



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN PENALLTA HOUSE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2022 AT 3.00 P.M

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair

Councillors: Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, and A. Whitcombe.

Representatives of Faith and Belief: Mrs. J. Jones (Church in Wales) - Vice Chair

Teacher Union Representative: Miss H. Bartley (NEU), Mrs T. Lloyd (NAHT), Mrs K. McCullough (NASUWT), and Mrs C. McLaughlan (NASUWT).

Together with:

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

Also in attendance: Mr H. Strange (Lewis School, Pengam).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Gray (The Methodist Church), Mrs M. Jones (UCAC), Mr K. Chamberlain (Humanists Wales), and Major P. Hubbard (The Salvation Army).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 6TH JULY 2022.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2022 be

approved as a correct record, subject to amendments in relation to attendance at the meeting on 6th July 2022, and noting that Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, and A. Whitcombe were all in attendance, and by way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 6th July 2022 (minute nos. 1-13) be approved as a correct record, subject to amendments in relation to attendance. .

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

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

5. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM LEWIS SCHOOL, PENGAM, ON RVE AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP.

Mr. H. Strange from Lewis School, Pengam provided Members with an overview of the teaching and delivery of the PSE curriculum at the school including the ongoing RVE lessons. Members were advised that 'daily reflective books' were used, which included a quote for the day, and week. It was noted that this had previously only been a reflective thought, but which now included a religious element, going forward. Members were also advised that from January 2023, going forward, this work would be evidenced in daily reflective books.

A Member sought clarification on the reflective lessons and whether they were spiritual, if not religious. Members were advised that this could be spiritual, and included 'thoughts for the day', and 'word for the week'. Members also clarified that the school is aware of all the different faiths of pupils within the school. Mr. Strange offered to circulate some examples of the resources referred to, following the meeting.

SACRE noted the details of the presentation.

6. CAERPHILLY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members that the annual report had been included in the agenda pack and requested that Members notify her directly with any comments or discrepancies.

It was moved and seconded that the Draft Annual Report 2021-2022 be approved, and by way of a roll call, this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the Draft Annual Report 2021-2022 be approved, subject to the agreement of any final amendments for inclusion in the document. The finalised version of the Annual Report will then be translated and sent to Welsh Government by 30th December 2022.

7. UPDATE FROM THE RVE ADVISOR.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on recent developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE and advised Members on the Welsh Government RVE resources and the possible delay in this information being available to Members.

Members were informed that Caerphilly SACRE had made an offer of 'Professional Learning' to schools, in relation to curriculum design and provision, which has received a good response from primary schools within the borough. Members were also advised that a 'Professional Learning' event had been organised for 19th January 2023, starting with primary schools in the first instance. This will also continue for Secondary Schools at an appropriate time.

Members were informed of an RVE 'Ideas and Inspiration Action Day' taking place on 6th December 2022, with 25 of the 50 spaces available, being taken up by Caerphilly schools.

Members were referred to the Farmington scholarships which were now open for applications to primary and secondary teachers and head teachers. Members were advised that information would be circulated following the meeting.

Members were also informed of annual 'Professional Learning' for SACRE members, to be organised in the new year, and open to all members including teaching staff. Members were advised if they wished for anything specific to be included in the training, to forward this to Hayley Jones, via the Committee Clerk.

A Member queried whether additional training could be made available to Members on the 'curriculum for Wales' and 'Post Education Compulsory Training'. Members were advised that this would be considered.

SACRE noted the details of the update.

8. MONITORING PROVISION AND STANDARDS – CAERPHILLY SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members on the information included in the agenda pack, in particular, how schools were dealing with collective worship and RVE, in relation to the latest Estyn inspection report. Members were informed that an enquiry would be made to Estyn to determine the level and quality of their findings, and not just whether they had been included at the schools.

A Member suggested that all Primary and Secondary schools could be reminded of the collective worship recommendations under the RVE framework, which could assist schools when receiving comments from Estyn. A questionnaire to schools was also suggested by a Member to clarify the current circumstances and the expectations for collective worship in schools. The Chair proposed that Estyn be contacted in writing, to express members concerns in relation to the collective worship element of their reports, and going forward, for the schools who had received positive reports to be congratulated for their good practice.

SACRE noted the details of the update.

9. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2023.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members that resources were now available to schools to commemorate this occasion and were referred to a link within the agenda pack to access this information. Members were asked to send information of anything being done in schools, to Hayley Jones so that this could be shared with other schools in a newsletter. Members were also informed that Torfaen

SACRE were creating assemblies in their Primary and Secondary schools which they were happy to share with SACRE's in other local authorities.

SACRE noted the details of the report.

10. CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE.

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

SACRE noted the details of the correspondence update.

11. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2022/23.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members that the Spring Term meeting was scheduled for 15th March 2023 and the Summer Term meeting was scheduled for 29th June 2023.

SACRE noted the details of the schedule of meetings update.

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

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

13. REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING WASACRE MEETINGS.

Expressions of interest were sought from those Members who wished to attend on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE. It was confirmed that the Clerk would pass contact details to WASACRE so that the meeting link and agenda papers could be circulated to these Members in advance of the meeting.

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation.

The meeting closed at 3.37 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2023.

CHAIR