

Update on Network Meetings

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Date: 27th March 2012

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.
- To consider any issues that the SACRE would wish to highlight to the next meeting of the Secondary Teaching and Learning Group for RE.

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 has previously arranged regular meetings with teachers of religious education in both primary and secondary.
- 2.2 However, it was recognised at a previous meeting that the new Humanities Teaching and Learning Group for Academies was focused on RE at secondary level, and it was decided to merge both groups. Unfortunately, the SACRE Advisor was unable to attend the last Teaching and Learning group for Secondary RE for Academies and is able to attend the next scheduled meeting. However, the Advisor will ensure for the next Academic year that diaries coincide and that she can serve this group if it is desired.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples on 0117 927 7454 or katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org.uk

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- 2.3 The notes of the last meeting of the Humanities Teaching and Learning Group for RE are attached at Appendix '1'. Lottie Rowe and any other attendees are invited to report back to the SACRE on any particular issues of note. The Group did indicate that it would most beneficial for their meeting to merge with the current Network meetings, and there is a regular item on the agenda to report back on issues from SACRE. The SACRE is asked if it wishes to highlight any particular issues to the next meeting of the Teaching and Learning Group, to be held on 18th April 2012.
- 2.4 A primary network meeting took place on 19 January 2012 at Orchid Vale Primary School and focused on Developing Spirituality in RE. 10 people attended and the meeting focused on the Ofsted Requirements for SMSC (Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural aspects of learning) and strategies for engagement and monitoring of Spiritual Development in RE.

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, School Improvement Adviser

Background Papers and Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Notes of the last meeting of the Humanities Teaching and Learning Group for RE.

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