

**Annual Report**  
**of**  
**Denbighshire**  
**Standing Advisory Council**  
**for Religious Education**

**2012 - 2013**

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## The Annual Report.

### 1. Executive Summary

<i>Topics/Issues:</i>	<i>Advice given:</i>	<i>Implemented By LEA:</i>
RE: Agreed Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Agreed Syllabus and Comprehensive Guide for RE are continuing to be used in schools to inform their planning and preparation.</li> </ul>	✓
RE: Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following consideration of Inspection Reports, schools be sent letters congratulating them for the good features and offering the services of the Senior Learning Adviser RE or School Improvement Officers in addressing issues;</li> <li>Following consideration of Supportive Review Visits, schools be sent letters congratulating their good features and offering the services of the Senior Learning Adviser RE or School Improvement Officers in addressing any areas for development.</li> </ul>	✓  ✓
RE: Methods of Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The additional guidance and support for the Agreed Syllabus to include guidance on teaching and learning; advice on methodology included in visits to schools by the Senior Learning Adviser RE.</li> </ul>	✓
RE: Choice of Teaching Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No formal guidance, but the additional support and guidance for the Agreed Syllabus includes reference to some teaching materials.</li> <li>Good practice and sharing forums have provided resources, showcased and shared across primary RE coordinators.</li> <li>The creation of a county publication called 'RE in the foundation phase' has also been recommended and sent to all schools in Flintshire, training on the use of the document has also been offered to all schools.</li> </ul>	✓  ✓  ✓
RE: Provision of ITT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No visits possible this year.</li> </ul>	

Collective Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following consideration of Inspection Reports, letters be sent to schools congratulating them for the good features and offering the services of the Senior Learning Advisor RE or School Improvement Officers to address any issues.</li> </ul>	✓
Other Matters: Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'RE in the foundation phase' continues to be used across Flintshire. It is available to all schools electronically.</li> <li>The Comprehensive Guide to RE is available to all schools in an editable electronic version.</li> <li>An RE, literacy and Numeracy competition has enabled the creation of a resource to inspire good practice in schools</li> <li>Sponsored walk for REC bought together members from 3 SACRE's</li> </ul>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Other Matters: National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members receive regular updates of Estyn Inspection Reports or documents relating to RE and Collective Worship;</li> <li>Members be informed about developments and initiatives undertaken by DFES;</li> <li>The SACRE maintain its membership of WASACRE and that representatives attend and report back on the meetings of the association.</li> </ul>	✓ ✓ ✓
Other Matters: additional	No other additional matters.	
Complaints	No complaints received.	

## **2. Advice given to LEA**

### **a) Religious Education**

#### **The Agreed Syllabus**

The agreed Syllabus continues to aid schools in revising and updating their schemes of work. From visits by the Senior Learning Advisor RE to schools, and from reports made by teachers and head teachers, the Agreed Syllabus (based on the *National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3 – 19 year olds in Wales*) and the supporting Comprehensive Guide to Religious Education had been well received by teachers and schools. Commendations of the material continue to be made. Editable electronic versions of the documents are now available to all schools.

Some schools are still in the process of revising their schemes of work in light of the 2008 agreed syllabus. Updating schools schemes of work in light of the 2008 agreed syllabus is still a recommendation being used by the Senior Learning Advisor RE.

The addition of 'RE in the foundation phase' has encouraged foundation phase practitioners to integrate Religious Education in to the various provision areas in the classroom. This document is available to all schools electronically.

#### **Standards**

##### Examination results

The February meeting of SACRE received details of the examination results for 2011.

Members were pleased that overall the results for all learners at GCSE Full Course were 14.4% (83.55%) above the national average (73.6%).

The short course GCSE results continue to be disappointing, compared with national trends. The results were down on the previous year (23.6%) and remain below the national figures (59.3%), 35.7% below for all candidates.

The members were informed of some schools using the short course to ensure that the majority of pupils receive a qualification in RE and stream the more able candidates to the full course.

Advanced Level results for all learners were 1.3% (81.7%) above the national average (80.4%)

### 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 Estyns comments of a schools provision of SMSC. See part c Collective Worship - Monitoring provision - Inspection reports

### Supportive Review Visits

There were no supportive review visits to Denbigshire High Schools' Consortium of Schools this academic year.

### **b. Methods of teaching**

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

In addition, advice on teaching methods is contained in the visits to schools of the Senior Learning Advisor, for Supportive Review monitoring, planned support or for school based INSET sessions.

INSET sessions have been conducted as a part of the criteria in the Better Schools Fund in terms of meeting the requirements of the revised school curriculum. These sessions have been well attended and found useful and informative by schools.

The twilight INSET sessions for primary coordinators continued this year.

The document 'RE in the Foundation Phase' continues to encourage RE to be taught within the integrated provision areas of the classroom.

### **Choosing teaching resources**

The SACRE has not formally advised schools in the matter of purchasing teaching resources, deeming this to be a matter for the schools themselves. However, through the visits of the Senior Learning Advisor – for Supportive Review monitoring, for planned support, and for school based INSET sessions –

advice is given. Additionally, specific requests are made to the Inspector/Adviser for advice on teaching resources.

The twilight INSET offered opportunities for primary RE teachers to discuss resources and good practice.

### **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, but it is hoped that this process can be continued in a future year.

#### **c) Collective Worship**

##### **i. Monitoring provision**

##### **Inspection Reports**

As part of the process of monitoring, Estyn Inspection Reports are analysed in terms of collective worship, spiritual, moral and social and cultural development (SMSC). These are compiled and noted by SACRE.

Over the year schools' inspection reports analysed in 8 schools were judged. Positive areas for SMSC were identified as follows:

- |                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| • Learning experiences KQ2       | 8 Schools |
| • Care, support and guidance KQ2 | 8 Schools |
| • Learning environment KQ2       | 6 Schools |
| • Partnership working KQ3        | 6 Schools |
| • Wellbeing KQ1                  | 5 Schools |
| • Leadership KQ3                 | 2 Schools |
| • Partnership Working KQ3        | 2 Schools |

A letter was sent to schools following the consideration of their Inspection Report, commending the good practice, offered assistance in any shortcomings. Schools have found this process to be valuable and helpful.

##### **Supportive Review Visits -**

There were no supportive review visits during this academic year

### **iii) Guidance Documents**

As staff move schools and new staff are appointed, they are made aware of guidance documents on Collective Worship and RE. 'A comprehensive guide to RE', 'That's the Spirit' and 'RE in the Foundation Phase' developed by three authorities are often referenced to in recommendations to schools by the Senior Learning Advisor RE. These documents are available electronically.

### **iv) Resources recommended**

The guidance documents referred to above contain references to resources valued and recommended or evaluated by serving teachers. Additional advice is offered by the Senior Learning Advisor RE through visits to schools, whether for the Supportive Review monitoring visits, planned support visits, or specific school based INSET sessions. In addition, advice is offered in response to specific requests. Also schools are informed of resources through the RE News which is distributed to all schools, and they have access to the Welsh National Centre for RE resources at Bangor University and also the St Mary's Centre for RE.

The document, 'RE in the Foundation Phase' is also available for all Denbighshire schools as a resource as well as a guidance document.

### **v) INSET for Collective Worship**

No courses have been provided as a result of the criteria for the Better Schools Funding not enabling such courses to be funded.

### **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.

### **Determinations**

The British Humanist Association have requested representation on SACRE



### **3) Other Matters**

#### **a) Local**

Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy SACRE's initiated a competition to encourage the use of Literacy and Numeracy within RE. All entries have been included in a resource that will be sent to all schools in the 3 authorities. Money from REMW has been used to pay for the prize money and the translation of all the entries.

Members received a presentation on the changes that the Local Authority would receive in relation to Curriculum support including that of Religious Education.

#### **b) National**

##### **(i) Estyn:**

Inspection Reports on schools were received and analysed, as reported.

##### **(ii) DfES:**

The SACRE has been informed of developments and initiatives undertaken by or through the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills. Members received information relating to the securing teacher assessment initiative at KS3.

##### **(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  
Elaine Wright

###### Roman Catholic

Mary Ludenbach  
*Nomination awaited*

###### 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

Mrs V. Barlow

###### Junior Headteacher

*Nomination awaited*

###### Secondary RE Specialists

Cate Harmsworth

###### Infant Headteacher

*Nomination awaited*

###### Special School Teachers

Ms. Ali Ballantyne

###### Junior Classroom Teacher

Maxine Bradshaw

###### Infant Classroom Teacher

*Nomination awaited*

##### Representing Denbighshire County Council

Councillor Margaret McCarroll  
Councillor Arwell Roberts  
Councillor Joe Welch

Councillor Dewi Owens  
Councillor Bill Tasker  
Councillor Carys Guy

Councillor Juilan Thompson-Hill

**Co-opted Members**

St Mary's Centre for Religious Education:  
Tania Ap Sion

REMW:  
*Nomination awaited*

St Giles Centre for Religious Education:  
Gavin Craigen

**b) Number and dates of meetings**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2013  
10<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**c) Organisations receiving the report**

**DfES**  
**All LA Schools**  
**LAs of Wales**  
**WASACRE**  
**Diocese of Bangor**  
**Diocese of St Asaph**

**Welsh National Centre for RE**  
**Trinity College Carmarthen**  
**Evangelical Alliance**  
**Diocese of Wrexham**

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D) Focussed evidence: Statistics

*Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych Tabl 1*  
Denbighshire Schools – Table 1

**CANLYNIADAU TAGAU 2012: PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL**  
**GCSE RESULTS 2012: ALL – RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

<i>Ysgolion Schools</i>	<i>Cyfanswm Totals</i>	A*	%	A	%	B	%	C	%	D	%	E	%	F	%	G	%	U	%	% A* - C	% A* - G
<i>Dinbych Denbigh</i>	21	0	0.0	3	14.0	6	29.0	6	29.0	2	10.0	2	10.0	1	5.0	1	5.0	0	0.0	72.0	100
Glan Clwyd	5	0	0.0	2	40.0	2	40.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	100
Prestatyn	240	24	10.0	58	24.0	72	30.0	48	20.0	17	7.0	9	4.0	7	3.0	5	2.0	0	0.0	84.2	100
Dinas Bran	48	4	8.0	8	17.0	9	19.0	13	27.0	8	17.0	3	6.0	3	6.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	70.8	100
Brynhyfryd	34	14	41.0	12	35.0	6	18.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	94.0	100
<i>Y Rhyl/Rhyl</i>	59	2	3.4	7	11.9	16	27.1	25	42.4	8	13.6	0	0.0	1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	84.7	100
<i>Ben Ed Jones/Bl. Ed Jones</i>	54	0	0.0	9	17.0	14	26.0	16	30.0	6	11.0	5	9.0	4	7.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	72.2	100
<i>Santes Ffraid/ St Brigids</i>	54	26	48.0	12	22.0	13	24.0	2	4.0	0	0.0	1	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	98.1	100
<i>Cyfanswm AAL/ LEA Totals</i>	515	70	13.6	111	21.5	138	26.8	111	21.5	41	8.0	22	4.3	16	3.1	6	0.2	0	0.0	83.5	100
<b><i>Holl Cymru All Wales</i></b>	10409	1551	14.9	2040	19.6	2238	21.5	1832	17.6	1145	11.0	760	7.3	427	4.1	250	2.4	166	1.6	73.6	98.4

**Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych – Tabl 2**  
**Denbighshire Schools – Table 2**

**CANLYDIADAU TGAU 2012 PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU GREFYDDOL: CWRS BYR**  
**GCSE RESULTS 2012: ALL – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SHORT COURSE**

<i>Ysgolion/ Schools</i>	<i>Cyfanswm/ Totals</i>	<b>A*</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% A*-C</b>	<b>% A* - G</b>
<i>Dinbych Denbigh</i>	99	0	0.0	3	3.0	13	13.0	16	16.0	20	20.0	18	18.0	10	10.0	13	13.0	6	0.0	<b>32.3</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Glan Clwyd</i>	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	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Prestatyn</i>	27	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	7.0	0	0.0	3	7.0	8	30.0	14	52.0	0	0.0	<b>7.0</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Dinas Bran</i>	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	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Brynhyfryd</i>	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	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Y Rhyl/Rhyl</i>	84	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.0	15	18.0	19	23.0	17	20.0	19	23.0	3	4.0	9	7.0	<b>20.2</b>	<b>89.3</b>
<i>Ben Ed Jones/Bl. Ed Jones</i>	10	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	20.0	6	60.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Santes Ffraid/ St Brigids</i>	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	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Cyfanswm AALL LEA Totals</i>	220	0	0.0	3	1.4	15	6.8	33	15.0	41	18.6	44	20.0	38	17.3	31	14.1	15	6.8	<b>23.6</b>	<b>93.2</b>
<i>Holl Cymru All Wales</i>	19182	1650	8.6	2570	13.4	3606	18.8	3549	18.5	2705	14.1	2129	11.1	1458	7.6	978	5.1	537	2.8	<b>59.3</b>	<b>97.2</b>

Ysgolion Sir Ddinbych – Tabl 3 – CANLYNIADAU SAFON UWCH 2012 – PAWB ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL  
**Denbighshire Schools – Table 3 GCE ADVANCED LEVEL RESULTS 2012: ALL – RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

<i>Ysgolion Schools</i>	<i>Cyfanswm Totals</i>	<b>A*</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% A* - C</b>	<b>% A* - E</b>
<i>Dinbych Denbigh</i>	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Glan Clwyd	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Prestatyn	33	0	0.0	3	9.0	10	30.0	10	30.0	9	27.0	1	3.0	0	0.0	<b>69.0</b>	<b>100</b>
Dinas Bran	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Brynhyfryd	7	1	14.0	1	14.0	3	43.0	2	29.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Y Rhyl/Rhyl</i>	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Ben Ed Jones/Bl. Ed Jones</i>	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Santes Ffraid St Brigids</i>	15	1	7.0	3	20.0	7	47.0	4	27.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Cyfanswm AALL LEA Totals</i>	55	2	3.6	7	12.7	20	36.3	16	29.1	9	16.3	1	1.8	0	0.0	<b>81.7</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>Holl Cymru All Wales</i>	<b>1690</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>80.4</b>	<b>98.3</b>

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