

Feedback from Cluster Meetings

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 9 March 2009

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services / SACRE Adviser

Parish / Wards Affected: All

Purpose

- To update the SACRE on the discussions at Cluster Meetings.

Recommendation

SACRE is requested -

- To note the report.
- To consider any actions arising for the SACRE from the Cluster Meeting.

1. Reasons

- 1.1 The SACRE has a duty to help schools fulfil their statutory obligations with regard to religious education.
- 1.2 It is important that the SACRE be kept informed about the provision for religious education and collective worship in schools in the Borough and the support being provided to schools.

2. Detail

- 2.1 The SACRE Adviser meets with teachers of religious education in both primary and secondary schools through regular cluster meetings.
- 2.2 The notes from the last Primary Cluster meeting are attached at Appendix 1. One of the key areas for discussion was the use of the AERIAC Toolkit, as recommended at the last SACRE meeting, and an agreement to move forward with a version of the AERIAC toolkit, and mutual support to enable use of the toolkit to evaluate teaching and learning.
- 2.3 The Secondary Cluster meeting was due to be held in the week beginning 2nd February, but had to be rearranged to 11 March 2009 due to the snow.
- 2.4 The SACRE Adviser will highlight at the meeting the key outcomes from the cluster meeting, and any actions that the SACRE might wish to consider as a result.

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

- None

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- The costs for the SACRE Advisor meeting with the secondary and primary clusters is met from within the SACRE budget, which is £5000 per annum.

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, and to support local communities by empowering people to participate in local decision-making and overcoming social exclusion.

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 Adviser

Background Papers and Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Notes from the Primary Cluster Meeting