

THE CITY OF NEWPORT SACRE

DATE: 14 JUNE 2018

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PURPOSE: WASACRE WITHDRAWAL FROM RE SURVEY: UPDATE
(See Appendix 3 grid of returns)

Following requests from schools, the Wales Association of SACREs (WASACRE) recently published a guidance document entitled *Managing the Right of Withdrawal from Religious Education* which was provided free of charge to all schools in Wales. This useful guidance document is intended to support schools dealing with withdrawal and also to share with parents who may be considering withdrawing their child from RE.

A short questionnaire was sent to SACRE clerks for circulation to schools in their local authority to help WASACRE gain an accurate awareness of the instances of withdrawal from Religious Education across schools in Wales. The clerks to SACRE were asked to send this information to WASACRE for analysis.

The results for Newport schools (including faith schools) are as follows:

Update

Secondary schools

5/9 schools responded

Complete Withdrawal - No parents exercised their right of complete withdrawal from RE

Partial Withdrawal - No parents exercised their right of partial withdrawal from RE

Primary schools

26/47 schools responded

Complete Withdrawal

4 schools responded that parents exercised their right of complete withdrawal from RE

6 children were withdrawn

Reasons included

- Family were Jehovah Witness- they do not engage in celebrations and do not want their children to be part of any religious worship or celebrations.
- Parents feel strongly about their own religious beliefs

Partial Withdrawal

4 schools responded that parents exercised their right of partial withdrawal from RE

5 pupils were withdrawn

Reasons included

- Family were Jehovah Witness - they do not engage in celebrations and do not want their children to be part of any religious worship or celebrations.
- Parents were unwilling for their children to learn about religions other than Christianity.

RECOMMENDATION

To discuss the survey responses