



To: Members of the Standing Advisory
Council for Religious Education
(SACRE)

Date: 4 June 2013

Direct Dial: 01824 712568

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Dear Sir / Madam

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** to be held at **10.00 am** on **MONDAY, 10 JUNE 2013** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, RUSSELL HOUSE, CHURTON ROAD, RHYL LL18 3DP**.

Yours sincerely

G Williams
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

AGENDA

PART 1 - THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS PART OF THE MEETING

SILENT REFLECTION

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at this meeting.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Pages 5 - 12)

To receive and approve the minutes of the Denbighshire SACRE meeting held on 1 February 2013 (copy enclosed) and to consider any matters arising.

5 SMSC PROVISION IN THE FURTHER EDUCATION SECTOR (Pages 13 - 14)

To receive a presentation from Toni Coulton on provision for SMSC in the further education sector and discuss how SACRE could support Rhyl Sixth Form and FE College.

6 ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS (Pages 15 - 20)

To consider a report by the Senior Learning Adviser RE (copy enclosed) analysing the results of the recent inspections of five schools undertaken between November 2012 and January 2013.

7 RE LITERACY AND NUMERACY COMPETITION (Pages 21 - 22)

To receive a verbal update from the Senior Learning Adviser RE on the RE Literacy and Numeracy competition.

8 REC SPONSORED WALK (Pages 23 - 24)

To receive a verbal report from the Senior Learning Adviser RE on the REC Sponsored Walk.

9 WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES (WASACRE) (Pages 25 - 40)

(a) To receive the minutes of the last meeting of the Association held on 22 March 2013 in Newport (copy enclosed), and

(b) To agree attendance at the next WASACRE meeting to be held in Caernarfon on 19 June 2013 and to discuss nominations for the Executive Committee (copy enclosed).

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 2 October 2013 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin.

PART 2 - NO ITEMS

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors Representing Denbighshire County Council

Bill Tasker
Carys Guy
Julian Thompson-Hill
Dewi Owens

Margaret McCarroll
Arwel Roberts
Joe Welch

Representing Religious Denominations

Mr. Dominic Oakes
Rev. B H Jones
Rev. Martin Evans-Jones
Ms Mary Ludenbach

Mrs C Thomas
Mrs E Wright
Ms S Harris
Lt. Sian Radford

Representing Teacher Associations

Ms M Bradshaw
Mrs C Harmsworth

Ms. Ali Ballantyne

Co-opted Members

Ms. Tania Ap Siôn

Mr G Craigen

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STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Minutes of a meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) held in Council Chamber, Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn LL19 9LG on Friday, 1 February 2013 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Representing Denbighshire County Council

Councillors Bill Tasker, Julian Thompson-Hill, Margaret McCarroll, Arwel Roberts and Joe Welch

Representing Religious Denominations

Mr. Dominic Oakes, Rev. B H Jones, Rev. Martin Evans-Jones, Mrs E Wright and Ms S Harris

Co-opted Members

Ms. Tania Ap Siôn

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Officer of the Regional School Effectiveness & Improvement Services (RSEIS) (ED), Senior Learning Adviser RE (PL) and Clerk to SACRE (SLW)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dewi Owens, Mrs Cate Harmsworth, Ms. Ali Ballantyne, Mr G Craigen and Councillor Alice Jones

The Reverend Martin Evans-Jones (Vice-Chair) agreed to act as Chair due to Maxine Bradshaw being unable to attend the meeting.

SILENT REFLECTION

The meeting began with a few minutes of silent reflection.

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of personal or prejudicial interest had been raised.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) informed the Committee of a sponsored walk which had been organised, a letter/email of which had recently been circulated. The walk had been planned to bring together those interested in Religious Education within the counties of Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. It was one of many being organised throughout Wales and England promoting the 40th anniversary of the Religious Education Council (REC).

The walk was scheduled to take place on Saturday, 11th May, meeting at 9.30 am for a 10.00 am start in the car park of the Britannia Inn, Llangollen. It was planned to take in the sites of Valle Crucis Abbey, the Pillar of Eliseg and Llantysilio Church.

In the hope of attracting as many participants as possible, the walk was to be in two sections. The first section would be a 2 mile leisurely walk from the Britannia Inn to the Canal, returning either by the same route or through the primrose and bluebell woodland. At the Canal, for those who would prefer a slightly more strenuous 4 mile walk, the planned route would take walkers past Llantysilio Church and Llantysilio Hall returning via Pen-y-Bryn. Once the walk had been completed, there would be a buffet lunch held at the Britannia Inn (which would incur a small cost of approximately £5.00).

The walk had been arranged to provide an opportunity to raise money for the REC and another charity chosen for support by each local team. Notification of participation needed to be received by Friday 1st March to the SLA:RE. Contact details had been included within the paperwork which had been sent out previously.

4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) held on 5th October, 2013 (previously circulated) were submitted.

Accuracy –

Mrs. Elaine Wright confirmed she had emailed her apologies for the previous meeting but, they had not been received.

Dominic Oakes stated that when discussing advice at LEA section on exam results, he felt there should have been a caveat added as only a small sample had been used as examples. He did not think this came across within the minutes.

Regarding the Analysis of Inspection Reports on page 7, the Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) verbally gave an update. The issue had been raised during an Estyn Inspection in the summer of 2012, that Ysgol Y Faenol were less effective in promoting global citizenship. The SLA:RE confirmed he had been in contact with the school and Ysgol Y Faenol had assured SLA:RE that global citizenship was now an item on their school evaluation and were mapping it throughout the curriculum.

Page 9 – the Literacy / Numeracy within RE competition for schools deadline had been extended to the spring term.

RESOLVED that subject to the above, the minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 5th October, 2012 be received and approved as a correct record.

5 REGIONAL SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS & IMPROVEMENT SERVICES (RSEIS)

Elwyn Davies, Interim Chief Officer of the Regional School Effectiveness & Improvement Service (RSEIS) (CO: RSEIS) presented a verbal report outlining the service being offered to schools as from 1st April, 2013.

Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Services (RSEIS) were a newly formed service working with schools across Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham local authorities.

CO:RSEIS was currently on secondment from Flintshire County Council. The interim post commenced in June 2012 and would conclude in August 2013. The permanent Chief Officer interviews were to take place in the middle of February, 2013. There had been no confirmation as to where the newly appointed Chief Officer would be based.

The six North Wales local authorities agreed to co-operate as a consortium. There were four consortiums in total within Wales.

The CO:RSEIS confirmed the Operational Structure would need to be adapted as time went on.

Two translators were to be recruited. The positions were to be advertised imminently for one full-time permanent translator and one full-time temporary translator.

There were planned to be three bases:-

- Base 1 - Ynys Mon & Gwynedd – staff to be based in Caernarfon with hot desks available in Llangefni
- Base 2 - Conwy & Denbighshire – Staff to be based in Ffordd Dinerth, Conwy with hot desks available in Ruthin
- Base 3 - Flintshire & Wrexham - Staff to be based in Mold with hot desks at a school in Wrexham although there were also a number of locations available for hot desks.

Within each Base there would be one Senior System Leader, and 2 x Admin Support, plus System Leaders. The numbers of System Leaders for each Base varies as follows:-

- Base 1 - 10 x FTE System Leaders
- Base 2 - 8 x FTE System Leaders
- Base 3 - 9 x FTE System Leaders

There would be in total, 30 Senior Leaders and System Leaders. 21 System Leaders had been appointed to date with an additional six to be appointed at the end of February. Phil Lord, the SLA:RE had been appointed as a System Leader and would be based within the Conwy & Denbighshire location.

The first part of the job would be to monitor, challenge and support schools. The SLA:RE, in his new post, would cover 12 schools. System Leaders may occasionally be asked to cover schools outside their region. Another element would be curriculum support co-ordination.

There was a requirement of a minimum of 16 bi-lingual staff. This requirement had already been reached through the staff currently appointed. In terms of the first aspect of the role, they would allocate six days to each school. There would be three meetings per year, autumn, spring and summer. Those six days would include writing reports etc., and updating the website for the service.

A commissioning budget of £250,000 would be available to broker additional support for local authorities and schools.

A Joint Committee was to be formed. The Education Portfolio Members of the Joint Committee would have voting rights. Feeding in from the User Groups as follows:-

- (i) Six Primary Head representatives, one from each local authority and one from the group to be nominated to sit on the Joint Committee
- (ii) Six Governors, one from each local authority and one from the group to be nominated to sit on the Joint Committee.

An Inter Authority Agreement was to be agreed and put in place.

The SLA:RE currently supported Denbighshire, Flintshire and Conwy. It had been agreed for the SLA:RE to carry out work for SACRE at a cost to the local authority.

It was clarified that the service would commence on the 1st April, 2013. Within the draft Service Level Agreement, monthly meetings were to take place to discuss the outcomes in schools and to look at which schools would be in need of greater support.

RESOLVED that the verbal report be received and noted.

6 ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) presented the Analysis of Inspection Report (previously circulated).

Two schools had received an Estyn Inspection in October 2012, namely:

- Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School, Rhyl
- Ysgol Clocaenog,

The SLA:RE stated that on the whole, the reports were positive. The only recommendation from the Estyn Inspector had been for Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School to develop the co-ordination of the personal and social education programme.

Councillor Margaret McCarroll raised a concern that she had been told both the Headteacher and the Deputy Headteacher had resigned from Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School. This had been a very disappointing piece of news especially as the school had recently been progressing so well.

The SLA:RE stated there was no further information regarding the proposed amalgamation of Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School, Rhyl and St. Brigids School, Denbigh.

The SLA:RE confirmed within his current role, he could contact Blessed Edward Jones school to assist improving the development of co-ordination of the personal and social education programme but under his new role, this would require an agreement from RESIS.

RESOLVED that:-

- *The report be received and noted*
- *A letter be sent to each of the schools informing them that their Inspection Report had been considered, congratulating them for good features identified, and reminding them of the services of the Senior Learning Adviser RE and School Improvement Officers in relation to any areas for development or key issues needing addressing.*
- *To request the LEA to distribute the letters to the schools involved.*

7 EXAMINATION RESULTS 2012

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) presented the Examination Results 2012 report (previously circulated).

The report contained the detailed results for examinations at GCSE and Advanced Level Religious Studies for the year 2011 and 2012, together with an analysis of the differences and trends.

The report was for members to be able to exercise their functions in relation to their statutory duty to monitor provision for RE in schools, and to be fully informed as to results for the year.

The information received regarding the Full Course was extremely positive. The Short Course was used by some schools to enable pupils to obtain a qualification.

It was clarified that A* - G were classed as qualification grades.

Schools and the LA are using the "Fischer Family Trust" to be able to further analyse the data within and across schools. The Trust use the social circumstances of each learner to best predict their outcome in examinations based

on the results from other children in similar circumstances. This data is not currently available for SACRE's.

***RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.*

8 SECURING TEACHER ASSESSMENT AT KEY STAGE 3

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) presented the report (previously circulated).

The report was to consider analysing the results from the moderation process.

WASACRE had been aware of the results and had provided funding for training for all of Wales. The training had taken place on 27th January, in Llandudno Junction. Gavin Craigen, presented the training. The schools presented a portfolio for each level. The portfolios were annotated and sent off to moderators. If there were any issues regarding the portfolios, the moderators would return them to the school. The training event had been well run and had received a positive feedback.

***RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.*

9 FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MONITORING OF RE IN SCHOOLS

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) presented a report (previously circulated) to enable discussion to take place regarding the future arrangements of the monitoring of RE in schools in conjunction with RSEIS.

The SLA:RE currently worked for curriculum support. The SLA:RE would no longer be an RE Adviser under the new system of RSEIS or within his new role of System Leader. The role of System Leader would retain responsibility for religious education, but there would be an increase in the cost to the local authority for curricular support. Set out within pages 2 and 3 of the green SACRE handbook were the SACRE responsibilities. The LEA were, this year, to review the agreed syllabus.

Possibly, under the new service arrangements, the first initial contact with RSEIS would be forwarded to the frequently asked questions (FAQ) document. If the query was not covered under the FAQ then either an email or telephone enquiry could be made. If neither of these processes managed to resolve the issue, then a visit could be arranged. This process had been devised to reduce both staff and travel time.

Within the report was a rationale of a questionnaire together with a questionnaire to be completed by schools.

The SLA:RE clarified that the newly appointed System Leaders would be very well versed in the literacy and numeracy standards within schools. Full training would be given to the newly appointed staff. In terms of support, there could be RE Forums which met twice a year and a drop-in session could be organised once or twice per term.

The RE Quality Mark was to be added as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

Concern was raised as SLA:RE would no longer visit schools and, therefore, knowledge would be lost. A pilot scheme was to take place incorporating the RE Quality Mark.

SACRE had to provide a statutory function. Future meetings would run as they were currently, the only difference would be how the meetings were paid for. The school report would be sent through as usual but discussed within one meeting. The Chairs and Vice-Chairs would become more involved with the correspondence of the Committee.

Discussion ensued and concerns were raised as to the prospective additional work for Chairs and Vice-Chairs as this would have a huge implication. Also concern was raised to the fact that specialist knowledge would be lost.

RESOLVED that the Members received and noted the best way forward in the monitoring of RE in schools.

10 WASACRE

The Senior Learning Adviser RE (SLA:RE) presented the minutes of the previous meetings of WASACRE held on 26 June and 23 November 2012 (copies enclosed).

The SLA:RE confirmed that a verbal report had been presented at the last SACRE meeting on 5 October, 2012, following the WASACRE meeting of 26 June.

The SLA:RE reported that at the previous WASACRE meeting held on 23 November, Jonathan Martin gave a bilingual presentation on the College Merthyr Tydfil which was to become a tertiary college from September 2013. He confirmed that the new college curriculum would offer A/AS level qualifications in Religious Studies and that all pupils would have an RE element to their education, through RE within the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification in tutorials. It had been proposed at the meeting that local SACREs considered appointing a member from Further Education.

SLA:RE confirmed he had contacted the Denbighshire and Conwy Further Education College (Llandrillo College), as he wanted to invite the Chaplain to the next SACRE meeting to explain to the Committee what he could offer SACRE and what SACRE could offer the college.

Regarding Headteacher vacancies on SACRE, nominations were being sought from the Headteachers Federation meeting which was taking place on Monday 4 February 2013.

Wales Association of SACRE (WASCRE) meetings took place three times per year. An additional representative from SACRE was required to sit on WASACRE. The usual process was that the former Chair, current Chair and Vice-Chair were representatives but, as it had been some time since there was a former Chair, a

third representative from the group was required. The forthcoming WASACRE meetings were:-

22 March, to be held in Newport
19 June, to be held in Caernarfon.

Dominic Oakes was nominated but he explained that as he was self-employed, he was concerned about the loss of earnings. Other than that, he was extremely interested in attending the WASACRE meetings.

The SLA:RE confirmed he would make enquiries regarding the loss of earnings.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous WASACRE meetings held on 26 June, 2012 and 23 November be noted and received.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to take place on 10th June 2013. Venue to be confirmed following confirmation of the dates of the meetings to be held between May 2013 – April 2014.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 p.m.

Denbighshire County Council Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)		
Date of Meeting:		01 February 2013
Agenda Item:	5	SMSC PROVISION IN THE FURTHER EDUCATION SECTOR
<u>Background to the Report:</u>		
<p>WASACRE received a presentation, Autumn 2012 in Merthyr Tydfil, on SMSC in the Further Education sector.</p>		
<u>Purpose of the Report:</u>		
<p>To receive a presentation from Toni Coulton on provision for SMSC in the further education sector, with an opportunity to discuss how SACRE may support the 6th form college in Rhyl, Denbighshire. Toni has been involved in supporting national work through Dare 2 Engage and the National Council of Faiths and Beliefs in FE.</p>		
<u>Recommendations:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To receive the verbal presentation ▪ To discuss how SACRE could support our Rhyl sixth form and FE college. 		

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Denbighshire County Council Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)		
Date of Meeting:		01 February 2013
Agenda Item:	6	ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS
<u>Background to the Report:</u>		
<p>SACRE has a statutory duty to monitor the provision of RE and collective worship in the schools, and has a long standing practice of receiving and analysis of Estyn Inspection reports at each meeting.</p>		
<u>Purpose of the Report:</u>		
<p>To inform members of the outcomes of recent Estyn Inspection Reports on schools.</p>		
<u>Recommendations:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To receive the report ▪ A letter be sent to each of the schools informing them that their Inspection Report has been considered, congratulating them for good features identified, and reminding them of the services of the Senior Learning Adviser RE and School Improvement Officers in relation to any areas for development or key issues needing addressing. ▪ To request the LEA to distribute the letters to the schools involved 		

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Analysis of Inspection Reports Denbighshire SACRE

Summer 2013

(reports published in the spring term)

School	Dates	Reporting Inspector
Ysgol Gymraeg y Gwernant	January 2013	Merfyn Jones
<i>Ysgol Gymraeg Gwernant shares a site with Ysgol Gynradd Bryn Collen in the town of Llangollen, Denbighshire. Most pupils come from the town of Llangollen and nearby villages. The area is described as relatively prosperous and the pupils do not come from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. Approximately 11% of pupils are entitled to free school meals. This is lower than the local authority and all-Wales average.</i>		
Ysgol Bryn Hedydd	November 2012	Barry Norris
<i>Ysgol Bryn Hedydd is in Rhyl, Denbighshire. There are about 470 pupils on roll, aged 3 to 11 years, including about 60 who attend the nursery part-time. Pupils are currently taught in single-age classes. The area served by the school is neither economically advantaged nor disadvantaged. However, the proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals is around 15%, which is below the average for primary schools in Wales.</i>		
Ysgol Uwchradd Glan Clwyd	November 2012	Iolo Dafydd
<i>Ysgol Glan Clwyd is a designated Welsh-medium secondary school, and is situated in St Asaph in Denbighshire. In the main, the school serves the northern parts of Denbighshire, as well as parts of Flintshire and East Conwy. Pupils come mainly from urban areas, and nearly 9% live in the most underprivileged areas in Wales. This figure is significantly higher than the figures for other schools in the family of similar schools. About 7% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, which is significantly lower than the national figure.</i>		
Ysgol Llywelyn	December 2012	David Ellis
<i>Ysgol Llywelyn is a large primary school on the southern outskirts of Rhyl, constructed in the 1950s within extensive grounds. Pupils come from a variety of backgrounds, ranging from relatively prosperous to economically disadvantaged. Around a fifth of families only remain in the area for a short period. Approximately 24% of pupils receive free school meals, which is above the local authority and national averages.</i>		
Ysgol y Llys	December 2012	Goronwy Morris
<i>Ysgol y Llys is a designated Welsh-medium school, and is maintained by Denbighshire education authority. It is situated in Prestatyn. The school serves the town and nearby areas. The school admits pupils from the full ability range. The percentage of pupils (10.5%) who are entitled to free school meals is lower than the average for Denbighshire and Wales. Fifty-five (21%) pupils are on the school's additional learning needs register. These figures are close to the percentages for the county and Wales.</i>		

POSTITIVE COMMENTS

Key Question 1: How good are the Outcomes?

Standards:

- In assessments at the end of the Foundation Phase in 2012, most pupils achieved the expected outcome (outcome 5 or better) in personal and social development, wellbeing and cultural diversity. (Gwernant)

Wellbeing:

- Pupils are very proud of their local community and contribute extensively to different charities. (Gwernant)
- Pupils develop at least good moral, social and life skills. (Bryn Hedydd)
- The extensive charity work testifies to the way in which pupils show concern for others. (Glan Clwyd)
- Pupils raise funds for a number of charities and are involved in an increasing number of links and projects with the local community. (Llywelyn)

Key Question 2: How good is provision?

Learning experiences:

- Schemes of work are comprehensive and respond well to the requirements of the National Curriculum, the Foundation Phase and religious education. (Gwernant)
- Pupils are given opportunities to compare their life experiences with those of children from different countries, thereby promoting their respect and understanding of different cultures and ways of life. (Gwernant)
- The school promotes global citizenship well, for example through a global citizenship week and ongoing links with other countries through the Comenius project. (Bryn Hedydd)
- One of the school's strengths is its wide and balanced curricular provision that fulfils statutory requirements fully in addition to the needs of pupils and employers. (Glan Clwyd)
- The school offers an appropriate range of experiences for pupils to develop their understanding of global citizenship, and the part they have to play in society. (Glan Clwyd)
- The school provides a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum through an effective topic-based approach that fulfils the requirements of the Foundation Phase and the statutory curriculum in key stage 2. (Llywelyn)
- They develop an appropriate awareness of global citizenship, for example through the school's links with India and Fair Trade initiatives. (Llywelyn)
- Very good opportunities are given to pupils to develop their awareness and expand their knowledge of other parts of the world and of other cultures. Various links with other European schools under the Comenius scheme, as well as regular visitors from abroad, are a very effective way of widening pupils' horizons and developing their understanding of differences between cultures and customs. (Y Llys)

Care, support and guidance:

- Effective policies and arrangements are in place and programmes such as personal and social education ensure that each child has the necessary experiences. (Gwernant)
- Pupils are encouraged consistently to differentiate between right and wrong. Values such as honesty, fairness and respect for truth and justice permeate through the school's day to day work. (Gwernant)
- Collective worship, circle time and periods during lessons ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to reflect upon the message being presented. (Gwernant)
- Arrangements to support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are a strong feature of the school. They have a positive impact on pupil outcomes. (Bryn Hedydd)
- The extensive provision for personal and social education is extremely effective. (Glan Clwyd)
- The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral and social development appropriately, and cultural development receives prominent attention. (Glan Clwyd)
- It has excellent procedures to support their health and wellbeing, for example through its personal and social education programme and nurture groups. This provision contributes well to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. (Llywelyn)
- The provision for promoting pupils' moral, social, spiritual and cultural development is extremely effective. This is reflected in the respect that they show for each other and for adults. (Y Llys)

Learning Environment:

- The personal and social education programme makes a significant contribution to raise pupils' awareness of the need to respect people who are different and to develop an open mind that fosters values and challenges attitudes. (Glan Clwyd)
- The school promotes respect for diversity and communicates this value effectively. (Llywelyn)
- Respect for diversity and racial equality is promoted through a variety of work to study foreign countries. (Y Llys)

NEGATIVE COMMENTS**Key Question 2: How good is provision?****Learning Experiences:**

- The overall personal and social education programme is not well coordinated. (Bl. Ed. Jones RC High School)

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**Denbighshire County Council
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
(SACRE)**

Date of Meeting:

01 February 2013

Agenda Item:

7

**RE LITERACY AND NUMERACY
COMPETITION**

Background to the Report:

Entries for the SACRE sponsored Numeracy and Literacy Competition have been received, judged and the winning schools have received their prize money.

Purpose of the Report:

To inform SACRE on the winning schools and to highlight some of the successful entries.

Recommendations:

- To receive the report.

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**Denbighshire County Council
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
(SACRE)**

Date of Meeting:

01 February 2013

Agenda Item:

8

REC SPONSORED WALK

Background to the Report:

The sponsored walk took place on 11th May in Llangollen, supporting the work of the Religious Council for England and Wales.

Purpose of the Report:

To inform SACRE on the sponsored walk.

Recommendations:

To receive the verbal report.

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Denbighshire County Council Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)		
Date of Meeting:		01 February 2013
Agenda Item:	9	WASACRE
<i>Background to the Report:</i>		
SACRE continues to be a member of the Wales Association of SACREs, and receives reports on meetings from members attending, copies of minutes of meetings and any other reports from the Association.		
<i>Purpose of the Report:</i>		
For members to be informed as to the focus and main outcomes of the previous meeting.		
<i>Recommendations:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To receive the minutes of the previous meeting.▪ To agree attendance to the next WASACRE (Caernarfon, 19th June 2013) and to discuss nominations for the Executive Committee		

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**Cyfarfod CCYSAGauC, Newport, 22 Mawrth
2013 / Wales Association of SACREs meeting,
Newport, 22 March 2013**

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Rheinallt Thomas Eurfryn Davies Bethan James</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Gill Vaisey</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Edward Evans Carys Pritchard</p> <p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly Vicky Thomas Michael Gray Enfys Hawthorn Martyn Western</p> <p>Caerdydd / Cardiff Carys Pritchard</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire Mary Parry Helen Gibbon Gwyneth Thomas</p> <p>Ceredigion</p> <p>Conwy Phil Lord Nicholas Richter</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Phil Lord Gavin Craigen</p> <p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Phil Lord</p> <p>Gwynedd W M Meredith Bethan James</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil Carys Pritchard</p> <p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Gill Vaisey Susan Cave Sharon Perry-Phillips</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot Janice Dudley?</p> <p>Casnewydd / Newport Vicky Thomas Sally Northcott David Williams Huw Stephen Heather Vaughan Soam Sharma A Davidson Neata Baicher JP Val Delahaye Sally Mlewa</p> <p>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</p> <p>Powys John Mitson</p>	<p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Carys Pritchard</p> <p>Abertawe / Swansea Vicky Thomas</p> <p>Torfaen Vicky Thomas Margaret Oelmann</p> <p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan Carys Pritchard Dafydd Treharne Ramez Delpak</p> <p>Wrecsam / Wrexham Libby Jones Tania ap Siôn</p> <p>Sylwedyddion / Observers Leslie Francis (Canolfan y Santes Fair / St Mary's Centre) Ben Wigley (REMW) Tudor Thomas (WJEC)</p>
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Minutes

1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso / *Introduction and welcome.*

Chair, Edward Evans introduced the Mayor of Newport, Cllr John Guy who then welcomed everyone to the meeting in Newport. He described Newport as a city with a wealth of diversity and went on to say that Newport SACRE has many different faiths represented. He noted that WASACRE has been supportive of Community Cohesion initiatives and helps to ensure that RE is taught well in all schools, including Collective Worship. In 2011 Newport organised a series of events for the National RE festival. Many schools took part and that work is on going. WASACRE is important because it provides the forum and the voice for RE across wales. The Mayor concluded his address by offering well wishes for the meeting.

This was followed by a presentation by the Gwent Education Minority-ethnic Service who provides support for children who are Black Minority Ethnic in the Newport area. There are 94 different languages spoken in the Newport area including dialects, for which the team develop language and tuition support. They also work with Show Racism the Red Card and the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. The service has organised a variety of activities for their 'See the World through Ours Eyes' project focussing on different countries including China and India. They informed members of the GEMS Faith Trail (leaflet shared in the meeting) and GRT History month for which there will be a celebration in Cardiff this year on June 5th. Their website address was shared www.newportlearn.net/inclusion/ and members were invited to login as 'guest' to find out more information about any of the services GEMS provide.

2. Adfyfrio tawel / *Quiet reflection*

Chair Edward Evans read two poems, one entitled 'The Donkey' by E A Chesterton and asked members to reflect on the events of Holy Week.

3. Ymddiheuriadau / *Apologies* Lynda Maddock , Jen Malcolm (NPT), Christine Abbas, Cllr Bob Poole, Claire Lane (Blaenau) Gwent. Meinir Loader.

4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd yn Merthyr Tudful, 23 Tachwedd 2012 / *Minutes of meeting held in Merthyr Tydfil, 23 November 2012*

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5. Materion sy'n codi / *Matters arising*

Item 6, 3rd point. Update on the launch of the All Party Parliamentary Group attended by Tania ap Sion in June 2012. The enquiry has been completed and copies of report are available from the WASACRE website. It presents a worrying picture in England in regard to supply of RE teachers and support for RE teachers. E.g. RE taught by teaching assistants; about half of primary teachers lacked confidence in teaching RE; over 50% of secondary RE teachers have no qualification in RE. The inclusion of non-specialists gave a false impression of England having enough RE teachers. The findings also show that applications for RE teacher training courses are down by 140, with the loss of bursaries for RE. With regard to support, 40% of schools found that

RE teachers have limited access to CPD. A range of government policies in England, e.g. the EBacc, is lowering the status of RE in schools in England.

In relation to the results of the APPG enquiry in England, Tudor Thomas (WJEC) raised concerns about the drop in WJEC RS exam entries in England due to the EBacc and noted that this was very worrying. Short courses are not recognised in England and the status of RE qualifications in general has diminished. Rheinallt Thomas asked whether WASACRE could do a research project focusing on the situation in Wales, and perhaps conduct a Wales 'review'. In response, Vicky Thomas reminded members that we will have the results of the Estyn thematic review shortly and said that this may be helpful and suggested that WASACRE waits to see what Estyn reports on 18 June. Leslie Francis agreed that research is helpful and Rheinallt Thomas proposed that we wait but discuss this at a later date. Members agreed.

Mary Parry raised concerns about the curriculum review in Wales, with RE not being a part of this review, and suggested that WASACRE should request that RE be made part of the review. She was concerned that the Exemplar Framework would no longer be relevant with the new Literacy and Numeracy Framework and other possible curriculum changes. Gavin Craigen urged caution, saying that the reason RE has not been included is because Welsh Government is satisfied with it. Therefore, he suggested that WASACRE should remind Welsh Government of the importance of RE and that RE is a statutory requirement. Rheinallt Thomas shared the correspondence he had received in December 2012 from Leighton Andrews, written in response to a letter he had written, highlighting the following section:

RE will remain a statutory requirement in all maintained schools in Wales and England (*Education Reform Act 1988 s.2 (1) (a)*). The religious education taught in schools must continue to comply with the requirements of the locally agreed syllabus produced by each local authority via its Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). We would expect these arrangements to continue within the regional consortia structure but exact details would obviously vary from one consortia to another...

Gill Vaisey said that Blaenau Gwent and Monmouthshire SACREs have discussed the curriculum review and felt they would rather not make any change to their agreed syllabi yet as they would have to make amendments in line with the curriculum review proposed changes after September 2014. Vicky Thomas raised the point that since 2008 we have commonality of agreed syllabi in Wales and this has been a significant achievement. There was now a danger of losing commonality across Wales if Local Authorities make their own changes to reflect the national changes. Carys Pritchard noted that September 2014 is when the curriculum review will have been finalised and that the evaluation of the Foundation Phase is on-going. WASACRE should take account of the implementation, impact and future impact of this evaluation also.

Some members suggested that WASACRE contact the Minister of Education and Skills to request that RE is included in the curriculum review and /or to draw his attention to the Exemplar Framework for RE (2008) and ask what likely impact the

curriculum review will have on it from September 2014. In response to a vote on the question of sending a letter to the Minister, a majority of members voted for WASACRE to write a letter and to leave the officers of the Association to do this on their behalf.

6. *Hyfforddiant CA3/ KS3 Training*. Gavin Craigen thanked WASACRE for the opportunity to offer the KS3 training, and shared the very positive participant evaluation feedback from the training events held across Wales. A copy of his presentation will be available on the WASACRE website. Evaluations showed positive messages from teachers. This was the first national training and proved a very worthwhile project. The Chair thanked Gavin for his hard work and this was echoed by Vicky Thomas and Gill Vaisey who pointed out that WASACRE responded positively to the KS3 moderation issue by funding and organising the training and acknowledged the hard work of the advisors from all areas of Wales who had been part of this. Gill Vaisey suggested that WASACRE should look at whether there is a need for the Association to support further CPD for RE teachers in the current climate (that is within the consortia arrangements, and reduced advisory services). Phil Lord agreed that this should be explored because schools may be forced to use resources or training from England which would not reflect the Welsh RE curriculum. Chair echoed these concerns and suggested that we keep an eye on the situation. Other members commented that WASACRE support in this area is much needed and appreciated as schools can not afford to send teachers out for CPD and that it helped only having to pay for supply cover. Vicky Thomas said the training was value for money at around £40 for each teacher and this was possible due to Local authorities or consortia working together to keep the costs low. Thanks were extended to consortia and LAs that were involved and who paid for venues and lunches etc.

7. *Cyflwyniadau gan PYCAG ar y Cyfnod Sylfaen / NAPfRE presentations on the Foundation Phase*

Bethan James presented 'People, Beliefs and Questions. Our interpretation'. Anne Williams and Helen Evans from schools in Dolgellau, Gwynedd, thanked Bethan for her support and leadership before presenting 'A story book as a starting point, 'Salamatu and Kandoni go missing' by Steve Bruce' Through this book the pupils were learning more about the world around them, and it was shown how this was related to the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework e.g. The children wrote letters to Salamatu and worked out the costing of goat, weighed rice and estimated the weight of a baby. Bethan thanked her colleagues for their demonstration of how a small rural school in North Wales was responding to the Literacy and Numeracy Framework and their example of a child achieving an outcome 6 using RE.

Phil Lord presented 'RE in the Foundation Phase document' which he developed with help from teachers in Conwy, Denbigh and Flintshire.

Gill Vasey presented topic packs developed with help from teachers in Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen and Monmouthshire.

It is the intention to place all of these resources in one central location for all practitioners in Wales to use.

8. Gohebiaeth / *Correspondence*

- Letter received from Vaughan Salisbury in relation to *RE News* advising members that the publication will now only be available online. The Chair read out the letter and suggested three points that WASACRE need to consider.

Members agreed that WASACRE should write to Vaughan Salisbury to ask if *RE News* can be published in a cheaper format and for full costings to be provided so that the request could be properly evaluated .

- Neeta Baicher from Sikh Association South Wales encouraged members to register for their national conference, details for registration are available from Neeta and Libby Jones via email and hard copies were available at the meeting.
- Happy New Year greeting have been extended from Christine Abbas from the Ba' hai community.

9. Aroddiad ar gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 6 Chwefror 2013 / *Report from the Executive Committee held on 6 February 2013*

This was presented to members at the meeting and copies were available in their papers.

10. Newyddion diweddar/*Update*:

(a) Gynhadledd CCYSAGauC / *WASACRE Conference*

Members were given the background for the WASACRE conference taking place on Thursday 10 October 2013. Tania ap Sion urged members to take the information back to their SACREs and to put the date in their own diaries.

Aims: National training event, raising the profile of RE and the contribution RE can make to national priorities.

Theme: Raising standards in RE

Content: Highlighting the outcomes of the Estyn thematic review, workshops

Audience: Relevant for SACRE representatives, Councilors and teachers from Foundation Phase to post 16.

(b) Yr Adolygiad Cwricwlwm a meysydd llafur cytûn / *The Curriculum Review and agreed syllabuses.*

The following statement was agreed: "WASACRE recommends that SACREs start an agreed syllabus review process that is on-going for the next few years and should implement changes to their agreed syllabus in response to the curriculum review arrangements after September 2014."

This will go out in a letter to all SACRE clerks (LJ). Gill Vaisey clarified this by saying that the review process can begin within each SACRE, but that changes to each agreed syllabus will not need to be made until after September 2014 when we know the results of the curriculum review, in which case appropriate amendments can be made in line with those made to the new curriculum. A discussion ensued about the legalities of the agreed syllabus

review and conference within individual SACREs and the minister's response in his letter to possible implications on SACREs in removing responsibility for Education from local authorities. Vicky Thomas proposed that Leighton Andrew's letter is discussed at the next Executive meeting and is included in the papers for the Executive meeting on the 16 May 2013. (LJ)
SACRE Clerks are to be asked who is responsible for RE within the new arrangements.

(c) REQ/ *Religious Education Quality Mark*

Bethan James spoke on behalf of Phil Lord. The pilot for the Welsh version of the quality mark is complete and he is hoping that teachers from the pilot school can give a presentation at the next WASACRE meeting.

(d) Adolygiad o adroddiadau CYSAG Blynyddol / *Review of SACRE annual reports.*

This item was withdrawn in order for the meeting to end promptly to alleviate time pressures for those travelling in the severe weather conditions.

11. Arddangos adnoddau AG / *Showcase of RE resources.* Examples given during the NAPfRE presentation under item 7.
12. U.F.A. / *A.O.B.* There was no other business.
14. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf / *Date of next meeting:* 19 June 2013, Caernarfon.

Enwebiadau ar gyfer Pwyllgor Gwaith y CCYSAGauC (19 Mehefin 2013)

Nominations for the Executive Committee (19 June 2013)

Mae WYTH o enwebiadau ar gyfer TAIR swydd ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith.

There are EIGHT nominations for THREE positions on the Executive Committees.

1. Mark Brown CYSAG Conwy

Graddiais o Brifysgol Cynru, Bangor, gyda gradd BEd, gan arbenigo mewn Addysg Grefyddol. Drwy gydol fy ngyrfa wedi ystyried AG yn bawn sylfaenol sydd yn hanfodol I gwricwlwm ein hysgolion. Bûm yn athro mewn amrywiaeth o ysgolion, rhai ohonynt yn enwadol a rhai'n fwy seciwlar. Rwyf yn arbenigo yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen, ac rwyf wedi cymryd rhan mewn sawl prosiect Cyfnod Sylfaen I ddatblygu AG fel pwnc integredig yn hytrach nag 'annibynnol' (fel sy'n ofynnol gan gwricwlwm y Cyfnod Sylfaen). Rwy'n mwynhau'r cyfle I eistedd ar GYSAG Conwy fel cynrychiolydd y Cyfnod Sylfaen (swydd yr wyf wedi ei dal ers bron I dair blynedd), ac yn ddiweddar yr wyf wedi ymgymryd â 'Chymrodoriaeth Farmington' er mwyn datblygu adnodd CA2 ar gyfer Cadeirlan Bangor. Drwy gydol fy ngyrfa rwyf wedi datblygu cysylltiadau cryf â grwpiau crefyddol lleol, ac mae'r cysylltiadau hynny yn eu tro wedi datblygu gwybodaeth a dealltwriaeth y plant o'r byd o'u cwmpas. Rwyf yn athro cynradd ymroddedig gyda chariad gwirioneddol at AG.

Mark Brown Conwy SACRE

I graduated from the University of Wales, Bangor with a BEd degree, specialising in Religious Education. Throughout my career I have seen RE as a fundamental subject which is essential to our school curriculum. I have taught in a variety of schools, both denominational and more secular. I am a specialist in the Foundation Phase and have been involved in several Foundation Phase projects to develop RE as an integrated rather than 'stand-alone' subject (as required by the Foundation Phase curriculum). I relish the opportunity to sit on the Conwy SACRE as the Foundation Phase representative (a post that I have held for nearly 3 years) and have recently undertaken a 'Farmington Fellowship' to develop a KS2 resource for Bangor Cathedral. Throughout my career I have developed strong links with local religious groups, which have in turn developed the children's knowledge and understanding of the world around them. I am a committed and dedicated primary teacher with a real love of RE.

2. Y Cyng. Ernie Galsworthy CYSAG Merthyr Tudful

Bûm yn aelod o GYSAG ers Mai 2012, wedi i mi gael fy ethol i'r cyngor. Cyn hynny bûm yn gynghorydd rhwng 1987 a 2004, a gwasanaethais ar GYSAG Merthyr Tudful yn ystod y cyfnod hwn a mynychu cyfarfodydd CCYSAGauC yn ogystal.

Cefais fy magu mewn amgylchedd Bedyddwyr Cymreig, a than yr oeddwn yn 5 oed bûm yn byw gyda'm mam-gu, Cymraes nad oedd, yn anffodus, wedi dysgu Cymraeg i fy mam ond a wnaeth ei gorau i'm haddysgu i yn yr iaith. Wedi ei marwolaeth, fodd bynnag, collais yr iaith, ac ni ailafaelais ynddi tan y 1990'au hwyr pan fynychais gwrs WLPAN ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd.

Rwy'n coleddu safbwynt heddychol, a'm harwyr yw Mahatma Gandhi, John Lennon ac Iesu Grist. Yr oeddynt ill tri'n heddychwyr, a chafodd y tri eu diwedd trwy drais. Mae bod yn heddychwyr yn ddull peryglus o fyw, ac weithiau mae angen dewrder i fyw buchedd o'r fath.

Rwyf hefyd yn gynrychiolydd y cyngor ar y Pwyllgor Awdurdodau Lleol Di-niwclear; rwy'n credu bod hynny'n adlewyrchu fy nymuniad i fyw mewn heddwch.

Yr oedd fy nhri arwr yn Hindŵ, yn anffyddiwr ac yn Gristion. Er nad wyf yn cyd-fynd yn llwyr â safbwyntiau fy arwyr, mae gennyf barch mawr tuag atynt, ac rwy'n credu bod parch tuag at bob crefydd yn sylfaenol i heddwch byd-eang.

Councillor Ernie Galsworthy Merthyr Tudfil SACRE

I have been a SACRE member since May 2012 after I was elected to council. I was previously a councillor from 1987 until 2004, and served on Merthyr Tydfil SACRE during this period and also attended WASACRE meetings.

I was brought up in a Welsh Baptist environment and until the age of 5 lived with my grandmother, a Welsh speaker, who unfortunately did not teach Welsh to my mother although, did her best to teach me. Consequently after her death I lost the language and did not pick it back up again until the late 1990's when I attended a WPLAN course at Cardiff University.

I hold pacifist views and my great heroes are Mahatma Gandhi, John Lennon and Jesus Christ, All three were pacifists and met violent deaths. Being a pacifist is a dangerous way of living and sometimes courage is needed to live this life.

I am also the council representative on the Committee of Nuclear Free Local Authorities which I believe reflects how I wish to live in peace.

My three heroes were a Hindu, an atheist and a Christian. While I do not believe totally in the views of my heroes I have great respect for them and it is respect for all religions which I believe is fundamental for world peace.

3. Y Cyngorydd D Michael Gray CYSAG Caerphilly

Rwy'n aelod oes o'r Eglwys Fethodistaidd. Ar ôl bod yn athro Ysgol Sul, rwy'n Bregethwr Lleol Trwyddedig yn yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd, yn organydd eglwys, ac yn swyddog eglwys ar lefelau ardal, rhanbarthol a chenedlaethol, yn ogystal â bod yn Gydlynnydd Cymorth Cristnogol Lleol, yn gyn-Ysgrifennydd a chyn-Gadeirydd fy nghanen leol o 'Eglwysi Ynghyd', ac yn aelod cyswllt o CYTUN .

Rwy'n Gyngorydd ar Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, ac yn Gadeirydd Pwyllgor CYSAG Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, ac rwyf wedi cynrychioli CYSAG CBSC ar GCYSAGauC ers 1996.

Rwy'n gyn-aelod o Bwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGauC, ac yn gyn-Is-gadeirydd (2008-2009) a chyn-Gadeirydd (2009-2011) CCYSAGauC, ac rwy'n dymuno cynnig i Bwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGauC fy mhrofiad hir o gefnogi a hybu Addysg Grefyddol mewn ysgolion ledled Cymru.

Councillor D Michael Gray Caerphilly SACRE

I am a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, having been a Sunday school teacher I am an accredited local Preacher of the Methodist Church, church organist, and church officer at local, regional & national level, also area Christian - Aid Coordinator and past Secretary , Chairman of my 'ChurchesTogether' and affiliated to CYTUN .

I am a Caerphilly County Borough Councillor, Chairman of Caerphilly County Borough Council SACRE Committee and represented CCBC SACRE on WASACRE since 1996, up to the present date.

I am a past member of the WASACRE Executive Committee and also past Vice - Chairman (2008 - 2009) and Chairman of WASACRE (2009 - 2011), and wish to offer the WASACRE EXECUTIVE my long experience of supporting and projecting Religious Education throughout the schools of Wales.

4. Judy Harris CYSAG Caerdydd

Ar hyn o bryd rwy'n gweithio fel swyddog datblygu plant ac ieuenctid gyda Synod Cenedlaethol Cymru yr Eglwys Unedig Ddiwygiedig. Yn y rôl hon rwy'n gwasanaethu holl Eglwysi Unedig Diwygiedig Cymru, gan hwyluso'u gwaith yn eu cymunedau lleol.

Rwy'n hynod frwdfrydig ynglŷn ag addysg grefyddol mewn ysgolion: yn y gorffennol rwyf wedi gwasanaethu fel caplan ysgol mewn ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd yn yr Alban. Ers symud i Gymru rwyf wedi gweithio fel Gweithiwr Cymunedol Cysylltiedig â'r Eglwys, ac yn ystod fy nghyfnod yr ardal Llanelli roeddwn yn gysylltiedig ag Ysgol Uwchradd Coed Cae pan gychwynnodd brosiect Mala Heddwch, sydd ers hynny wedi tyfu'n rhaglen addysgol o sylwedd mewn llawer o ysgolion. Rwy'n teimlo'n gryf fod Addysg Grefyddol yn cael ei chyflwyno i ddisgyblion er mwyn eu galluogi i ddeall y rheol syml, "Gwnewch i eraill fel y mynnech i eraill ei wneud i chwi". Rwy'n teimlo bod gennyf lawer i'w gynnig i GCYSAGauC, ac y byddai fy rôl bresennol yn fy ngalluogi i wneud cyfraniad sylweddol.

Judy Harris Cardiff SACRE

I am currently working as the children and youth development officer with the United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales, within this role I cover all the United Reformed Churches in Wales, enabling them with their work in their local communities.

I am passionate about religious education in schools, having in the past served as a school chaplain in primary and secondary schools, in Scotland. Since moving to Wales I have worked as a Church

Related Community Worker, and was connected to Coed Cae Secondary School in Llanelli, during my time there, when it started the Peace Mala project which has since grown to be a significant educational programme within many schools. I feel strongly that pupils are taught RE to enable them to understand the simple rule "Treat others as you would wish them to treat you." I feel I have a lot to offer WASACRE and feel my current role would enable me to contribute significantly.

5. Y Cyng. Louise Hughes CYSAG Gwynedd

Fel Cristion ymarferol, rwyf yn falch o weld fod Ysgolion Eglwys yng Ngwynedd yn hyrwyddo nodweddion Cristnogaeth sef goddefgarwch, maddeuant a chariad roedd yr Iesu ei hun yn eu pregethu. Yn y byd cynyddol seciwlar sydd ohoni heddiw, mae hi'n bwysicach nag erioed fod gair Duw yn dal i gael ei glywed mewn ysgolion a fod plant yn cael cyfle i edrych ar eu ffydd eu hunain heb ofni dirmyg. Mae'r Deg Gorchymyn yn sail gadarn i gymdeithas wâr heddiw, fel yr oedd ddwy fil o flynyddoedd yn ôl neu gellid dadlau eu bod hyn yn oed yn bwysicach gan fod llawer o bobl ifanc yn agored i bwysau oedd ddim yn wynebu cenedlaethau blaenorol ac mae diniweidrwydd plentyndod yn cael ei erydu bob dydd. Mae bod ar bwyllgor CYSAGau Cymru yn gyfle gwych i gwrdd â phobl o'r un ffydd sy'n meddwl yr un fath a sydd hefyd yn credu bod addysg gyda nodweddion Cristnogol yn beth cadarnhaol ym mywydau ein plant a byddwn wrth fy modd o gael cyfle i weithio gyda phobl o'r fath.

Councillor Louise Hughes Gwynedd SACRE

As a practising Christian I am delighted to see that the Church schools in Gwynedd actively promote the Christian virtues of tolerance, forgiveness and love that Jesus himself preached. In today's increasingly secular world it is more important than ever that the word of God is still heard in schools and children are given the opportunity to explore their own faith without fear of derision. The Ten Commandments are as sound a basis for a civilised society today as they were two thousand years ago or even, it could be argued, more important as so many young people are seduced by the shallow world of image, celebrity and the acquisition of material things. Children today are vulnerable to pressures that previous generations were never exposed to and the innocence of childhood is being eroded on a daily basis. Being on the WSACRE committee is a wonderful opportunity to meet like-minded people of Faith who also believe that an education which includes Christian virtues can only be a positive thing in the lives of our children and I would be delighted to be given the chance to work alongside such people.

6. Wyn Myles Meredith CYSAG Gwynedd

Yr wyf yn dymuno gwasanaethu ar Bwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGC oherwydd fy mod yn ymroddedig i waith CYSAG Gwynedd yn lleol a thrwy hyn wedi mynychu a chefnogi Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru ers 1996 yn fy swyddogaeth fel Aelod o Gyngor Gwynedd hyd nes i mi ymddeol yn 2008. Ers hynny, yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Stiward Cylchdaith Meirion a Dyfi 'rwyf wedi cynrychioli'r Eglwys Fethodistaidd fel cynrychiolydd enwadol.

Tra yn Aelod ar Gyngor Gwynedd rwyf wedi gwasanaethu ar sawl pwyllgor. Teimlaf bod fy mhrofiad ar y Pwyllgor Addysg ac yn Llywodraethwr yn golygu fy mod yn deall yr heriau sy'n wynebu ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd yr ardal. Rwyf yn edmygu ymroddiad Athrawon Addysg Grefyddol a Phenaethiaid Ysgolion wrth iddynt gyflwyno Addysg Grefyddol ystyrion i blant a phobl ifanc. 'Rwy'n ymwybodol hefyd o'u hymdrechion clodwiw i sicrhau bod sesiynau addoli ar y cyd yn berthnasol i'w byd.

Wyn Myles Meredith Gwynedd SACRE

I wish to serve on the WASACRE Executive Committee as I am committed to the work of Gwynedd SACRE locally and have attended and supported the Welsh Association of SACREs since 1996 in my role as a Member of Gwynedd Council until my retirement in 2008. Since then, as part of my office as the Circuit Steward to the Meirion and Dyfi Area I have represented the Methodist Church as a denominational representative.

Whilst I was a member of Gwynedd Council I served on several committees. I feel that my experience on the Education Committee and as a School Governor means that I understand the challenges facing primary and secondary schools in the area. I admire the commitment of Religious Education Teachers and School Heads when they introduce meaningful Religious Education to children and young people. I am also aware of their praiseworthy efforts to ensure that corporate worship sessions are relevant to their world.

7. Mary Parry CYSAG Caerfyrddin

- Mae gen i brofiad helaeth o weithio ym maes Addysg Grefyddol ac rwy'n angerddol am bwysigrwydd y pwnc i ddatblygu pobl ifanc gyflawn yng Nghymru heddiw.
- Rwyf yn Ymgynghorydd Cysylltiol Addysg Grefyddol gyda Sir Gaerfyrddin (a Dyfed cyn hynny) ers 19 mlynedd, a chyda'r ad-drefnu, rwyf hefyd yn Swyddog Consortiwm Gwella Ysgolion i SWAMWAC (Consortiwm De Orllewin a Chanolbarth Cymru).
- Rwyf yn swyddog proffesiynol i GYSAG Sir Gaerfyrddin. Yn rhinwedd y swydd hon, rwyf wedi bod ynghlwm wrth lunio meysydd llafur cytûn y sir a deunyddiau cefnogi. Hefyd rwyf wedi gweithio'n agos â chyrrff allanol ar faterion sy'n ymwneud ag AGr, megis AdAS, CBAC ac Estyn.
- Rwy'n cynghori a chefnogi athrawon ar weithredu Maes Llafur Cytûn y sir ac ar addysgu Addysg Grefyddol yn effeithiol. Rwyf wedi darparu llawer o gyrsiau ac adnoddau dwyieithog ar gyfer ysgolion – yn sir Gâr ac mewn awdurdodau lleol eraill yng Nghymru.
- Rwyf yn aelod gweithgar o Bwyllgor Gwaith Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru ers 17 mlynedd.
- Rwyf wedi cymryd rhan weithredol mewn cyfarfodydd Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru a'i gweithgareddau eraill ers ei sefydlu ym 1995.

- Rwyf wedi cynrychioli Cymru ar weithgor AREIAC (cymdeithas ymgynghorwyr AGr gwledydd Prydain) ac rwyf yn cynrychioli CCYSAGau Cymru ar weithgor EFTRE (fforwm Ewropeaidd ar gyfer athrawon AGr).
- Rwyf yn arolygu ysgolion o dan gytundeb Estyn. Bûm yn rhan o dîm Estyn a arolygodd Addysg Grefyddol dros Gymru gyfan eleni.
- Cyn fy swydd bresennol bûm yn bennaeth yr adran Addysg Grefyddol ac yn bennaeth yr ysgol iau yn Ysgol Gyfun Emlyn, Sir Gâr.
- Gyda'r profiad hwn, teimlaf y gallaf wneud cyfraniad gwerthfawr i weithgor CCYSAGau Cymru a byddai'n fraint i barhau i wasanaethu arno.

Mary Parry Carmarthenshire SACRE

- I have been working in the field of Religious Education for many years and I am very passionate about the importance of the subject in developing well-rounded young people in Wales today.
- I have been the Religious Education Associate Advisor for Carmarthenshire (and its predecessor, Dyfed) for 19 years, and with reorganisation I am now also a Consortium School Improvement officer in the SWAMWAC region (South, West and Mid Wales Consortium).
- I am the professional officer to the Carmarthenshire SACRE. As such, I have been involved in drawing up the county's RE Agreed syllabuses and support materials and also, I have worked closely with external bodies such as DfES, WJEC and Estyn on matters relating to RE.
- I advise and support teachers on implementing the county Agreed Syllabus and on teaching RE effectively. I have provided many bilingual courses and resources for schools – both in Carmarthenshire and in other LAs in Wales.
- I have been an active member of the WASACRE executive committee for 17 years.
- I have taken an active role in WASACRE meetings and its other activities since its establishment in 1995.
- I have represented Wales on the AREIAC executive (the RE advisors' association in Great Britain) and currently represent WASACRE on EFTRE (the European forum for RE teachers).
- I inspect schools under Estyn contract. I was one of the three inspectors who undertook the Estyn remit for the inspection of RE across Wales this year.
- Before my present position, I was the head of RE and the head of lower school in Newcastle Emlyn Comprehensive school, Carmarthenshire.
- With this experience, I feel that I can make a valuable contribution to the WASACRE executive and would find it a privilege to continue to serve on it.

8. Parch. Roy Watson

Mae'r Parch. Roy Watson yn Weinidog Methodistiaidd sy'n gwasanaethu Abertylleri, Blaenau Gwent.

Mae profiad blaenorol a chyfredol y Parch. Watson fel a ganlyn:-

- Pennaeth AG, Ysgol Uwchradd Willows, Y Sblot, Caerdydd, 1976 – 1996
- Aelod o GYSAG De Morgannwg, 1992 – 1996
- Aelod o GYSAG Blaenau Gwent ers 1996
- Cadeirydd Llywodraethwyr Ysgol Gynradd Coed y Garn, Nant-y-glo, ers 1996
- Dyfarnwr Pêl-droed i Gymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru, 1980 – 2003
- Aelod o Dîm y Gaplaniaeth, 6^{ed} Dosbarth, Coleg Gwent, Glynabwy

Rev. Roy Watson

Rev. Roy Watson is a Methodist Minister covering Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent.

Rev. Watson's previous and current experience is as follows:-

- Head of RE, Willows High School, Splott, Cardiff – 1976 – 1996
- Member of South Glamorgan SACRE 1992 – 1996
- Member of Blaenau Gwent SACRE 1996 – present
- Chair of Governors, Coed y – Garn Primary School, Nantyglo 1996 – present
- Welsh Football Association. Soccer Referee 1980 – 2003
- Part of Chaplaincy Team, 6th Form, Coleg Gwent, Ebbw Vale

Enwebiadau ar gyfer Is-Gadeirydd y CCYSAGauC (19 Mehefin 2013)

Nominations for the position of Vice Chair for the Wales Association of SACREs (19 June 2013)

Gavin Craigen (CYSAG Sir Ddinbych, Cynrychiolydd REC)

Ymddeolodd Gavin Craigen ym mis Rhagfyr 2012 o'i swydd fel Cyfarwyddwr Canolfan St Giles ar gyfer Addysg Grefyddol a Datblygu Ffydd. Cyn hynny fe fu, am 19 blynedd, yn Arolygydd/ymgyngorydd Addysg Grefyddol ar gyfer Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru (Conwy, Sir Ddinbych a Sir y Fflint), ac ar gyfer Wrecsam am 5 mlynedd yn ogystal. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw bu hefyd yn Brif Arholwr CBAC ar gyfer TGAU mewn Astudiaethau Crefyddol (Spec B). Ef oedd y mentor arweiniol yng Nghymru ar gyfer prosiect AtGyfnertu Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Swyddfa Gartref, ac fe'i penodwyd hefyd yn Brif Safonwr ar gyfer y rhaglen 'Central Mid' yn CA3, a gwblhawyd ym Mehefin 2012. Bu'n aelod o PYCAG o 1992 tan 2012, a gwasanaethodd fel ei Gadeirydd am sawl blwyddyn. Mae wedi bod yn gysylltiedig â ChCYSAGauC ers ei dechreuad, a bu'n Ysgrifennydd cyntaf y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Crefyddol (IRS) am bum mlynedd. Gwasanaethodd hefyd fel Is-Gadeirydd a Chadeirydd. Er ei fod wedi ymddeol, mae Gavin Craigen yn dal ymlaen â'i gysylltiadau â materion AG drwy GYSAG Sir Ddinbych, fel aelod o Fwrdd Cyngor AG Cymru a Lloegr, a hefyd fel Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Crefyddol Gwasanaethau 'Addysg Gristnogol ac RE Today'.

Gavin Craigen (Denbighshire SACRE, REC representative)

Gavin Craigen retired in December 2012 from his post as Director of St Giles' Centre for Religious Education and Faith Development. Prior to that he was for 19 years Inspector/advisor for Religious Education for North East Wales (Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire) and for Wrexham for 5 years too. During that time he was also Chief Examiner for WJEC Religious Studies GCSE (Spec B). He was lead mentor in Wales for the Welsh Government and Home Office REsilience project, and was also appointed as Chief Moderator for the KS 3 Central Mid programme that was completed in June 2012. He has been a member of NAPFRE from 1992 to 2012, and served as its Chairperson for several years. He has been involved with WASACRE since its inception and was IRS first Secretary for five years. He has also been Vice Chair and Chair. Although retired, Gavin Craigen continues his involvement in RE matters through Denbighshire SACRE, as a member of the Board of the RE Council of England and Wales, and also as Chair of the Religious Services Committee of Christian Education and RE Today Services.