

Update on Network Meetings

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 27th September 2011

Author: SACRE Advisor

Parish / Wards Affected: All

Purpose

- To update the SACRE on the Network Meetings for RE Teachers and Co-ordinators in Swindon

Recommendation

SACRE is requested -

- To note the report.
- To consider any actions arising for the SACRE from the Network Meetings.

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 Advisor meets with teachers of religious education in both primary and secondary schools through regular network meetings.
- 2.2 A list of the meetings planned for 2011/12 is attached at Appendix '1'.
- 2.3 The first secondary network meeting took place on 14 September 2011 at Swindon Academy, in relation to the subject of an Enquiry based approach to RE, and this went well, although attendance was low. Through the meeting it was understood that all the secondary academies have set up a teaching and learning group to support the teaching of RE, and this will begin to meet at the end of September. As it is anticipated that all Secondary Schools in Swindon will become academies during this year, the SACRE Advisor is exploring if it would be better for the SACRE to seek to establish a link to this group, rather than continue to provide separate

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secondary cluster meetings. The SACRE Advisor will provide an update to the meeting on any progress.

- 2.4 The first primary network meeting will have taken place on 22nd September at Oliver Tomkins CE VA Infant School in relation to Early Years and Foundation Stage and RE. The participants are invited to provide feedback on the session.

Alternative Options

- None

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- The costs for the SACRE Advisor meeting with the secondary and primary network meetings 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

- The work of the SACRE contributes to the Council's 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
- Sarah Foulkes, Primary Link Adviser

Background Papers and Appendices

- None