawson
Councillor Mrs B. Miles
Councillor Mrs T. Parry
Councillor A. Whitcombe
Councillor J. Taylor (SACRE Chair)

CO OPTED MEMBERS

Two vacancies - held for youth representation on SACRE

OFFICERS

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner – SACs and RVE)
Mrs Victoria Bodenham (School Improvement Officer)
Mr Paul Warren (CCBC Strategic Lead for School Improvement)

CLERK TO SACRE

Miss Rebecca Barrett (Committee Services Officer) – until 31.10.22
Mrs Julie Lloyd (Committee Services Officer) – from 01.11.22
Email loydj4@caerphilly.gov.uk

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

Caerphilly SACRE Meeting 25th November 2021 at 2pm Microsoft Teams

- To appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair to Caerphilly SACRE.
- To receive apologies for absence.
- Declarations of Interest.
- Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th November 2020 and matters arising.
- To receive and note a Caerphilly SACRE Membership Update.
- To receive and consider the SACRE Annual Report 2020-2021.
- To receive and note the Caerphilly SACRE Response to the WG Consultation on the Curriculum for Wales Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) Guidance.
- To receive and note a verbal update on Curriculum Updates - WJEC Assessments 2022 / Guidance on the design and delivery of mandatory Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE).
- To receive and note a verbal update on Curriculum for Wales.
- To receive an update on Holocaust Memorial Day 2022.
- To note the date of future SACRE meetings during 2022.
- To receive and note the minutes from the virtual WASACRE Autumn Meeting and AGM on 7th October 2020.
- To receive and note the minutes from the virtual WASACRE Summer Meeting hosted by Caerphilly on 23rd March 2021.
- To receive and note the minutes from the virtual WASACRE Summer Meeting hosted by Powys on 16th June 2021.
- To receive and note feedback from the virtual WASACRE Autumn Meeting hosted by Torfaen on 23rd November 2021.
- To note dates of future WASACRE meetings and confirm representation.

Caerphilly SACRE Meeting 28th March 2022 at 3pm Microsoft Teams

- To receive apologies for absence.
- Declarations of Interest.
- Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25th November 2021 and matters arising.
- To receive an update from the RE Advisor.
- To receive an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SACRE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE since the last meeting.
- To note the date of future SACRE meetings during 2022.
- To receive and note feedback from the WASACRE Autumn Meeting hosted by Torfaen on 23rd November 2021.
- To discuss nominations to the WASACRE Executive Committee for 2022.
- To seek Caerphilly SACRE's comments on the proposed changes to the WASACRE constitution.
- To note dates of future WASACRE meetings and confirm representation.

**Caerphilly SACRE Meeting
28th March 2022 at 3pm
Microsoft Teams**

- To receive apologies for absence.
- Declarations of Interest.
- Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th March 2022 and matters arising.
- Minutes of the Standing Conference (Agreed Syllabus) of Caerphilly SACRE held on 28th March 2022 and matters arising.
- To receive an update from the RE Advisor
- To consider and approve proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference for To receive an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SACRE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE since the last meeting.
- To receive an update on the SACRE schedule of meetings for 2022/23.
- To receive and note feedback from the virtual WASACRE Spring Meeting hosted by Neath Port Talbot on 6th April 2022.
- To receive and note feedback from the virtual WASACRE Summer Meeting and AGM on 29th June 2022.
- To note the outcome of voting for the WASACRE Vice Chair and Executive Committee Elections for 2022.
- To note dates of future WASACRE meetings and confirm representation.

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APPENDIX 3: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

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

Members of Caerphilly County Borough Council

Chair of Caerphilly Council Education Scrutiny Committee

All members of Caerphilly SACRE

Regional Director of South-East Wales Education Advisory Service (EAS)

Welsh Government Education Officer responsible for Religious Education

Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Welsh Government

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

Principals and Governing Bodies of all Tertiary Colleges within the County Borough

All SACREs in Wales

Wales Association of SACREs (WASACRE)

The National Library of Wales

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: UPDATE FROM THE RVE ADVISOR

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

For Caerphilly SAC to receive a verbal update from Hayley Jones (Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) on recent developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE.

B BACKGROUND

Caerphilly SAC will be updated during the meeting on the following matters:

- SACRE Membership
- Curriculum for Wales 2022
- The Locally Agreed Syllabus and the RVE Framework
- Professional Learning for RE and Learning Network Schools
- Collective Worship
- GCE and GCSE Examination Arrangements
- Training of SACRE Members
- RVE News – EAS Humanities Newsletter
<https://mailchi.mp/4f7fe629e938/newsletter>

C RECOMMENDATION

Caerphilly SAC are asked to note the update from the RVE Advisor.

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION,
VALUES AND ETHICS

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT MONITORING PROVISION AND STANDARDS - CAERPHILLY
SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS

A. PURPOSE

To consider the main findings of Caerphilly inspection reports with regards to religious education, spiritual development and collective worship.

B. BACKGROUND

SAC Synopsis: Main findings

This synopsis for Caerphilly SAC provides information about spiritual development, collective worship and any comments made in relation to religious education in the inspection reports of schools inspected in the local authority during May 2019 – June 2022.

This synopsis considers the inspection findings of nine primary schools, two secondary schools and one special school.

Main findings - Spiritual Development

Comments in relation to spiritual development are evident in all inspection reports.

Collective Worship - Meeting statutory requirements

The Estyn Common Inspection Framework notes that inspectors should only report on instances where the school does not comply with statutory requirements. All schools inspected during May 2019 – June 2022 meet statutory requirements in relation to collective worship.

Collective Worship - Quality

There is reference to the quality of collective worship in two inspection reports and good features are highlighted.

Acts of collective worship:

- promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- celebrate pupils' achievements and success
- enables pupils to make effective use of the reflection wall to respond to key moral messages
- Focus on the rights of the child allowing many pupils to discuss important values well
- rich opportunities for reflection during collective worship sessions, which are often based on stories from the Bible or themes.

Recommendations

Estyn made no recommendations with regards to Spiritual Development, Collective Worship or Religious Education.

C. RECOMMENDATION

For SAC to discuss and note the findings of the Estyn inspection reports and to write to schools in response.

D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1 School Inspection Reports SAC Synopsis: Autumn Term 2022

Caerphilly SAC on RVE - Analysis of Inspection reports

AUTUMN 2022

Appendix 1

References to: RE/RVE/ Collective Worship/Spirituality (SMSC) in Full Inspection reports

Name of school: Aberbargoed Primary School Date of inspection: June 2022		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	None	
Teaching and learning experiences	None	
Care, support and guidance	The school's ethos ensures that there are regular opportunities for pupils to explore their spiritual beliefs and find out about the characteristics of other religions and cultures. For instance, pupils in Year 5 study famous singers from other cultures and explore how their cultures and beliefs differs	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: The curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to understand important values such as justice, fairness and honesty, for example during a whole school assembly about evacuees

Name of school: Bryn Primary School Date of inspection: June 2022		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Most pupils are becoming more ethically informed with a majority speaking confidently about their rights as children. For example, they met with the deputy minister for social services to discuss the law that ends the use of physical punishment in Wales.	
Teaching and learning experiences	None	

Care, support and guidance	The school's ethos ensures that there are regular opportunities for pupils to explore their spiritual beliefs and find out about the characteristics of other religions. For instance, pupils learn about Diwali and religions such as Sikhism and Judaism.	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: None recorded

Name of school: Ysgol G.G. Caerffili Date of inspection: February 2022		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	None	
Teaching and Learning experiences	None	
Care, support and guidance	Pupils are given numerous and valuable opportunities to develop their knowledge of the importance of behaving like active citizens and shouldering responsibilities sensibly	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: None recorded

Name of school: Fochriw Primary School Date of inspection: March 2020		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	The various pupil voice groups promote an awareness of children's rights valuably	

Teaching and learning experiences	None
Care, support and guidance	The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well. Members of staff place a high priority on promoting positive values during the daily life of the school. Highly effective links with the local church provide opportunities for pupils to explore spirituality. The school develops pupils' cultural development through a suitable range of cultural activities, events, and visits, such as a residential trip to Abernant.
Leadership and management	None
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes Quality: None recorded

Name of school: [Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon](#)
Date of inspection: March 2020

Recommendations	None
Learning	None
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	None
Teaching and learning experiences	None
Care, support and guidance	<p>The school has very strong links with its community and takes full advantage of its support, such as regular visits to perform at the local church for class assemblies and concerts.</p> <p>The school provides excellent opportunities to promote pupils' social, moral and spiritual skills by using various strategies, which include providing opportunities for pupils to voice their opinions.</p> <p>Staff encourage pupils to be responsible citizens who are willing to help others, for example by raising money for charities. This has a positive effect on their understanding of other people's needs.</p> <p>Teachers organise rich educational visits and invite interesting visitors to the school, which contribute positively to pupils' understanding of the importance of fostering broad and diverse social attitudes.</p>

Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: The school provides skilfully to develop pupils' spiritual and cultural attitudes. Rich opportunities are organised for them to reflect in collective worship sessions, which are often based on stories from the Bible or themes, such as anti-bullying week. They are given opportunities to appreciate and celebrate the differences between themselves and their peers. As a result, pupils have a sound understanding of religious and moral issues, and issues that occur in the wider world.

Name of school: Bedwas Infant School Date of inspection: January 2020		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	They understand and undertake their responsibilities seriously as global citizens.	
Teaching and learning experiences	None	
Care, support and guidance	The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development very successfully by providing stimulating work, through classroom activities and acts of collective worship.	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: As above.

Name of school: Nant Y Parc Primary School Date of inspection: December 2019		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Pupils treat one another, staff and visitors with very high levels of respect and tolerance. All pupils have a strong understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child	

Teaching and learning experiences	None	
Care, support and guidance	All staff enable pupils to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding extremely well. Links with the wider community are very strong and, as a result, many pupils have a strong sense of community, showing compassion, generosity and respect to others.	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: Through effective collective worship and various class activities, the school provides pupils with very purposeful opportunities to develop their understanding of a range of social and moral issues.

Name of school: St Cenydd School Date of inspection: December 2019		
Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Many pupils develop a strong sense of empathy and a greater understanding of diversity through interactions with their peers in the specialist resource base and satellite class from the local special school.	
Teaching and learning experiences	Many pupils redraft their work effectively when given specific direction, such as when writing explanatory text regarding Jewish beliefs about God.	
Care, support and guidance	The school is successful in developing pupils' spiritual, social, moral and cultural values, which are fundamental to all aspects of school life.	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: The school provides worthwhile opportunities for pupils to reflect on spiritual and moral issues through tutor led registrations, assemblies, and religious education lessons.

Name of school: Trinity Fields School & Resource Centre Date of inspection: June 2019		
Recommendations	None	

Learning	None		
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	<p>Over time, nearly all develop as enthusiastic learners who enjoy coming to school and acquire a strong understanding of their rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>These pupils have a well-developed awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and have produced a version of these articles with symbols for children and young people with special educational needs for use across Wales.</p> <p>This awareness of their rights helps pupils to appreciate that their views are valued and respected.</p>		
Teaching and learning experiences			
Care, support and guidance	The school has developed very effective practice to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This provision includes daily acts of collective worship and tending the school's memorial garden		
Leadership and management	None		
Collective Worship:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Meeting legal requirements: Yes</td> <td>Quality: As above</td> </tr> </table>	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: As above
Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: As above		

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Name of school: St Martin's School Date of inspection: May 2019			
Recommendations	None		
Learning	Many pupils communicate their ideas articulately in extended pieces of writing, for example when discussing themes such as the existence of god in their ethics lessons.		
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	None		
Teaching and learning experiences	None		
Care, support and guidance	The school has a supportive culture that promotes pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development well.		
Leadership and management	None		
Collective Worship:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Meeting legal requirements: Yes</td> <td>Quality: None recorded</td> </tr> </table>	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: None recorded
Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: None recorded		

Name of school: [Hendre Infants School](#)
Date of inspection: May 2019

Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	None	
Teaching and learning experiences	None	
Care, support and guidance	Pupils' receive opportunities to develop their spiritual awareness through carefully planned acts of daily worship and the exploration of different religious festivals, such as Ramadan.	
Leadership and management	None	
Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: As above

Name of school: [Deri Primary School](#)
Date of inspection: May 2019

Recommendations	None	
Learning	None	
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	As a result of special assemblies on the rights of the child, many pupils discuss important values well.	
Teaching and learning experiences	Enrichment activities, such as 'Come Dine With Me', provide engaging opportunities for pupils to develop their skills in Humanities... ... a good balance in experience of the humanities and arts.	
Care, support and guidance	None	
Leadership and management	None	

Collective Worship:	Meeting legal requirements: Yes	Quality: The school provides good opportunities for pupils to reflect on their spiritual, moral and ethical beliefs. For example, in collective worship, pupils make effective use of the reflection wall to respond to key moral messages.
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Estyn monitoring reports

Date of monitoring inspection	School	Outcome of monitoring report	Result	References to: RE/RVE/ Collective Worship/Spirituality (SMSC)
March 2022	Ysgol Bro Sannan	Significant improvement	Removed from the list of schools that are in need of significant improvement.	None
September 2021	Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	Significant improvement	Removed from the list of schools that are in need of significant improvement.	None
June 2022	Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed	Sufficient progress	Removed from the list of schools that are in need of significant improvement.	None

Estyn Review (letter)

Date of Estyn Review	School	Outcome of review
December 2021	Islwyn High School	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection
December 2021	Phillipstown Primary School	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection
March 2021	Ynysddu Primary School	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection
March 2020	Pentwynmawr Primary School	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection
November 2019	Lewis School Pengam	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection
November 2019	Heolddu Comprehensive School	Sufficient progress - no further monitoring in relation to this inspection

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION,
VALUES AND ETHICS

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2023

A. PURPOSE

For SAC to note the date and theme of Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2023, the actions taken to inform schools of the resources available to commemorate this occasion, and for SAC to consider the local HMD commemorations available.

B. BACKGROUND

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) takes place on 27 January each year and is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides, which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

Holocaust Memorial Day is a time to learn the lessons of the past and recognise that genocide does not just take place on its own – it is a steady process which can begin if discrimination, racism and hatred are not checked and prevented.

The aims of HMD is a demonstration of how the lessons of the past can inform our lives today and ensure that everyone works together to create a safer, better future. Each year thousands of activities take place for HMD, bringing people from all backgrounds together to learn lessons from the past in creative, reflective and inspiring ways. From schools to libraries, workplaces to local authorities, HMD activities offer a real opportunity to honour the experiences of people affected by the Holocaust and genocide, and challenge ourselves to work for a safer, better future.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust produces materials specific to the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme for 2023 is “**Ordinary People**” and there are many ways to interpret this theme, some of which are outlined in the Theme Vision on the HMD website: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | HMD 2023 Theme](#).

Further information about the theme and free educational resources containing material suitable for primary to post-16 students is available online at [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | Schools \(hmd.org.uk\)](#). Resources include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/ assembly material and worksheets. Holocaust Education Trust also offers resources and information on the Holocaust theme and is available online through the [Holocaust Education Trust website](#).

Caerphilly SAC have previously agreed that on an annual basis, and once the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day is confirmed, the Clerk to Caerphilly SAC will then write to all schools across the borough to provide an advance reminder of Holocaust Memorial Day and of the resources available to encourage schools to mark the occasion in some way. This action was completed in September 2022 and a copy of the correspondence was sent to all SAC Members for information.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For SAC to receive and consider the date and theme of Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 and the actions taken to inform schools of the resources available to commemorate this occasion.
2. To consider SAC involvement in local HMD commemorations.

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SAC and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SAC since the last meeting.

B BACKGROUND

Since July 2022, the following items have been circulated in relation to Caerphilly SAC :-

1. All Schools - New Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE from September 2022;
2. All Schools – Details of the Holocaust Memorial Day Theme for 2023;
3. All Schools – Details of two Teacher Representation vacancies on Caerphilly SAC (vacancies for ASCL and NEU teaching unions) and requesting expressions of interest from schools;
4. All Schools – EAS Humanities Professional Learning Offer;
5. All Schools – Offer of bespoke RVE and Collective Worship Support from Hayley Jones, EAS Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE);
6. All Schools – Details of the Farmington Institute Scholarships for the Academic Year 2023-24;
7. All Secondary Schools – Qualifications Wales Consultation on New GCSEs for Wales;
8. All Schools – Details of Interfaith Week (13th – 20th November 2022).

C RECOMMENDATION

For Caerphilly SAC to note the details of the correspondence update.

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION,
VALUES AND ETHICS

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To confirm the dates of forthcoming Caerphilly SACRE meetings for 2023.

B. BACKGROUND

Proposed dates of forthcoming meetings:

Spring Term 2023 – Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 3pm (multi-locational meeting – to be held in Penallta House, Ystrad Mynach and online via Microsoft Teams)

Summer Term 2023 – Thursday 29th June 2023 at 3pm (multi-locational meeting – to be held in Penallta House, Ystrad Mynach and online via Microsoft Teams)

C. RECOMMENDATION

For Caerphilly SAC to note the date of future meetings during 2023.

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**Wales Association of SACREs meeting,
Virtual via Microsoft Teams
29th June 2022
10.30a.m. – 12.15p.m.**

Attendance

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Dylan Rees (DR) Rheinallt Thomas (RT)</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Kathy Riddick (KR) Chris Abbas (CA) C. Knowlson (CK)</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Alice Parry (AP) Edward Evans (EE)</p> <p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly Marina Chacon - Dawson (MC)</p> <p>Caerdydd / Cardiff T. Saunders (TS)</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire</p> <p>Ceredigion Mary Davies (MD) Anne Ursuka (AU)</p> <p>Conwy Jennie Downes (JD) Phil Lord (PL) Roger Boon (RB)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Phil Lord (PL) Collete Owen (CO)</p> <p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Vicky Barlow (VB) Jane Borthwick Claire Homard (CH)</p> <p>Gwynedd</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil</p> <p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Louise Brown (LB)</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot Fiona Thomas (FT)</p> <p>Casnewydd / Newport Neeta Baicher (NB) Hayley Jones (HJ) Huw Stephens (HS)</p> <p>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</p>	<p>Powys John Mitson (JM)</p> <p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Donna Graves (DG) Matthew Maidment (MM)</p> <p>Abertawe / Swansea Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p> <p>Torfaen</p> <p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan</p> <p>Wrecsam / Wrexham Tania ap Siôn (TS)</p> <p>NAPfRE Paula Webber (PW)</p> <p>EFTRE Phil Lord (PL)</p>	<p>Observers: Sue Cave (SC)</p> <p>REMW Paul Morgan (PM)</p> <p>WJEC</p> <p>Estyn</p> <p>Welsh Government</p> <p>REC Kathy Riddick (KR)</p> <p>Church in Wales Jennie Downes (JD)</p> <p>Catholic Education Service</p> <p>Qualification Wales</p> <p>Interfaith Network</p> <p>ADEW University Of Wales Rachel Bendall (RB)</p> <p>Presenters Partneriaeth Julian Nicholds (JN)</p> <p>Minutes (from recording) Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p>
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Minutes of the meeting

1. Introduction and welcome

RS welcomed everyone (bilingually) to the summer meeting.

Claire Homard, Chief Officer for Education and Youth in Flintshire welcomed everyone (bilingually) as the hosting SACRE.

CH stated that it was an exciting time for WASACRE's work for religious education in Wales, with the move to the implementation of the new curriculum from this September. CH acknowledged that all SACREs have been extremely busy with the Agreed Syllabus Conferences (ASC). The new curriculum is focused on making provision for learners to develop and have appreciation of their belonging in their locality, in Wales and the wider world. Also, to experience the natural world, value the environment and work towards a sustainable future for us all.

CH mentioned that in our local Welsh communities, our schools and learners have a very rich history alongside their lived experiences to draw upon.

CH described Flintshire's highlights including the access to wonderful natural environments with the country parks and the beautiful coastline; a vibrant religious history which includes St Winifred's Well in Holywell; Basingwerk Abbey in Greenfield, Holywell, and the Friary in Pantasaph and a number of castles. Arts and culture are celebrated at Theatre Clwyd. There is a strong tradition to support the Welsh language and Flintshire contributes to the Eisteddfodau.

RVE within the Curriculum for Wales can offer a distinctive contribution to the realisation of the four purposes. There are opportunities through RVE for learners to experience a curriculum that is engaging, and it is timely to reflect on the four purposes as we start the meeting today.

We want our learners to be ambitious and capable; enterprising and creative contributors; ethical and informed citizens of Wales and the world and healthy and confident individuals.

2. Quiet reflection

RS mentioned that Wales is currently experiencing the greatest change in education in a generation. There is a fear of the unknown for practitioners, parents, and pupils. WASACRE can support schools, parents, and pupils with this challenge of a new way of learning.

RS led a quiet reflection on the opportunities and challenges ahead of the coming year for parents, teachers, and pupils.

3. Apologies

Apologies from Libby Jones, John Meredith, and Susanne Gooding from the Executive Committee.

Apologies from Catherine McCormack, Chair of Flintshire SACRE and from Gwynedd SACRE - Councillor Beca Brown, Councillor Paul Rowlinson and Gwawr Williams.

Note that Councillor Wayne Carpenter is to join the AGM only.

Note that Fiona Thomas, Neath SACRE is to join the WASACRE meeting only.

4. Minutes of the last meeting Microsoft Teams held on 2nd April 2022

LB identified a spelling mistake on page 10, 'pacifism' was misspelt.

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 2nd April 2022. RT proposed to accept the minutes.

5. Matters arising from minutes of the last WASACRE meeting

Any matters arising from the meeting will be discussed or considered within our meeting today.

- RS stated that WASACRE had received queries linked with ASCs and acknowledged the delay in some ASCs due to the change of councils after the local elections. If any assistance is required, please contact RS or AP.
- With regards to the action on Page 8 for LB to send an email regarding the legislation, RS thanked LB for the email and confirmed that LB's email had been forwarded to the Welsh Government and will be addressed in the meeting today.
- RT expressed concern that with the continuation of the meeting using TEAMS there is no facility for Welsh translation. This does not adhere with the Association's constitution. RS confirmed this has been discussed and will be on the agenda for the next Executive meeting, in early October. The return to face-to-face meetings for WASACRE meetings will be an agenda item.

6. Update on Professional Development materials

TaS gave the following update regarding the Professional Development materials.

TaS reminded the group of the presentation, given by TaS and LJ, at the last WASACRE meeting which detailed the work currently being undertaken by WASACRE and the Welsh Government.

On 26th April 2022, WASACRE led a Welsh Government Policy Insight Event at which the draft professional learning playlists were shared. The event was well attended with n=105 attendees. The comments received during and after the event were very positive.

TaS recommends that WASACRE members visit Hwb to view the recording of the event, and (in particular) to listen to Kevin Palmer, Deputy Director Pedagogy Leadership and Professional Learning, Welsh Government. Kevin Palmer gave an important introduction to the event and demonstrated his support for RVE.

It was emphasised in the last WASACRE meeting the importance of the quality assurance (QA) process in the development of the resources. The ongoing QA team includes four WASACRE Executive Members as well as the Welsh Government colleagues. In addition to this, there is an external reference group which is reviewing the playlists in their final draft stages and Hwb will be reviewing the playlists. The playlists will also need to be translated into Welsh. TaS acknowledged that it is a long process before playlists can be published and hence publication is slightly behind schedule.

In terms of publications dates, the resources will be published in three batches:

- ⇒ Group 1: aim to publish at the beginning of September. Group 1 consists of the 'What's New?' modules – for headteachers, early years, primary, secondary and ALN.

- ⇒ Group 2: aim to publish shortly after group 1. Group 2 consists of 3 modules: RVE and numeracy; digital competency; and literacy.
- ⇒ Group 3: aim to follow later in the autumn term. Group 3 includes RVE and the humanities and an approach to pedagogy module for headteachers.

The project team are very pleased with the quality of the playlists so far. It has been hard work for the team and for the teachers writing the resources. The teachers have been receptive to feedback and are willing to continue with the process.

RS, on behalf of WASACRE, thanked the teachers, who have worked tirelessly on the playlists, and also thanked the team, who are conducting the monitoring and support. RS asked that WASACRE's appreciation and gratitude are passed onto the teachers and to the team.

7. Welsh Government Matters:

Meetings

A meeting was held on Thursday 23rd June 2022. RS was unable to attend; TaS and Libby Jones represented WASACRE, and PW represented NAPfRE.

TaS provided the following feedback from this meeting. Those attending from Welsh Government were John Pugsley (JP), Head of the Curriculum and Assessment Division and Kerry Davies (KD).

A summary of the agenda items discussed follows:

1) Process for the adoption of an Agreed Syllabus (AS) for RVE

It was confirmed that SACREs are to send their Agreed Syllabus (AS) to JP and KD. These will be held for information purposes. If an LA has not adopted an AS by 1st September 2022, the Minister of Education will determine the next step as there is no precedent set for this situation. It is recognised that it is problematic for a number of SACREs to meet the deadline due to the delay in legally constituting the SACRE and therefore a delay in the AS adoption process.

If the LA cannot agree the syllabus by the 1st Sept 2022, the LA should contact Welsh Government. The Welsh Government will take a common-sense approach and begin a process with their legal team. Welsh Government suggests that these LAs should ask schools to refer to the RVE guidance on Hwb in the meantime until the agreed syllabus can be published.

2) RVE guidance on Hwb and the amendments to the legal summary on Hwb.

This has already been mentioned in Item 3 'Matters arising from previous meeting'. This refers to the email from LB.

Part of the legal summary section was confusing and required clarification. The aim is not to change anything but to clarify and ensure this section is easier to read and to understand.

Prior to this Welsh Government meeting, WASACRE Executive Members sent suggested amendments to the RVE legal summary section to JP.

JP confirmed receipt and these changes are now included in a revised draft which is currently being reviewed by the Minister of Education. Changes cannot be shared until

the Minister has approved. JP is going to send WASACRE a copy of the agreed changes before they are published on Hwb. This should be sent in the next week or so.

Second part of agenda item 2 was the clarification for early years and RVE. There are a number of terms used to define early years; consistency, is required. It is understood that RVE is mandatory from 3 years and should be pluralistic from the age of 3. Welsh Government colleagues are coming back to us to provide clarity for early years to ensure that there is clear and standardised messaging.

3) Standard letter to schools and parents re. RVE.

A number of SACREs have asked that a standard letter is sent from Welsh Government to schools and parents informing of the changes, including the removal of the parents' right to withdraw from RVE.

KD confirmed that there is a meeting this week with the communications department, and this will be discussed.

Two audiences are recognised which should receive this letter - schools and parents. There is a need to ensure correct messaging for each audience.

Welsh Government regularly communicates information in a number of different ways regarding the curriculum. The Welsh Government colleagues suggested that a one-off letter wasn't the way forward and that it would be more beneficial to have an on-going communication process. It was suggested an initial communication is to be sent before the end of term and reinforced with further communication in September.

The Welsh Government requested WASACRE's requirements with regards to the content of the communication.

It was agreed the main areas to cover:

- ⇒ Change of name.
- ⇒ Mandatory nature of RVE.
- ⇒ Pluralistic nature of RVE.
- ⇒ Need for RVE to be objective and critical.
- ⇒ Removal of the parental right to withdraw from RVE.
- ⇒ For the communication to schools to include the need to accord with the Curriculum for Wales Framework and recognition that a new approach is required. In addition, the importance of schools adhering to their locally agreed syllabus.

A number of communications will be sent to schools through Welsh Government's communication process.

TaS asked, if there is anything that WASACRE members see as problematic, to inform TaS and the detail can be fed back to the Welsh Government.

4) RVE resources.

As RS mentioned in the quiet reflection with the new approach, there are numerous challenges.

WASACRE needs to ensure the provision of appropriate resources to support schools and to reflect the RVE guidance and the Curriculum for Wales. Welsh Government is publishing a guidance pack shortly on resource criteria.

When new resources have been published, the resources will be reviewed by a review panel before they are accepted for publication on Hwb. This refers to classroom-based resources as well as PL resources. The best ways to provide useful support for practitioners is very much on the Welsh Government's agenda.

5) Plans for ITE

PW raised the issue that PL is being developed for RVE within schools and among practitioners but what about the ITE sector?

Welsh Government explained that the ITE sector is Kevin Palmer's remit. This topic will be returned to over the next year. It was agreed that RVE playlists currently under development will be of use for the ITE Sector.

6) Circular 10/94

Welsh Government confirmed that there are no immediate plans to revise 10/94 although the issues of being outdated is recognised. For now, the following statement holds true – for RVE 10/94 is no longer relevant it is being moved across to the Curriculum for Wales Guidance and Framework. Welsh Government requests that 10/94 is not referred to in terms of RVE. However, 10/94 still relevant for collective worship.

In conclusion, TaS mentioned that the meeting was very positive and productive. As a result, it was agreed to hold these meetings, between WASACRE and Welsh Government on a termly basis. The next meeting will be held in September and the length of the meeting is to be increased to one and half hours.

RS thanked TaS for the update and mentioned it was encouraging to see that Welsh Government value the role of WASACRE and NAPfRE.

JHR: Is the Welsh Government sharing the information regarding 10/94 with LAs?

ACTION: TAS to ask Welsh Government whether the information regarding 10/94 is to be shared

LB: Will a draft of the changes in the legislative summary be made available for checking?

RS: The proposed changes in the legislative summary will be sent to WASACRE before it is published.

PW: Confirmed that the proposed draft will be sent to WASACRE executive for approval and that it won't involve a consultation process.

PW: Pleased with the QA process for the resources on Hwb. Welsh Government is also looking at the current resources available on Hwb and conducting a quality check.

8. NAPfRE Presentation – Partneriaeth Consortium

JHR is Head of Social Science at a Bishop Gore Comprehensive School in Swansea. In the last year, JHR has been seconded for two days per week as RE / RSE advisor within Swansea. From September 2022, JHR is relinquishing her teaching commitments to take on the role of RVE and RSE advisor for Swansea, Pembrokeshire, and Carmarthenshire.

JHR presented Swansea Council professional learning offer for RVE for the past year. In summary:

4 PL sessions held across primary and secondary, which were well attended with 80 -100 colleagues. The recordings have been shared with colleagues across the region.

- March 2022: Guidance, unpicking RVE, the agreed syllabus
- May 2022: Curriculum planning for excellence
- June 2022: Sharing effective practice
- July 2022: Open Session for RVE Q&A – yet to be held

The committed RVE network in Swansea has been joined, in the last few years, by colleagues from Neath and Port Talbot. Open forum meetings have been held, twice annually, between 15 - 20 colleagues attending. These will continue over the next academic year and hopefully return to in person sessions.

All headteachers and senior leaders (primary and secondary) have had the opportunity to receive professional learning regarding RVE within Curriculum for Wales.

All Governors across Swansea have had the opportunity to participate in a PL session to support their role, this will be a continual programme over the academic year.

There are active faith members, and termly meetings have been held with religious/worldviews leaders within the community. These were high profile events within our local authority chaired by the Director of Education and will continue over the academic year.

Swansea SACRE have representatives from all of the main faiths identified within the census 2011 (Swansea data). Group A is a proactive and progressive group, interested in exploring how they can support schools and teachers with RVE.

With the publication of the anti-racism action plan by Welsh Government, a session was conducted with REToday with Primary and Secondary colleagues supporting the development of anti-racist RVE. The session explored how to decolonise the curriculum and ensure it is in line with the anti-racist action plan. It was well attended in January with over n=100 colleagues. The local authority is funding repeats of the training in July with over n=50 colleagues currently signed up.

January to May 2022 was spent preparing for the development of the new agreed syllabus and to hold the AS meetings after the May local government elections.

During that time the agreed syllabus was co-constructed with all stakeholders:

- ⇒ A teachers' audit was undertaken which produced relevant findings that have been fed back into the AS process.
- ⇒ A pupil voice was undertaken using questions used from the RVE quality mark award. This produced rich findings to feed into the AS process.

- ⇒ Gained legal guidance.
- ⇒ Decision was made to review the process annually. Aware that not all schools will be moving forward with Curriculum of Wales in September, approx. 50% of secondary schools are not. Need to ensure the AS is constantly reviewed until it is firmly embedded and supports our curriculum designers in schools.
- ⇒ Received funding and currently working on RVE resources to support schools in developing their RVE curriculum. The priority is to ensure schools and teachers have the subsidiarity and flexibility that the curriculum allows and provide suggestions with regards to designing the curriculum to ensure it is objective, pluralistic, and critical. Teachers across Swansea have been involved in the development and pilot work is being undertaken prior to publication in September.

Moving forward, currently working with schools and teachers in reviewing the PL offer for this year and what other support is required in providing excellent RVE. This will be utilised in setting up the RVE PL offer for 2022/2023.

JHR explained that the work has been collaborative across three LAs, Swansea, Pembrokeshire, and Carmarthenshire.

JHR introduced Julian Nicholds, Humanities Lead Advisor for Partneriaeth – a partnership across these three LAs - Swansea, Pembrokeshire, and Carmarthenshire. JN's role as an advisor is to support teachers and pupils for the new curriculum and new qualifications. JN ensures the teachers' voice is part of the RVE. Also supporting the practitioners with the changes to national priorities with regards to anti racism and decolonising the curriculum.

JN provided an update:

- ⇒ RVE partnership
 - Supporting colleagues and discussing their requirements with regards to the changes to RVE to ensure coherence across Partneriaeth.
 - Ensuring humanities leads who may not be RVE specialists are supported.
 - Responsive to the needs of teachers. Ensure teachers and leaders are involved from the outset.
 - PL on learning, progression, and assessment which places curriculum guidance in context with RVE.
 - Developing and growing examples and modelling good practice.

⇒ Anti-Racism

- Regional PL programme putting anti-racism at every level of leadership and practice.
- Strategic approach to professional learning with DARPL, Universities, Race Council Cymru and other partners.
- PL for Leaders and teachers in decolonising the curriculum.
- Working with HEIs to provide opportunities for Close to Practice Enquiry for schools.

RS thanked JHR and JN for their presentation. Good to hear of the work supporting teachers with the new curriculum both with RVE and the anti-racism plan.

LB: How is the legal obligation reflected in the materials being produced?

JHR: Confirmed that the PL across Swansea has been focused on RVE and the legislation to ensure it is pluralistic, objective, and critical.

RB: It was mentioned that some Head of Humanities are not necessarily RVE specialists, is this a common issue?

JN: Not sure of the numbers but see this as an opportunity to support and advise those individuals without RVE specialism by adding an additional layer of support.

RB: It is key to the roll out of the curriculum that Heads of Humanities who are not necessarily RVE specialists understand the new curriculum and requirements for balance etc.

RS: This should be monitored and observed to ensure every school has the correct guidance and support either through Heads of Humanities or through other ways, as each setting is different.

RT: Informed the group that anti-racism materials have been created by the Methodist Church and the Free Church Council for England. It is currently being adapted for Wales and it will be translated into Welsh and available through Hwb.

HS: Thanked JHR. It was mentioned an annual monitor will be undertaken. As the curriculum is locally school designed, is the evaluation to be done through teachers or headteachers? How are you going to monitor this and know that a school is providing RVE? Cannot wait for Estyn inspection report. See this as a potential issue.

RS: WASACRE, Welsh Government and Estyn are in discussion with regards to monitoring RVE and the standard of RVE.

JHR: Preliminary conversations within SACRE meetings, talked about a number of approaches, primarily to ask the headteachers in their termly report to include RVE. This will be fed into SACRE meetings. In addition, the Teacher audit and Pupil voice will continue. Appreciate it is a learning curve.

AU: Anti-racism is very important but need to be careful as an American experiment with the critical race theory backfired. With regards to the word 'decolonising' which is a term commonly used, some universities are moving away from this terminology as democracy in universities is suffering. Also suggest encouraging the anti-slavery dialogue to be as local and relevant as possible.

JN: Planning to consider all perspectives to allow learners to understand from all views without shame. This will be managed with extreme care.

NB: There are recent publications detailing the use of the words and language used.

PW: With regards to anti-racism, we need to take advice from organisations such as DARPL and BAMEed Cymru.

9. Up-dates:

⇒ **REC**

KR: There is a new Executive Officer, Indy Nottage. All committee meetings have been suspended while the structure of the Committee is under review. Internal work is being carried out to assess the structure and the aims of REC. A considerable amount of work has been undertaken on the Worldview Project. REC have stated that the handbook produced does not reflect the Welsh Curriculum and it should be referred to as a handbook for England. This was agreed.

Moving forward, for a future agenda item it would be beneficial to discuss the role REC plays in WASACRE and the role WASACRE plays in REC.

ACTION: At a future meeting discuss WASACRE and REC roles

⇒ **EFTRE**

PL: Recommends that the WASACRE members view the EFTRE website for updates. Interesting items around narrative and telling stories which is relevant in terms of looking at local curriculums. The EFTRE conference has been delayed until August 2023.

⇒ **REMW**

RT: RT is involved with Vaughan Salisbury and Libby Jones with adaptation of the anti-racist material into Welsh.

⇒ **NAPfRE**

PW: Met face to face for a whole day, yesterday. Really good to get back to in person with practical work in the afternoon. Responding to schools' requests and developing an exemplar RVE policy for schools. NAPfRE to share draft with WASACRE when available. Aim is to keep this document at a high level and ensure it is adaptable for schools because of subsidiarity. Basically, identifying relevant aspects of the framework and putting it into policy terms.

Other aims and objectives include work on a strategic plan and how we can strengthen our relationship with WASACRE after the impact of Covid19 and the absence of face-to-face meetings.

NAPfRE is writing to Welsh Government to ask for a review of the annual report writing process. There are many changes such as the way Estyn work and the way GSCEs are reported, an update is needed. Could WASACRE write a letter to Welsh Government about this as well?

Talked about the Government's Anti-Racism plan. NAPfRE are to link with DARPL and BAMEed. This is a big agenda and needs to ensure RVE is contributing to this discussion and managing the right to withdraw. With the latter, there is a need to positively engage with communities who might have issue with RVE, such as Jehovah Witness and Traveller communities, to mitigate any issues with the right to withdraw being removed.

Some of the advisers raised the issue of PL for non-specialists; is there enough PL available? It was previously mentioned that WASACRE was to put on a conference after the PL resources are completed. Can this be put back on agenda?

Request to have WASACRE meeting dates as early as possible as NAPfRE organises its meeting the day before the WASACRE meeting.

RS: Agrees that the annual report process needs to be updated. With regards to the PL for non-specialists, agrees this is a very important issue and WASACRE is to discuss this in the next meeting. WASACRE will aim to release dates for the meetings as soon as is possible.

RS: The concept of the conference has been put in the background but looking to reinstate within WASACRE's agenda for the coming year.

PW: NAPfRE is a large group of advisors from all LAs and other organisations. Its structure is different from years ago. NAPfRE would like to work with WASACRE in developing the conference.

RS: Welcomed the help from NAPfRE with setting up the conference.

ACTION: RS to share at the Executive Meeting NAPfRE's request to write a letter to Welsh Government regarding the annual review process.

ACTION: PL for non-specialists to be included in the WASACRE agenda.

10. Report from the Executive Committee held on 17 May 2022 (Rachel Samuel)

The last meeting was held on 17th May 2022, much of the agenda has already been discussed in this morning's meeting or will be discussed at the upcoming AGM this afternoon.

There was a discussion on the constitution which is being addressed at the AGM. Nominations for the Executive Committee and the voting procedure were discussed. Voting slips have been collated. Any SACREs that have not returned their voting slips or have sent them to Libby Jones on Friday or afterwards, need to forward them ASAP to AP so they can be finalised and collated ready for our AGM.

Discussed the Welsh Government and PL resources which have already been mentioned at Agenda items 6 and 7.

A question was raised from Cardiff and the Vale with regards to the numbers of GSCEs, with a request to add as an agenda item in the next WASACRE meeting. RS confirmed that this will be an agenda item in the coming year to look at the GSCE and A-level situation for Religious Studies and provide an update on figures. Possible discussion points as to how and why things are changing? Can the trend be reversed or is it due to a change in environment in examination with the new curriculum?

11. Correspondence

AP: Chris Abbas, of the Bahá'í faith, sent an event flyer for 'Freedom of Religion and Belief Conference' taking place tomorrow, St Mary's Church, Bute Street, Cardiff. Anyone interested please contact AP.

12. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)

RB: When discussing the move to face-to-face meetings for WASACRE, can the meetings be hybrid given the distance involved?

RS: This will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and the outcome reported to the WASACRE members.

ACTION: Meeting format to be discussed at next WASACRE Executive meeting.

13. Date for next meeting: Autumn 2022 TBC

DRAFT