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Date: 23rd October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Monday, 2nd November, 2015 at 2.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

Chris Burns
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

	Pages
1 To receive apologies for absence.	
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.	
3 To appoint a Vice-Chair to Caerphilly SACRE.	
To approve and sign the following minutes: -	
4 Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) - 10th June 2015.	

1 - 8

A greener place Man gwyrdach

Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat



To receive and consider the following reports:-

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 5 | Schedule of Meetings 2015-2016 (verbal update) | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 3rd March 2016 (2pm) – Lewis School Pengam• Tuesday 14th June 2016 (2pm) – Primary school venue (TBC). | |
| 6 | Membership Update 2015-2016 (report attached). | 9 - 10 |
| 7 | Caerphilly SACRE Annual Report 2014-2015 (report attached). | 11 - 38 |
| 8 | SACRE Development Plan 2015-2018 (report attached). | 39 - 44 |
| 9 | Caerphilly School Inspection Reports Analysis - Autumn 2014-Summer 2015 (report attached). | 45 - 54 |
| 10 | RE and the National Curriculum - Update (report attached). | 55 - 58 |
| 11 | Holocaust Memorial Day 2016 (report attached). | 59 - 60 |
| 12 | Request to issue the presentation made to WASACRE "Muslim Footballers in the Premier League" to all RE Secondary School departments in CCBC (verbal update). | |
| 13 | Correspondence (verbal update). | |

WASACRE:-

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 14 | Feedback from the Annual General Meeting in Mold - 25th June 2015 (report attached). | 61 - 74 |
| 15 | Representation at the next meeting of WASACRE in Blaenau Gwent - Wednesday 25th November 2015 (verbal update). | |

Circulation:

Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, D.G. Carter, Mrs G.D. Oliver, Mrs M.E. Sargent and J. Taylor (Chair)

And Appropriate Officers; Trade Union Representatives and Religious Organisations



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL, NEWBRIDGE, ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH JUNE 2015 AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Vice-Chair - Presiding

Representing Teaching Organisations: Miss H. Bartley (ATL), Mrs B. Davies (UCAC), Mrs L. Strange (NASUWT)

Representing Religious Organisations: Mrs J. Jones (Church in Wales), Mrs E. Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)

Together with:

Mrs V. Thomas (RE Consultant), Mrs T. Cunnick (Manager - Community, Youth Service and Adult), Miss R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

Also present:

Miss M. Jones (Newbridge School Pupil)

1. WELCOME

Mrs Vicky Thomas, RE Advisor to SACRE, opened the meeting and Members were welcomed to Newbridge School.

Mrs Tanis Cunnick was in attendance as the new local authority representative to Caerphilly SACRE, having replaced Mrs Keri Cole (who has now been designated as the Chief Education Officer for Caerphilly Council) in this capacity.

2. RETIREMENT OF CHAIR OF CAERPHILLY SACRE

Mrs Thomas advised Members that Councillor Michael Gray, Chair of Caerphilly SACRE, had recently announced his retirement from local government at the recent Annual Meeting of Council. Warm tributes were paid to the retiring Member and SACRE referenced his valuable contributions to both Caerphilly SACRE and the Wales Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education (WASACRE). Members added that Councillor Gray would be greatly missed by SACRE and wished him a long and happy retirement.

It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would write to Councillor Gray to convey the thanks and best wishes of Caerphilly SACRE.

3. APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIR TO CAERPHILLY SACRE

In view of Councillor Gray's retirement, nominations were sought for the position of Chair to Caerphilly SACRE. A nomination for Councillor John Taylor (the current Vice-Chair) was moved and seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that he be appointed Chair of Caerphilly SACRE up to the next County Borough elections.

Councillor Taylor moved to his position as Chair for the remainder of the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE would write to all Caerphilly SACRE Members to seek expressions of interest for the vacant post of Vice-Chair and that the matter be placed as an item for consideration on the Autumn 2015 meeting agenda.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, D.G. Carter, W. David, Mrs G.D. Oliver and Mrs M.E. Sargent, together with Mrs N. Boardman (NUT), Ms R. Bradshaw and Mr E. Mushayanyama (Co-opted Members), Lieutenant C. DiPalma (The Salvation Army), Mr M. Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese) and Rev E. Williams (Baptist Union of Wales).

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

6. MINUTES – 9TH MARCH 2014

Mrs Thomas referred to paragraph 6, Item 6 (Membership Update 2014-2015 and Humanist Request for Co-Option), which included a sentence that contained the wording "the situation regarding SACRE membership differed in Wales to that of English SACREs". Mrs Thomas asked for this portion of the sentence to be disregarded, in that it was an inaccurate reflection of the explanation of SACRE membership provided at that meeting. Subject to the above amendment, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 9th March 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

7. PRESENTATION – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL

Miss Helen Bartley, Head of Religious Education (RE) at Newbridge School, welcomed Members to the school, and introduced Mollie Jones (a Year 10 pupil), who would be assisting her with the presentation.

With the aid of a slideshow presentation, Miss Bartley delivered to SACRE Members an insight into the teaching and study of RE at the school, entitled "Why Study RE?". She outlined the RE staff at Newbridge School, together with reasons for the study of RE within the curriculum. Miss Bartley explained that it enables understanding about the world and the people who live in it, assists in listening to and respecting other people's views, provides self-assessment of beliefs and ideas, and aids the development of personal values and morals.

Miss Bartley outlined the structure of RE lessons within Newbridge School at Key Stages (KS) 3 and 4. RE is a compulsory curriculum subject and pupils receive 1 hour of RE study per week (or 1 hour per fortnight at KS4 if alternated with compulsory Welsh lessons). If RE is selected as a KS4 option then pupils have 5 hours of lessons per fortnight. Christianity and

Hinduism is studied in Year 7 and Judaism and Islam studied in Year 8. Miss Bartley outlined the ways in which KS3 assessment is carried out, together with the teaching and learning aids used in the study of RE (such as music, thinking maps, educational visits and peer activities).

The RE department also uses competitions to facilitate the study of RE and recent examples of these were outlined to Members, including "Design a poster showing the importance of Religious Education" and "Write a poem about the Holocaust". The winner of the latter competition was Samuel Baskerville in Year 8, who wrote a powerful and moving poem entitled "The End is Too Late" and subsequently had his work displayed at Blackwood Miners Institute.

Miss Bartley proceeded to outline the curriculum structure at Key Stage 4. In addition to the WJEC Compulsory Short Course at Years 9, 10 and 11, comprising of 1 hour per week, pupils who take RE as a KS4 option (Full Course) study Judaism in Years 9 and 10 and Christianity in Year 11 (5 hours per fortnight). She explained that this curriculum would be subject to change in September with the introduction of revised specifications for GCSE and GCE/A Level and discussed with the RE Advisor to SACRE how these changes could impact on the Full Course and Short Course and their respective time allocations.

Miss Bartley outlined examples of extra-curricular RE activities at KS4, including visits to local churches and synagogues, together with attending Holocaust Memorial Day in Cardiff. The school has also taken pupils on trips abroad to Berlin in Germany, and to the Auschwitz Concentration Camp and Krakow in Poland. Pupils have attended a performance of "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the New Theatre in Cardiff and recently received a visit from the Korean Dance Group.

Miss Mollie Jones from Year 10 was then invited to explain to SACRE why she had chosen to take Religious Education as a KS4 study option. Mollie explained that she found the subject matter interesting and enjoys learning about different religions and the world around her. She explained that she is actively encouraged by teachers in her RE studies and intends to take the subject as one of her A-Levels. She has enjoyed the various trips organised by the school, including a synagogue visit and meeting a rabbi, and explained that anti-Semitism studies have given her an understanding of the struggle faced by Jews and the perspectives of other people. She gave examples of the learning aids and support given to pupils in their exam preparation, which included sitting in the examination hall and completing past papers to help with confidence and familiarise pupils with the subject matter. In response to a question from the RE Advisor to SACRE, Mollie explained that she thoroughly enjoyed the discussion aspect of RE and found that it was useful to listen to other people's viewpoints within the course of debates.

SACRE Members congratulated Mollie on an enthusiastic and insightful presentation, and she left the meeting at that point.

Discussion of matters raised during the course of the presentation ensued and Miss Bartley explained that the RE department will thoroughly consider and assess the impact of the revised specifications for GCSE and GCE/A Level on delivering RE within the school. Miss Bartley also referenced the introduction of the revised Welsh Baccalaureate from September 2015, which assesses a variety of pupil skills (such as literacy and numeracy) and will be the key performance indicator for schools from September 2018. Detailed discussion arose as to how this could affect the structure of Religious Education lessons.

Members were referred to the minutes of the last WASACRE meeting on 6th March 2015, at which this matter was discussed in detail. Mrs Thomas outlined to Members the discussions arising from that meeting, which included concerns from RE Heads about KS4 RE time being used for Welsh Baccalaureate-dedicated lessons in their schools. At that meeting, Mrs Thomas' comments in regards to RE being a statutory requirement were reiterated by other WASACRE Members who called for the need for schools, especially RE departments, to be supported by their SACREs at this time. Further discussion took place as to how the new

curriculum would be taught alongside the Welsh Bacallaureate and Mrs Thomas suggested that it would be useful for RE teachers to liaise with their Welsh Bacallaureate co-ordinator for the county borough in respect of this matter.

SACRE agreed that they would monitor the situation and assess the impact of the revised Welsh Bacallaureate qualification on Religious Education at a future point in time.

The Chair thanked Miss Bartley and Mollie Jones for their presentations to SACRE.

8. SACRE MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Members were referred to the minutes of the previous meeting (9th March 2015) and the RE Advisor summarised the situation to date arising from the recent application for Humanist representation within SACRE. Members were advised that they would be further updated on this matter at the next meeting in Autumn 2015.

9. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2015-16

The tentative meeting dates proposed within the agenda were agreed by Members and offers were sought from SACRE Members for suitable host venues. Locations for two meetings were confirmed and details of these meetings will be sent to the relevant persons.

The Autumn Term meeting will be held on Monday 2nd November 2015 (2pm) at Penallta House Council Offices, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach.

The Spring Term meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd March 2016 (2pm) at Lewis School, Pengam.

The Summer Term will be held on Tuesday 14th June 2016 (2pm). Details of the venue will be circulated to Members once confirmed.

10. FEEDBACK ON DONALDSON REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The report detailed the background of a review of assessment arrangements and the National Curriculum in Wales, which is led by Professor Graham Donaldson and includes two phases. Professor Donaldson has now reported back to the Education Minister regarding Phase 2 of the review.

Mrs Thomas gave SACRE an overview of the main messages within the Donaldson Review applicable to Religious Education. The full Review is available on the Welsh Government website. The Review proposes that RE should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and remain a statutory curriculum from reception class (Pages 46-47). Mrs Thomas outlined the ongoing consultation and response to the Donaldson Review and suggested that it would be useful to receive clarification on how these proposals relate to the requirement for spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development in schools.

Between the ages of 14-16, the Review (Page 61) recommends that young people should continue to study aspects of the curriculum which are important to achieving some of the characteristic of the four purposes of education that would not be achieved otherwise, including RE. The Review also proposes that a general duty be placed on schools to organise and deliver a curriculum for all children and young people that is designed to meet the four purposes of education (Page 100). In line with national policy, specific duties may also be placed on schools in relation to the Welsh language and RE.

Mrs Thomas tabled a copy of a Powerpoint presentation which had previously been discussed at the NAPfRE meeting on 5th March 2015 and WASACRE on 6th March 2016. The Powerpoint highlighted some of the main points of the Donaldson Review, including the four purposes of the curriculum, the six areas of learning and experience, cross-curriculum responsibilities (literacy, numeracy and digital competence), subsidiarity, and the next stage in the Review process.

The presentation slides contained questions for interested RE parties to consider as part of the 'Great Debate' consultation process and were centred around a number of areas, such as spirituality, pedagogical principles and teacher involvement in shaping the curriculum. Members' attention was directed to the support for educational progression and the cross-curriculum responsibilities detailed in the Review, in particular that of digital competence.

On 15th April 2015, the National Advisory Panel for Wales (NAPfRE) and Members of WASACRE met to discuss the implications for RE of the Donaldson Review and to formulate a response on behalf of the Panel and WASACRE. SACREs were also afforded the opportunity to respond, with a copy of the NAPfRE response being sent to all SACRE members for comment and a formal response to Welsh Government made from Caerphilly SACRE.

Following consideration of views arising from the first phase of the Great Debate, a formal statement by the Minister for Education, Huw Lewis, on the next stage of the review of the curriculum and assessment arrangements will be presented in Summer 2015.

Having discussed the key points raised in the report and presentation and the impact that this could have on RE (particularly at KS3), Members noted the contents of the report.

11. FEEDBACK ON WASACRE PRESENTATION "ENGAGING BOYS IN RE AND RAISING THEIR STANDARDS"

Members were reminded of the results of an Estyn inspection which identified an issue around the motivation of boys in the study of RE. Mrs Thomas explained that at the last WASACRE meeting, a presentation was delivered by Mary Parry (a local authority RE Advisor) which explored this matter further. During this presentation, Mrs Parry shared a scheme of work for KS3 pupils that she had developed, entitled "Muslim Footballers in the Premier League". The scheme contains a number of tasks which aims to engage and motivate boys, raise standards, implement the Literacy and Numeracy Framework, and develop religious education skills and thinking skills.

Copies of the scheme were tabled at the meeting and Mrs Thomas outlined the activities with the scheme and how they related to RE. The scheme outlined a number of Muslim footballers throughout the Premier League and contained activities which asked pupils to consider the ways in which Islam affect players' lives on and off the football pitch. This included the considerations of performing Salah on match days, rules about Islam and money and the dilemma for Muslim footballers in relation to Saum (fasting) and performance. The scheme also contained an exercise where two Muslim football supporters were away on a coach trip and pupils had to take into account a number of considerations in regards to their evening meal. By making Islamic study adaptable and relevant to a topic that they could identify with, it was hoped that this scheme of work would engage boys in RE and raise their standards.

SACRE were pleased to note the interesting and original ideas contained within the scheme of work, and teaching association Members were encouraged to take these ideas back to their classrooms.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk to SACRE advised Members that a copy of a leaflet from Religious Education Movement Wales (REMW), which outlined a number of useful teaching resources, had recently been circulated to all schools in the county borough. This information had also been emailed to Members.

13. FEEDBACK FROM THE WASACRE MEETING AT PORT TALBOT – 6TH MARCH 2015

Members were updated on the discussions and deliberation of WASACRE at its meeting in Port Talbot on 6th March 2015.

Reference was made to discussion of the revised Welsh Baccalaureate at the WASACRE meeting, together with changes to GCSE and A Level specifications in Wales. A number of NAPfRE presentations were received at that meeting including *The Literacy and Numeracy Framework of RE*, which outlined the work of University of Wales Trinity Saint David students in incorporating this framework in the teaching of religious education. The other two presentations, *Curriculum Review*, which addressed the Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum and *Engaging boys in RE and raising their standards* were discussed earlier in the SACRE meeting.

Mrs Thomas explained that she had also updated WASACRE Members on the work of Caerphilly SACRE in regards to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development comments in Estyn reports, including the letter that had been sent to the Chief Inspector at Estyn and the subsequent response received.

SACRE noted the discussions and deliberations of WASACRE at the Port Talbot Meeting

14. REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING WASACRE MEETINGS

Members were advised of the dates and times of forthcoming WASACRE meetings and sought nominations for representation from Caerphilly SACRE.

With regards to the WASACRE meeting of **25th June 2015** (Mold, Flintshire), it was noted that Mrs Thomas would be in attendance. Councillor J. Taylor advised that he might be able to attend, subject to other commitments.

With regards to attendance at the WASACRE meeting of **25th November 2015** (Blaenau Gwent), it was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next SACRE meeting on 2nd November 2015.

15. EXECUTIVE VOTING FOR THE PERIOD 2015-2016

The report to Members detailed nominations in respect of the WASACRE Executive Committee and Vice Chair to WASACRE ahead of the WASACRE meeting on 25th June 2015.

It was noted that there had originally been three nominations for two positions on the Executive Committee, but in that Councillor Michael Gray had withdrawn his nomination due to his retirement, the two remaining nominations would be automatically elected to the Executive Committee. The single nomination for the position of Vice Chair would also be automatically elected.

Members noted the nominations to the WASACRE Executive Committee and to the position of Vice Chair.

The Chair thanked the Members of Caerphilly SACRE for their attendance at the meeting and also Miss Helen Bartley for her kind hospitality and informative presentation.

The meeting closed at 3.33 pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2015, they were signed by the Chair.

CHAIR

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE 2015-2016

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth

Councillor D.G. Carter

Vacancy

Councillor Mrs G.D. Oliver

Councillor Mrs M.E. Sargent

Councillor J. Taylor (Chair)

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Miss Helen Bartley (ATL)

Mrs Nicola L. Boardman (NUT)

Mrs Bethan Davies (UCAC)

Mrs Helen Marsh (ASCL)

Mr Chris Parry (NAHT)

Mrs Laura Strange (NASUWT)

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Rev Eryl Williams (Baptist Union of Wales)

Mr Martyn Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)

Mrs Enfys Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)

Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales)

Lieutenant Carl Di-Palma (The Salvation Army)

CO OPTED MEMBERS (2 places)

(1) Ms Rhianne Bradshaw (St James Primary School)

(2) Mr Eddy Mushayanyama (Race Equality Wales)

OFFICERS

Mrs Tanis Cunnick (Manager - Community, Youth Service and Adult)

Mrs Vicky Thomas (Independent RE Consultant)

CLERK TO SACRE

Miss Rebecca Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

Email: barrerm@caerphilly.gov.uk

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To offer to Members of SACRE the Annual Report for 2014-2015.
2. To present a brief summary of this report.
3. To consider the progress made by the Development Plan 2012-2015.

B EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the Annual Report from Caerphilly SACRE and outlines the activities of SACRE during the academic year 2014-2015. It follows the guidelines laid down by DfES.

C RECOMMENDATION

Members of SACRE are requested to **note** and **approve** the report. The report is to be sent to the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) by 30th December 2015.

D SUPPORTING INFORMATION

SACRE Annual Report 2014-2015 – Final Draft (attached at Appendix 1).

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015

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

2014-2015

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2014- 2015

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 Duty To Establish SACRE

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

1.2 Composition Of SACRE

Representation on SACRE is required as follows:-

- Such Christian and other religious denominations as, in the opinion of the Local Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- Associations representing teachers
- The Local Authority

The Local Authority determined that the SACRE should comprise of six elected members, five representatives of religious bodies and six representatives of teachers' associations. In addition, the Authority allowed for two other individuals to be co-opted. Both co-opted places are currently filled.

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The list of members of Caerphilly SACRE is set out in Appendix 1. Every effort has been made to seek representation from non-Christian communities but SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding such representation. SACRE commissioned the Clerk to SACRE to find out the composition of religions in Caerphilly County Borough Council and it was evident that statistically there are very few non-Christian religions represented in the area. The Clerk to SACRE contacted VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council) to see if a wider representation can be found. Mr Eddy Mushayanyama (Race Equality Wales) now serves as a co-opted member of SACRE to bring his experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

1.4 Functions of SACRE

- To advise the Local Authority on worship and the religious education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus including methods of teaching, advice on materials and the provision of training for teachers
- To consider whether to recommend to the local authority that its current agreed syllabus should be reviewed by convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- To consider whether the requirement that religious worship in a county school should be 'broadly Christian in nature' should be varied (determinations)
- To report to the Local Authority and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2014-2015.

Thursday 6th November 2014

Monday 9th March 2015

Wednesday 10th June 2015

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2014-2015 SACRE held two meetings at schools in the county borough and one at the Council Offices.

1.6 Development Plan

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2012-2015. A year on year progress report is included in the plan. The plan can be found in Appendix 3.

1.7 Circulation of Report

Copies of this report are circulated electronically to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 5. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

DRAFT

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 2014-2015 there were no RE subject specific issues identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.
2. SACRE, in consultation with the local authority and its schools resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor provision and standards in RE. A review of school self evaluation reports took place in 2012-2013 and a summary report was presented to SACRE at its Spring meeting. No further SE has taken place. The process was not as effective as expected and SACRE endeavours to visit schools on an annual basis and receive a presentation on RE at the school so that strengths and weaknesses can be identified and issues can be addressed directly.
3. SACRE analyses examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data. Schools are informed of the outcomes of this analysis and SACRE raises any issues schools should be addressing as a result of this analysis. In 2014 SACRE were concerned about uptake at AS level and schools were asked to complete a pro forma for SACRE identifying future trends in take up for AS level which showed an upward trend. Members were pleased to note that following on from its audit there has been a significant increase in entries this year which endorsed the schools' predictions. In the academic year 2014-2015 schools were informed of the analysis of examination performance and any issues that have emerged.

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and ensure the agreed syllabus is being implemented in schools

Action

1. In 2008 Standing Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools, which was implemented from September 2008.
2. In June 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review.
3. SACRE was informed of the progress of the National Curriculum Review and its main messages. One of these was that RE should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and should remain a statutory curriculum requirement from reception. The implications of this for agreed syllabus

development was discussed and it was agreed to wait until Welsh Government provide more details on this before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. The National Advisory Panel for RE and WASACRE have responded to the WG questionnaire and a formal response to Welsh government was also made from Caerphilly SACRE.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. All schools were informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Keep The Memory Alive' and that free Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk - these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post-16 students.
2. At its Summer 2015 meeting SACRE were informed of resources created by Mary Parry (Carmarthenshire LA) addressing the issue of raising the attainment of boys. The resource on "Muslim Footballers in the Premier League" covers aspects of the Five Pillars of Islam and raises issues regarding how the beliefs of Muslim footballers affect their lives. With the permission of Mary Parry, SACRE have agreed to circulate to each secondary school's RE department a copy of the resource materials and its accompanying CD-ROM.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers are able to access appropriate CPD.

Action

1. With the current Welsh Assembly Government's emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy no subject specific training is on offer.

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. The provision for collective worship had positive comments stating that schools were promoting pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development well but a key recommendation is made regarding non-fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship in one primary school. SACRE followed this up with the school, requesting their action plan, and SACRE were pleased that the LA was working closely with Estyn to monitor that statutory requirements were met.

2. SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
3. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g. HMD 2015.
4. SACRE had resolved to use school self-evaluation as a means of fulfilling its statutory responsibility to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. A review of school self evaluation reports took place during 2012-2013 and a summary report was presented to SACRE at its Spring meeting. No further SE has taken place.

OTHER ISSUES:

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

1. SACRE has maintained its membership of WASACRE and receives termly feedback from the meetings of the Association.
2. Members have received presentations on a number of issues:
 - (1) WJEC presentation - "*What Does The Data Tell Us?*"
 - (2) The Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum;
 - (3) Mary Parry's presentation - "*Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE*".
 - (4) Ysgol y Lawnt presentation - "*RE in the Primary School*"
 - (5) Newbridge School presentation - "*RE in the Secondary School*"

SECTION 2: ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

In 2008 the Standing Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools to be implemented from September 2008. The agreed syllabus closely relates to the National Exemplar Framework for RE. During the 2012-2013 academic year SACRE was made aware of the announcement by the Minister of a pending review of assessment and the National Curriculum in Wales. This review would involve the introduction of the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework and the identification of revisions to the current assessment and curriculum arrangements. During the Summer Term 2013 Standing Conference endorsed the re-adoption of the current syllabus with an understanding that the syllabus would undergo review once the outcomes of the review of assessment, the National Curriculum and the Foundation Phase are made available. SACRE has been updated on the NC review and Professor Donaldson has reported to WG. SACRE have responded to the WG questionnaire on the recommendations of Donaldson. SACRE are awaiting further details from Welsh Government on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review.

2.2 Standards In RE

SACRE has adopted a number of strategies for monitoring standards being achieved in religious education in the Authority's schools that include the following:

2.2a School Inspection Reports

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinised relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for the period academic year Autumn 2013-Summer 2014. If any issues emerge regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. Fourteen schools were inspected consisting of 1 infant school, eleven primary schools, and 2 secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

At primary and secondary level, comments were positive, stating that curriculum and statutory requirements were met and that schools studied other cultures, had opportunities to reflect on the practices of different religions and celebrated diversity. There were strong links with local churches and pupils benefit from a variety of visits and visitors. There was good provision for global citizenship and education for sustainable development. There were no RE subject specific issues identified in the reports and therefore no follow-up action was necessary.

2.2b Examination Results 2014

Examination results for GCSE and GCE AS/Advanced Level achieved by pupils at secondary schools within the Authority have been analysed and considered. A three-year analysis is conducted so that a comparison can be made and trends identified. Cohort entry numbers are also analysed and a comparison is made to All-Wales figures (where available).

In **GCSE Religious Studies** fourteen schools entered 656 pupils. Entry numbers are below previous numbers but number of schools entering candidates has increase this year. 13/14 schools have entries in double or triple figures. In Wales the entry figure was 11,368 which is an increase on previous entry figures.

The overall % of **A*-A grades was 25.6%** and is similar to 2013 but below the performance of 2012 and the All-Wales figure of 31%.

The overall % of **A*-C grades was 73%** and is the best results of the last three years and slightly better than the All-Wales figure of 72%

The overall % of **A*-G grades was 98.8%** and is comparable with the previous two years' results and the All-Wales figure of 98%

SACRE notes that results are good this year particularly at A*-C and that figures compare with All-Wales figures at A*-C and A*-G.

At GCSE Short Course in Religious Education numbers have significantly decreased this year after an increase last year. Thirteen schools in the Authority continue to enter pupils for the short course. Three schools have entry numbers in triple figures and thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. Some schools enter pupils for two short courses and their performance has been reflected in the full course results. However, it is important to bear in mind that those pupils entered for two short courses will be mainly the more able and this will reflect on the A*-A and A*-C results for Short Course.

The overall % of **A*-A grades of 10.8%** and is below 2013 the performance of the last two years and the All-Wales figure of 15%.

The overall % of **A*-C grades was 49.7%** and is below 2013 performance and slightly better than 2012 performance. It also falls below the All-Wales figure of 53%.

The overall % of **A*-G grades was 95%** and is comparable with the All-Wales figure of 94%.

SACRE is pleased that a significant number of pupils continue to be entered for Short Course and that 95% of pupils receive some kind of accreditation for their studies at KS4, especially when this course is usually delivered as part of statutory requirements for RE rather than an option subject.

At **GCE Advanced Level** entry figures are comparable to last year with 64 entries.

A*-A was achieved by **17.2%** of students and is below previous performance and comparable with the All-Wales figure of 18%.

At **A*-C** candidates achieved a pass rate of **89.1%** which is the best result of the last three years and better than the All-Wales figure of 79%.

The pass rate for grades **A-E** of **100%** is excellent and continues the excellent performance of previous years and exceeds the All-Wales figure of 98%.

At **AS level** there was a decrease in entry numbers this year with 19 candidates from 6 schools.

Grade **A** was achieved by **21.1%** of students and is the best performance of the last three years

47.4% of students achieved **A*-C** which is below 2013 but slightly better than 2012.

100% pass rate for grades **A-E** is excellent and the best performance of the last three years.

The data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2014, but have not yet cached the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cached in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

It should be noted that definitive conclusions could not be drawn because the figures represent raw scores and do not necessarily reflect the selectivity of the entry and in some cases the numbers are too small to be statistically significant.

A detailed table of examination results is found in Appendix 4.

SACRE resolved to write to schools informing them of the examination analysis.

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teaching Materials And Teacher Training

Continuing Professional Development

The local authority informed SACRE that the South East Wales Consortium advertises their courses through CPD online. With the current Welsh Assembly Government's emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy no subject specific training is on offer.

RE News

SACRE agreed to inform all schools of the RE News website and encourage schools to submit articles <http://www.religious-education-wales.org>

The website is now available free of charge to anyone who wishes to use it.

It is suitable for both primary and secondary schools and is fully bi-lingual.

Teaching Materials

Holocaust Memorial Day 2015 Resources

All schools were informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of '*Keep The Memory Alive*' by exploring and sharing the powerful stories of survivors in a year that marks two important anniversaries – the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica, Bosnia.. Further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk - these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

Resources to Support Boys Attainment

At its Summer 2015 meeting SACRE were informed of resources created by Mary Parry (Carmarthenshire LA) addressing the issue of raising the attainment of boys. The resource on "*Muslim Footballers in the Premier League*" covers aspects of the Five Pillars of Islam and raises issues regarding how the beliefs of Muslim footballers affect their lives. With the permission of Mary Parry, SACRE have agreed to circulate to each secondary school's RE department a copy of the resource materials and its accompanying CD-ROM.

SECTION 3: ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 School Inspection Reports

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinised relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for the period academic year Autumn 2013- Summer 2014. If any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. Fourteen schools were inspected consisting of 1 infant school, eleven primary schools, and 2 secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

The provision for collective worship had positive comments stating that schools were promoting pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development well. Good features included comment that assemblies support pupils in developing respect for their own culture and for other cultures; that they celebrate pupils' progress and achievement well; that they provide suitable opportunities for pupils to reflect upon moral and spiritual issues and that they give pupils a very good understanding of right and wrong. At secondary level acts of collective worship were well planned and contribute well to SMSC.

However, there was a key recommendation regarding non-fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship in one primary school. SACRE followed this up with the school. The school had produced an action plan demonstrating how they intended to meet the requirements. SACRE noted the progress made and were informed that the LA was working closely with Estyn to monitor that statutory requirements were met.

Comments on spiritual development were evident in 12 out of the 14 reports analysed. The majority of reports show inspectors are making comment under 2.3 *Care Support and Guidance* section of the report. However, SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors (in their next e-shot) that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.

SACRE resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable. They also resolved to continue to request the action plans of any schools identified as not fulfilling statutory requirements.

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 Estyn Reporting on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

SACRE monitors that statutory requirements for collective worship are met by examining Estyn inspection reports for comments on the development of spiritual and moral education and the contribution made by acts of collective worship. The majority

of reports show inspectors are making comment under 2.3 *Care Support and Guidance* section of the report. However, some inspectors are failing to make such a comment resulting in lack of consistency in the reporting procedure. SACRE resolved to write to the Chief Inspector of Estyn raising the issue of two school reports not making an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and also raise the issue of lack of comments on the *quality* of acts of collective worship. SACRE welcomed the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector, that she would be reminding inspectors that it is a statutory requirement to make an evaluative comment on the quality of provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. This would support SACRE to fulfill its monitoring role.

3.4 School Visits

SACRE appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. Members had the opportunity to host their SACRE meeting at one primary school and one secondary school this year but did not attend an act of collective worship.

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SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2014-2015 academic year issues considered at WASACRE meetings have been fully reported back to SACRE and full discussions have taken place. SACRE welcomes the pro-active work of WASACRE in taking up issues that have implications for RE and keeping member SACREs fully informed. SACRE is represented on the WASACRE Executive committee by their professional consultant Mrs Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from Mrs Thomas and those representing SACRE at WASACRE meetings.

4.2 Holocaust Education

Caerphilly SACRE was informed of the 2015 Holocaust Memorial Day theme '*Keep The Memory Alive*' and that further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk.

SACRE resolved to inform schools about the availability of these resources and encourage them to commemorate HMD in some way. SACRE discussed how some schools were embracing the issues raised by HMD very seriously and reference was made to some primary and secondary schools who were conducting activities and acts of collective worship to commemorate the day.

4.3 Welsh Government National Curriculum Review

SACRE were informed of the progress of the National Curriculum Review and its main messages. One of these was that RE should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and should remain a statutory curriculum requirement from reception. The implications of this for agreed syllabus development was discussed and it was agreed to wait until Welsh Government provide further details on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and also to receive advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. SACRE have responded to the recommendations made in the report through completing the WG questionnaire.

4.4 Revised Criteria for GCSE and GCE Specifications

SACRE were informed of the proposed changes to specifications and assessment practices for GCSE and GCE. Schools will be consulted on these changes and will be expected to complete a questionnaire. SACRE were informed of the process and timescale for its development with an implementation date of Autumn 2016

4.5 RE News

Members discussed developments in relation to RE News with future copies being published online and free of charge to schools. SACRE resolved to inform schools of the changes and to encourage schools to submit articles sharing good practice in RE.

4.6 Training of SACRE Members

As part of its training for members SACRE proposed the following:

To keep members updated on developments in RE through regular presentations to SACRE members. Mrs Vicky Thomas made a number of presentations this year,

including feedback on the WJEC presentation “*What Does The Data Tell Us?*”, feedback on the Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum and feedback on Mary Parry’s presentation, *Motivating Boys and Improving Boys’ Achievement in RE*.

SACRE, where possible, holds meetings at places of worship in the county borough. This year no visits were made to places of worship.

SACRE, where possible, holds meetings at schools in Caerphilly for Members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Meetings were held at a primary and a secondary school this year. The Autumn 2014 meeting was held at Ysgol y Lawnt and Members received a presentation on RE at the school from the RE coordinator. The Summer 2015 meeting was held at Newbridge School and Members received a presentation on RE at the school from the Head of RE. SACRE wishes to extend their thanks to the two schools for hosting the meetings.

SACRE is very appreciative of these opportunities for training and visits and would like to extend their appreciation to all concerned. A special note of thanks is extended to the Clerk to SACRE (Rebecca Barrett) for all her hard work in making such arrangements this year.

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APPENDIX 1: SACRE MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Councillor D.G. Carter

Councillor W. David

Councillor D.M. Gray (Chair) to May 2015 and replaced by Councillor J. Taylor (10.06.15)

Councillor Mrs G.D. Oliver

Councillor Mrs M.E. Sargent

Councillor J. Taylor (Vice-Chair) and nominated Chair 10.06.15

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Miss Helen Bartley (ATL)

Mrs Nicola L. Boardman (NUT)

Mrs Bethan Davies (UCAC)

Mrs Helen Marsh (ASCL)

Vacancy (NAHT)

Mrs Laura Strange (NASUWT)

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Rev Eryl Williams – (Baptist Union of Wales)

Mr Martyn Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)

Mrs Enfyf Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)

Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales)

Lieutenant Carl Di-Palma (The Salvation Army)

CO OPTED MEMBERS

(1) Race Equality Wales representative – Mr Eddy Mushayanyama

(2) Primary school representative – Ms Rhianne Bradshaw (St James Primary School)

OFFICERS

Mrs Keri Cole (Learning, Education and Inclusion Manager) - replaced by Mrs Tanis Cunnick (Community, Youth Service and Adult Manager) 10.06.15

Mrs Vicky Thomas (Independent RE Consultant)

CLERK TO SACRE

Miss Rebecca Barrett

NOTE

SACRE has experienced difficulties in finding representatives from religious groups other than Christianity. SACRE had commissioned the clerk to SACRE to find out the composition of religions in Caerphilly County Borough Council and it was evident that statistically there are very few non-Christian religions represented in the area. The clerk to SACRE had contacted VALREC (Valleys Racial Equality Council) to see if a wider representation could be found. It was agreed that a co-opted place would be given to VALREC/Race Equality Wales so that they could bring their experience of working with different communities to the work of SACRE.

A request for membership of SACRE was made on behalf of the British Humanist Association who asked to make a presentation to SACRE. This was granted. After lengthy discussion by the Committee, Members voted in their three respective committee groups and unanimously agreed that a co-opted place be refused.

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

Thursday 6th November 2014 at Ysgol y Lawnt

Main Agenda Items

- Presentation on RE at Ysgol y Lawnt – Mrs Bethan Davies (RE Coordinator)
- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings
- Membership Update and Humanist Request for Co-Option
- SACRE Annual Report 2013-2014
- SACRE Development Plan 2012-2015: Progress Report (see Annual report)
- Analysis of Caerphilly Inspection Reports Sept 2013-July 2014
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2015
- RE News Website
- WASACRE Issues - including Report of WASACRE AGM at Powys, Executive Appointments and representation at the next meeting in Port Talbot
- Correspondence

Monday 9th March 2015 at Penallta House Council Offices

Main Agenda Items

- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Action Plan Rhydri Primary School – Acts of Collective Worship
- Membership Update and Humanist Request for Co-option
- Analysis of Examination Performance 2014
- WJEC presentation to WASACRE “*What Does The Data Tell Us?*”
- Revised criteria for GCSE and GCE specifications
- Update on National Curriculum Review and Assessment
- Estyn Reporting of Collective Worship
- WASACRE Issues - including feedback from meetings at Torfaen and Port Talbot, nominations to the WASACRE Executive and representation at the next meeting in Mold, Flintshire
- Correspondence

Wednesday June 10th 2015 at Newbridge School

Main Agenda Items

- Appointment of Chair of SACRE
- Presentation on RE at Newbridge School – Miss Helen Bartley (Head of RE)
Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings 2015-2016
- Membership Update
- Feedback on Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum
- Feedback on WASACRE presentation - *Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE* by Mary Parry
- WASACRE Issues - including report of WASACRE meeting at Port Talbot, representation at the next meeting in Mold, and Executive Voting for the Period 2014 –2015
- Correspondence

APPENDIX 3: CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012-2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 1: To monitor standards in Religious Education and Religious Studies

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
1.1 Monitor standards through regular review of inspection reports/ Estyn thematic reviews/ school self evaluation reports and recommend, where necessary, action by Local Authority.	Annual/termly agenda item	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 and 10.6.13. No issues relating to RE have been identified in the reports. A review of school self evaluation was considered on 28.2.13 2013-2014 SACRE agreed an annual analysis would take place in the autumn of each academic year. Next analysis Autumn 2014 2014-2015 Considered 6.11.14.
1.2 Receive information on results of: Teacher Assessment at end of Key Stage 3; GCSE Religious Studies Full and Short Course; A/AS level Religious Studies.	Autumn/ Spring Term	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools.	2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 2013-2014 Considered 5.3.14 2014-2015 Considered 9.3.15. Schools informed of outcomes.
1.3 Identify INSET needs, monitor and offer advice on training.	Autumn Term	Full SACRE	Agenda time	Training programme received along with figures on uptake; advice to LA.	2012-2013 Considered 2.10.12 2013- 2014 No INSET provided by LA or SEWC Consortia. WASACRE provided subject

					specific training through their Conference Oct 2013 2014-2015 No INSET provided by LA or SEWC Consortia.
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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 2: To review the agreed syllabus (as appropriate) and support its implementation

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
2.1 To review the agreed syllabus for Religious Education	Summer 2012 onwards (or as appropriate)	Full SACRE Adviser Working group NAPFRE	Advisory time to review the agreed syllabus. Establish a working group (if applicable). Convene a Standing Conference to adopt the syllabus Publication/ translation costs (as appropriate)	Agreed syllabus reviewed and adopted by Standing Conference. Agreed Syllabus training programme for schools (if required) Agreed syllabus to be implemented the Autumn term after adoption.	<p>2012-2013 Standing Conference was held on 10.6.13 and the syllabus was re-adopted and will be reviewed once the outcomes of the review of the national curriculum are known.</p> <p>2013-2014 Awaiting outcomes of NC Review. WASACRE has met Prof Donaldson to discuss implications of review on RE and agreed syllabuses.</p> <p>2014-2015 Prof Donaldson has reported to WG. SACRE are awaiting further details from Welsh Government on the shape of RE in the curriculum, and advice from WASACRE, before beginning any RE agreed syllabus review. SACRE have responded to WG on the recommendations</p>

					of Donaldson.
2.2 Materials to support implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE	Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time	Support materials available to schools and accessed through Consortium website.	2012-2013 Not Applicable 2013-2014 Schools informed of RE Quest resources 2014-2015 Schools sent materials from Carmarthenshire LA

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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 3: To monitor provision and provide support for collective worship.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
3.1 Monitor provision for collective worship through regular review of inspection reports/ school self evaluation reports; recommend, where necessary, action by LA.	Annual/ termly agenda item	Full SACRE and Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	<p>2012-2013 Considered 12.12.12 and 10.6.13. Action plans from two secondary schools have been requested. A review of school self evaluation was reported to SACRE at its meeting of 28.2.13</p> <p>2013-2014 SACRE agreed an annual analysis would take place in the autumn of each academic year. Next analysis Autumn 2014. 14.11.13 SACRE considered the action plans of two schools not fulfilling statutory requirements.</p> <p>2014-2015 Considered 6.11.15. SACRE followed up with one primary school not complying with statutory requirements for collective worship and the school was now fully complying with statutory requirements.</p>
3.2 To support the implementation of statutory collective worship	Ongoing	Advisory service	Advisory time	Provision of INSET (if applicable) Schools informed of resources and websites for collective worship. Schools informed of guidance materials available for collective	<p>2012-2013 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2013 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p> <p>2013-2014 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2014 including</p>

				worship	resources for acts of collective worship. 2013-2014 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2015 including resources for acts of collective worship.
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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012 – 2015 (ACADEMIC YEAR

Aim 4: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues related to RE and collective worship in schools.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
4.1 To update members on the role of SACRE and its implications; recent developments in RE and collective worship; guidance materials from relevant bodies; input from practising teachers and outside providers	Annually as required	SACRE members, Adviser, practising teachers, outside providers	Member time; Adviser / Officer time	SACRE members fully aware of their responsibilities. SACRE and schools updated and informed of recent developments and initiatives, both local and national.	<p>2012-2013 SACRE presentations 2.10.12 presentation on the work of the RE department from Cwmcarn High school. 28.2.13 presentation on the teaching of RE from an NQT perspective.</p> <p>2013-2014 SACRE visited three schools this year, attended two acts of collective worship and received two presentations. 12.6.14 presentation on <i>The Role and Functions of a SACRE</i> by V. Thomas 12.6.14 presentation on <i>The History and Work of The Salvation Army</i> and tour of Citadel by C. Di-Palma</p> <p>2014-2015 SACRE received several presentations this year. <i>What Does The Data Tell Us?</i> (WJEC); <i>Donaldson Review of the National Curriculum</i>; <i>Motivating Boys and Improving Boys' Achievement in RE</i>;</p>
4.2 Programme of school visits.	Annually as required	SACRE members,	Member time; Officer	More informed SACRE on provision and practice	<p>2012-2013 SACRE visited three schools this</p>

		Adviser/ Officers	time to arrange visits	regarding RE and collective worship in schools.	year, attended two acts of collective worship and received two presentations. 2013-2014 SACRE visited one school this year and attended an act of collective worship. 2014-2015 SACRE visited two schools this year and received two presentations.
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APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2014

GCSE Full Course Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	25.6%	27%	35%	31%
A*-C	73.0%	64%	69%	72%
A*- G	98.8%	99%	99%	98%
Entry Number	656 14 schools	699 13 schools	697 14 schools	11,368

GCSE Short Course Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	10.8%	25%	15%	15%
A*-C	49.7%	59%	47%	53%
A*-G	95.0%	97%	92%	94%
Entry Number	866 13 schools	1317 13 schools	949 13 schools	12,191

GCE A Level Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A*-A	17.2%	20%	19%	18%
A*-C	89.1%	72%	67%	79%
A*-E	100%	100%	100%	98%
Entry Number	64 8 schools	67 8 schools	67 8 schools	1,432

GCE AS Level Religious Studies 2014

	Caerphilly 2014	Caerphilly 2013	Caerphilly 2012	Wales 2014
A	21.1%	11.5%	9.1%	N/A
A-C	47.4%	53.8%	45.5%	N/A
A -E	100%	69.2%	77.3%	N/A
Entry Number	19 6 schools	26 7 schools	22 7 schools	N/A

Please Note:

Data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2014, but have not yet cached the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cached in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

APPENDIX 5: 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 Education Scrutiny

Regional Director of SEWC

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

All members of SACRE

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

Wales Association of SACRE's (WASACRE)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

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CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2018

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform SACRE Members of progress made on issues identified in the Caerphilly SACRE Development Plan.

B BACKGROUND

It is necessary for Caerphilly SACRE to discuss the elements of the Development Plan in order to ensure that the business with which they deal is current and future developments are identified.

C RECOMMENDATION

Members of SACRE are requested to **discuss** and **note** the content of this Development Plan.

D SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Caerphilly SACRE Development Plan 2015-2018 (attached at Appendix 1).

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CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)
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Aim 1: To monitor standards in Religious Education and Religious Studies.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
1.1 Monitor standards through regular review of inspection reports/ Estyn thematic reviews/ school self evaluation reports and recommend, where necessary, action by Local Authority.	Annual agenda item Autumn Term	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	
1.2 Receive information on results of: Teacher Assessment at end of Key Stage 3; GCSE Religious Studies Full and Short Course; A/AS level Religious Studies.	Spring Term	Full SACRE Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools.	
1.3 Identify INSET needs, monitor and offer advice on training.	Autumn Term	Full SACRE	Agenda time	Training programme received along with figures on uptake; advice to LA.	

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)
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Aim 2: To review the agreed syllabus (as appropriate) and support its implementation.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
2.1 To review the agreed syllabus for Religious Education	Summer 2016 onwards (or as appropriate)	Full SACRE Adviser Working group NAPfRE	Advisory time to review the agreed syllabus. Establish a working group (if applicable). Convene a Standing Conference to adopt the syllabus Publication/ translation costs (as appropriate)	Agreed syllabus reviewed and adopted by Standing Conference. Agreed Syllabus training programme for schools (if required) Agreed syllabus to be implemented the Autumn term after adoption.	
2.2 Materials to support implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE	Ongoing	Full SACRE Adviser	Advisory time	Support materials available to schools and accessed through Consortium website.	

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

Aim 3: To monitor provision and provide support for collective worship.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
3.1 Monitor provision for collective worship through regular review of inspection reports/ school self evaluation reports; recommend, where necessary, action by LA.	Annual agenda item Autumn term	Full SACRE and Adviser	Agenda time Adviser time for analysis	Advice to LA on trends across the county borough; advice, where appropriate, on particular schools; follow up through school visits and review of action plan where necessary.	
3.2 To support the implementation of statutory collective worship	Ongoing	Advisory service	Advisory time	Provision of INSET (if applicable) Schools informed of resources and websites for collective worship. Schools informed of guidance materials available for collective worship	

CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)
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Aim 4: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues related to RE and collective worship in schools.

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
4.1 To update members on the role of SACRE and its implications; recent developments in RE and collective worship; guidance materials from relevant bodies; input from practising teachers and outside providers	Termly/ Annually as required	SACRE members , Adviser, practising teachers, outside providers	Member time; Adviser / Officer time	SACRE members fully aware of their responsibilities. SACRE and schools updated and informed of recent developments and initiatives, both local and national.	
4.2 Programme of school visits.	Termly/Ann ually as required	SACRE members, Adviser/ Officers	Member time; Officer time to arrange visits	More informed SACRE on provision and practice regarding RE and collective worship in schools.	

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT CAERPHILLY SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS ANALYSIS – AUTUMN 2014-SUMMER 2015

A SACRE SYNOPSIS: MAIN FINDINGS

During the academic year Autumn 2014-Summer 2015 13 Caerphilly schools were inspected:

- ten primary schools
- three secondary schools

Spiritual Development

Comments in relation to spiritual development are evident in all 13 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. The inspection report for Lewis Girls School states that the school does not comply with the statutory requirements. We can therefore assume – as Estyn has not noted any other instances of non-compliance - that all other schools inspected meet statutory requirements in relation to collective worship.

Quality

Six of the reports made comment on the quality of collective worship

Good features (Primary)

- Daily assemblies foster shared values suitably,
- Pupils have opportunities to reflect on spiritual and moral values and to reflect on their decisions during class lessons and in collective worship.
- School assemblies offer interesting opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of different emotions and characteristics, for example happiness, resilience and determination.
- Pupils take an active part in collective worship which contributes well to their learning.
- During a 'Shoe Box' assembly, pupils reflect very well on the significant differences in their own lives and the lives of people in poorer parts of the world.
- The local church holds services in the school hall for pupils and members of the local community, and this helps to develop the spiritual dimension of pupils' development well

Areas for development (Primary)

- Opportunities for pupils to reflect on the world around them during collective worship sessions are limited

B RECOMMENDATION

Request the action plan from Lewis Girls School to show how they intend to meet statutory requirements for acts of collective worship.

C SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2014/15: SACRE Synopsis (attached at Appendix 1).

Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2014/15: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Coed-y- Brain Primary Jan 2015	Overall, the school addresses pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development appropriately through topic work and acts of collective worship.	Yes	No Comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school is a caring and supportive community that teaches pupils to show care and respect for each other and adults. The school has good arrangements in place for the promotion of sustainable development across the curriculum. However, opportunities for pupils to learn about the lives of others, in different parts of the world, are less well developed. The school has beneficial links with places of worship that impact valuably on pupils' wellbeing and enrich their experiences.
Hengoed Primary October 2014	Learning experiences and acts of collective worship promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness appropriately.	Yes	Daily assemblies foster shared values suitably, but opportunities for pupils to reflect on the world around them during these sessions are limited.	Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Good The school is an inclusive community, which values and treats all pupils equally. It has a positive ethos and staff promote the importance of tolerance well. Pupils have a growing understanding of the diverse world in which they live through a range of curriculum activities and celebrations. The purposeful eco give presentations to individual classes and taking whole-school assemblies. Opportunities for pupils to learn about their role in the wider world are less well developed.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Machen Primary Nov 2014	Learning experiences and acts of worship promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness successfully.	Yes	There are opportunities for many pupils to reflect on their decisions during class lessons and in collective worship.	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that meet statutory requirements fully. The school promotes diversity and an understanding of other faiths and traditions well through theme work and circle time. Many pupils have an appropriate awareness of global citizenship by studying other cultures, religions and traditions, for example, through art workshops and visits to places of worship. Pupils' contribution to community activities, such as their concerts and assemblies in local places of worship, enriches their learning experiences well
Park Primary April 2015	There is appropriate provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through such activities as daily collective worship.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Adequate The school provides appropriate learning experiences, which meet the requirements of the statutory curriculum and fulfil pupils' needs and interests. Curriculum planning is inconsistent across the school, particularly in key stage 2. The school has an inclusive ethos and promotes equal opportunities and diversity well, based on mutual trust and respect. Education for sustainable development and global citizenship is underdeveloped. Pupils engage in charity work, although they play no part in choosing which organisations to support.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
St Gwladys School February 2015	Learning experiences promote pupils' personal development well including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.	Yes	School assemblies offer interesting opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of different emotions and characteristics, for example happiness, resilience and determination.	Current performance: Excellent Prospects for improvement: Excellent The school is a very caring environment where all staff value pupils highly. The school helps pupils to develop a good understanding of life in other cultures e.g. through curriculum topics about other countries such as Brazil and by celebrating events such as the Chinese new year.
St Helen's Catholic Primary Sept 2014	Learning experiences provide all pupils with worthwhile opportunities to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding.	Yes	Each morning all pupils have opportunities to reflect on spiritual and moral values.	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good Christian values permeate the school and encourage pupils to treat each other with respect, fairness and tolerance. The school promotes all pupils' understanding of sustainable development successfully The school celebrates global citizenship effectively. There are good links with the local church and many pupils make a positive contribution to their local community through links with the church.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Tynwydd Primary Feb 2015	The school develops pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness successfully.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good Most teachers promote pupils' awareness of sustainable development and global citizenship well through the curriculum.
Upper Rhymney Primary Nov 2014	The school addresses pupils' moral, social and cultural development well through topic work and whole-school assemblies.	Yes	It makes effective use of volunteers to support key events. For example, older pupils and adults from the locality take part in the school's remembrance service, which contributes well to their learning.	Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Adequate The school is an inclusive community. The school places a strong emphasis on recognising, respecting and celebrating diversity and pupils' rights. Established links with a school in Uganda promote pupils' knowledge of global citizenship successfully.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirement	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Alta May 2015	Care, support and guidance promote pupils' personal development well, including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Collective worship sessions, and a range of curricular and extra-curricular activities, contribute positively to these areas. The school makes regular use of the local church and chapels to hold services and religious performances that have a positive influence on most pupils' spiritual development.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a range of various learning experiences that respond fully to the principles of the Foundation Phase, and the National Curriculum. On the whole, planning is thorough; however, it does not always ensure a balance of subjects and does not meet the statutory requirements for meeting the purposes of religious education. Key issue: R3 Ensure consistency in the provision for religious education The school does not provide sufficient opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of global citizenship. The school is beginning to promote pupils' awareness of sustainable development satisfactorily.
Ystrad Mynach Primary Nov 2014	The school develops pupils' social, moral and spiritual understanding very well.	Yes	During a 'Shoe Box' assembly, pupils reflect very well on the significant differences in their own lives and the lives of people in poorer parts of the world. The local church holds services in the school	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Excellent The school provides an extensive range of challenging and stimulating learning experiences, which enthuse pupils and meet all statutory requirements. Through the study of other countries, all pupils develop their knowledge of global citizenship very well e.g. in a Year 5 topic on South Africa,

			hall for pupils and members of the local community, and this helps to develop the spiritual dimension of pupils' development well.	pupils research and write detailed, well-constructed accounts of the life and work of Nelson Mandela. This gives them an excellent insight into a very different culture.
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Caerphilly Secondary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2013/14: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Lewis Girls Comp Nov 2014	Provision for moral, cultural and social development is effective and well developed. However, with the exception of whole school assemblies, the school does not comply with the daily act of collective worship. R7 Meet statutory requirements for the daily act of collective worship	No	No comment	Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Adequate The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum, which meets the needs of its pupils well. There are many community and charity focused events that develop active citizenship e.g. in the last two years, pupils have won prestigious national awards for their valuable participation in community work. The school's contribution to improving pupils' awareness of sustainability and global citizenship is underdeveloped.
Newbridge School March 2015	A well-planned programme of activities, including assemblies, registration periods and personal and social education lessons, promotes pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development well. These are supported effectively by external agencies such as the police and charitable organisations.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Adequate The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum. It makes a valuable contribution to developing pupils' understanding of sustainability and global citizenship through subject lessons and theme days Most pupils participate actively in a wide range of community activities and charity work that develop their social and life skills well.

Rhymney Comp April 2015	There are appropriate arrangements to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Adequate There is a clear emphasis upon celebrating success and recognising diversity. Pupils are proactive and have raised successfully the awareness of sustainability and global citizenship within the school and local community.
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Caerphilly schools in Estyn monitoring

Bedwas High school (Inspected April 2013). In October 2014 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made good progress on key issues for action following their inspection. They have been removed from Estyn's list of schools and no further visits are necessary.

Heolddu Comprehensive (Inspected September 2011). In June 2015 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations that they have been removed from Estyn's list of schools requiring special measures.

Abertysswg Primary School (Inspected October 2013). In January 2015 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made good progress on key issues for action following their inspection. They have been removed from Estyn's list of schools and no further visits are necessary.

Hendre Infants school (Inspected May 2013). In October 2014 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made sufficient progress on key issues for action following their inspection. They have been removed from Estyn's list of schools and no further visits are necessary.

Markham Primary (Inspected February 2014). In May 2015 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made good progress on key issues for action following their inspection. They have been removed from Estyn's list of schools and no further visits are necessary.

Pontllanfraith Primary (Inspected March 2014) In April 2015 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made good progress on key issues for action following their inspection. They have been removed from Estyn's list of schools and no further visits are necessary.

Rhydri Primary (Inspected September 2013). In June 2015 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations that they have been removed from Estyn's list of schools requiring special measures.

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT RE AND THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM – UPDATE

A THE REPORT

Phase 2 of the National Curriculum review has focused on curriculum design at each phase/stage of education to ensure that there is a broad and balanced curriculum which is fit for the twenty-first century. It included consideration of the Basic Curriculum which is where RE sits within the curriculum.

Huw Lewis, Education Minister had made comment over the summer period about proposed changes to RE in the curriculum. WASACRE wrote to the Minister asking for clarification and a response has been received. (See attached letter)

In September WASACRE Executive members were invited to attend regular meetings with officers from Welsh Government so that a productive working arrangement could be implemented. At this meeting the following was clarified.

1. Welsh Government colleagues were able to confirm during the meeting that RE will remain statutory as suggested in Successful Futures, due to the Minister for Education and Skills having accepted all of Professor Donaldson's recommendations (R9).
2. With regard to the Minister's recent proposal of a change of name for religious education colleagues assured WASACRE that full consultation on the name will be sought and stakeholders will have input, with the proposed name change to include Moral Education and Philosophy.
3. All legislation relating to RE and Collective Worship, and SACRE's place in legislation, will be reviewed by WG but not necessarily re written or amended.
4. There will be a non prescriptive framework for each Area of Learning and RE will sit in the Humanities area of Learning. Pioneer schools and stakeholders will have a say in the shape of the curriculum and they will set up a series of meetings to plan and discuss this. WASACRE is expected to be a high level Stakeholder in the review implementation process through the Pioneer Network. To ensure WASACRE's place in the Strategic Stakeholder Group Welsh Government have requested that WASACRE draw up a proposal which will be presented to the Independent Advisory Group which explains what and how WASACRE can contribute to the review process. Some subject areas have already begun their series of meetings (e.g. ICT and History)

B RECOMMENDATION

SACRE to note and discuss the developments relating to the position of RE in the curriculum.

C SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Response from the Minister for Education and Skills (attached at Appendix 1).

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/01574/15

Libby Jones

Libby.Jones@wrexham.gov.uk

7 September 2015

Dear Libby

Thank you for your e-mail dated 11 August regarding proposed changes to Religious Education (RE).

Firstly, I would like to make it absolutely clear that I am not removing RE from the curriculum in Wales, despite what some of the tabloid press might allege. In my view, RE has a vitally important role to play in supporting learners to explore their personal beliefs and values in our 21st century, multicultural society. I am instead considering how RE, philosophy and ethics might be strengthened within the context of the new Humanities Area of Learning and Experience.

As such, in June, I announced my support for the development of a new curriculum in Wales by accepting, in full, the recommendations contained within the Successful Futures report by Professor Graham Donaldson, including recommendation 9 which relates to RE remaining as a statutory curriculum requirement.

Your support and contribution to Professor Donaldson's review has been valuable and the vision that has been set out for a new curriculum in Wales is, both, exciting and ambitious. The scope and scale of the change has radical and wide-ranging implications for our education system.

In line with the recommendations in Professor Donaldson's report, I am determined that our schools and practitioners, as well as other key stakeholders, will be at the forefront of the design and development of our new curriculum.

I have invited regional education consortia to work with their schools – primary, secondary and special – to apply to become Pioneer Schools. These schools will lead on the design and development of the new curriculum, as part of an all-Wales partnership, alongside other key stakeholders.

Meaningful engagement will be essential to achieving the vision set out in Professor Donaldson's report – a vision that I share. For this reason, I very much welcome your offer of support. Further details of how you and others can be involved in this process will be communicated in due course. We are currently developing a plan which will set out how Professor Donaldson's recommendations will be taken forward - this will be published in the autumn.

I am aware that you have a regular meeting scheduled with my officials on 24th September at which I understand these issues will be discussed, I have asked my officials to provide me with an update following this meeting.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the changes to our curriculum going forward will be subject to full public debate and consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Huw Lewis'.

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE: 2ND NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2016

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform SACRE of Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2016.

B BACKGROUND

Holocaust Memorial Day is an annual event that takes place on 27th January and was established in the UK in 2000. The first HMD was held in January 2001. 27th January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz - Birkenhau concentration camp by Soviet troops in 1945.

Holocaust Memorial Day seeks to change the future by learning from and remembering the past. Schools are encouraged to participate in Holocaust Memorial Day in order to remember the victims of the Holocaust and more recent genocides. It provides a framework to explore issues of morality, human reactions, individual experiences, responsibilities and larger questions of the role of governments and democracies. The government, including the Welsh Government, encourages schools and LAs to commemorate this event in some way.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust produces materials specific to the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme for 2016 is *“Don’t Stand By”*. The Holocaust and subsequent genocides took place because the local populations allowed insidious persecution to take root. Whilst some actively supported or facilitated state policies of persecution, the vast majority stood by silently – at best, afraid to speak out; at worst, indifferent. Bystanders enabled the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides.

Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel has written powerfully about the impact of bystanders:

“I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented”.

Further information about the theme and free educational resources containing material suitable for primary to post 16 students is available online at www.hmd.org.uk/content/for-educators.

C RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority write to schools reminding them of HMD and to circulate the information on HMD referencing the website for appropriate resources (www.hmd.org.uk).

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Agenda Item 14

Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, Yr
Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 (10.30am – 3pm)

*Wales Association of SACREs meeting, Mold, 25 June
2015 (10.30am – 3pm)*

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Bethan James Rheinallt Thomas</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Caerdydd / Cardiff Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire Mary Parry</p> <p>Ceredigion Lyndon Lloyd</p> <p>Conwy Phil Lord Nicholas Richter Roger Boon Athrawes (Phil i gael yr enw)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Gavin Craigen Phil Lord Brian H. Jones</p> <p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Phil Lord Y Cyngh. Chris Bithell Y Cyngh. David Mackie Mr Ron Keating</p> <p>Gwynedd Bethan James</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil Y Cyngh./ Vicky Thomas Ernie Galsworthy</p> <p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot</p> <p>Casnewydd / Newport Huw Stephens Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</p>	<p>Powys John Mitson Margaret Evitts</p> <p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Abertawe / Swansea Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Torfaen /Torfaen Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Wrecsam / Wrexham Libby Jones</p> <p>Sylwedyddion / Observers</p> <p>Eldon Phillips (MAGC)</p>
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**Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, Yr
Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 (10.30am – 3pm)**

*Wales Association of SACREs meeting, Mold, 25 June
2015 (10.30am – 3pm)*

Cofnodion

Minutes

<p>1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso</p> <p>Yn absenoldeb Tania ap Sion, cadeiriwyd y cyfarfod gan yr Is Gadeirydd, Gavin Craigen.</p> <p>Croesawodd Gavin Craigen yr aelodau i Sir y Fflint a chyflwynodd Mr Ian Budd – Prif Swyddog Addysg Cyngor Sir y Fflint. Rhoddodd Ian Budd anerchiad croeso i aelodau Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, a chytunodd y gallai Libby Jones atodi'r anerchiad yn llawn at y cofnodion.</p> <p>Diolchodd Gavin i Ian Budd am ei groeso a'i gefnogaeth i'r gymdeithas. Diolchodd Gavin hefyd i'r côr o Ysgol Uwchradd Sant Richard Gwyn, Y Fflint, am eu canu hyfryd a oedd i'w glywed wrth i'r aelodau gyrraedd y cyfarfod.</p> <p>2. Adfyfrio tawel</p> <p>Gofynnodd Gavin i'r aelodau feddwl am y cyfarfod oedd i ddod, a hefyd am y bobl, yn enwedig plant, mewn gwledydd eraill sy'n wynebu caledi mawr ar hyn o bryd.</p> <p>3. Ymddiheuriadau</p> <p>Tania ap Sion, Edward Evans, Sue Cave, Tudor Thomas, Leslie Francis, Sharon Perry-Philips, Y Cyngh. Huw George, Helen Gibbon, Meinir Loader.</p> <p>Cynigiodd Gavin fod CCYSAGauC yn</p>	<p>1. Introduction and welcome</p> <p>In Absence of Tania ap Sion, Vice Chair Gavin Craigen stood in as Chair for the meeting.</p> <p>Gavin Craigen welcomed members to Flintshire and introduced Mr Ian Budd- Chief Education Officer of Flintshire County Council. Ian Budd delivered a welcome speech to WASACRE members, which he kindly agreed for Libby Jones to attach in full to the minutes.</p> <p>Gavin thanked Ian Budd for his words of welcome and support for the association. Gavin also thanked the choir from Sir Richard Gwyn High School, Flint for their beautiful singing which greeted members on arrival to the meeting.</p> <p>2. Quiet reflection</p> <p>Gavin asked members to reflect on the meeting ahead, and also on the people, especially children, in other countries who are currently facing hardships.</p> <p>3. Apologies</p> <p>Tania ap Sion, Edward Evans, Sue Cave, Tudor Thomas, Leslie Francis, Sharon Perry-Philips, Cllr Huw George, Helen Gibbon, Meinir Loader.</p> <p>Gavin proposed WASACRE send a letter</p>
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Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, Yr Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 (10.30am – 3pm)

Wales Association of SACREs meeting, Mold, 25 June 2015 (10.30am – 3pm)

<p>anfon llythyr o ddiolch a dymuniadau gorau i Tudor Thomas o CBAC a fydd yn ymddeol o'i swydd ar ddiwedd yr haf, ac felly ddim yn mynychu cyfarfodydd CCYSAGauC mwyach. Roedd yr aelodau'n cydnabod perthynas hirhoedlog Tudor â'r Gymdeithas a'i gefnogaeth a'i gyfeillgarwch gwerthfawr. Bydd Libby Jones yn ysgrifennu ac yn anfon y llythyr i Tudor cyn diwedd y tymor.</p> <p>4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd yn CNPT, 6 Mawrth 2015</p> <p>Derbyniwyd y cofnodion fel cofnod cywir o'r cyfarfod.</p> <p>5. Materion yn codi</p> <p>Tudalen 6, Eitem 6. Bagloriaeth Cymru. Mynegodd yr aelodau bryder am gymhwyster newydd Bagloriaeth Cymru sy'n gwthio TGAU Addysg Grefyddol allan fel pwnc dewisol. Erbyn hyn mae gan y Fagloriaeth golofn yn y dewisiadau mewn ysgolion, lle byddai Astudiaethau Crefyddol wedi'i leoli yn naturiol. Dywedwyd fod rhai myfyrwyr yn cymryd AC fel pedwerydd dewis ac na fydd cyfle iddynt wneud hynny bellach mewn rhai ysgolion. Cytunodd Vicky Thomas fod amser wedi'i dynnu o Addysg Grefyddol mewn rhai ysgolion ar gyfer y Fagloriaeth, ond sicrhodd yr aelodau nad oes rhaid ei chyflwyno felly. Cynigiwyd fod CCYSAGauC yn gofyn am ymateb gan CBAC ynglŷn ag Astudiaethau Crefyddol a Bagloriaeth</p>	<p>of thanks and best wishes to Tudor Thomas from WJEC who will be retiring from his post at the end of the summer, and therefore will no longer be attending WASACRE meeting. Members acknowledged Tudor's long standing relationship with the Association and his most valued support and friendship. Libby Jones will write and send the letter to Tudor before the end of term.</p> <p>4. Minutes of meeting held in NPT, 6 March 2015</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>5. Matters arising</p> <p>Page 6, Item 6. Welsh Baccalaureate. Member expressed concern over the new Welsh Bacc qualification squeezing out the Religious Studies GCSE as an option subject. The Welsh Bacc now has a column in the option choices in schools in which RS would have naturally be situated. It was pointed out that some students take RS as a fourth option and now they won't have that opportunity in some schools. Vicky Thomas agreed that in some schools time has been clawed from RE for Welsh Bacc, but assured members that it doesn't have to be delivered in that way. Vicky urged WASACRE and individual SACREs to keep a watching brief on the situation. It was proposed that WASACRE seek a response from WJEC regarding RS and</p>
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**Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru, Yr
Wyddgrug, 25 Mehefin 2015 (10.30am – 3pm)**

*Wales Association of SACREs meeting, Mold, 25 June
2015 (10.30am – 3pm)*

Cymru a phenderfynwyd y byddai Libby Jones yn ysgrifennu at Tudor Thomas cyn iddo ymddeol er mwyn ceisio cael ymateb gan CBAC cyn cyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn yr hydref. Anogwyd y CYSAGau unigol i holi beth sy'n digwydd yn eu hysgolion nhw ac adrodd yn ôl i CCYSAGauC, a chynigiwyd fod CCYSAGauC yn ysgrifennu at y CYSAGau i ofyn iddynt fonitro'r sefyllfa yn swyddogol. Cadarnhaodd Mary Parry o CYSAG Sir Gaerfyrddin eu bod yn gwneud hyn yn barod. Awgrymwyd y byddai arolwg CCYSAGauC cyffredinol, i'w anfon i bob CYSAG, yn ddefnyddiol. Nododd Mary hefyd fod un ysgol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin wedi ceisio dysgu modiwl ar gyfer Bagloriaeth Cymru yn amser AG craidd, yn hytrach na TGAU Astudiaethau Crefyddol, ond heb fawr o lwyddiant. Mae'r ysgol wedi adfer Astudiaethau Crefyddol TGAU yn lle hynny.

Tudalen 4, Eitem 5. Materion yn codi - Cynrychiolaeth ar Gyngor AG Cymru a Lloegr. Cadarnhaodd Gavin Craigen fod y sefyllfa wedi cael ei thrafod yng nghyfarfod diwethaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith. Anfonwyd llythyr cryf at Joyce Miller, Cadeirydd presennol y Cyngor, yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith fod y Cyngor AG ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr, ac yn mynegi siom a phryder parhaus y Gymdeithas am y trefniadau presennol o gael cynrychiolaeth o Gymru ar y Bwrdd. Nododd Gavin fod pob un o'r eitemau ar

the Welsh Baac and it was decided that Libby Jones would write to Tudor Thomas before his retirement begins to encourage a response from WJEC before the next Executive meeting in the autumn. Individual SACREs were encouraged to ask their own schools what is happening and report back to WASACRE, and it was proposed that WASACRE writes to SACREs to ask them to officially monitor the situation. Mary Parry from Carmarthenshire SACRE confirmed that they are doing this already. It was suggested that a generic WASACRE survey, sent to each SACRE would be useful. Mary also commented that one school in Carmarthenshire has tried teaching a module for the Welsh Baac in KS4 core RE time, instead of RS GCSE but with little success. The school have now brought back the GCSE RS instead.

Page 4, Item 5. Matters arising- Representation on RE Council for England and Wales. Gavin Craigen confirmed that the situation was discussed at the last executive meeting. A firm letter was sent to Joyce Miller, current Chair of REC, pointing out that the RE Council is for both England and Wales and expressed the Association's continued disappointment and concern regarding the current arrangements for the representation of Wales on the Board. Gavin commented that all



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<p>yr agendâu ar hyn o bryd ac yn hanesyddol yn canolbwyntio ar Loegr a bod nemor ddim trafodaeth am addysg yng Nghymru yn digwydd, heblaw'r Bwrdd yn cael diweddariadau byr gan gynrychiolwyr o Gymru pan maent yn bresennol. Atgoffodd Eldon Philips yr aelodau fod tri chorff yn cael eu cynrychioli yng nghyfarfodydd cyffredinol y Cyngor AG a bod MAGC yn mynychu'r cyfarfodydd cyffredinol yn rheolaidd. Cynigiodd Gill Vaisey, er mwyn bod yn deg, y gallai CCYSAGauC ofyn fod o leiaf un sedd yn cael ei diogelu ar y Bwrdd Gweithredol i gynrychiolydd o Gymru a hefyd o leiaf un sedd i gynrychiolydd o Loegr. Teimlid y byddai hyn yn gyfaddawd da. Diolchodd Gavin Craigen i Gill am ei hawgrym a chadarnhaodd fod Joyce Miller, wedi cynnig cyfarfod a siarad â CCYSAGauC er mwyn dod o hyd i ateb. Bydd CCYSAGau yn gweithredu ar hyn.</p> <p>Tud 15, Eitem 7. Ennyn Diddordeb Bechgyn mewn AG. Cyfeiriodd un o'r aelodau at sylwadau Leslie Francis fod angen ymchwil bellach i faes bechgyn/dynion a chrefydd. Dywedodd yr aelod fod y farchnad Gofal wedi mynd yn Farchnad fawr ac y gellid gwneud ymchwil i ystyried sut y mae crefydd wedi cael effaith ar hyn. Gallai/dylai addysg grefyddol mewn ysgolion ddarparu sail foesol gref o urddas i ferched a bechgyn sy'n symud i faes gofal. Nododd Gavin Craigen fod AG yn berthnasol i wahanol fathau o waith ac y</p>	<p>agendas items are currently and historically England focussed and that little or no discussion of Welsh education takes place, other than the Board receiving brief updates from welsh representatives when present. Eldon Philips reminded members that there are three bodies represented at RE Council general meetings and that REMW is regularly in attendance at the general meetings. Gill Vaisey proposed that in order to remain fair WASACRE could request that at least one seat is safeguarded on the Executive Board for a representative from Wales and also at least one seat is safeguarded for a representative from England. It was felt that this might be a good compromise. Gavin Craigen thanked Gill for her suggestion and confirmed that Joyce Miller, has offered to meet and talk with WASACRE in order to find a solution. WASACRE will follow this up.</p> <p>P15. Item 7. Engaging Boys in RE. Member referred to the comments of Leslie Francis regarding further research needed in the area of boys/males and religion. The member pointed out that the Care market has become a large Market and that research could be carried out to look at how religion has had an impact on this. Religious education in schools should/could provide a strong moral basis of dignity for girls and boys moving into the area of care. Gavin Craigen commented that RE is relevant for different kinds of employment and</p>
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<p>gallem edrych ar hyn y fanylach a sicrhau fod AG yn cael ei lle. Roedd yr aelodau'n gytûn fod gan AG le pwysicach nag erioed y dyddiau hyn.</p> <p>Tud 15, Eitem 7. Ennyn Diddordeb Bechgyn mewn AG. Dywedodd Mary Parry, er bod y cofnodion yn nodi na ellir cynnwys ei chyflwyniad ar wefan CCYSAGauC am resymau hawlfraint, ei bod yn fodlon i CYSAGau ei ddefnyddio ac y gall hi roi copïau i unrhyw un sydd â diddordeb ond iddynt wneud cais.</p> <p>6. Diweddariadau:</p> <p>Adolygiad cwricwlwm:</p> <p>Cadarnhaodd Mary Parry fod CCYSAGauC wedi anfon ymateb ar ran y CYSAGau i Adroddiad Donaldson. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud ei fod yn derbyn yr egwyddorion, ond nid ydym yn gwybod y manylion hyd yma. Sylwodd Phil Lord na fydd y cwricwlwm newydd arfaethedig yn cael ei weithredu tan 2020 ac mae CYSAGau eisoes wedi oedi ar yr adolygiad o'r meysydd llafur cytûn. Gofynnodd pa gyngor all y Gymdeithas ei roi i'r CYSAGau. Roedd Gill Vaisey'n meddwl tybed a oedd angen gwneud unrhyw beth o ran adolygu oherwydd ar hyn o bryd maent yn seiliedig ar y cwricwlwm presennol sydd heb newid eto felly tan fod hynny'n digwydd nid oes angen newid. Atgoffodd Gavin yr aelodau nad oes raid i ni gadw at y cylch 5 mlynedd ac felly, cyn gynted ag y gwyddom beth</p>	<p>we could look at this more closely and ensure that RE has its place. Members agreed that RE has more important a place than it has ever had today.</p> <p>Page 15, Item 7. Engaging Boys in RE. Mary Parry pointed out that although the minutes state that her presentation cannot be included on the WASACRE website for copyright reasons, that she is happy for SACREs to use it and can provide copies to those who are interested on request.</p> <p>6. Up-dates:</p> <p>Curriculum review:</p> <p>Mary Parry confirmed that WASACRE sent a response on behalf of the SACREs to the Donaldson report. The Minister has said he accepts the principles, but as yet we do not know the detail. Phil Lord raised the issue that the implementation of the new, proposed curriculum won't be until 2020 and SACREs have already delayed the review of the agreed syllabus. He asked what advice can the Association give to SACREs. Gill Vaisey offered her thoughts asking if there is any need to do anything with regard to reviewing as currently they are based on the current curriculum which hasn't yet changed so until it does there is no need to change. Gavin reminded members that we don't have to keep to the 5 year cycle and so, as soon as we know what the changes are we can make the appropriate changes to our agreed</p>
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<p>yw'r newidiadau, gallwn wneud y newidiadau priodol i'n meysydd llafur cytûn a chynnal yr adolygiad. Dywedodd Bethan James fod athrawon Gwynedd a Môn yn pryderu fod yr adroddiad yn un radical a'i bod yn bosibl nad yw athrawon yn gyffredinol yn sylweddoli faint o newid sydd ar y gorwel. Byddai o fudd codi hyn ym mhob cyfarfod er mwyn cadw i fyny â'r datblygiadau diweddaraf a bod yn barod am y newid hwnnw. Ychwanegodd yr aelod o Gonwy y bydd yn anodd i athrawon, bydd yn rhaid iddynt feddwl yn wahanol, ac yn y bôn dechrau o'r dechrau. Cytunodd yr aelodau fod angen i CCYSAGauC gymryd rhan yn y drafodaeth honno fel y gallwn gefnogi'r athrawon. Dywedodd Gavin ein bod yn ddiolchgar iawn i NAPfRe sy'n rhoi canllawiau a chymorth ar y mater pwysig hwn.</p> <p>7. Cyflwyniad NAPfRE:</p> <p>Hyfforddiant Addoli ar y Cyd CYSAG Wrecsam– <i>Libby Jones</i></p> <p>Diolchodd yr aelodau i Libby am rannu'r cyflwyniad powerpoint am addoli ar y cyd a sut i'w gyflwyno'n effeithiol, a grëwyd ac a ddefnyddiwyd gan CYSAG Wrecsam. Cafwyd cwestiynau o'r llawr a thrafodwyd y syniadau canlynol:</p> <p>Mae Addoli ar y Cyd yn rhan bwysig o ddatblygiad plant fel unigolion ac fel dinasyddion byd-eang; budd gwobrwyo</p>	<p>syllabi and have the review. Bethan James raised a concern of teachers from Gwynedd and Anglesey on how radical the report is and that teachers in general may not realise how much change there is on the horizon. It would be beneficial to raise this at every meeting in order to keep up with the latest developments and be ready for that change. Member from Conwy added that it is going to be difficult for teachers, they will have to think differently, and basically start from scratch. Members agreed that WASACRE needs to get involved in that discussion so that we can support teachers. Gavin commented that we are very grateful to NAPfRE who provide guidance and support on this important matter.</p> <p>7. NAPfRE presentation:</p> <p>Wrexham SACRE Collective Worship training – <i>Libby Jones</i></p> <p>Members thanked Libby for sharing the training powerpoint about collective worship and how to deliver it effectively, created and used by Wrexham SACRE. Questions were taken from the floor from which the following ideas were discussed:</p> <p>Collective worship as an important part of a child's development as individuals and as a global citizens; the benefit of</p>
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disgyblion am arddangos gwerthoedd da yn hytrach na chyflawniadau academaidd neu chwaraeon; gwahanol ffyrdd o ledaenu hyn yn cynnwys hyfforddi Penaethiaid ac uwch arweinwyr yn hytrach nag athrawon, cyfarfodydd Ffederasiwn y Penaethiaid a WASH, defnyddio'r cyfryngau yn fwy effeithiol, Cynhadledd Genedlaethol CCYSAGauC.

Prosiect Gweithio mewn Partneriaeth – *Phil Lord*

Diolchwyd i Phil am ei gyflwyniad lle y rhannodd astudiaethau achos o ymarfer da o ran gweithio mewn partneriaeth rhwng ysgolion ac eglwysi. Roedd un enghraifft yn seiliedig ar stori'r Pasg lle y defnyddiodd disgyblion Mwy Abl a Thalentog o chwe ysgol gynradd ac un ysgol uwchradd iPads a thechnoleg arall i ymchwilio i stori'r Pasg gyda chynrychiolwyr y ffydd Gristnogol yn Llandudno. Rhannodd Phil hefyd ddeunyddiau a gwybodaeth am gynhadledd chweched dosbarth ar 'ymgysylltu ysbrydol' gydag adnoddau Lat Blaycock.

Cafwyd cwestiynau o'r llawr yn cynnwys, sut mae athrawon yn llwyddo i ymestyn diddordeb y disgyblion yn ôl yn yr ysgol i sicrhau fod y cwestiynau sy'n deillio o'r gweithgaredd yn cael eu hateb ac nid eu hanwybyddu. Awgrymodd Phil y gellid cyflwyno gweithgareddau addas yn y dosbarth yn dilyn y gynhadledd er mwyn annog trafodaeth bellach ac ehangu datblygiad dysgu a moesol y

having pupil awards for having and displaying good values as opposed to academic and sporting achievements; various avenues for dissemination including training Heads and senior leaders instead of teachers, Heads' Federation meetings and WASH, using media more effectively, WASACRE National Conference.

Partnership working project – *Phil Lord*

Phil was thanked for his presentation in which he shared case studies of good practice partnership working between schools and churches. One example was based on the Easter story where More Able and Talented pupils from six primaries and one secondary school used iPads and other technology to investigate the Easter story with Christian faith representatives in Llandudno. Phil also shared materials and information about a Sixth form conference on 'spiritual engagement' using Lat Blaycock's resource.

Questions were taken from the floor including, how teachers cope with extending the engagement of pupils back in school to ensure that the questions evoked from the activity are answered and not ignored. Phil suggested that appropriate activities during form time could be introduced following the conference to encourage further discussion and extend learning and



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<p>myfyrwyr.</p> <p>Nododd Bethan James fod AG statudol yn aml yn cael ei weld fel ‘blwch arall i’w dicio’ a bod yr astudiaethau achos hyn yn dangos pa mor werthfawr yw AG ac y dylai pob un o’r astudiaethau achos fynd i ysgolion. Ychwanegodd ei bod yn angenrheidiol ein bod yn rhoi rhyddid i ysgolion ddysgu AG yn y modd hwn.</p> <p>8. Adroddiad ar gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 11 May 2015</p> <p>Tynnodd Gavin Craigen sylw at rai o’r prif bwyntiau yn yr adroddiad, er enghraifft, mae’r holiadur ar-lein yn dal i gael sylw. Mae ymateb CCYSAGauC i adroddiad Donaldson wedi cael ei anfon. Bydd cyfarfod gyda Gavin Craigen a Libby Jones o CCYSAGauC a’n cysylltiadau yn Llywodraeth Cymru ar 24 Medi. Bydd yr eitem addoli ar y cyd ar yr agenda yn cael sylw, gydag astudiaethau achos am addoli ar y cyd yn cael eu datblygu a’u rhannu ar wefan CCYSAGauC ynghyd â dogfennau canllaw CCYSAGauC ac Estyn. Rhannwyd cyflwyniad hyfforddi CYSAG Wrecsam yn barod yn y cyfarfod a gellir ei rannu’n ehangach fel ag y trafodwyd yn flaenorol yn y cofnodion, ac fe’i rhoddir hefyd ar wefan CCYSAGauC.</p> <p>9. <i>Signposts</i>: cynllun gan Gyngor Ewrop – <i>Phil Lord</i></p> <p>Rhoddodd Phil gyflwyniad ar y ddogfen</p>	<p>spiritual development in students</p> <p>Bethan James commented that often statutory RE is seen as ‘another’ box to tick’ and that these case studies show how valuable RE is and each of the case studies should go to schools. She added that it is necessary for us to give schools the freedom to teach RE in this way.</p> <p>8. Report from the Executive Committee held on 11 May 2015</p> <p>Gavin Craigen highlighted some of the main points within the report, for example, the online questionnaire is still being pursued. The submission of WASACRE’s response to the Donaldson report has been sent. There will be a meeting with Gavin Craigen and Libby Jones from WASACRE and our Welsh Government contacts on 24 September. The collective worship item on the agenda will be pursued, with case studies for collective worship being developed and shared on the WASACRE website along with the WASACRE and Estyn guidance documents. Wrexham SACRE’s training presentation has already been shared at the meeting and can be shared more widely as previously discussed in the minutes and will be put on the WASACRE website.</p> <p>9. <i>Signposts</i>: a Council of Europe initiative – Phil Lord</p> <p>Phil presented on the Signposts document</p>
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Signposts sydd eisoes wedi'i chyhoeddi gan EFTRE, ac a fydd ar gael i bob ysgol yn Ewrop drwy wefan EFTRE. Mae'r ddogfen yn amlinellu ac yn disgrifio beth ddylai addysg grefyddol fod ac yn awgrymu dull cyffredin ar draws Ewrop. Cynigiodd Rheinallt Thomas fod y ddogfen yn mynd i gyfarfod cyswllt Llywodraeth Cymru ym mis Medi. Holodd aelod CYSAG Conwy am y tir cyffredin rhwng y gwledydd a'r diwylliannau gwahanol a gynrychiolir ar EFTRE, ac atebodd Phil fod brwdfrydedd athrawon ar draws Ewrop yr un fath ag yng Nghymru. Dywedodd Phil ymhellach fod Cymru ar y blaen gan ein bod yn eisoes yn gwneud llawer o'r hyn sydd yn y ddogfen. Mae gwledydd eraill yn dechrau ar lefelau amrywiol islaw Cymru ac er bod rhai gwledydd sy'n dysgu AG mewn ffordd debyg i Gymru, mae yna nifer o wledydd sy'n dysgu AG yn wahanol ac yn defnyddio dull mwy enwadol. Diolchodd Gavin i Phil unwaith eto am ei gyflwyniad a'i adroddiad diddorol.

10. Gohebiaeth

Darllenodd Libby Jones yr ymateb a gafwyd gan Ann Keane, Prif Swyddog Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru i'r llythyr a anfonwyd iddi gan CCYSAGauC yn diolch am ei chefnogaeth ac yn dymuno'n dda iddi yn y dyfodol. Yn ei llythyr dywedodd Ann Keane mai'r Prif Arolygydd newydd fydd Meilyr Rowlands.

which has been recently published by EFTRE, and which will be available to all schools in Europe via the EFTRE Website. The document outlines and describes what religious education should be and suggests a commonality across Europe. Rheinallt Thomas proposed that the document should be taken to the Welsh Government contact meeting in September. Conwy SACRE member enquired about the common ground between the different countries and cultures represented on EFTRE, to which Phil responded that the passion of the teachers across Europe is the same as in Wales. Phil commented further that Wales are leading in terms of what we already do in the document. Other countries start at varying levels below Wales and that whilst there are some countries who teach RE in a similar way to Wales there are many countries that teach RE differently and use a more confessional approach. Gavin thanked Phil once again for his presentation and interesting report.

10. Correspondence

Libby Jones read the response received from Ann Keane, Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales to the letter WASACRE sent thanking her for her support and wishing her well in her future. In her letter Ann Keane shared the name of the next Chief Inspector, Meilyr Rowlands.



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<p>Rhodddwyd sylw i'r ohebiaeth ddiweddar gan y Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol ynghynt ar yr agenda.</p> <p>Adroddodd Libby Jones fod tri chais am wybodaeth ynglŷn â thynnu allan o AG wedi'u derbyn gan wahanol ysgolion yng Nghymru a bod cyngor wedi'i anfon at bob un. Cadarnhaodd Gill Vaisey y bydd hi'n gweithio ar y canllawiau i ysgolion ar dynnu allan o wersi, yn yr haf.</p> <p>Rhannodd Libby Jones wybodaeth a dderbyniwyd gan Nia Mair Jones o Lywodraeth Cymru ynghylch digwyddiadau i gofio am y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf a grant sydd ar gael i bob adran mewn ysgol, nid yr adran hanes yn unig. Bydd Libby Jones yn gofyn am i'r wybodaeth hon fod ar gael ar wefan CCYSAGauC.</p> <p>11.U.F.A.</p> <p>Siaradodd Rheinallt Thomas ar ran Mudiad Addysg Grefyddol Cymru ac eglurodd, oherwydd y sefyllfa yng Nghymru gyda nifer o Awdurdodau Lleol ddim yn tansgrifio i MAGC bellach, bu'n rhaid i'r Mudiad wneud newidiadau. Sicrhaodd yr aelodau fod MAGC yn 'dal yn fyw' ac yn dal yn gysylltiedig â'r Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol ac RENews ac yn y blaen. Gallai Rheinallt gadarnhau hefyd fod y mudiad yn dal i gynhyrchu RE Ideas a'u bod wedi cynhyrchu taflen a anfonwyd i bob ALL, eglwysi ayb i hysbysebu eu gwasanaethau ac i ofyn am</p>	<p>The recent REC correspondence was covered under previous agenda items.</p> <p>Libby Jones reported that three requests for information regarding withdrawal from RE had been received from different schools across Wales and that advice had been sent to each accordingly. Gill Vaisey confirmed that she will be working on the guidance for schools on withdrawal procedures in the summer.</p> <p>Libby Jones shared information received from Welsh Government's Nia Mair Jones regarding the First World War commemorations and a grant that I available to all departments in school not just the history department. Libby Jones will ask for this information to be made available on the WASACRE website.</p> <p>11.A.O.B.</p> <p>Rheinallt Thomas spoke on behalf of REMWales and explained that as a result of the situation in wales with many LA's not subscribing to REMW anymore the organization has been forced to make changes. He assured members that REMW is 'still alive' and still has relationships with REC and RENews etc. Rheinallt was also able to confirm that the movement still produces RE Ideas and have produced a flyer which has gone out to all LA's and churches etc to advertise its services and to request help with RE ideas from teachers. Sam Jesson from Wrexham will be assisting the</p>
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<p>gymorth gydag RE Ideas gan athrawon. Bydd Sam Jesson o Wrecsam yn helpu'r mudiad gyda RE Ideas y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae Mudiad Addysg Grefyddol Cymru yn dathlu 50 mlynedd o wasanaeth i AG a bydd llyfr ar hanes y Mudiad yn cael ei gyhoeddi cyn hir a bydd ar gael i CYSAGau fel ffeiliau PDF. Diolchodd Rheinallt i CCYSAGauC am ei chefnogaeth barhaus.</p> <p>12. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf: 25 Tachwedd 2015, Blaenau Gwent, Ebbw Vale</p> <p>Dyddiadau cyfarfodydd yn y dyfodol:</p> <p>Gwanwyn 2016 Sir Benfro; Haf 2016 Sir Ddinbych; Hydref 2016 Sir Gaerfyrddin; Gwanwyn 2017 Sir Fynwy.</p>	<p>movement with RE Ideas next year. REMW celebrates 50 years of service to RE and a book on REMW's history will be published soon and available for SACREs on PDF files. Rheinallt thanked WASACRE for its continued support.</p> <p>12. Date for next meeting: 25 November 2015 Blaenau Gwent, Ebbw Vale</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <p>Spring 2016 Pembrokeshire; Summer 2016 Denbighshire; Autumn 2016 Carmarthenshire; Spring 2017 Monmouthshire.</p>
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Croeso i CCYSAGauC- Ian Budd

Hoffwn eich croesawu chi i gyd yma'r bore yma i gyfarfod tymor yr haf Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru. Ian Budd ydw i a fi yw'r Prif Swyddog Addysg yma yn Sir y Fflint. Rwy'n Is Gadeirydd Cymdeithas Cyfarwyddwyr Addysg Cymru yn dilyn tair blynedd yn Gadeirydd ac yn Gyfarwyddwr Arweiniol i GwE, Consortiwm Addysg Gogledd Cymru.

`Does dim dwywaith fod y newidiadau i'r gwasanaethau gwella ysgolion ar draws Cymru wedi cael effaith ar y ffordd y mae CYSAGau'n gallu ymgymryd â'u gwaith o fonitro, herio a chefnogi Addysg Grefyddol ac Addoli ar y Cyd.

Mae digon o gyfleoedd i bartneriaid ffydd fywiocau ac adnewyddu eu gallu a'u hymgysylltiad â gwaith gwella ysgolion ac â'u partneriaethau ehangach gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a Theulu Llywodraeth Leol.

Mae'r newidiadau i'r gwasanaethau gwella ysgolion fel rhan o'r model cenedlaethol yn rhoi sylw penodol hefyd (yn deillio o ddysgu rhyngwladol ac ymchwil i arfer effeithiol) i hyrwyddo rhwydweithiau rhwng ysgolion a'i gilydd, yn cynnwys rhwydweithiau arweinwyr cwricwlwm a chymorth gwella unigryw cymheiriaid, yn cynnwys mentora a hyfforddi mewn ysgolion ac ar draws ysgolion.

Mae'r agenda heddiw yn hyrwyddo arfer da o ran Addoli ar y Cyd. Ceir cyfle i drafod sut y gall ein pobl ifanc weithio gyda chymunedau ffydd. Ceir cyfle hefyd i ystyried yr argymhellion sy'n dod o ddogfen draws-Ewropeaidd sy'n hybu arfer da mewn Addysg Grefyddol.

Mae Addysg Grefyddol yn sail i nifer o werthoedd sy'n galluogi pobl ifanc i ddod yn ddysgwyr gydol oes. Mae'n galluogi'r dysgwyr i feddwl am gwestiynau pwysig fel bywyd a'n bodolaeth. Mae ar ddysgwyr angen y gallu i archwilio a rhesymoli eu credoau nhw eu hunain a rhai pobl eraill am bob math o faterion. Yn ein byd sy'n mynd yn fwyfwy aml ddiwylliant, mae angen i ni i gyd geisio dangos cydymdeimlad, tosturi a goddefgarwch tra'n aros yn ffyddlon i'n credoau a'n treftadaeth ein hunain. Mae dysgwyr gydol oes yn ennill sgiliau, boed yn rhai academiaidd, personol neu gymdeithasol, ac mae'r rhain i gyd i'w cael yn y dosbarth Addysg Grefyddol.

O ran byd addysg, rydym yn byw mewn amser cyffrous, newidiol a heriol. Amser lle bydd arfer da a datblygiad athro yn cael eu gweld a'u lledaenu ar draws dosbarthiadau. Dosbarthiadau mwy agored, a diwylliant mwy agored lle'r ydym i gyd yn cydnabod ein bod yn ddysgwyr, gyda dysgu i'r rannu a dysgu i'w gaffael gan eraill. Mae'r cyfarfod hwn yn cael y fraint o ddod ag athrawon, cynghorwyr lleol a chynrychiolwyr ffydd at ei gilydd i herio, dysgu a chefnogi'r naill a'r llall. Wrth i chi wrando a meddwl am y materion a godir yn y cyflwyniadau heddiw, rwy'n gobeithio y byddwch yn gallu mynd â hyn yn ôl i'ch ardaloedd eich hunain er mwyn cyfoethogi bywydau'n pobl ifanc a gwella ansawdd yr addysgu a'r dysgu sy'n digwydd yn ein hysgolion bob dydd.

Welcome to WASACRE- Ian Budd

I would like to welcome you all here this morning to the Wales Association of SACREs summer term meeting. I am Ian Budd and I am the Chief Education Officer here in Flintshire, Vice Chair of ADEW following three years as Chairman and Lead Director for GwE, the North Wales Education Consortium.

There is no doubt that the changes to school improvement services across Wales have had an impact on the way SACREs are able to undertake their functions to monitor, challenge and support Religious Education and Collective Worship.

There are opportunities out there for faith partners to refresh and renew their capacity and engagement with school improvement practice and their wider partnerships with Welsh Government and the Local Government Family.

The changes to school improvement services as part of the national model also specifically focus (steeped in international learning and research on effective practice) on promoting school to school support networks, including curriculum leader networks and peer to peer tailored improvement support, including mentoring and coaching within and across schools.

Today's agenda supports the promotion of good practice in regards to Collective Worship. There is an opportunity to see the opportunities our young people have to work with faith communities. There is also the opportunity to look at the recommendations from a cross European document promoting good practice in Religious Education.

Religious Education supports many values that enable young people to become lifelong learners. It enables learners to engage with important questions about life and our existence. Learners need the ability to be able to explore and be able to rationalise their own and other people's beliefs about a range of issues. In our ever-increasing intercultural world, we all need to practice the art of empathy, compassion and tolerance whilst being able to stay true to one's own beliefs and heritage. Lifelong learners acquire skills, whether they be academic, personal or social all of which can be addressed in the Religious Education classroom.

Within the world of education, we live in exciting, changing and challenging times. One in which good practice and teacher development will be found within and disseminated across classrooms. More open classrooms, and a more open culture in which we all recognise that we are learners, with learning to share and learning to gain from others. This conference has the privileged position of bringing teachers, local councillors and faith representatives together to challenge, learn from and support each other. I hope that as you listen and think about the issues raised in the presentations today you will be able to feed back to your own areas that which will enhance the lives of our young people and improve the quality of learning and teaching that goes on in our schools daily.