

National Developments in Religious Education (RE)

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

17 July 2012

Author: SACRE Advisor /
Head of Commissioning - Economy /Attainment

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To update the SACRE on national developments in relation to Religious Education.
- 1.2 The SACRE has a duty to help schools fulfil their statutory obligations with regard to religious education and to do so needs to keep up to date on the latest national developments in RE.

2. Recommendations

The SACRE is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the update on national developments and to consider any response which might be required by the SACRE in relation to these developments.

3. Detail

National Developments General Update

- 3.1 The SACRE Advisor will update the SACRE on a range of national developments set out in Appendix '1' as set out below , and invite any questions as to the implications for the delivery and monitoring of RE in the Borough:
 - New Ofsted Framework – description of four key judgements.
 - Religious Education Council full review of RE.
 - New RE Curriculum for Methodist Schools.
 - The introduction of The RE Quality Mark (REQM) to recognise good practice in religious education.
 - Holocaust memorial day arrangements.
 - The Day: a daily news analysis teaching resource which is available.

NASACRE AGM and Leaflet

- 3.2 The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE) AGM took place on 23 May 2012, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting is attached at Appendix '2' for information. NASACRE has recently produced a new leaflet for leaders in academies informing them of the benefits of working closely with their local

National Developments in Religious Education (RE)

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

17 July 2012

SACREs, which is attached at Appendix '3'. The SACRE is asked if it would wish to provide a copy of this to Academies in Swindon.

RE Conference at Dillington House

- 3.3 The SACRE Advisor reported back at the last meeting on her attendance at the conference at Dillington House for South West SACRE Leaders, at which she was a session leader. A copy of notes from a SACRE Member who attended the conference is attached at Appendix '4' for information. These include a summary of the research by Barbra Wintersgill on 'What Do Teenagers Think That Spirit/Spirituality Is? The SACRE is invited to consider any implications from the conference for its support of the delivery of RE in schools.

Trust funding for RE

- 3.4 It has been announced that two trusts which give grants for the support for religious education in UK schools are combining into one on 2 July 2012. St Gabriel's Trust and the Culham Educational Foundation will become Culham St Gabriel's. A copy of the press release is attached at Appendix '5'. Consideration should be given by the SACRE as to whether schools should be informed as to how to seek such trust funding from the new body.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no alternative options for the SACRE.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications relating to this report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 There are no specific legal or human rights implications relating to this report.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 No other implications have been identified.

Links to One Swindon, Strategic Objectives, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The work of the SACRE supports Theme 5 of the Community Strategy, for Swindon to be a place where high aspirations are supported by superb education provision for all ages.

National Developments in Religious Education (RE)

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

17 July 2012

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report, as it does not relate to a specific policy or strategy change.

Risk Management

- 5.6 There are no risk management factors which have been identified in relation to this report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 - National Developments General Update.
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – Minutes of NASACRE AGM
- 8.3 Appendix 3 – NASACRE Leaflet about SACRE for Academies
- 8.4 Appendix 4 – Notes from South West SACRE Leaders Conference
- 8.5 Appendix 5 - Culham St Gabriel's press release