

Annual Report
of
Denbighshire
Standing Advisory Council
for Religious Education

2016 - 2017

Foreword

The Role of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education:

The principal roles of SACRE are:

- Advising the Local Authority on matters to do with Religious Education and collective worship, or Spiritual and Moral Development;
- Consider applications from Headteachers that their school be released from the statutory requirements for Collective Worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character (such applications are known as 'Determinations');
- Require a Local Authority to review its Agreed Syllabus;
- Monitor the provision of RE, collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority;
- Give advice on teacher agreed syllabus RE, including the choice of teacher materials;
- Advising the Local Authority on the provision of training for teachers (in RE);
- Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of RE and collective worship made to the Local Authority.
- To publish an Annual Report on its work.

The Composition of SACRE:

The statutory requirements for the setting up of SACREs require three committees of members:

- Representatives of Christian denominations or other religions and their denominations reflecting the principal religious traditions of the locality;
- Teacher representatives;
- County Council representatives.

There is also the right to co-opt members.

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Executive Summary

<i>Topics/Issues:</i>	<i>Advice given:</i>	<i>Implemented By LEA:</i>
RE: Agreed Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agreed syllabus conference continues to be deferred on the advice of WASACRE, due to the current curriculum reform. 	✓
RE: Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following consideration of Inspection Reports, schools are sent letters congratulating them for the good features. Results of the previous year's examinations for Religious Studies GCSE short course, full course and A level are presented and discussed. 	✓
RE: Choice of Teaching Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal guidance, but the additional support and guidance for the Agreed Syllabus includes reference to some teaching materials. 	✓
RE: Provision of ITT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No visits possible this year. 	
Collective Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following consideration of Inspection Reports, letters be sent to schools congratulating them for the good features. 	✓
Other Matters: Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SACRE continued to meet in local secondary schools this year. Members continue to discuss how best to monitor standards in schools. SACRE continues to support school collaboration groups, developing materials and resources to support the teaching of RE. SACRE continues to support school collaboration groups, developing materials and resources to support the monitoring of RE. SACRE members received details regarding the Lead Practitioner programme facilitating secondary RE teachers to plan and prepare for the new WJEC GCSE specifications (first teaching 2017). 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Other Matters: National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members receive regular updates of Estyn Inspection Reports or documents relating to RE and Collective Worship. Members be informed about developments and initiatives undertaken by DFES Skills. The SACRE maintain its membership of WASACRE, representatives attend and report back on the meetings of the association. WJEC analysis of Religious Studies examinations. WASACRE continues to ask SACRE's to evaluate and improve how they monitor and work with schools 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Other Matters: additional	No other additional matters.	
Complaints	No complaints received.	

The Annual Report

2. Advice Given to the Local Authority

(a) Religious Education:

i. The Agreed Syllabus

Denbighshire SACRE adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Denbighshire in 2008. The framework continues to be the basis of the Agreed Syllabus in Denbighshire. The Agreed Syllabus will be reviewed once the findings of the curriculum review are published.

A SACRE's main function is '...to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.' Education Reform Act 1988 s.11 (1) (a)

In the summer term, training has been provided for a few schools who will continue to work collaboratively to develop resources supporting the Agreed Syllabus.

The planning document 'Comprehensive Guide to RE' and 'RE in the Foundation Phase', which complement the Agreed Syllabus, continue to be requested and used by schools.

ii. Standards

Examination results

The SACRE received details of the examination results for 2016. All GCSE full course and short course results relate to pupils that have sat an RE examination and left compulsory Education.

424 pupils sat the full course in 2016, a considerable drop when compared with 550 in 2015. The full course results were slightly below the national average, 77.4% compared to 78.7%, and above last year's LA results by 3.8%.

312 pupils sat the short course in 2016, 19 more than the year before. The overall A*-C was 31.7%, 13.7% below the national results for all candidates, but a 6.1% increase on last year's local figures.

In 2016, 76 pupils sat an 'A' level in Religious Studies, 25 more than in 2015. For Advanced Level, the overall A* – C rate was 76.3%, 2.6% below the national average, and 10% below when compared with last year's local figures.

Inspection Reports

Due to the current Estyn inspection framework there are no subject judgments in the Estyn reports. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a school's provision of SMSC. See part c Collective Worship - Monitoring provision - Inspection reports.

b. Methods of teaching

The SACRE and the LA have previously provided comprehensive documents and materials in support of the Agreed Syllabus, and these contain advice on methods of teaching and delivery of RE.

No advice has been given to schools regarding methods of teaching in 2015-16.

The schools working collaboratively received training on the three core skills in RE.

Choosing teaching resources

The SACRE does not formally advise schools in the matter of purchasing teaching resources, deeming this to be a matter for the schools themselves.

The Lead Practitioner programme, funded by Welsh Government and organised by the local consortium (GwE) have encourage schools to share resources to support the planning and preparation for the new WJEC GCSE specification (first teaching 2017).

A small group of schools have met in the spring term to work collaboratively. The aim of this group is to develop curriculum resources that can be shared with all schools in the LA.

Provision of Initial Teacher Training

It had not been possible during the year to make a visit to or receive a visit from an Initial Teacher Training Institute.

c) Collective Worship

Monitoring provision

Inspection Reports

As part of the process of monitoring, Estyn Inspection Reports are analysed in terms of collective worship, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). These are compiled and noted by SACRE. Letters are sent to schools following the consideration of them in SACRE, commending good practice and offering support as may be necessary.

Over the year 4 schools' inspection reports were analysed under the current inspection framework.

<i>Positive Comments in overall judgements</i>	<i>No of schools</i>
Current performance	

<i>Positive Comments in quality indicators:</i>	<i>No of schools</i>
Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes?	
Standards	
Wellbeing	1
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	
Learning Experiences	4
Care support and guidance	4
Learning Environment	4
Key Question 3: How good is leadership and management?	

Partnership working	1
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1 school was inspected under the draft inspection framework, formally starting September 2017.

A comment regarding Religious Studies and the positive contribution it has towards pupils SMSC development was included in inspection area 4: Care Support and Guidance.

iii) Guidance Documents

Guidance documents created in previous years continue to be available to schools including 'A Comprehensive Guide to RE' and 'RE in the Foundation Phase'.

A small number of schools have worked collaboratively to develop guidance for all schools in the LA on aspects of monitoring and curriculum planning.

iv) Resources recommended

The guidance documents referred to above contain references to resources valued and recommended or evaluated by serving teachers. In addition, advice is offered in response to specific requests. Also schools are informed of resources through the RE News which is available to all schools electronically, they also have access to the Welsh National Centre for RE resources at Bangor University and also the St Mary's Centre for RE.

Self-evaluation materials continue to be promoted and are available on the REQM website.

The Lead Practitioner for Denbighshire facilitated an opportunity for RE teachers to share resources relevant for the new WJEC GCSE RE specification (first teaching 2017).

v) INSET for Collective Worship

No inset has been provided for Collective Worship in the current academic year.

vi) Evaluation of the effectiveness of guidance

No formal evaluation of the original guidance material has been undertaken, but responses from schools to the materials, and comments offered through school visits have indicated how much the schools have valued the materials and used them in planning and enhancing their provision.

vii) Determinations

No Determinations have been made.

3) Other Matters

a) Local

SACRE has conducted its business in one high school this year. Two further meetings have taken place in LA meeting rooms.

SACRE is continuing to support school to school collaborative groups that will develop curriculum and monitoring resources that will be shared with schools across the LA.

Members received a presentation from Denbighshire's RS lead practitioner. Funded by Welsh Government and organised by GwE, the lead practitioner is responsible for facilitating RS teachers to meet, discuss their concerns regarding the new WJEC RS specification and to share and create resources.

b) National

Although the Lead Practitioner programme has a local facilitator, it is a programme that has been provided across Wales.

Members continue to receive presentations regarding the implications of the Donaldson Review on Religious Education and the development of the pioneer network.

(i) Estyn:

Inspection Reports on schools were received and analysed, as reported. The new inspection framework was discussed briefly, one Denbighshire school was inspected under the draft arrangements. The new arrangements will form the new inspection framework from September 2017.

(ii) DFES:

The SACRE has been informed of developments and initiatives undertaken by or through the Department for Education and Skills. The Agreed Syllabus Conference has been postponed until DFES publishes its planned changes to the curriculum.

(iii) WASACRE

Members of SACRE and the LA were represented at all the meetings of WASACRE, and received some of the presentations that had been made. SACRE continued to receive reports from representatives attending the meetings of the Association, and also receiving of minutes and papers from WASACRE.

(iv) Complaints

No complaints were received by the SACRE.

4. Appendices:

a) Composition of SACRE

Representing Religious Denominations:

Church in Wales

Sylvia Harris
Simon Cameron

Roman Catholic

Mary Ludenbach

Baptist Union

Nomination awaited (Welsh)
Nomination awaited (English)

Presbyterian

Rev. Brian H Jones (Welsh)
Christine Thomas (English)

Methodist

Rev. Martin Evans-Jones

United Reformed

Nomination awaited

Union of Welsh Independents

Nomination awaited

Religious Society of Friends

Dominic Oakes

Salvation Army

Captain Sian Radford

Evangelical Movement Wales

Nomination awaited

Representing Teacher Associations:

Secondary Headteacher

Nomination awaited

Junior Headteacher

Nomination awaited

Secondary RE Specialists

Cate Harmsworth

Infant Headteacher

Nomination awaited

Special School Teachers

Ms.Ali Ballantyne

Junior Classroom Teacher

Nomination awaited

Infant Classroom Teacher

Nomination awaited

Representing Denbighshire County Council

Councillor Bill Tasker (Autumn & Spring term)
Councillor Arwell Roberts (Autumn & Spring term)
Councillor Gwyneth Kensler (Spring term)
Councillor Tony Flynn (Summer term)
Councillor Emrys Wynne (Summer term)

Councillor Ann Davies (Autumn & Spring term)
Councillor Joe Welch
Councillor Ellie Chard (Summer term)
Councillor Tony Thomas (Summer term)

Co-opted Members:

Tania Ap Sion – Director of the St. Mary's Centre

b) Number and dates of meetings

SACRE meetings:

19th October 2016

13th February 2017

5th July 2017

c) Organisations receiving the report

- DFES
- The report is available on the WASACRE website for interested organisations

Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych – Tabl 1
Denbighshire Schools – Table 1

CANLYNIADAU TAGAU 2016: PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL
GCSE RESULTS 2016: ALL – RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Key Stage 4 Religious Studies Results 2016																											ALL PUPILS									
GCSE Full Course			Analysis By Grade																								Pass Percentages									
			A*		A		B		C		D		E		F		G		U		X		Total Entries		A*-A		A*-C		A*-G							
ALI / LA	Rhif yr Ysgol / School I	Enw'r Ysgol / School Name	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
663	6634003	Rhyl High School	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
663	6634014	Prestatyn High School	13	6.5	42	21.1	57	28.6	49	24.6	16	8.0	12	6.0	8	4.0	2	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	199	100.0	55	27.6	161	80.9	199	100.0	199	100.0		
663	6634020	Ysgol Uwchradd Glan Clwyd	3	15.0	1	5.0	8	40.0	5	25.0	1	5.0	2	10.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	100.0	4	20.0	17	85.0	20	100.0	20	100.0		
663	6634026	Denbigh High School	0	0.0	3	20.0	3	20.0	3	20.0	0	0.0	4	26.7	1	6.7	1	6.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	100.0	3	20.0	9	60.0	15	100.0	15	100.0		
663	6634027	Ysgol Dinas Bran	4	5.7	10	14.3	13	18.6	13	18.6	12	17.1	12	17.1	5	7.1	1	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	70	100.0	14	20.0	40	57.1	70	100.0	70	100.0		
663	6634031	Ysgol Brynhyfryd	8	42.1	6	31.6	5	26.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	19	100.0	14	73.7	19	100.0	19	100.0	19	100.0		
663	6634601	Blessed Edward Jones High School	0	0.0	7	14.3	13	26.5	13	26.5	3	6.1	7	14.3	5	10.2	1	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	49	100.0	7	14.3	33	67.3	49	100.0	49	100.0		
663	6635901	St Brigid's School	10	19.2	20	38.5	16	30.8	3	5.8	3	5.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	52	100.0	30	57.7	49	94.2	52	100.0	52	100.0		
	663	Denbighshire	38	9.0	89	21.0	115	27.1	86	20.3	35	8.3	37	8.7	19	4.5	5	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	424	100.0	127	30.0	328	77.4	424	100.0	424	100.0		
All Pupils		11,051	9.4		18.4		23.8		20.4		9.3		7.7		5.4		3.3								33.8		78.7		98.8							

Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych – Tabl 2
Denbighshire Schools – Table 2

CANLYDIADAU TGAU 2016 PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU GREFYDDOL: CWRS BYR
GCSE RESULTS 2016: ALL – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SHORT COURSE

Key Stage 4 Religious Studies Results 2016																											ALL PUPILS			
GCSE Short Course			Analysis By Grade																						Pass Percentages					
			A*		A		B		C		D		E		F		G		U		X		Total Entries		A*-A		A*-C		A*-G	
ALI / LA	Rhif yr Ysgol / School I	Enw'r Ysgol / School Name	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
663	6634003	Rhyl High School	1	0.9	7	6.3	14	12.6	12	10.8	18	16.2	26	23.4	8	7.2	8	7.2	12	10.8	5	4.5	111	100.0	8	7.2	34	30.6	94	84.7
663	6634014	Prestatyn High School	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	9.8	23	37.7	5	8.2	7	11.5	13	21.3	2	3.3	3	4.9	2	3.3	61	100.0	0	0.0	29	47.5	56	91.8
663	6634020	Ysgol Uwchradd Glan Clwyd	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
663	6634026	Denbigh High School	0	0.0	7	10.0	9	12.9	18	25.7	11	15.7	11	15.7	6	8.6	5	7.1	2	2.9	1	1.4	70	100.0	7	10.0	34	48.6	67	95.7
663	6634027	Ysgol Dinas Bran	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.0	0	0.0	3	6.0	10	20.0	15	30.0	18	36.0	3	6.0	50	100.0	0	0.0	1	2.0	29	58.0
663	6634031	Ysgol Brynhyfryd	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
663	6634601	Blessed Edward Jones High School	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	13.3	1	6.7	2	13.3	4	26.7	3	20.0	2	13.3	1	6.7	15	100.0	0	0.0	2	13.3	12	80.0
663	6635901	St Brigid's School	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
	663	Denbighshire	1	0.3	14	4.5	28	9.0	56	17.9	37	11.9	49	15.7	43	13.8	33	10.6	37	11.9	14	4.5	312	100.0	15	4.8	99	31.7	261	83.7
All Pupils			11,666		3.6		7.8		13.6		20.4		12.6		12.6		11.1		8.9				11.4		45.4		90.6			

Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych – Tabl 3
Denbighshire Schools – Table 3

CANLYNIADAU SAFON UWCH 2016 – PAWB ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL
GCE ADVANCED LEVEL RESULTS 2016: ALL – RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Key Stage 5 Religious Studies Results 2016 (Final)																								ALL PUPILS				
A Level			Analysis By Grade																		Pass Percentages							
			A*		A		B		C		D		E		U		X		Total Entries		A*-A		A*-C		A*-E			
ALI / LA	Rhif yr Ysgol / School I	Enw'r Ysgol / School Name	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
663	6634014	Prestatyn High School	0	0.0	2	4.8	14	33.3	12	28.6	11	26.2	3	7.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	42	100.0	2	4.8	28	66.7	42	100.0
663	6634020	Ysgol Uwchradd Glan Clwyd	2	50.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	100.0	2	50.0	4	100.0	4	100.0
663	6634026	Denbigh High School	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	3	42.9	2	28.6	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	100.0	0	0.0	4	57.1	7	100.0
663	6634031	Ysgol Brynhyfryd	0	0.0	4	50.0	3	37.5	1	12.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	100.0	4	50.0	8	100.0	8	100.0
663	6635901	St Brigid's School	0	0.0	3	20.0	9	60.0	2	13.3	1	6.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	100.0	3	20.0	14	93.3	15	100.0
	663	Denbighshire	2	2.6	9	11.8	29	38.2	18	23.7	14	18.4	4	5.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	76	100.0	11	14.5	58	76.3	76	100.0
All Pupils		1,446	3.5		14.8		32.9		27.7		15.5		4.7								18.3		78.9		99.1			