

CITY OF NEWPORT



**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018

The Annual Report of Newport Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

2017-2018

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF NEWPORT STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (2017-2018)

Section 1: Information about SACRE

1.1 Duty to establish SACRE

All Local Education Authorities (LA's) are required to constitute a 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 LEA, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area
- associations representing teachers
- the Local Education Authority

The Local Authority determined that the SACRE should comprise of six elected members, fifteen representatives of Christian and other religious groups and seven representatives of teachers' associations.

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The list of members of Newport SACRE is set out in Appendix 1

1.4 Functions of SACRE

- To advise the LA 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 LA that it's 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 LA 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 2017- 2018.

October 17th 2017, Newport Civic Centre
February 14th 2018 at Caerleon Comprehensive School
June 14th 2018, Maes Ebbw Special School

1.6 Development Plan

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2015 - 2018. The development plan and an outline of its progress can be found in **Appendix 3**.

1.7 Circulation of Report

A list of the organisations receiving the report can be found in **Appendix 5**.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A brief summary of the advice that SACRE has given to the local authority and action taken follows:

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and raise standards in RE

Action

1. SACRE considers and analyses school inspection reports on an annual basis. If there are any issues regarding RE, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. There were no RE subject specific issues identified in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary.
2. SACRE analyses examination results over a three year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against Consortia and All Wales data. Schools are informed of the outcomes of this analysis and SACRE raises issues that schools should be addressing as a result of this analysis.
3. 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 secondary school was visited in 2017/18 and a presentation on RE was received from the RE department and their students.
4. SACRE sent all schools the WASACRE 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 schools to gain an accurate awareness of the instances of withdrawal from Religious Education across schools in Wales. The SACRE clerk circulated this to schools in the local authority and the outcomes were analysed and presented to SACRE. These were then sent to WASACRE for an All Wales analysis.

THE AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RE

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and monitor its implementation.

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 Newport 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 and the development of the Humanities curriculum. They have responded to WG (Jan '18 and June '18) to the progress regarding the AOLE and their associated Progression Steps and Achievement 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

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources

Action

1. All schools were informed of the 2018 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'The Power of Words' 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.

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.
2. SACRE organised a meeting in June 2018 for secondary teachers to set up a network to support each other and focus initially on their main concern of delivery and resourcing the new GCSE/A level specifications. This gave the opportunity for schools to develop and share resources and materials.
3. SACRE are aware of the need for primary CPD and have made enquiries regarding the *Learn, Teach, Lead RE* initiative in England. Two RE Consultants in Wales are willing to explore the facilitating of arrangements for a Network group/s in Wales on a Consortia basis. SACRE will be updated on developments and progress made.

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. There were no issues regarding 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 2018.
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. An act of collective worship was observed this year at a Special school.

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.
3. SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Newport for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. Two meetings were held at schools this year. Caerleon Comprehensive hosted the Spring meeting and members received a presentation on the work of the RE department. A meeting was also held at Maes Ebbw Special school and members observed an act of collective worship..

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.

SACRE has been updated on a termly basis of developments with the National Curriculum review and the place of RE within the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience. 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.

- **School Inspection Reports**

The local authority and its SACRE scrutinised relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for the period academic year Autumn 2016- Summer 2017. If any issues emerge regarding RE, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up. All schools inspected in the academic year 2016-2017 met statutory requirements with no subject specific issues in relation to Religious Education mentioned in the reports and therefore no follow up action was necessary. Nine Newport schools were inspected consisting of seven primary schools, and two 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 and celebrated diversity especially those schools that celebrated a cultural diversity week where pupils have purposeful opportunities to research successfully, experience aspects of religion and culture and learn to appreciate people from different countries and cultures well. Pupils are given valuable opportunities to reflect on moral issues both around the school and in curricular work.

There were strong links with local churches and places of worship and pupils benefit from a variety of visits and visitors which enhance the curriculum well. There was good provision for developing pupils' awareness of sustainability and global

citizenship and as a result, pupils' understanding of other cultures was developing successfully.

- **Examination Results**

A detailed table of examination results was reviewed and discussed by SACRE. Figures that relate to results over the last three years were analysed to indicate trends in performance. Cohort entry numbers are also analysed and a comparison is made to Consortia and All -Wales figures (where available).

In **GCSE Religious Studies** there were 585 entries from 8 schools. Entry numbers and number of schools entering have remained similar to 2016. 6/8 schools have entries in double figures and 2/8 schools have triple figures. The average cohort entry for Newport in 2017 was 36.2% and slightly better than 2016 (34.6%). Cohort entry is below Consortia and All Wales figures.

The overall % of A*- A grades was 28.7% which is better than 2016 but below 2015. It is better than the Consortia figures (23.1%) and the All Wales figure of 24.7%

The overall % of A*- C grades was 75.6% which is better than 2016 and comparable with 2015. It is better than the Consortia figures (66.2%) and the All Wales figure of 68.3%.

The overall % of A*-G grades was 95.9% which is below previous performance. It is comparable with the Consortia figure of 95.5% but below the All-Wales figure of 97.5%

SACRE noted that results at the higher grades of A*-A and A*-C are better than 2016 and at A*-G it is slightly below 2016. They are better than the Consortia figures at all grade boundaries. They are better than All Wales figures at A*-A and A*-C. but below All Wales figures at A*-G.

Members noted that eight schools continue to offer **GCSE Religious Education Short Course** but there was a decrease in entries this year although cohort % figures are only slightly below 2016. 4/8 schools have entry numbers in triple figures and thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. Cohort entry is much better than the 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 21.1% is the best result of the last three years. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.

The overall % of A*- C grades was 46.5% and is below previous performance. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.

The overall % of A*-G grades was 89.2% is comparable to 2016 but below 2015 performance. It is better than the Consortia figure and comparable with the All Wales figure of 90.2%.

Although numbers of pupils are decreasing year on year the cohort entry figure is the same. A significant number continue to be entered for RE either through FC or SC and this is very encouraging because it provides pupils with the opportunity for

accreditation for their KS4 study. We must also bear in mind that pupils do not usually opt to follow the Short Course but it is delivered as part of the statutory requirements for RE. A comparison of figures for 2017 & 2018 can be seen below.

Figures for 2017 when combining FC and SC are 1335 entries (82.6%) of cohort
Figures for 2016 when combining FC and SC are 1406 entries (82.6%) of cohort

At **GCE Advanced Level** six schools offered A level and there 87 entries. Entry figures and number of schools entering has decreased. 4/8 schools have entry numbers in double figures. The entry figure is comparable with the Consortia figure and slightly better than the All Wales figure.

A*-A was achieved by 18.4% of students. This is better than 2016 but still falls far below 2015 performance. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.

At A*-C candidates achieved a pass rate of 75.9%. This is below previous performance and below the Consortia and the All Wales figures.

The pass rate for grades A-E of 95.4% is below the excellent run of 100% for the previous two years. It is below the Consortium and All Wales figures.

At **AS level** there was a huge rise in entry figures in 2017 with 125 entries from 6 schools. This is 17.2% of the cohort and exceeds previous cohort entry figures and the Consortia and All Wales entry figures.

17.6% of students achieved the highest A grade and is an improvement on 2016 but does not yet match the 2015 performance of 22.9%. It is below the Consortia and All Wales figures.

76.8% of students achieved A-C grades and is the best result of the last three years. It is better than both the Consortia and All Wales figures.

95.2% of students achieved A-E and is the best result of the last three years. It is comparable with the Consortia figure and better than the All Wales figures.

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

It should be noted that definitive conclusions cannot 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.

Detailed tables of examination results are found in **Appendix 4**

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. There is no subject specific training on offer. Members were concerned about the lack of professional development for teachers of RE and wrote to schools enquiring if they were interested in setting up networks.

The secondary schools response was very positive wanting to set up networks to support each other and focus initially on their main concern of delivery and

resourcing the new GCSE/A level specifications. SACRE organised a meeting in June 2018 to provide the opportunity for schools to develop and share resources and materials.

The primary schools response was very low with no particular offer to share materials. After some enquiries with RE Consultant colleagues in Wales SACRE were informed of grants that could be accessed for curriculum development for RE both primary and secondary such as the *Learn, Teach, Lead RE* initiative in England. Bids can be made for a Network Group. Two RE Consultants in Wales are willing to explore the facilitating of arrangements, make a bid and arrange Professional Development sessions for schools in Wales on a Consortia basis. SACRE will be updated on developments and progress made.

Teaching Materials

Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 Resources

All schools were informed of the 2018 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of '*The Power of Words*'. Spoken and written words from individuals, corporations, community organisations or the state can have a huge impact, whether good or bad. The theme explores how language has been used in the past, and how it is used in the present day. 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 – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

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 2015- Summer 2016. Any issues, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements for collective worship, are followed up by the LA by requesting the school action plan.

Nine Newport schools were inspected consisting of seven primary schools, and two secondary schools. Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections.

A comment in relation to spiritual development was evident in all 9 inspection reports and 5/9 made comment on the quality of collective worship in schools.

The provision for collective worship had positive comments stating that schools –both primary and secondary - were promoting pupils’ spiritual, moral and cultural development successfully. There were no schools identified as not complying with the statutory requirements for collective worship.

Good features

- Opportunities for pupils to reflect on relationships, their own beliefs and the natural world and also on moral issues.
- There is a strong emphasis on values which develops their moral and social awareness successfully and acts of collective worship reinforce this
- Schools makes effective use of assemblies to celebrate individual pupil achievements
- Purposeful visits and visitors help pupils to reflect thoughtfully on their own lives.
- A prayer garden is an effective space for reflection, meditation and quiet times.
- Pupils learn about Welsh traditions in assemblies.

Areas for Development

None

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. One act of collective worship at Maes Ebbw Special School was observed this year.

SECTION 4 OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have regularly attended its meetings. During the 2017-18 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 Huw Stevens and their professional adviser Vicky Thomas and receive regular feedback from them and other representatives who attend WASACRE meetings.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Newport SACRE was informed of the 2018 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'The Power of Words' 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.

The local authority, its SACRE and its faith communities assist in the organisation of the annual Holocaust Memorial Day service. Newport City Council held a service at St Woolos Cathedral officiated by the Venerable Lister Tonge. Pupils from St Josephs RC High school, St Mary's RC Primary School, John Frost High School and Newport High School had all participated in various roles in the service together with 24 Newport schools in attendance. The service had over 300 in attendance including various local dignitaries. This is the 14th year that the city held a service to mark this occasion.

Those who were present at the service agreed that the service was very well attended and SACRE was pleased to note that attendance and participation by schools in this event has improved year on year.

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. Welsh Government sends termly newsletters to SACREs outlining the developmental work of the Pioneer Schools in relation to RE in the Humanities. The Humanities working group have recommended a 'Big Ideas'/What Matters" approach identifying the key knowledge/concepts, skills and competencies for each discipline within the Humanities and then 'building' the AoLE around them. The Humanities working group's recommendations and the January and June SACRE Newsletter Updates from Welsh Government regarding the AOLE and their associated Progression Steps and Achievement Outcomes have been discussed by SACRE. All comments have been forwarded to Welsh Government.

SACRE have been informed of the RE Conference organised by Welsh Government, in collaboration with WASACRE, to provide the opportunity for SACREs to discuss the key approaches to the curriculum recommended by the Humanities group. This will take place in the Autumn Term and SACREs are in the process of identifying the personnel to attend the Conference.

4.4 WASACRE WITHDRAWAL FROM RE QUESTIONNAIRE

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. After a number of trawls of schools - to increase responses - the outcomes have now been sent to WASACRE for analysis.

4.5 ESTYN UPDATES

SACRE were informed that the *RE Thematic Review of KS2 & 3* had been undertaken by Estyn and that the outcomes would be made available on June 12th 2018. SACRE will be fully informed of the outcomes at the next meeting in the Autumn Term 2018. SACRE were also informed that Estyn have provided an update to its inspectors on *Spiritual development and the daily acts of collective worship*. SACRE agreed to send this update information to all schools so that they are suitably informed of the requirements.

4.6 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS OF RE

At its autumn meeting Newport SACRE discussed the lack of opportunities for professional development for teachers of RE. Members were concerned about the lack of professional development for teachers of RE and wrote to schools enquiring if they were interested in setting up networks as an opportunity for discussion on RE curriculum matters and also to share materials and resources.

The secondary schools response was very positive in setting up a network to support each other with an initial focus on delivery and resourcing the new examination specifications. SACRE organised a meeting for June 2018 for schools to develop and share resources and materials.

The primary schools response was very low with no particular offer to share materials. After enquiries were made SACRE were informed of grants that could be accessed for curriculum development for RE both primary and secondary such as the *Learn, Teach, Lead RE* initiative in England. Bids can be made for a Network Group. Two RE Consultants in Wales are willing to explore the facilitating of arrangements, make a bid and arrange Professional Development sessions for schools in Wales on a Consortia basis. SACRE will be updated on developments and progress made.

4.7 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

As part of it's training for members SACRE proposed the following:

- To keep members updated on developments in RE and collective worship through regular presentations to SACRE members. Mrs V Thomas gave updates on the review of the National Curriculum and its implications for RE

- SACRE, where possible would hold meetings at schools in Newport for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. There were two visits this year to schools – Caerleon Comprehensive School where a presentation was made on RE at the school and Maes Ebbw Special School where members observed an act of collective worship.

SACRE is very appreciative of the opportunities offered through visits and presentations to become more informed on RE and Collective worship issues in schools and would like to extend their appreciation to all concerned. A special note of thanks is extended to the clerk to SACRE, Joy Howells, for all her hard work in making such arrangements.

4.8 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

At its summer meeting SACRE were informed of vacant positions and changes of membership of the committee. SACRE discussed the request for membership of Committee A from Humanists UK and also the letter from Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams, regarding the right of Humanists to have a full Committee A status. After some discussion the matter was voted upon by the three groups and the vote was carried to recommend to Council that a place on SACRE be allocated to a Humanist representative. The final decision will rest with the Council and the Local Authority.

4.9 RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS

At its Summer meeting SACRE were informed of the retirements of two members of the Committee and its clerk. Mrs Vicky Thomas, Professional Adviser to SACRE was retiring after 22 years service with the committee. It was acknowledged by members that she had made a huge contribution to the smooth running of the Committee and that her long service and work was greatly appreciated. Sally Northcott, a long standing member on SACRE, was also resigning from the Committee after many years of service as representative of the Professional Organisations as she too was fully retiring. Her contribution and valuable input to meetings was acknowledged and appreciated. The Vice Chair Mrs Neeta Baicher thanked them both for their invaluable contribution to the Committee and they received a presentation of gifts to show the appreciation of the Committee for their work and contributions. SACRE were also informed that their clerk to SACRE Ms Joy Howells would be terminating her work as clerk with effect from the summer meeting and that a replacement has been sought. Joy was thanked for her immense contribution as clerk to SACRE to enable the smooth running of the Committee.

APPENDIX 1 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE 2017- 2018

Local Authority

Councillors Laura Lacey (Chairperson), Tracey Holyoake, Ibrahim Hayat, , Rehmaan Hayat and Joan Watkins

Education - Martin Dacey, Head of GEMS/ Nerys Wherry

Independent RE Adviser for SACRE – Vicky Thomas (RE Consultant)

Clerk to SACRE – Joy Howells, Democratic Services Support

Faith Representatives

Church in Wales - Susie Hunt/ Kath Sperry/ Rebecca Penn

Roman Catholic – Patricia Landers

Baptist – Huw Stephens

Methodist –Vacancy

Evangelical Churches – Gifty David

Presbyterian Church of Wales / United Reformed Church – Ms Kirsty Mabbot - new replacement to be sought

Salvation Army – Vacancy

Hindu – Soam Sharma

Jewish – Abraham Davidson

Sikh – Neeta Singh Baicher

Muslim – Sabina Begum

Professional Associations

National Union of Teachers/ Association of Teachers & Lecturers - Sally Northcott (NUT) Joanne Crawley (ATL).(Vacancy to replace Sally Northcot)

National Association of School Teacher/Union of Women Teachers – Nicola Huggleston

National Association of Head Teachers – Heather Vaughan

Secondary Head Teachers' Association (ASCL) – Lana Picton

UCAC – Kirsten Hicks

APPENDIX 2 SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

October 17th 2017, Newport Civic Centre

- Time of Quiet reflection
- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of previous meeting
- Membership update
- SACRE Annual Report 2016-2017
- SACRE Development Plan 2015-2018 (including progress report)
- Analysis of Inspection Reports Autumn 2016- Summer 2017
- RE and the National Curriculum
- GCSE Religious Studies Update
- Estyn Thematic Review of RE: Questionnaire.
- WASACRE Issues, including Report of WASACRE AGM at Wrexham, Executive Appointments and Representation at next meeting at Bridgend, November 2017
- Holocaust Memorial Day 2018
- Correspondence

February 14th 2018 at Caerleon Comprehensive School

- Presentation from the RE department
- Time of Quiet reflection
- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- National Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 Feedback
- Analysis of Examination Results Summer 2017
- National Curriculum Review Update
- Professional Development Opportunities: Feedback
- WASACRE Document *Managing the Right of Withdrawal for RE & Questionnaire*
- WASACRE Issues including feedback from the meeting at Bridgend, Nominations to the WASACRE Executive and representation at Spring meeting of WASACRE at Swansea
- Correspondence

June 14th 2018, Maes Ebbw Special school

Members observed an act of collective worship prior to the meeting

- Time of Quiet reflection
- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of previous meeting
- Schedule of Meetings 2017-2018
- Membership Update – request from Humanists UK
- Withdrawal from RE Survey
- Update on the National Curriculum Review and Assessment
- Estyn Updates
- WASACRE Issues including report of WASACRE meeting at Swansea, confirmation of representation at next meeting at Anglesey and Executive Voting for the Period 2018-2021
- Correspondence

APPENDIX 3:	NEWPORT 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.	2015-2016 Considered 11.11.15. All schools meeting statutory requirements. 2016-17 Considered 9.11.16. All schools meeting statutory requirements 2017-2018 Considered 17.10.17. All schools meeting statutory requirements
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.	2015-2016 Considered 24.2.16. Schools informed of outcomes. 2016-17 Considered 8.3.17. Schools informed of outcomes. 2017-2018 Considered 14.2.18. 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.	<p>2015-2016 No INSET provided by LA or EAS</p> <p>2016-2017 No INSET provided by LA or EAS</p> <p>2017-2018 SACRE organised a professional development meeting for secondary schools in June 2018 for schools to develop and share GCSE resources and materials.</p>
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NEWPORT SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2018 (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 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.	<p>2015-2016 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.</p> <p>2016-2017 SACRE has received termly updates on development of the Humanities curriculum. Schools informed that current agreed syllabus for RE is still statutory whilst the Humanities curriculum is under review.</p> <p>2017-2018 SACRE has received</p>

					termly updates on development of the Humanities curriculum. They have responded to WG (Jan'18 and June '18) to the progress regarding the AOLE and their associated Progression Steps and Achievement
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.	2015-2016 Schools sent materials from Carmarthenshire LA 2016-2017 Not Applicable 2017-2018 Not Applicable

NEWPORT 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>2015-2016 Considered 11.11.15. All schools meeting statutory requirements</p> <p>2016-2017 Considered 9.11.16. All schools meeting statutory requirements</p> <p>2017-2018 Considered 17.10.17. All schools meeting 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>2015-2016 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2016 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p> <p>2016-2017 Schools informed of resources to support HMD 2017 including resources for acts of collective worship.</p> <p>2017-2018 Schools informed of</p>

					resources to support HMD 2018 including resources for acts of collective worship.
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NEWPORT 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.	<p>2015-2016 SACRE received one presentations from Langstone Primary on their achievement of the RE Quality Mark (REQM).</p> <p>2016-2017 SACRE received two updates this year from its professional adviser on <i>The Review of the Humanities Curriculum</i> and <i>GCSE developments</i></p> <p>2017-2018 SACRE received one presentations from Caerleon Comprehensive on the work of the RE department. SACRE received updates this year from its professional adviser on <i>The Review of the Humanities Curriculum</i> and the GCSE Specifications</p>

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.	<p>2015-2016 SACRE visited two schools this year, and received two presentations on RE at the school/s.</p> <p>2016-2017 SACRE visited two schools this year and observed an act of collective worship at both schools.</p> <p>2017-2018 SACRE visited two schools this year and received a presentation on RE from the secondary school and also visited a Special school and observed an act of collective worship.</p>
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APPENDIX 4: NEWPORT EXAMINATION ANALYSIS 2017

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES FULL COURSE 2017 (Year 11)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	28.7%	25.9%	37%	23.1%	24.7%
A*-C	75.6%	67.5%	76.5%	66.2%	68.3%
A*- G	95.9%	96.8%	98.5%	95.5%	97.5%
Entry Number	585 8 schools 36.2%	589 8 schools 34.6%	531 8 schools	2,873 47.8%	12,401 39.5%

GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SHORT COURSE 2017 (Year 11)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	21.1%	18.0%	14.9%	13.5%	9.8%
A*-C	46.5%	51.0%	55.3%	37.1%	39.6%
A*-G	89.2%	89.6%	92.1%	86.3%	90.2%
Entry Number	750 8 schools +1 46.4%	817 8 schools 48% cohort	882 8 schools	1543 25.7%	9343 29.8%

GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES A LEVEL 2017 (Year 13)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	18.4%	12.2%	27.8%	17.1%	18.2%
A*-C	75.9%	82.1%	84.4%	76.9%	78.1%
A*-E	95.4%	100%	100%	96.8%	99.8%
Entry Number	87 6 schools 12.0%	123 8 schools 14.3%	90 7 schools	251 12.9%	1305 11.4%

GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES AS LEVEL 2017 (Year 13)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A	17.6%	9.4%	22.9%	18.6%	19.1%
A-C	76.8%	40.7%	54.3%	71.5%	62.3%
A -E	95.2%	78.3%	80%	95.5%	90.6%
Entry Number	125 6 schools 17.2%	32 6 schools 3.7%	35 6 schools	312 16.0%	1291 11.3%

Please Note:

Data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2017, 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* and WASACRE websites for interested parties to download.

Newport Education Authority

Education Advisory Service (EAS/ South East Wales Consortia)

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

All members of SACRE

WASACRE

Chair of Education

Cabinet Secretary for Education, National Assembly for Wales

Nominating Bodies of Faith Communities

ESTYN

** Local Authority website can be accessed from the Main Council website/ Education page.*

<http://www.newportlearn.net/inclusion>

Click 'login as a guest' on the front page. There is a separate page for SACRE as well as the GEMS page