

SACRE Development Plan

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 9th March 2009

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Adviser

Parish / Wards Affected: All

Purpose

- To request the SACRE to agree the development plan for its work for April 2009 to March 2010 and consider questionnaires to gather information from schools.

Recommendation

- That the SACRE agrees its development plan for its work for April 2009 to March 2010 as at Appendix 1.
- That the SACRE considers and approves use of the Questionnaires to Primary and Secondary RE Coordinators set out at Appendix 2 and 3.

1. Reasons

- 1.1 It is appropriate for the SACRE to agree a development plan to carry out its priorities and to fulfil its statutory role. Last year the SACRE confirmed an overarching plan for its work for 2007-2010. The current proposed plan sets out in more detail the activities for the period April 2009 to March 2010.

2. Detail

- 2.1 At the last meeting the SACRE considered and agreed its Annual report for 2007/08, and confirmed that its development plan for the coming year should be shaped by any gaps identified through the Annual Report. The SACRE Adviser has drafted a new Development Plan on this basis.
- 2.2 A copy of the draft Development Plan for April 2009- March 2010 is attached at Appendix 1. The SACRE is requested to consider and agree whether this is an articulation of its main priorities.
- 2.3 Attached at Appendices 2 and 3 are questionnaires to be sent to RE co-ordinators in Swindon Schools. The Annual Report highlighted the need for better intelligence in relation to the resources and teaching of RE in schools. It is proposed that the attached questionnaires are used to enable the SACRE to fulfil its statutory role and establish a picture of provision, to assist it to better support effective religious education.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Sarah Lawrence on 01793 463603, Email slawrence@swindon.gov.uk

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Alternative Options

- The SACRE may wish to adjust its priorities for the coming year.

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- The costs of the activities set out in the development plan, including Adviser support costs, are met from annual £5000 SACRE Budget, except where specifically indicated in relation to the Face to Faith Project and CPD recharged training sessions. General administration and meeting costs for the SACRE are met from within the Committee and Member Services budget.

Legal / Human Rights Implications

- This report has no specific legal or human rights implications.

Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Corporate Plan aims to improve the opportunities for children and young people.

Consultees

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.
- Director of Schools and Learning
- Gill Ilic, Principal Advisor

Background Papers and Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Draft Development Plan for April 2009 – March 2010
- Appendix 2 – Secondary Schools Questionnaire
- Appendix 3 – Primary Schools Questionnaire