

# **Annual Report**

**of**

## **Flintshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

**2013 - 2014**

## Foreword

### ***The Role of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education:***

The principal roles of SACRE are:

- Advising the Local Authority on matters to do with Religious Education and collective worship, or Spiritual and Moral Development;
- Consider applications from Headteachers that their school be released from the statutory requirements for Collective Worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character (such applications are known as 'Determinations');
- Require a Local Authority to review its Agreed Syllabus;
- Monitor the provision of RE, collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority;
- Give advice on teacher agreed syllabus RE, including the choice of teacher materials;
- Advising the Local Authority on the provision of training for teachers (in RE);
- Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of RE and collective worship made to the Local Authority.
- To publish an Annual Report on its work.

The Composition of SACRE:

The statutory requirements for the setting up of SACREs require three committees of members:

- Representatives of Christian denominations or other religions and their denominations reflecting the principal religious traditions of the locality;
- Teacher representatives;
- County Council representatives.

There is also the right to co-opt members.

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<b>Executive Summary</b>		
<b>Topics/Issues:</b>	<b>Advice given:</b>	<b>Implemented By LEA:</b>
RE: Agreed Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Agreed Syllabus and Comprehensive Guide for RE continue to be available in schools to inform their planning and preparation.</li> </ul>	✓
RE: Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following consideration of Inspection Reports, schools be sent letters congratulating them for the good features.</li> </ul>	✓
RE: Choice of Teaching Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No formal guidance, but the additional support and guidance for the Agreed Syllabus includes reference to some teaching materials.</li> </ul>	✓
RE: Provision of ITT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No visits possible this year.</li> </ul>	
Collective Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following consideration of Inspection Reports, letters be sent to schools congratulating them for the good features and offering the services of the Senior Learning Advisor RE or School Improvement Officers to address an issues.</li> </ul>	✓
Other Matters: Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Religious Education Quality Marks materials are available to all schools in Flintshire.</li> <li>Presentations received from local secondary schools</li> <li>Members continue to discuss how best to monitor standards in schools</li> </ul>	✓ ✓ ✓
Other Matters: National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members receive regular updates of Estyn Inspection Reports or documents relating to RE and Collective Worship;</li> <li>Members be informed about developments and initiatives undertaken by DFES;</li> <li>The SACRE maintain its membership of WASACRE and that representatives attend and report back on the meetings of the association.</li> <li>Members informed about developments and initiatives undertaken by REC (Religious Education Council for England and Wales)</li> </ul>	✓  ✓ ✓  ✓
Other Matters: additional	No other additional matters.	
Complaints	No complaints received.	

## **The Annual Report**

### **2. Advice Given to the Local Authority**

#### **(a) Religious Education:**

##### **i. The Agreed Syllabus**

Flintshire SACRE adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Flintshire in 2008. The framework continues to be the basis of the Agreed Syllabus in Flintshire. The Agreed Syllabus will be reviewed once the findings of the curriculum review are published.

A SACRE's main function is '...to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.' Education Reform Act 1988 s.11 (1) (a)

No advice or training has been given on the Agreed Syllabus in the current academic year although many schools had adopted the planning from the 'Comprehensive Guide to RE' and 'RE in the foundation Phase', documents which were designed to complement the Flintshire Agreed Syllabus.

##### **ii. Standards**

###### Examination results

The SACRE received details of the examination results for 2013

The full course results were 0.9% above the national average 73.9% compared to 73.0%, 13.5% above last year's LA results.

The short course GCSE results are slightly above national trends, the overall A\*-C was 51.9%, 1.3% above the national results for all candidates, but a decrease of 10.1% on last years' local figures.

For Advanced Level, the overall A\* – C rate was 93.9%, some 12.9% above the national average and 9.3% increase on last years' local figures.

###### Inspection Reports

Due to the current Estyn inspection framework there are no subject judgments in the Estyn reports. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a schools provision of SMSC. See part c Collective Worship - Monitoring provision - Inspection reports

##### **b. Methods of teaching**

The SACRE and LA have previously provided comprehensive documents and materials in support of the Agreed Syllabus, and these contain advice on methods of teaching and delivery of RE.

INSET sessions have been conducted as a part of the criteria in the Better Schools Fund in terms of meeting the requirements of the revised school curriculum. These sessions have been well attended and found useful and informative by schools.

## Choosing teaching resources

The SACRE has not formally advised schools in the matter of purchasing teaching resources, deeming this to be a matter for the schools themselves.

## Provision of Initial Teacher Training

It had not been possible during the year to make a visit to or receive a visit from an Initial Teacher Training Institute.

## c) Collective Worship

### Monitoring provision

#### Inspection Reports

As part of the process of monitoring, Estyn Inspection Reports are analysed in terms of collective worship, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). These are compiled and noted by SACRE. Letters are sent to schools following the consideration of them in SACRE, commending good practice and offering support as may be necessary.

Over the year 14 schools' inspection reports were analysed as follows:

<b><i>Positive Comments in overall judgements</i></b>	<b><i>No of schools</i></b>
Current performance	3
Prospects for improvement	2

<b><i>Positive Comments in quality indicators:</i></b>	<b><i>No of schools</i></b>
<b>Key Question 1: How good is outcomes?</b>	
Standards	3
Wellbeing	10
<b>Key Question 2: How good is provision?</b>	
Learning Experiences	12
Care support and guidance	14
Learning Environment	10
<b>Key Question 3: How good is leadership and management?</b>	
Partnership working	10

<b><i>Negative Comments</i></b>	<b><i>No of schools</i></b>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	
To improve provision for global citizenship	1

### **iii) Guidance Documents**

Guidance documents created in previous years continue to be available to schools including 'A Comprehensive Guide to RE' and 'RE in the Foundation Phase'

### **iv) Resources recommended**

The guidance documents referred to above contain references to resources valued and recommended or evaluated by serving teachers. In addition, advice is offered in response to specific requests. Also schools are informed of resources through the RE News which is available to all schools electronically, they also have access to the Welsh National Centre for RE resources at Bangor University and also the St Mary's Centre for RE.

Self-evaluation materials have been promoted and are available on the REQM website.

#### **v) INSET for Collective Worship**

No inset has been provided for Collective Worship in the current academic year.

#### **vi) Evaluation of the effectiveness of guidance**

No formal evaluation of the original guidance material has been undertaken, but responses from schools to the materials, and comments offered through school visits have indicated how much the schools have valued the materials and used them in planning and enhancing their provision.

#### **vii) Determinations**

No Determinations have been made.

### **3) Other Matters**

#### **a) Local**

SACRE has discussed how to improve the attendance from members of the teaching profession as well as how to monitor the standards of schools in light of the changes to the ESTYN frame work and the changes within the LA school improvement service. This will continue to be an agenda item in the next academic year. Members have also discussed various initiatives to support and promote community relations between school and local faith communities.

Presentation by a local school demonstrated RE taught at KS4 in a non-examinable context.

#### **b) National**

Members received a report by the Westminster All Party Parliamentary Group on RE titled 'RE and good community relations' highlighting the good work undertaken by departments to promote community relations. Discussions followed on how Flintshire SACRE could support and promote good community relations between faith groups and its local schools.

The Religious Education quality mark was presented both within local SACRE and national WASACRE meetings. Members were informed of schools opportunity to both apply for the award as well as use the materials that are freely available on the REQM website. The materials are available in both English and Welsh. Materials created for England have been adapted and trialled to reflect the Welsh education system.

#### **(i) Estyn:**

Inspection Reports on schools were received and analysed, as reported.

Members continue to discuss the changes to the inspection framework and the impact this has had on SACRE's ability to monitor RE and Collective Worship in schools.

**(ii) DFES:**

The SACRE has been informed of developments and initiatives undertaken by or through the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills. The Agreed Syllabus Conference has been postponed until DFES publishes its planned changes to the curriculum. WASACRE has met with Professor Donaldson to discuss RE's place in the current curriculum.

SACRE received a transcript of a speech given by Huw Lewis to the Religious Education Council for England and Wales' AGM in Cardiff 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

**(iii) WASACRE**

Members of SACRE and the LA were represented at all the meetings of WASACRE, and received some of the presentations that had been made. SACRE continued to receive reports from representatives attending the meetings of the Association, and also receiving of minutes and papers from WASACRE.

**(iv) Complaints**

No complaints were received by the SACRE.



#### **4. Appendices:**

##### **a) Composition of SACRE**

Religious Denominations:

Roman Catholic  
*Mrs Rita Price*

Roman Catholic  
*Nomination awaited*

Church in Wales  
*Mrs Helen Hughes*

Church in Wales  
*Sue Jones*

Presbyterian (English)  
*Mrs Delyth McIntyre*

Presbyterian (Welsh)  
*Rev. Huw Powell Davies*

Methodist (Welsh)  
*Dora Jones*

United Reformed  
*Nomination awaited*

Union of Welsh  
Independents  
*Gareth W Jones*

##### **b) Teacher Associations:**

Secondary Headteacher  
*Mr R Keating*

Junior Headteacher  
*Ms M Madoc-Jones*

Infant Headteacher  
*Dawn Westaway*

Infant Classteacher  
*Yvonne Barker*

Secondary RE  
*Huw E Jones*

Junior Classteacher  
*Paula Walsh*

Special School  
*Mrs L Harkin*

##### **c) County Councillors:**

Cllr. R C Bithell  
Cllr. C Legg  
Cllr. N Steele-Mortimer  
Cllr. C.A. Thomas

Cllr. A.J. Davies-Cooke  
Cllr. H. Isherwood  
Cllr. D.I. Mackie

##### **Education Officers:**

Director of Lifelong Learning  
*Mr Ian Budd*

Systems Leader  
*Philip Lord*

##### **b) Number and dates of meetings**

SACRE meetings:

**27<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**4<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**c) Organisations receiving the report**

DfES  
SACRE Members  
All LA Schools  
WASACRE  
Diocese of Bangor  
Diocese of St Asaph  
Diocese of Wrexham  
Welsh National Centre for RE  
LAs of Wales  
Trinity College Carmarthenshire

**TABLES OF EXAMINATION RESULTS *TABLAU O GANLYNIADAU ARHOLIAD***

**Flintshire Schools – Table 1 GCSE RESULTS 2013: ALL – RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

***Ysgolion Sir y Fflint – TABL 1 CANLYNIADAU TAGAU 2013: PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL***

<b>Schools <i>Ysgolion</i></b>	<b>Total <i>Cyfanswm</i></b>	<b>A*</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% A*-C</b>	<b>% A-G</b>	
Elfed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Connah's Quay	120	0	0.0%	11	9.2%	16	13.3%	37	30.8%	30	25.0%	21	17.5%	3	2.5%	2	1.7%	0	0.0%	53.3%	100.0%	
Flint	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St.Richard Gwyn	152	3	2.0%	13	8.6%	40	26.3%	39	25.7%	7	4.6%	17	11.2%	18	11.8%	13	8.6%	2	1.3%	62.5%	98.7%	
Hawarden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Holywell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Castell Alun	85	13	15.3%	30	35.3%	21	24.7%	13	15.3%	3	3.5%	2	2.4%	2	2.4%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	90.6%	100.0%	
Alun,Mold	31	13	41.9%	8	25.8%	8	25.8%	0	0.0%	2	6.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	93.5%	100.0%	
Argoed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maes Garmon	66	3	4.5%	15	22.7%	17	25.8%	10	15.2%	12	18.2%	5	7.6%	4	6.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	68.2%	100.0%	
John Summers	24	0	0.0%	1	4.2%	5	20.8%	12	50.0%	3	12.5%	3	12.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	75.0%	100.0%	
St.David's Saltney	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AAll</i></b>	<b>478</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>22.8%</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>22.8%</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>73.9%</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	
<i>All Wales Holl Cymru</i>	<i>11,414</i>		<i>14%</i>		<i>19%</i>		<i>22%</i>		<i>18%</i>		<i>11%</i>		<i>6%</i>		<i>5%</i>		<i>3%</i>			<b>73%</b>	<b>98%</b>	

**Flintshire Schools Table 2: GCSE 2013: ALL – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: SHORT COURSE**  
***Ysgolion Sir y Fflint – TABL 2 CANLYDIADAU TGAU 2013 PAWB – ASTUDIAETHAU GREFYDDOL: CWRS BYR***

Schools <i>Ysgolion</i>	Total <i>Cyfanswm</i>	A*	%	A	%	B	%	C	%	D	%	E	%	F	%	G	%	U	%	% A*-C	% A-G
Elfed	88	1	1.1%	14	15.9%	12	13.6%	22	25.0%	16	18.2%	11	12.5%	8	9.1%	3	3.4%	1	1.1%	55.7%	98.9%
Connah's Quay	74	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.7%	9	12.2%	13	17.6%	20	27.0%	16	21.6%	14	18.9%	2.7%	81.1%
Flint	91	14	15.4%	18	19.8%	20	22.0%	12	13.2%	10	11.0%	12	13.2%	4	4.4%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	70.3%	100.0%
St.Richard Gwyn	11	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	63.6%	0	0.0%	1	9.1%	0	0.0%	2	18.2%	1	9.1%	63.6%	90.9%
Hawarden	183	14	7.7%	22	12.0%	32	17.5%	38	20.8%	29	15.8%	26	14.2%	14	7.7%	5	2.7%	3	1.6%	57.9%	98.4%
Holywell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Castell Alun	114	6	5.3%	13	11.4%	20	17.5%	21	18.4%	19	16.7%	19	16.7%	7	6.1%	6	5.3%	3	2.6%	52.6%	97.4%
Alun,Mold	184	31	16.8%	53	28.8%	36	19.6%	24	13.0%	15	8.2%	7	3.8%	12	6.5%	4	2.2%	2	1.1%	78.3%	98.9%
Argoed	105	10	9.5%	15	14.3%	24	22.9%	26	24.8%	16	15.2%	9	8.6%	5	4.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	71.4%	100.0%
Maes Garmon	28	0	0.0%	1	3.6%	1	3.6%	8	28.6%	6	21.4%	6	21.4%	3	10.7%	3	10.7%	0	0.0%	35.7%	100.0%
John Summers	22	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	9.1%	2	9.1%	7	31.8%	6	27.3%	3	13.6%	2	9.1%	9.1%	90.9%
St.David's Saltney	105	8	7.6%	18	17.1%	29	27.6%	22	21.0%	16	15.2%	5	4.8%	3	2.9%	3	2.9%	1	1.0%	73.3%	99.0%
LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AALL</i>	1005	84	5.8%	154	11.2%	174	13.1%	184	21.8%	138	13.0%	116	14.0%	82	9.7%	46	7.4%	27	4.0%	51.9%	95.9%
<i>All Wales Holl Cymru</i>	<b>12765</b>		<b>7.6%</b>		<b>10.3%</b>		<b>14.8%</b>		<b>17.9%</b>		<b>14.7%</b>		<b>12.8%</b>		<b>9.2%</b>		<b>6.1%</b>		<b>6.7%</b>	<b>50.6%</b>	<b>92.3%</b>

**Flintshire Schools –TABLE 3 GCE ADVANCED LEVEL RESULTS 2013– ALL -RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
***Ysgolion Sir Y Fflint – TABL 3 - CANLYNIADAU SAFON UWCH 2013 – PAWB ASTUDIAETHAU CREFYDDOL***

<b>Schools</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>A*</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<i>Ysgolion</i>	<i>Cyfanswm</i>															<b>A*-C</b>	<b>A-E</b>
Elfed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Connah's Quay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Flint	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
St.Richard Gwyn	7	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	28.6	4	57.1	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>85.7</b>	<b>100</b>
Hawarden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Holywell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Castell Alun	28	0	0.0	4	14.3	19	67.9	4	14.3	1	3.57	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>96.4</b>	<b>100</b>
Alun,Mold	13	1	7.69	4	30.8	4	30.8	4	30.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Argoed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Maes Garmon	1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>100</b>
John Summers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
St.David's Saltney	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AALL</i>	49	1	2	8	16.3	25	51	12	24.5	3	6.12	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>93.9</b>	<b>100</b>
<i>All Wales Holl Cymru</i>	<b>1422</b>		<b>2.0</b>		<b>18.0</b>		<b>32.0</b>		<b>28.0</b>		<b>15.0</b>		<b>3.0</b>		<b>1%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>99%</b>