

Paper for SACRE about Websites searches and responding letters.

December SACRE 2018

Reasons for non actions since the last SACRE meeting in June 2018

For two reasons I have not acted on the recommendations from the last SACRE meeting:

1. Following the last meeting I attended the Bristol SACRE where the same item was on the agenda. The Bristol Schools' adviser for the local authority whilst praising the work of SACRE stated that several of the schools that we wished to send questioning letters to were in RI or special measures and dire contexts of staff shortage. Therefore to send a negative letter at this time may just add weight to an already fractured context and the capacity to respond to such a criticism positively was very unlikely. So listening to this advice I decided to stall on the Swindon letter writing initiative too, suspecting that some of the Swindon schools would be in a similar context. Therefore the messages would be better received if they were mainly supportive rather than of a "policing compliance" tone.
2. I was unwell and off work for a month with Sciatica over August and the beginning of September and so have been at reduced capacity and catching up.

Proposal going forward.

A) We define the schools whose websites have been checked as "Red, Amber or Green " and send them the appropriate corresponding letter - whose tone is largely supportive but does convey an observation and tone of interest that communicates celebration through to concern. These letters also offer mainly support and where to go to improve their website content.

B) KS has classified the schools that have already been scrutinised - and we will arrange for the appropriate letter to be sent to the school using an LA or SACRE adviser e-mail but signed (electronically) by the Chair.

C) Members of SACRE will agree to scrutinise the remaining schools websites and send on that information under the simplified classification so the appropriate letter can be sent.

Actions for Today's meeting

1. Does SACRE agree with this way forward?
2. Can SACRE comment and improve the criteria and the letters to be sent?
3. Can members of SACRE agree to survey a few more schools by the end of term?