

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA



Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Annual Report 2018 - 2019

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019

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SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 Duty to establish SACRE

All Local Authorities (LAs) 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 LA, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area;
- associations representing teachers;
- the Local Authority.

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The list of members of Swansea 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 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 LA and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings of SACRE

SACRE met on three occasions during the 2018 –2019 academic year.

October 23rd 2018 – Civic Centre;
February 20th 2019 – Swansea University Mosque;
July 5th 2019 – Burlais Primary School.

1.6 SACRE Development Plan

SACRE adopted a development plan as a basis for its activities for the period 2018-2021. This development plan 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 LA is below:

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and raise standards in RE

Action

1. SACRE considers and analyses school inspection reports. From Summer 2017 - Summer 2018, fourteen Swansea schools were inspected, with a further three having monitoring visits. If any issues emerge regarding religious education, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up by requesting the action plan and a progress report. Follow up action was necessary with one primary school. SACRE requested a progress report. This was freely supplied and demonstrated opportunities for excellent progress to be made. The school has been visited by the RE Adviser and a SACRE member and progress is visible and clear.
2. SACRE analyses examination results over a three-year period and identifies trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales and National data. SACRE wrote to schools after analysing examination results. Where appropriate, the letter included congratulations for the good results. However, as a result of this analysis, several issues were raised with schools regarding statutory requirements and how these should be addressed. Concerns were also raised regarding the reduction in numbers of pupils being entered for external qualifications.
3. SACRE have audited all secondary schools within the authority with regard to their provision of RE and statutory requirements. This is to be reviewed over the next year with support offered to those schools where there are concerns about statutory requirements being met. Additionally, presentations have been made to both primary and secondary head teachers regarding the statutory nature of RE as well as a reminder of the educational purposes of incorporating RE within the curriculum. Over the next year, further presentations will be made to school governing bodies.
4. SACRE will hold one meeting per year in a school within Swansea. This allows members to familiarise themselves with the delivery of RE in schools.

THE AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RE

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and support 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 Swansea 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. This was further endorsed in 2019.
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 (April 2019 and July 2019) to the progress regarding the AoLE and their associated Progression Steps and the draft curriculum. SACRE have also responded to the White Paper with regard to proposed legislative changes. 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, in line with the RE framework that is currently being developed.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Aim: To ensure that schools are informed of suitable teaching resources

1. All schools were informed of the 2019 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'Torn from Home' 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.
2. The SACRE aspect of the LA web site has been updated and is becoming populated with some teaching resources.
3. Each SACRE meeting will incorporate an aspect of teaching and learning as an agenda item.
4. Swansea SACRE is working closely with ERW and providing collaborative network days which focus on teaching and learning and shared working.
5. Resources that are shared with SACRE are distributed to both primary and secondary schools and where appropriate, added to the SACRE web pages.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers are able to access appropriate CPD.

Action

1. Swansea SACRE organised and led a training day focusing on KS2-3 transition in RE and 'the big questions'. This was led by Lat Blaylock (National RE Adviser) and was well attended by both primary and secondary colleagues. Evaluation and feedback was extremely positive and this will become an annual event hosted by the LA.
2. Swansea SACRE and ERW collaboratively deliver bi annual network days for RE teachers for Swansea/ NPT. The meetings have been held at Bishop Gore School and the Civic Centre and have been well attended by colleagues across both authorities. Colleagues have had presentations from key note speakers regarding the new curriculum and exemplar framework and have shared resources and teaching and learning strategies. Each network meeting will also include information on current opportunities for professional learning.
3. SACRE have worked with Barrie Phillips (GOT project) and two colleagues have been afforded opportunities within the local authority to attend training on challenging extremism.

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. In 2017-2018, fourteen Swansea schools were inspected. Follow up action was not needed for any schools, although one report didn't have any comment on SMSC and this was forwarded to WASACRE.

2. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g. HMD 2019.

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. The vice chair of SACRE (Alison Lewis) is also a member of the WASACRE Executive and provides feedback termly. Both Jennifer Harding-Richards (RE Adviser) and Alison Lewis attend WASACRE meetings and feed back at each SACRE meeting. Jennifer Harding-Richards is also a member of NAPfRE and feeds back termly.
2. Members have received various presentations and reports this year:
 - Presentation on the role/ purpose of RE from Mrs Jennifer Harding-Richards (RE Adviser) at the Autumn meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr Mohsen El-Beltagi (Swansea University Imam and Swansea SACRE member) on his work in the University at the Spring meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr John Meredith (Director of Education: Church in Wales and Swansea SACRE member) on the 'Enquiry approach to RE and Understanding Christianity' at the Spring meeting;
 - Presentation from Ms L Saunders (HT at Plasmarl Primary School) on their RE provision, identified as best practice in the Estyn KS2-3 RE Report (2017) at the Summer meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr Kevin Davies (Swansea SACRE member) on the GSUS Live project at the Summer meeting.

SECTION 2 ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The locally agreed syllabus

In the Spring Term 2008 the Standing Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools, which was 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, the 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. This was further endorsed during the Summer 2019 meeting.

During 2018-19, SACRE has been updated on a termly basis of developments with the NC review. They have responded to WG (Jan 2019 and June 2019) to the progress regarding the AoLE and their associated Progression Steps and Achievement Outcomes. 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, which include the following:

2.2a School Inspection Reports

SACRE has examined the relevant sections of LA school inspection reports. During the academic year Summer 2017 - Summer 2018, fourteen Swansea schools were inspected consisting of eleven primary schools and three secondary schools. There were also four primary schools who received monitoring visits. If any issues emerge regarding religious education, such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up by requesting the action plan and a progress report. One primary school, Pentre'r Graig had a recommendation that "pupils have regular opportunities to understand different religions and belief". The LA requested a progress report from the school. SACRE were updated with the action plan and followed up with a school visit in the Summer of 2019.

There were some positive comments in the reports. Most schools were meeting statutory religious education requirements appropriately. There was reference to enriched curricular days and extra-curricular activities enabling all pupils to develop a good understanding of diversity in society and global citizenship. For example, "reference was made to a school's multicultural day where all pupils celebrated their own religion and the activities during the school's world religion which help pupils to learn effectively about a range of religious practices and customs". Schools were "linking well with the local community and places of worship to provide worthwhile learning experiences for pupils". One school was identified by Estyn as being "highly successful in developing pupils' spiritual, social, moral and cultural values, which are fundamental to all aspects of school life. Whole-school assemblies, tutorial periods

and visiting speakers enhance pupils' understanding of their culture, the Catholic ethos and their sense of community."

Only one school, Cwmglas Primary, received no comments on RE/ Collective Worship or Spirituality. This was reported to WASACRE to be fed back to Estyn.

2.2b Examination Results

Examination results for GCSE and GCE Advanced Level achieved by pupils at secondary schools within the Authority have been analysed and considered. Figures that relate to results over the last three years were analysed to indicate trends in performance. The examination results are compared with the All-Wales figures, where available.

Members noted that in **GCSE Religious Studies Full Course** there was a significant decrease in entries this year with 732 pupils entered from 12 schools and this was a significant decrease from the previous year of 852. Three schools had large entries, with two schools having no entries.

The overall % of A*-A grades for Swansea was 23.1% and this is below the All Wales figure of 25.8% and the national figure of 30.1%. The overall % of A*-C grades for Swansea was 63.5% and this is below the All Wales figures of 66.2% and the national figure of 72%. The overall % of A*-G grades for Swansea was 98.% and this is higher than the All Wales figure of 97%.

It needs to be noted that there was a significant increase in Short Course entries to 783, from 615 in the previous year. Four schools had large entries.

Results at A*-A was 14.3% which demonstrates a significant improvement from previous performance of 9.8%. This is higher than the All Wales figure of 12.4% but significantly lower than the national figure of 23.3%. Results at A*-C were 46.7% and were just below previous performance but better than the All Wales figure of 44.9%. Results at A*-G were 90.2% and were down on previous performance and comparable with the All Wales figure of 91.4%.

SACRE raised concerns about the decrease in entries for GCSE full course and have actioned the RE Adviser to query why this may be and specifically, investigate the schools which have no exam entries at all. SACRE are also concerned about short course entries and have questioned how statutory RE time is being used in some schools. Further work will be carried out by the RE Adviser to explore the reasons for significant entry changes and use of statutory RE time.

At **GCE A level** 31 candidates were entered from 5 schools. This was significantly lower than the previous entries of 51 candidates and the lowest entry numbers (by a significant margin) in three years.

Results at A*-A were 22.6% and demonstrated an improvement on the figures of 2016 and 2015. This was also higher than the All Wales figure of 21.6%. Results at A*-C were 77.4% and were the best results over a 3 year period and was also higher than the All Wales figure of 76.3%. The pass rate was 96.8% which was lower than the 100% of the previous two years and lower than the All Wales and national figures.

SACRE also considered the very good results from students at Gower College which generally outperformed Swansea schools and the All Wales figures at A level.

SACRE raised concerns over the significant decrease in entry numbers and have actioned the RE Adviser to investigate further.

SACRE has written to schools after analysing examination results. The letter includes congratulations for good results, where appropriate, and raised issues that schools should be addressing as a result of this analysis.

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

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teacher Materials and Teacher Training

Professional Development

1. Swansea SACRE organised and led a training day focusing on KS2-3 transition in RE and 'the big questions'. This was led by Lat Blaylock (National RE Adviser) and was well attended by both primary and secondary colleagues. Evaluation and feedback was extremely positive and this will become an annual event within the LA.
2. Swansea SACRE and ERW collaboratively deliver bi annual days for RE teachers for Swansea/ NPT. The meetings have been held at Bishop Gore School and the Civic Centre and have been well attended by colleagues across both authorities. Colleagues have had presentations from key note speakers regarding the new curriculum and exemplar framework and have shared resources and teaching and learning strategies. Each network meeting will also include information on current opportunities for professional learning.
3. SACRE have worked with Barrie Phillips (GOT project) and two colleagues have been afforded opportunities within the local authority to attend training on challenging extremism.

Teaching Materials

1. All schools were informed of the 2019 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'Torn from Home' 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.
2. The SACRE aspect of the LA web site has been updated and is becoming populated with some teaching resources.
3. Each SACRE meeting will incorporate an aspect of teaching and learning as an agenda item.
4. Swansea SACRE is working closely with ERW and providing collaborative network days which focus on teaching and learning and shared working.

SECTION 3 ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS

SACRE has examined the relevant sections of LA school inspection reports. During the academic year Summer 2017 - Summer 2018, fourteen Swansea schools were inspected consisting of eleven primary schools and three secondary schools.

Members were presented with a summary of findings from these inspections. If any issues emerge regarding collective worship such as non fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up by requesting the action plan and a progress report. There were no issues highlighted by Estyn.

Evaluative comments in relation to spiritual development were evident in all 14 inspection reports. Three reports commented on the quality of provision, and identified both good features but no areas for development were identified.

Good features (Primary)

- Whole-school assemblies and attractive wall displays promote values of respect, tolerance and co-operation well. For example, 'Rights Respecting' assemblies contribute strongly to pupils' moral and social development.
- Assemblies provide worthwhile opportunities for them to reflect on how they can use the core values in their everyday life. The 'sign to sing' element of assemblies provides pupils with an excellent understanding about the many ways in which people communicate.
- Collective worship promotes pupils' spiritual reflection effectively.
- There is a strong ethos of trust and teamwork. Whole school assemblies and the attractive displays in the school promote values of respect, co-operation and tolerance well. For example, staff use the butterflies of mindfulness display in the hall imaginatively as a focus for reflection during assemblies.

Shortcomings (Primary)

There were no shortcomings evident.

Good Features (Secondary)

- The school's personal and social education programme, the Olchfa Pathway to Adult Life (OPAL), is highly effective in promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding and in developing their social skills. This programme is supported well by assemblies, outside speakers and opportunities for pupils to work with the wider community.
- Whole-school assemblies, tutorial periods and visiting speakers enhance pupils' understanding of their culture, the Catholic ethos and their sense of community.

Shortcomings (Secondary)

There were no shortcomings evident.

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 school visit was made this year as a follow up from the Estyn visit, but no act of collective worship was observed.

SECTION 4 OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2018-19 academic year, issues considered at WASACRE meetings have been fully reported back to SACRE and full discussions have taken place. SACRE is represented on the WASACRE executive committee by Alison Lewis (Chair of Swansea SACRE) and on WASACRE by Jennifer Harding-Richards (RE Adviser). SACRE welcomes the pro-active work of WASACRE in taking up issues that have implications for RE and keeping members of SACRE fully informed.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

SACRE was informed of the 2019 Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'Torn from Home' 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. 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.

Swansea LA has a system of using secondary schools, on a rota basis, to host the HMD event. This year Pontarddulais Comprehensive School was the host school for the Holocaust Memorial Day Service. A warm welcome was extended to all by Mr Rees, Headteacher of the school, who reflected upon the significance of HMD commemorations for young people today. Pupils from the school delivered exceptional performances, including musical items, poetry readings, choir singing and drama performances. SACRE would like to thank all those who contributed to this moving Holocaust Memorial Commemorative service and recognises the hard work and effort put in by the pupils, as well as staff from the school.

SACRE members in attendance commented on how well organised and moving the service was and that involvement of pupils makes the event more meaningful. SACRE have written to the school to thank them for their hard work in putting this event together.

Swansea SACRE, with the agreement of the Chief Education Officer, Nick Williams, have requested that the event, from 2021 becomes a Civic Event which involves the general public as well as wider audiences so that they can all share and commemorate this important event.

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 regularly updates SACRE's on the developmental work and progress being made. The Consultation documents have been discussed at SACRE meetings and extensive feedback has been shared with Welsh Government.

Representatives from Swansea SACRE have attended WASACRE meetings with presentations given on the role of RE within the Humanities AoLE and this has been fed back to SACRE members.

4.4 ESTYN UPDATES

SACRE received the *RE Thematic Review of KS2 & 3* that was undertaken by Estyn and published in 2017. The RE Adviser shared the findings with SACRE at the Autumn 2018 meeting and has utilised the recommendations to inform the three year development plan (2018-2021). Communication was made with all Swansea HT sharing the report and the recommendations with the ongoing offer of support should it be needed. It was agreed that Swansea would host a KS2-3 professional learning day to focus on the recommendations of the report and this was hosted in March 2019. SACRE have also received the Estyn update to its inspectors on *Spiritual development and the daily acts of collective worship*. SACRE will share this with schools in the first term of the academic year 2019-2020. The best practice case studies (Plasmarl and Dwr Y Felin) have been discussed at SACRE meetings; a presentation from the RE co-ordinator was given at the Summer 2018 SACRE meeting. A presentation from the HoD RE from Dwr Y Felin will be given at the Autumn 2019 SACRE meeting.

4.5 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

As part of its training for members SACRE proposed the following:

- To keep members updated on developments in RE and collective worship through regular presentations to SACRE members. The RE Adviser gives termly updates on the review of the New Welsh Curriculum and its implications for RE.
- SACRE, where possible, will hold meetings at schools in Swansea for members to familiarise themselves with RE and collective worship in schools. There was one visit this year to schools – Burlais Primary School, where a presentation was given on excellent practice of RE as identified by the Estyn document.
- SACRE, where possible will hold meetings at places of worship in Swansea for members to familiarise themselves with the faith communities and look at the experience that could be offered to schools through school visits. This year, the Spring SACRE meeting met at the University Mosque.
- Each meeting will include at least one presentation regarding RE which informs SACRE members about RE practice both within and outside of the school environment. In 2018-2019, the following presentations were given:
 - Presentation on the role/ purpose of RE from Mrs Jennifer Harding-Richards (RE Adviser) at the Autumn meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr Mohsen El-Beltagi (Swansea University Imam and Swansea SACRE member) on his work in the University at the Spring meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr John Meredith (Director of Education: Church in Wales and Swansea SACRE member) on the 'Enquiry approach to RE and Understanding Christianity' at the Spring meeting;
 - Presentation from Ms L Saunders (HT at Plasmarl Primary School) on their RE provision, identified as best practice in the Estyn KS2-3 RE Report (2017) at the Summer meeting;
 - Presentation from Mr Kevin Davies (Swansea SACRE member) on the GSUS Live project at the Summer meeting.

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 outgoing clerk to SACRE, James Craven, for all his hard work in making such arrangements.

4.6 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

Swansea SACRE prides itself on the inclusive nature of its membership and encourage a range of diverse views to be expressed on the committee and during meetings. The membership is strong and diverse and provides a real reflection on both the 'religious and secular' nature of the local authority.

Swansea SACRE currently have one co opted member from the Welsh medium sector who has been invited to provide a further dimension to the committee.

The committee now has two senior leaders from schools across the authority as well as a number of practising RE teachers.

Membership is now almost at full capacity; there is currently one vacancy for a representative from the Muslim and Sikh communities as well as vacancy for a Councillor; this will be filled by Democratic Services.

APPENDIX 1: SWANSEA SACRE MEMBERSHIP 2018-2019

CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS AND OTHER RELIGIONS (15)

Church in Wales (3):

John Meredith, Director of Education

Rev Ian Drew-Jones, Vicar of Loughor,

Vacancy to replace Helen Marie Davies, Christchurch CiW Primary School

Roman Catholic (3):

Mr Paul White, Director of Education

Adele Thomas, RE department, Bishop Vaughan Catholic Comprehensive

Ann Jones, St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Clydach

Nonconformist (3):

Mr Phil Davies

Mr Kevin Davies

Mr Brin Jones (Methodist)

Hebrew Community (1)

Mrs Norma Glass

Muslim Community (2)

Moshen Elbeltagi

Vacancy to replace Imam Javed, Central Swansea Mosque

Hindu Community (1)

Mrs Nilam Birla

Sikh Community (1)

Vacancy

Buddhist Community (1)

Mr Chris Mann

Humanist Community

Mr Brian Cainen

Bah'ai Community

Mrs Rita Green

TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS (7):

SHA Jeffrey Connick

NEU Alison Lewis (Chairperson)

NAS/UWT Claire Foley

UCAC Rachel Bendall

NAHT Ruth Davies

VOICE Mrs Heather Hansen

UCU Briony Knibbs

LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY (6):

Councillor William Evans- Vice Chairperson

Councillor Elliot King

Councillor Yvonne Jardine

Councillor Lynda James

Councillor Sam Pritchard

Councillor Peter Jones

CO-OPTED MEMBERSHIP:

Mrs Ruth Jenkins – representing Welsh medium secondary education

SACRE OFFICERS:

Mrs Claire Abraham - Education Department, City & County of Swansea

Mrs Jennifer Harding-Richards - RE Advisor

CLERK

Mr James Craven - Education Department, City & County of Swansea

APPENDIX 2 SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

The main items of business on the agenda included:

October 23rd 2018 at Civic Centre

1. Welcome
2. Election of chair and vice chair: JC
3. Membership update and introductions
4. Apologies for absence: JC
5. Accuracy of minutes and matters arising: AL
6. Schedule of meetings 2018-2019
7. Role of SACRE/ Development Plan
8. Annual Report
9. Estyn Report
10. CORE Report
11. AoLE Update
12. Inspection Analysis
13. WASACRE Update: AL
14. HMD

February 20th 2019 at Swansea University Mosque

1. Welcome presentation from Mohsen El-Beltagi
2. Apologies for absence
3. Accuracy of minutes and matters arising
4. Exam data (2018)
5. Enquiry approach to RE and the Understanding Christianity: John Meredith
6. Development Plan update:
 - (a) Membership of SACRE
 - (b) Professional learning opportunities
 - (c) Provision of RE in Swansea schools
 - (d) Section 50 feedback (inspection analysis addition)
 - (e) Update from Pentre'r Graig Primary
7. GSUS Live Bus in Swansea: Phil Davies
8. AoLE Update/ White Paper Consultation
9. HMD Feedback – Norma Glass
10. WASACRE Update: Alison Lewis

July 8th 2019 at Burlais Primary School

1. Welcome presentation from Ms L Saunders, Headteacher at Plasmarl Primary school (identified as excellent practice in the Estyn KS2-3 Report 2017)
2. Apologies for absence: AM
3. Accuracy of minutes and matters arising: AL
4. Development plan update: JHR
5. Presentation from Mrs F Thomas, Head of RE at Dwr Y Felin Secondary school (identified as excellent practice in the Estyn KS2-3 Report 2017)
6. RE in Swansea Secondary Schools: JHR
7. Curriculum for Wales 2022/ RE Framework: JHR
8. GSUS Bus Live: PD
9. WASACRE Feedback: AL
10. HMD Update: KP
11. Schedule of Meetings 2019-20

APPENDIX 3

Swansea SACRE Development Plan 2018-2021

Swansea SACRE's statutory duties include:

- ✓ To require the local authority to review its current Agreed Syllabus after 5 years – this review is pending the development of the new curriculum in Wales.
- ✓ To advise the LA on matters such as
 - Meeting statutory requirements;
 - How the agreed syllabus for RE is best delivered;
 - Methods of teaching;
 - Resources and teaching materials to be used;
 - Training of teachers.
- ✓ To monitor the provision for RE and collective worship and consider any action it may take to improve such provision.
- ✓ To consider complaints about the provision and delivery of statutory RE and collective worship.
- ✓ To consider any application from a school for a “determination” to lift the requirement for the majority of acts of worship in that school to be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”.
- ✓ To publish an annual report giving details of its work, advice given by SACRE to the local authority, and deal with matters about which the authority has sought advice from SACRE.

Swansea SACRE puts its purposes into action through working with both teachers and pupils to improve the quality and outcomes of RE in our schools, in line with the Local Authority's purposes and strategic plan, relating especially to issues of standards of learning and of diversity and inclusion.

Our plans for 2018-21 are expressed in two key areas of activity: improving standards of RE, becoming an increasingly effective SACRE.

Key activity 1: Developing and improving standards in RE and Collective Worship

Focus/ Key Task	Frequency/ Time Scale	Key Outcomes/ Success Criteria	Resource Implications/ Cost
Intention: To analyse Estyn reports on a yearly basis (RE and Collective Worship)			
To monitor standards through annual review of Estyn reports/ thematic reports. Followed by school evaluation reports if necessary.	Annually. Agenda item/ feedback at Autumn meeting.	Annual report to SACRE. Follow up with schools – excellent practice and recommendation areas. Review of action plan/ school visits if necessary. To share good practice identified by Estyn with SACRE/ RE co-ordinators.	Time: RE Adviser.
Intention: To monitor and evaluate pupil outcomes at KS4&5			
To analyse KS4 s/c and f/c results; To consider trends and differences amongst learner groups; To compare with Wales/ National outcomes; To share with schools and provide support if needed.	Annually. Agenda item – Spring term.	Collation of statistics. Evaluation of trends. Feedback to schools. Identification of CPD needs, if required.	Time: RE Adviser/ Data Manager. Time: SACRE Clerk.
Intention: To support RE practitioners within the LA to implement recommendations from the Estyn KS 2/3 report			
To provide professional learning	Ongoing – 3 years.	Practitioners are empowered to	Time: RE Adviser.

opportunities for teachers of RE; To support schools with planning for the new curriculum; To advise schools to address sensitive issues and how to deal with parental concerns; To provide schools with guidance on approved places of worship; To support leaders within schools with their responsibilities under the 'counter terrorism and security act' 2015.		deliver RE within the classroom and supported to start planning for the new curriculum. Schools are informed of the protocol with regard to parental concerns and are supported with regard to legislation.	PREVENT trainer (LA). Time: RE practitioners (SACRE).
Intention: To develop communication with schools and provide every day support/ sharing of good practice			
To collate contact list of RE co-ordinators within the authority. To utilise communication methods to share resources/ events/ outside agencies and updates. To provide telephone/ email support for RE teachers as required. SACRE agenda items to share RE updates. Termly emails to RE co-ordinators to share updates. To explore the use of social media (twitter/ facebook) as a platform for communication.	Ongoing – 3 years.	Enhanced communication with schools. Enabling RE co-ordinators to be updated about reports and events. Good practice and support shared throughout the LA. RE teachers feel supported and valued. SACRE members kept updated and informed. Communication is improved.	Time: SACRE Clerk/ RE Adviser.
Intention: To review and develop the LA Agreed Syllabus on the legally required 5 year cycle			
To liaise with advisers within Wales	Due now, but delayed awaiting	TBC	Time: RE Adviser/ SACRE working

(NAPfRE/ WASACRE), Welsh Government and LA to determine process following the introduction of the new curriculum.	the new curriculum.		party. Convene a standing conference to adopt the syllabus. Publication/ translation costs.
Intention: To support practitioners with the teaching of RE within the Agreed Syllabus, WJEC qualifications and in planning for the new curriculum			
To plan, organise and deliver professional learning opportunities for RE practitioners within the LA.	At least one bespoke training session per year: 2018/2019 – KS2/KS3 transition in the new curriculum. 2019/2020 – 2020/2021 – Working alongside ERW with the delivery of the twice yearly network meetings	CPD sessions organised and delivered. Evaluation of sessions collated and analysed. Liase with RE co-ordinators as to CPD when required/ needed.	Cost of agencies involved. Time: SACRE clerk/ RE Adviser. Time: RE practitioners (SACRE). Time: Faith groups (SACRE). 2018/2019 - £50 per delegate.

Key activity 2: Developing Partnerships and Initiatives that contribute towards an effective SACRE

Focus/ Key Task	Frequency/ Time Scale	Key Outcomes/ Success Criteria	Resource Implications/ Cost
Intention: To raise the profile of SACRE and strengthen partnerships			
To build a solid relationship between schools and SACRE; To explore how SACRE can support RE and collective worship within schools; To explore and evaluate the provision of RE within schools	Ongoing – 3 years.	Schools are aware of the role of SACRE and utilise the support offered. LA audit of RE provision is undertaken and shared with SACRE – follow up with schools as required.	Time: SACRE Clerk/ RE Adviser. Time: SACRE members. Funding for prizes.

<p>and hold meetings within schools as required.</p> <p>To organise the SACRE web site to ensure that it is fit for purpose and accessible to all.</p> <p>To share funding opportunities (research bursaries/ ECW) with practitioners.</p> <p>To provide an annual newsletter to schools regarding the work of SACRE.</p> <p>To involve pupils within the LA authority with the work of SACRE; youth SACRE's/ competitions (essay writing & designing SACRE logo).</p> <p>To display LA RE work within the civic centre.</p>		<p>Web site is accessible as a digital network tool.</p> <p>Newsletter and competitions are organised and successful.</p>	
<p>Intention: To develop a full and active membership of SACRE</p>			
<p>To audit current membership;</p> <p>To explore communities within the LA who are not represented;</p> <p>To involve all members in the setting of the agenda;</p> <p>To develop a mutually agreed development plan;</p> <p>To explore the possibility of changing meeting times to accommodate members.</p>	<p>Ongoing – 3 years.</p>	<p>SACRE members are informed and aware of updates.</p>	<p>Time: RE Adviser/ SACRE Clerk.</p> <p>Time: SACRE members.</p>
<p>Intention: To collate information on visiting speakers/ places to visit/ RE initiatives and share with schools</p>			
<p>To update information regarding local speakers/ school visits on</p>	<p>Annually.</p>	<p>Update of information for schools shared with all schools.</p>	<p>Time: RE Adviser/ SACRE Clerk.</p> <p>Time: SACRE members.</p>

<p>an annual basis. To email RE co-ordinators termly with opportunities for speakers and local visits. To work with SACRE faith representatives to explore resources and school visits. To work with school clusters in providing exam support – revision sessions/ exam study days.</p>		<p>RE co-ordinators are able to utilise outside agencies with their delivery of RE. Organisation and delivery of RE study days for learners.</p>	
<p>Intention: To develop HMD within Swansea as a civic and public event</p>			
<p>To contact Nick Williams (LA Education Officer) regarding SACRE request. To meet to discuss options. To set up a working party from SACRE members to support the transition of HMD from school event to civic event.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>	<p>The organisation of a civic HMD event within the authority.</p>	<p>Time: RE Adviser. Cost: To be agreed by LA.</p>

APPENDIX 4: EXAMINATION RESULTS 2018

Religious Studies (Full course)

>=25%	>=75%	>=95%
<10%	<60%	<90%



School	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G
Birchgrove Comp	30	1	5	7	14	2	1	0	0	0	20.0%	90.0%	100.0%
Bishop Gore	26	7	8	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	57.7%	92.3%	100.0%
Bishop Vaughan	182	8	32	35	36	31	19	13	7	1	22.0%	61.0%	99.5%
Bishopston Comp	36	14	16	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	83.3%	100.0%	100.0%
Cefn Hengoed	128	0	4	12	24	30	19	21	7	11	3.1%	31.3%	91.4%
Dylan Thomas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Gowerton	13	1	3	1	1	3	3	1	0	0	30.8%	46.2%	100.0%
Morrison Comp	80	6	5	16	17	15	12	4	3	2	13.8%	55.0%	97.5%
Olchfa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Pentrehafod	54	0	2	9	22	13	6	0	1	1	3.7%	61.1%	98.1%
Penyrheol Comp	31	3	7	11	5	2	3	0	0	0	32.3%	83.9%	100.0%
Pontarddulais Comp	113	8	25	27	25	10	10	5	3	0	29.2%	75.2%	100.0%
PRU/EOTAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
YG Bryn Tawe	13	1	2	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	23.1%	84.6%	100.0%
YG Gwyr	26	8	3	5	6	2	1	1	0	0	42.3%	84.6%	100.0%
Swansea	732	57	112	134	162	112	74	45	21	15	23.1%	63.5%	98.0%

Total Entries	2018	2017	2016
	732	852	765

	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G
2018	23.1%	63.5%	98%
2017	22.8%	63.4%	98.1%
2016	24.4%	69.8%	96.2%
UK 2018	30.1	72	98.3
Wales 2018	25.8	66.2	97

Religious Studies (Short course)

>=25%	>=75%	>=95%
<10%	<60%	<90%

School	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G
Birchgrove Comp	52	0	0	0	7	5	5	16	5	14	0.0%	13.5%	73.1%
Bishop Gore	158	11	20	22	23	17	18	13	18	16	19.6%	48.1%	89.9%
Bishop Vaughan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Bishopston Comp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Cefn Hengoed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Dylan Thomas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Gowerton	151	8	11	31	27	19	28	15	7	5	12.6%	51.0%	96.7%
Morrison Comp	24	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	7	14	0.0%	4.2%	41.7%
Olchfa	264	9	53	71	70	28	12	13	5	3	23.5%	76.9%	98.9%
Pentrehafod	105	0	0	0	0	3	17	29	37	19	0.0%	0.0%	81.9%
Penyrheol Comp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Pontarddulais Comp	28	0	0	0	2	3	6	7	4	6	0.0%	7.1%	78.6%
PRU/EOTAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
YG Bryn Tawe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
YG Gwyr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Swansea	783	28	84	125	129	75	87	94	84	77	14.3%	46.7%	90.2%

Total Entries	2018	2017	2016
	783	615	836
	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G
2018	14.3%	46.7%	90.2%
2017	9.8%	47.5%	90.6%
2016	15.9%	49.5%	92.2%
UK 2018	23.3	58.9	95.4
Wales 2018	12.4	44.9	91.4

Religious Studies A2

School	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A*-A	A*-C	A*-E
Bishop Gore	5	1		3			1		20	80	100
Bishop Vaughan	11	3			5	1	1	1	27.3	72.7	90.9
Gowerton	5	1	1	1	2				40	100	100
Olchfa	4	1		1	1	1			25	75	100
YG Gwyr	6			1	3	2				66.7	100
Gower College	22	1	5	7	5	3		1	27.3	81.8	95.5
Total Schools	31	6	6	7	11	4	2	1	22.6	77.4	

Total Entries (schools)	2018	2017	2016
	31	51	44
	A*-A	A*-C	A*-E
2018	22.6%	77.4%	96.8%
2017	15.7%	76.6%	100%
2016	11.4%	72.7%	100%
UK 2018	22.8	78.8	98.2
Wales 2018	21.6	76.3	97.6

APPENDIX 5: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the WASACRE website for interested parties to download. It will also be put on the SACRE section of the Swansea LA website.

City and County of Swansea Education Authority

Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

All members of SACRE

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all Schools and Colleges in the city and County of Swansea

Diocese of Swansea and Brecon

WASACRE

Minister for Education, Welsh Government

ESTYN