

RE in Schools – Update from Swindon SACRE

The purpose of the Swindon SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) is to help to support schools when teaching RE. Key updates from its September meeting are:

a) Exemplification Materials for RE

The Department for Education has recently published assessment exemplification materials for foundation subjects, including RE. These offer teachers a clear view of progression and appropriate challenge to assist with lesson planning. They are currently available on the QCDA website: <http://curriculum.qcda.gov.uk/key-stages-3-and-4/assessment/exemplification/index.aspx>

b) Awards for Schools

Two awards schemes have recently been launched:

- Accord Award 2010 (for promoting equality, inclusion and diversity of belief) (<http://accordcoalition.org.uk/accord-award-2010>) (Closes: 2 November)
- Church Schools Award (for making a difference locally, nationally and internationally) (<http://www.churchschoolawards.com>) (Closes: 31 October)

c) Locally Agreed Syllabus – Review

The Agreed Syllabus Conference has been set up to review the Swindon Locally Agreed Syllabus for RE. Thank you to all RE Coordinators and Teachers who provided feedback on the current syllabus over the summer and what you would like to see in the next one. If you have not yet submitted your views, please send comments by 4 December to the SACRE Advisor (see below).

d) Primary and Secondary RE Best Practice Network Meetings.

Regular meetings are held to enable RE teachers and coordinators to support each other, and all are welcome. For further information contact the SACRE Advisor (see below).

Primary Network dates: -

- 20th January 2011 (3.45 – 5.30 pm) – Oliver Tomkins Infants
Topic: The Foundation Stage – Review of Solihull Material and New ideas
- 12th May 2011 (3.45 -5.30 pm) – St Francis Primary
Topic: Enquiry Based Compelling Learning – Ideas for exciting RE

Secondary Network dates: -

- 26th January 2011 (3.45 – 5.30 pm) – venue to be confirmed.
Topic: GCSE – How do we get better grades for our pupils: What works?
- 16th June 2011 (3.45 -5.30 pm) – Commonweal School
Topic: Enquiry Based Compelling Learning – Ideas for exciting RE

Contact: SACRE Advisor, katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org or 0117 906 0100.