

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE: 16TH OCTOBER 2017

SUBJECT CAERPHILLY SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS ANALYSIS - AUTUMN 2016-SUMMER 2017

A BACKGROUND

SACRE Synopsis: Main findings

During the period June 2016 - June 2017 fifteen Caerphilly schools were inspected:-

- One infant school
- Two junior schools
- Eleven primary schools
- One secondary school

Spiritual Development

Comments in relation to spiritual development are evident in 14 out of 15 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. We can therefore assume – as Estyn has not noted any instances of non-compliance - that all schools inspected meet statutory requirements in relation to collective worship.

Quality

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

Good features (Primary)

- Assemblies encourage respect for diversity and racial equality successfully,
- During assemblies, pupils usually have appropriate opportunities to reflect and develop their spiritual awareness.
- ... in acts of collective worship, pupils reflect responsibly upon the importance of friendship and racial tolerance
- Well planned assemblies reinforce the school's values and provide worthwhile opportunities for pupils to reflect on how these relate to their own life experiences
- Collective worship fosters the development of strong values in pupils. It provides good opportunities for pupils to think about the world around them and their place within it
- Assemblies.... reinforce pupils' understanding of spiritual and moral principles.
- The school celebrates pupils' achievements successfully in assemblies and through positive encouragement and use of rewards.
- Visitors to the school, such as the local vicar, provide a valuable range of experiences that enrich the lives of pupils

Areas for development (Primary)

None

Religious Education: Meeting statutory requirements for RE

The Estyn Common Inspection Framework notes that inspectors should only report on instances where the school does **not** comply with statutory requirements. Estyn has not noted any instances of non-compliance for RE and we can assume that all schools inspected meet statutory requirements in relation to Religious Education.

B RECOMMENDATION

For SACRE to note and discuss the inspection reports

Note: All schools analysed were inspected according to the current Inspection Framework.

In the *current Inspection Framework* evaluations, inspectors use a four-point scale:

Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement

In the *New Inspection Framework* Estyn evaluates a provider's effectiveness using a four-point judgement scale:

Excellent	Strong, sustained performance and practice
Good	Strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement
Adequate	Needs improvement Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement
Unsatisfactory	Needs urgent improvement. Important weaknesses outweigh strengths

C SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1 Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2016/17: SACRE Synopsis

Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2016/17: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Glyn Gaer CP School June 2017 Reporting Inspector Christopher Ian Dolby	No comment on SMSC	Yes	... respect for diversity and racial equality successfully, for example through assemblies,	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good There is a welcoming and caring ethos. Staff and pupils show mutual respect and concern for one another, regardless of gender, social background, race or faith. Staff promote respect for diversity and racial equality successfully, for example through assemblies, discussions about current events and personal and social education. The school provides beneficial activities to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of sustainable living and global citizenship e.g. the study of other religions and countries. The school has strong links within the local community including local businesses and churches.
Hendredenny Park Primary May 2017 Reporting Inspector Ms Elizabeth Barry	The very strong emphasis on teaching pupils about values develops their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness highly effectively. For example, in acts of collective worship, pupils reflect responsibly upon the importance of friendship and racial tolerance.	Yes	... in acts of collective worship, pupils reflect responsibly upon the importance of friendship and racial tolerance.	Current performance: Excellent Prospects for improvement: Excellent The planning of the curriculum is extremely thorough ... through the Foundation Phase to the end of KS2. In key stage 2, most pupils write imaginatively..... Many pupils use sophisticated vocabulary and devices such as metaphors and personification to enrich their writing, for example, a poem about the Holocaust. They apply their numeracy skills in other subjects at the same high standard as in their mathematics work e.g. in religious education. There is a clear emphasis on recognising, respecting and celebrating diversity, and the school promotes pupils' rights and responsibilities to a high level. Nearly all pupils show great care and respect towards each other and have exceptional empathy for those that are less fortunate. The school promotes pupils' understanding of their roles and responsibilities as global citizens very successfully.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
<p>Cwmcarn Primary</p> <p>May 2017</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Ms Stephanie James</p>	<p>Across the school, learning experiences promote pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development effectively. Assemblies reinforce the school's values and provide worthwhile opportunities for pupils to reflect on how these relate to their own life experiences.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Assemblies reinforce the school's values and provide worthwhile opportunities for pupils to reflect on how these relate to their own life experiences</p>	<p>Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad range of learning experiences that meet statutory requirements. The school has a strong, inclusive ethos.... Staff promote an appreciation of diversity well. There are many beneficial opportunities for pupils to learn about sustainable development. Worthwhile links with a school in Uganda, and opportunities to learn about other countries, strengthen pupils' awareness of their roles and responsibilities as global citizens. There are mutually beneficial partnerships within the local community e.g. there is regular, close contact with the local vicar who takes a keen interest in pupils' wellbeing.</p>
<p>Blackwood Primary</p> <p>May 2017</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Ms Rhona Edwards</p>	<p>Across the school, learning experiences offer varied opportunities to promote pupils' spiritual, social, moral, and cultural development.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a wide range of beneficial and exciting learning experiences, which meet the needs of nearly all pupils well. The school is a happy community, which values all pupils equally. It has a strong caring ethos ...Most pupils ...show good levels of tolerance towards those with different views to their own. There is appropriate provision for pupils to learn about their roles and responsibilities as global citizens, for example through class topics, links with schools around the world and their own work as a fair trade school....fundraising for charities, including 'Comic Relief' and 'Children in Need'. There are close links with the local churches.</p>

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Bedwas Junior March 2017 Reporting Inspector Christopher Dolby	The school's provision to promote their spiritual, moral and social development is very effective, and this contributes successfully to the school's caring ethos and the excellent behaviour of nearly all pupils.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils well. The school is a fully inclusive and tolerant community where all pupils have equal value. The school promotes pupils' understanding of global citizenship well through projects such as a comparative topic on Kenya and Wales.
Cwm Glas Infant School March 2017 Reporting Inspector Jonathan Wright	The school's provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is wide ranging and effective.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a creative and imaginative curriculum that engages pupils and meets their needs well. group. The school promotes positive attitudes to different cultural backgrounds and ethnic origins through a well-planned and inclusive curriculum. Most pupils have a good understanding of their role as a global citizen through activities that imaginatively engage them with the wider world. The school uses the local community regularly to enrich the learning experiences of pupils e.g. pupils develop their sense of community when singing in a carol service at the local church.
Wunfawr primary March 2017 Reporting Inspector Elizabeth Jane Counsell	Staff develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness well in collective worship and in lessons.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a well-planned thematic curriculum thatmeets national requirements. The school is a welcoming, inclusive community with an exceptionally positive and caring ethos. There is a clear emphasis on respecting and celebrating diversity and promoting tolerant attitudes towards others. Pupils use their literacy skills well in subjects e.g. Year 1 pupils write short accounts of the Chinese New Year. Staff promote education for sustainable development and global citizenship appropriately. Pupils raise money for local and national charities regularly. For example, they recently held a fund raising event for a local children's charity. As a result, pupils have a good understanding of how to support people less fortunate than themselves.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
<p>Cwm Ifor Primary</p> <p>Jan 2017</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Mrs Sarah Jane Morgan</p>	<p>Learning experiences promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Collective worship fosters the development of strong values in pupils. It reinforces the caring ethos of the school and provides good opportunities for pupils to think about the world around them and their place within it e.g. they learn about how local churches offer food and shelter to homeless people in the locality and reflect on why this is necessary. Pupils on the schools council make a valuable contribution to the life of the school e.g. members led an assembly dealing with the issues of bullying.</p>	<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good Appropriate account is taken of the requirements of the Foundation Phase, the National Curriculum and religious education. The school promotes an inclusive and caring ethos which values all members of the school community. Strong working relationships between staff and pupils contribute to this positive ethos and staff put effective policies into practice to ensure that no pupil is subject to any discrimination. All staff encourage pupils to treat each other fairly and to respect individual differences and backgrounds. There are suitable opportunities in the curriculum for developing pupils' awareness of sustainability and global citizenship. Pupils develop high levels of respect and tolerance for children whose needs differ from their own.</p>

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirement	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Libanus Primary Dec 2016 Reporting Inspector Eleanor Davies	Staff develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural needs effectively through daily collective worship, a comprehensive personal and social education programme, and links with other countries.	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The curriculum is broad and balanced and engages nearly all pupils well. The school provides all pupils with valuable opportunities to develop their understanding of the wider world. For example, the school has effective long established links with a school in Zimbabwe. Members of the school council engage purposefully in a wide range of activities to raise funds for local, national and international charities.
Tyn-y-Wern Primary Nov 2016 Reporting Inspector Peter David Ellis	Staff foster pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.	Yes	Assemblies and experiences, such as commemorating Armistice Day and creating a special remembrance corner in the forest school, reinforce pupils' understanding of spiritual and moral principles.	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school's broad range of highly imaginative and stimulating learning experiences is an outstanding feature. Nearly all pupils benefit from studying a wide range of other countries and cultures. As a result, they develop a good understanding of life in the wider world.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirement	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
<p>Cwmaber Junior school</p> <p>Nov 2016</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Christopher Ian Dolby</p>	<p>Provision to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is effective. Most pupils have regular opportunities to learn about differing beliefs and local church groups contribute well to the spiritual development of pupils. All staff foster pupils' understanding of fairness and honesty effectively.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The school celebrates pupils' achievements successfully in assemblies and through positive encouragement and use of rewards.</p>	<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum, which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum and the locally agreed syllabus for religious education. The school has a caring and inclusive ethos that values all pupils equally. Adults and pupils treat each other with mutual respect and sensitivity. The school celebrates pupils' achievements successfully in assemblies. Most pupils recognise their role in caring for others and raise money for a number of charities successfully. However, there are limited opportunities for the majority of pupils to learn about diversity and other cultures. Many local community organisations, e.g. the church and local volunteer groups, have close contacts with the school. These have a valuable impact on enriching and widening pupils' learning experiences.</p>
<p>YGG Y Castell</p> <p>Oct 2016</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Maldwyn Pryse</p>	<p>There is a strong emphasis on promoting values, and this promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No comment</p>	<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school meets the requirements of the Foundation Phase, the National Curriculum and the Literacy and Numeracy Framework effectively. There is an inclusive, warm, welcoming and caring ethos in the school. Clear policies and procedures ensure equal opportunities for all, and promote equality and understanding of diversity and fairness successfully. Provision for developing pupils' awareness of sustainability and protecting the environment is very effective.... pupils are given very valuable opportunities to learn how to respect and use the environment. Provision for global citizenship is beneficial and includes studying religious practices throughout the world. There is a strong partnership between the school and local chapels.</p>

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirement	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
<p>The Twyn School</p> <p>July 2016</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Helen Kay Lester</p>	<p>The school supports pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Well-planned assemblies reinforce the school's values successfully and visitors to the school, such as the local vicar, provide a valuable range of experiences that enrich the lives of pupils.</p>	<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a rich, broad and balanced curriculum that meets pupils' learning needs very successfully. The school provides a wide range of valuable opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of global citizenship through learning about other countries and religions. The school is a vibrant community, which provides a safe and supportive learning environment for all pupils. This encourages pupils to develop tolerance, care and understanding of each other. The school provides a range of interesting visits and activities that promote pupils' understanding of other cultures, such as a study and celebration of the festivals of Islam. The school is particularly effective in ensuring that pupils have opportunities to learn about and mix with people different to themselves. For example, pupils regularly welcome a wide range of visitors into the school and host these visits very successfully.</p>
<p>Cwrt Rawlin Primary</p> <p>June 2016</p> <p>Reporting Inspector</p> <p>Christopher Ian Dolby</p>	<p>There is good provision for promoting pupils' spiritual development. Core values underpin the school's nurturing environment, encouraging pupils' moral and social development well. The school holds regular class assemblies.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No comment</p>	<p>Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a wide range of rich and varied learning experiences that meet the requirements of the National Curriculum and the locally agreed syllabus for religious education effectively. Their understanding of global citizenship is at an early stage of development. There is a happy, caring and calm ethos throughout the school. It is an inclusive community that recognizes and celebrates diversity well.</p>

Caerphilly Secondary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2016/17: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Bedwas High school May 2017 Reporting Inspector Tony Sparks	Assemblies and tutorial sessions promote pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development suitably	Yes	No comment	Current performance: Unsatisfactory Prospects for improvement: Unsatisfactory The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that meets suitably the needs of most pupils. The curriculum at key stage 3 builds appropriately on pupils' prior learning. The school provides a safe learning environment and has an inclusive ethos. There is a clear emphasis upon celebrating success and recognising diversity. There are appropriate policies and procedures to challenge any stereotyping and promote equality. The school develops successfully pupils' awareness of sustainability and global citizenship through a wide range of subjects, extra-curricular activities and engagement with community issues.