

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL  
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2016-2017**

**Caerphilly SACRE Annual Report 2016-2017**  
**DRAFT VERSION**

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

**2016 - 2017**

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ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**2016- 2017**

**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.

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**1.5 Meetings**

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2016-17.

October 18<sup>th</sup> 2016  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 2017  
June 19<sup>th</sup> 2017

SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship. During the academic year 2016/17 SACRE held two meetings at schools in the 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 2015 - 2018. 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 7. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

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## **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 2016-2017 there were no issues of non fulfilment of statutory requirements for RE identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.
2. SACRE 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. One special and one secondary school were visited in 2016/17
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.
4. Letters sent to schools reminding them that the agreed syllabus remains a statutory document whilst the curriculum is under review. Schools asked to acknowledge and confirm they understand and comply with this. Survey conducted of KS4 provision and outcomes shared with SACRE and schools. Letter sent to secondary schools raising concerns about aspects of delivery at KS4.

#### **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 has been updated on a termly basis of developments with the national Curriculum review. 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.

## **TEACHING MATERIALS**

#### **Issue**

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To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

**Action**

1. All schools were informed of the 2017 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'Don't Stand By' and that free Holocaust resources can be found on their website [www.hmd.org.uk](http://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.

**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. During 2016-2017 there were no issues of non fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.
2. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g. HMD 2017.
3. SACRE resolved to hold meetings at schools in the Borough and observe an act of collective worship where possible to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision and quality of collective worship. One special school was visited and an act of collective worship was observed by members.

**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 this year from their professional consultant Mrs V Thomas who gave updates on the review of the National Curriculum and its implications for RE and the development of the revised exam specifications. They also received a presentation on "RE in the Secondary school" from Blackwood Comprehensive School.

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3. SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Caerphilly for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. One SACRE meeting was held at Trinity Fields Special School where members observed an act of collective worship and had a tour of the school. Another meeting was held at Blackwood Comprehensive School where members received a presentation on the work of the RE department at the school and an opportunity to see the display of work in the department's rooms.

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## **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. A yearly programme of INSET on the agreed syllabus and support materials, including schemes of work and electronic *Progress in Learning* files for secondary schools, were issued to schools.

During the 2012/13 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.

During 2016-17, SACRE has been updated on a termly basis of developments with the NC review. 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 May 2015- July 2016. 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 12 primary schools, and 2 secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

Comments were positive stating that curriculum and statutory requirements were met and that schools studied other cultures, faiths and traditions and had a growing understanding of the diverse world in which they live. Schools had beneficial links with places of worship which enrich their experiences. There was good provision for global citizenship and education for sustainable development.

No RE subject specific issues were identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.

#### **2.2b Examination Results 2016**

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 Consortia and All -Wales figures (where available).



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In **GCSE Religious Studies** fourteen schools entered 605 pupils. Entry numbers are lower than previous years but number of schools entering candidates has increased this year. 13/14 schools have entries in double figures and one school in triple figures. Cohort entry is below Consortia and All Wales figures

The overall % of A\*- A grades was 27.7% which is slightly below 2015 but better than 2014 and is better than the Consortia figure (23.9%) and comparable with the All Wales figure (27.8%).

The overall % of A\*- C grades was 71.1% which is comparable with previous performance and better than the Consortia figure (66.3%). It is comparable with the All Wales figure (72%)

The overall % of A\*-G grades was 97.8% and is comparable with previous performance and better than the Consortia figure (96.7%) and comparable with the All-Wales figure (97.8%).

SACRE noted that results continue to be good and compare well with previous performance. Results are better than Consortia figures at all grade boundaries and comparable with All Wales figures at all grade boundaries.

**At GCSE Short Course in Religious Education** there were 594 entries from 14 schools. Entry numbers are lower than previous years but number of schools entering candidates has increased this year. 9/14 schools have entries in double figures and one school in triple figures. Schools in triple figures thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. Cohort entry is below Consortia and All Wales figures. 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 13.8% is below 2015 performance but better than 2014 performance. It is better than the Consortia (12.8%) and the All Wales (11.4%) figures.

The overall % of A\*- C grades was 45.8% is below previous performance. It is better than the Consortia figure (42.1%) and comparable with the All Wales figure of 45.4%.

The overall % of A\*-G grades was 92.9% is better than 2015 but below 2014 performance. It is better than the Consortia (88.6%) and the All Wales(90.6%) figures.

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** there were 84 entries from 9 schools one more school than previous years. The entry figures are below 2015 but higher than 2014. 6/9 schools have entry numbers in double figures. The cohort entry is higher than the Consortia and All Wales figures.

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A\*-A was achieved by 13.1% of students and is comparable to 2015 performance but below 2014 performance. They are below the Consortia figure (15.9%) and the All Wales figure (19%).

At A\*-C candidates achieved a pass rate of 69.1% which is below previous performance. It is also below the Consortia figure (78.6%) and the All Wales figure (79%)

The pass rate for grades A-E of 98.8% although below previous outstanding performance of 100% is still a good result. It is comparable to the Consortia figure (98.1%) and the All Wales figure (99%)

At **AS level** there was an increase in entry numbers again this year with 28 candidates from 9 schools. Cohort entry is higher than the Consortia (4.2%) but below the All Wales figure (12.7%)

There were no pupils achieving a grade A. 42.9% of students achieved A\*-C which is better than 2015 but still below 2014 performance. 71.5% pass rate for grades A-E and is slightly below 2015 performance although does not match the excellent 100% of 2014.

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

It should be noted that definitive conclusions couldn't 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.

Caerphilly schools have made contributions to RE News in order to share good practice.

## Teaching Materials

### Holocaust Memorial Day 2017 Resources

All schools were informed of the 2017 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of “How Can Life Go On”.

Schools were informed by SACRE that further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust resources can be found on their website [www.hmd.org.uk](http://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.

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### **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 academic year Autumn 2014- Summer 2015. 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 12 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 promote pupils' moral awareness well with clear messages, such as the importance of treating everyone equally. Collective worship develop pupils' understanding of other beliefs and learn about global citizenship. 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. Links with local faith communities- especially local churches and chapels- have a positive influence on pupils' spiritual development.

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 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 special school and one secondary school this year. They did attend an act of collective worship at the special school.

## **SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES**

### **4.1 WASACRE**

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2016-17 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 SACRE's 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 2017 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'How Can Life Go On' and that further information about the theme and free educational Holocaust Memorial Day resources can be found on their website [www.hmd.org.uk](http://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.

The Clerk to SACRE summarised the numerous events which took place across Caerphilly to mark this International Day of Remembrance, including coffee mornings, Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) displays and poetry readings in Risca, Rhymney, Blackwood and Abertridwr Libraries.

SACRE Members had been invited to the official ceremony held at Blackwood Miners' Institute on Friday 27th January 2017, which included a welcome from the Leader of the Council, and was followed by a number of poignant readings from pupils at Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni. Following the lighting of the commemorative candle, guests were invited to view a special book of poetry written by pupils from the schools, which will raise money for Save the Children.

SACRE Members were sent a link to the Events page of the website, which listed other commemorative events across Wales that were being held on and around Holocaust Memorial Day 2017.

SACRE remarked on the impressive book of poetry written by the Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni pupils and were pleased to note the moving commemorative events that had taken place across the county borough to mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2017.

### **4.3 WELSH GOVERNMENT NATIONAL CURRICULUM REVIEW**

SACRE has received termly updates on the progress of the National Curriculum Review and its implications for RE in the curriculum. RE remains a statutory curriculum requirement from reception and should form part of the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience. WG agreed to send a termly newsletter to SACREs outlining the developmental work of the Pioneer Schools in relation to RE in the Humanities. The most recent newsletter refers to the Humanities working group recommendation to follow the 'Big Ideas'/What Matters approach as exemplified within Wynne Harlen et al's 'Working with Big Ideas in Science'. This identifies the key knowledge/concepts,

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skills and competencies for each discipline within the Humanities and then 'building' the AoLE by identifying overarching 'big ideas'/what matters key concepts that will be drawn across the disciplines. The next strand in the development work will begin during the Autumn term. The Executive Summary and the Humanities working group's recommendations will be discussed by SACRE at its Autumn 2017 meeting and a suitable response will be made to WG, if necessary

#### **4.4. REVISED CRITERIA FOR GCSE AND GCE SPECIFICATIONS**

SACRE have been informed of the proposed changes to specifications and assessment practices for GCSE with an implementation date of Autumn 2017. In preparation for the new specification for first teaching from September 2017 two lead practitioners for GCSE Religious Studies have been appointed. SACRE have been updated on the progress of their work with schools to support the implementation of the GCSE specification.

#### **4.5. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR RE**

SACRE was informed that the curriculum review had caused some confusion in schools regarding the status of agreed syllabuses. SACRE resolved to write to all schools reminding them that coverage of the programmes of study of the locally agreed syllabus remains a statutory requirement. It was brought to SACREs attention that the 2016 WASACRE survey on the impact of the WBQ on Religious Education showed that some secondary schools believed that delivery of the Global Citizenship element of WBQ was sufficient to cover the RE requirements. SACRE resolved to remind secondary schools that coverage of the Global Citizenship unit alone would not be sufficient to cover all aspects of the agreed syllabus KS4 programme of study. It asked all schools to confirm that they understood the requirements of the agreed syllabus and that they are meeting these statutory requirements in their schools. Secondary schools were asked to complete a pro forma indicating their provision for RE at KS4 and this was analysed and discussed at the summer meeting of SACRE. Some concerns were raised about how some schools were delivering RE at KS4 and SACRE resolved to write another letter to schools reminding them that SACRE does not look favourably on any school's delivery of RE through a WBQ unit alone or through Thought for the Day or use of registration time and asked schools to take appropriate action.

#### **4.6 MEETING WITH ESTYN**

SACRE were informed that members of WASACRE and NAPfRE had met with Estyn in June 2017. The meeting was a positive one and had mutual benefits as it presented an opportunity for the delegation to gather information about the RE Thematic Review & New Inspection Framework and also raise concerns SACREs have regarding the meeting of statutory requirements with particular attention drawn to the provision for RE at KS4.

Estyn outlined the personnel involved, process for identification of schools and the remit of the Thematic Review of KS2 &3. The delegation outlined the ways that SACREs monitor RE in schools, including the analysis of inspection reports. They stressed the importance of Estyn identifying whether or not statutory requirements are being met when they conduct inspections so that SACREs can act upon such information. The delegation also referred to the particular issue of delivery at KS4 and that some schools may not be fully meeting statutory requirements at KS4 – especially those delivering through WBQ. Estyn was very supportive of the concerns raised and said that they would raise these issues with their inspectors.

#### **4.7 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. There were two presentations this year. One presentation was received from Mrs V Thomas gave updates on the review of the National Curriculum and its implications for RE and the development of the revised exam specifications. Another presentation was received from the RE department at Blackwood Comprehensive on the delivery of RE at the school.

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at places of worship in the Borough. This year no visits were made to places of worship.

SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Caerphilly for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Meetings were held at a special and a secondary school this year. The Spring meeting was held at Trinity Fields Special School and members observed an act of collective worship. Another meeting was held at Blackwood Comprehensive 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 2016-2017**

**THE LOCAL AUTHORITY**

Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth  
Councillor D. Carter (till June 2017)  
Councillor J. Ridgewell (Replaced retired Member D. Carter June 2017)  
Councillor Mrs G.D. Oliver  
Councillor Mrs M.E. Sargent  
Councillor J. Simmonds  
Councillor J. Taylor (SACRE 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 Martin Western (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)  
Mrs Enfys Hawthorn (United Reformed Church)  
Mrs Janet Jones (Church in Wales) – (SACRE Vice Chair) appointed 02.11.15  
Captain Carl Di-Palma (The Salvation Army)

**CO OPTED MEMBERS**

- (1) Race Equality Wales representative – Mr Eddy Mushayanyama (resigned in October 2016)
- (2) Primary school representative – Ms Rhianne Bradshaw, St James Primary School

**OFFICERS**

Mrs Jacqueline Elias (CCBC Service Manager- Additional Learning Needs) - replaced by Mr Paul Warren (CCBC Strategic Lead for School Improvement) from June 2017  
Mrs Vicky Thomas (Independent RE Consultant)

**CLERK TO SACRE**

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.



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**APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS**

**October 18<sup>th</sup> 2016 at Ty Penallta Council Offices**

**Main Agenda Items**

- Appointment of Vice Chairperson
- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings
- Membership Update
- SACRE Annual Report 2015 -2016
- SACRE Development Plan 2015 – 2018 (Progress Report)
- Analysis of Caerphilly Inspection Reports May 2015-July 2016
- RE and the National Curriculum- Update
- GCSE Religious Studies : Update
- Inclusive SACREs Award
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2017
- WASACRE Issues, including feedback and report of WASACRE meeting and AGM at Rhyl, Executive Appointments and Representation at next meeting at Carmarthen
- Correspondence

**March 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Trinity Fields Special School**

The SACRE meeting was concluded by observing an act of collective worship

**Main Agenda Items**

- Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2017 : Feedback
- Analysis of Examination Performance 2016
- GCSE Consortia arrangements/ WJEC specifications
- National Curriculum Review and Assessment - Update
- Estyn Annual remit 2017-2018
- WASACRE Issues including feedback from Meetings at Usk, Nominations to the WASACRE Executive and representation at next meeting of WASACRE at Wrexham
- Correspondence

**Tuesday June 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Blackwood Comprehensive School**

**Main Agenda Items**

- Presentation by RE department at Blackwood Comprehensive *School*
- Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- Schedule of Meetings 2017-2018
- Results of RE Survey of Schools
- Revised criteria for GCSE and GCE specifications -Update
- National Curriculum Review and Assessment - Update
- Estyn Update ( Oral update)
- WASACRE Issues including report of WASACRE meeting at Usk, representation at next meeting at Wrexham and Executive Voting for the Period 2017-2020
- Correspondence

### APPENDIX 3: CAERPHELLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)

**Aim 1: To monitor standards and provision in Religious Education and Religious Studies.**

Plan of action	Schedule	People involved	Time and costs	Outcomes	Progress
1.1 Monitor standards and provision 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.	<p><b>2015-2016</b> Considered 2.11.15. One school not fulfilling statutory requirements for RE. Action plan requested and considered. SACRE satisfied that progress has been made</p> <p><b>2016-2017</b> Considered 18.10.16. No school identified as not complying with statutory requirements. Schools asked to acknowledge that they understood that current agreed syllabus for RE is still statutory whilst the Humanities curriculum is under review. Survey conducted of KS4 provision and outcomes shared with SACRE and schools.</p>
1.2 Receive information on results of: 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.	<p><b>2015-2016</b> Considered 3.3.16. Schools informed of outcomes.</p> <p><b>2016-2017</b> Considered 16.3.17. Schools informed of outcomes</p>

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.	<b>2015-2016</b> No INSET provided by LA or EAS <b>2016-2017</b> No INSET provided by LA or EAS
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**CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (ACADEMIC YEAR)**

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

<b>Plan of action</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>People involved</b>	<b>Time and costs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
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.	<b>2015-2016</b> SACRE has termly updates on curriculum development. 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. <b>2016-2017</b> SACRE has received termly updates on development of the Humanities curriculum.
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.	<b>2015-2016</b> Schools sent materials from Carmarthenshire LA <b>2016-2017</b> Not Applicable

**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.	<p><b>2015-2016</b> Considered 2.11.15. One school not fulfilling statutory requirements for DACW. Action plan requested and considered. SACRE satisfied that progress has been made.</p> <p><b>2016-2017</b> Considered 18.10.16. No school identified as not 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 worship	<p><b>2015-2016</b> Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2016 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p> <p><b>2016-2017</b> Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2017 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p>

**CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (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	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.	<b>2015-2016</b> SACRE visited two schools this year and received two presentations on RE at the school/s. <b>2016-2017</b> SACRE received a presentation on RE at one secondary school and were also informed of developments in GCSE and Humanities in the revised curriculum.
4.2 Programme of school visits.	Termly/Annually 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.	<b>2015-2016</b> SACRE visited two schools this year, attended one act of collective worship and received two presentations. <b>2016-2017</b> SACRE visited two schools this year, attended one act of collective worship and received one presentation on RE.

## APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS ANALYSIS 2016

### GCSE Full Course Religious Studies 2016

	Caerphilly 2016	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Consortia 2016	Wales 2016
<b>A*-A</b>	27.7%	28.3%	25.6%	23.9%	27.8%
<b>A*-C</b>	71.1%	71.4%	73.0%	66.3%	72.0%
<b>A*- G</b>	97.8%	98.4%	98.8%	96.7%	97.8%
<b>Entry Number</b>	605 14 schools 29.5% cohort	679 13 schools	656 14 schools	2485 39.5%	11,051 34.3% cohort

### GCSE Short Course Religious Studies 2016

	Caerphilly 2016	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Consortia 2016	Wales 2016
<b>A*-A</b>	13.8%	18.6%	10.8%	12.8%	11.4%
<b>A*-C</b>	45.8%	60.9%	49.7%	42.1%	45.4%
<b>A*-G</b>	92.9%	91.5%	95.0%	88.6%	90.6%
<b>Entry Number</b>	594 14 schools 29% cohort	647 13 schools	866 13 schools	2021 32.2% cohort	11,666 36.2% cohort

### GCE A Level Religious Studies 2016

	Caerphilly 2016	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Consortia 2016	Wales 2016
<b>A*-A</b>	13.1%	13.0%	17.2%	15.9%	19%
<b>A*-C</b>	69.1%	73.0%	89.1%	78.6%	79%
<b>A*-E</b>	98.8%	100%	100%	98.1%	99%
<b>Entry Number</b>	84 9 schools 14.2% cohort	100 8 schools	64 8 schools	314 13.9% cohort	1446 12% cohort

### GCE AS Level Religious Studies 2016

	Caerphilly 2016	Caerphilly 2015	Caerphilly 2014	Consortia 2016	Wales 2016
<b>A</b>	0%	4.5%	21.1%	8.3%	16%
<b>A-C</b>	42.9%	36.4%	47.4%	43.8%	63%
<b>A -E</b>	71.5%	72.7%	100%	75.0%	89%
<b>Entry Number</b>	28 9 schools 4.7%	22 8 schools	19 6 schools	96 4.2%	1535 12.7%

**Please Note:**

Data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2015, 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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