

Report on the Provision of Religious Education
in the St David's High School Consortium of Schools

For SACRE - October 2012

1. Background:

Following visits by the Senior Learning Adviser RE to each of the schools during the summer term, a report of the visit and issues and outcomes was agreed with the school. There follows the Good Features, Areas for Development and Recommendations for each school, and a general summary of the whole consortium.

2. Excerpts from the School Visits:

a) St David's High School

Good Features:

- The standard of teaching is very good
- The curriculum is engaging and relevant, containing good RE skills

Areas for Development

- Make more of the opportunities to help learners extend their skills across the curriculum

Recommendations

- An example for making the most of the opportunities for reading: if there are bodies of text in the lesson, encourage learners to read them, reinforcing and structuring support to those that may need it. Ask the learners to read small sections, asking the pupils to comment on each section, this may aid less able readers to read knowing that peers will help fill in the gaps if they fall behind.

b) Wood Memorial CP School

Good Features

- Introduction of persona dolls to enable pupils to associate beliefs and practices to people of a particular religion
- The coordinators vision, ensuring the development of RE
- The variety of activities observed across all lessons

Areas for Development

- Confirm the long term topics including more opportunities to explore Hinduism
- All pupils to engage with fundamental questions and express their opinions

Recommendations

- After whole class or small group discussions, allow pupils to write down their thoughts, reactions or opinions to the topic.

c) Saltney Ferry CP

Good Features

- The subject specific skills evident in learners work.
- The range of activities and resources used to teach RE

Areas for Development

- The policies for RE and Collective worship need updating
- Meet the statutory requirements for Collective Worship
- In the Foundation Phase introduce a new topic each half term

Recommendations

- Collective Worship
- Agree on set weekly themes to enable resources, prayers and short videos to be used appropriately.
- Ask a number of the student council to create a Collective Worship portfolio, with photos of services and comments from their peers.
- Ask pupils to create a school prayer using the schools ethos or motto. Each class could vote on a class prayer, then governors and local ministers could choose the winning school prayer. This could be used on formal occasions and also translated into Welsh.