

Estyn Thematic Report: Religious education at key stage 2 and key stage 3

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/thematic-reports/religious-education-key-stage-2-and-key-stage-3>

SACRE members to discuss the recommendations made in the Estyn Annual Report and how SACRE might respond to Estyn's recommendations. Members to consider whether any of the recommendations are already being met and how the role of SACRE can be strengthened to support religious education within the authority more effectively.

Recommendations

Schools should:

R1 Ensure that more able pupils achieve in line with their ability in religious education

R2 Strengthen monitoring and self-evaluation arrangements in key stage 2 to focus on improving pupils' standards and skills in religious education

R3 Strengthen transition arrangements so that learning experiences in key stage 3 build on those in key stage 2 and avoid repetition of work

R4 Evaluate their curriculum for religious education to prepare for the development and implementation of the new Humanities Area of Learning and Experience

Local authorities and regional consortia should:

R5 Work with SACREs to provide:

- a. suitable professional learning opportunities for teachers of religious education
- b. support for schools to evaluate their curriculum and plan for religious education as an integral part of the development of the humanities area of learning and experience
- c. advice for schools on how to address sensitive issues with pupils and how to deal with parental concerns on visiting places of worship

R6 Ensure that all leaders fulfil their responsibilities under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

R7 Provide schools with guidance on approved places of worship to visit

The Welsh Government should:

R8 Work with local authorities, regional consortia and SACREs to ensure that there is clarity over the place of religious education within the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience.