

**Annual Report**  
**of**  
**Flintshire**  
**Standing Advisory Council**  
**for Religious Education**

**2014 - 2015**

## **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><i>Topics/Issues:</i></b>	<b><i>Advice given:</i></b>	<b><i>Implemented By LEA:</i></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 are 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.</li> </ul>	✓
Other Matters: Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members continue to discuss how best to monitor standards in schools</li> <li>SACRE has commissioned the creation of an example case studies document promoting and inspiring good practice regarding local community involvement in Religious Education and Collective Worship that will be available to all 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, representatives attend and report back on the meetings of the association.</li> <li>WJEC analysis of Religious Studies examinations</li> <li>WASACRE continues to ask SACRE's to evaluate and improve how they monitor and work with schools</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 2014

517 took the full course examination in 2014, an increase of 39 pupils on the previous year. The full course results were 20.7% below the national average 53.2% compared to 73.9%, 18.8% below last year's LA results.

1164 pupils sat the short course in Religious studies, 59 more than in the previous year. The short course GCSE results are below national trends, the overall A\*-C was 46.1%, 5.8% below the national results for all candidates, and a decrease of 6.9% on last years' local figures.

49 pupils sat the Advanced Level, 2 less than the previous year. The overall A\* – C rate was 98.6%, some 4.3% above the national average and a 9.6% 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

Members also received a presentation on Estyn's ESGC (Education for Sustainable development and Global Citizenship) thematic review, with a focus on how Religious Education can support this area of the curriculum.

## **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.

No advice has been given to schools regarding methods of teaching in 2014-15.

### **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 10 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	1

  

<b><i>Positive Comments in quality indicators:</i></b>	<b><i>No of schools</i></b>
Key Question 1: How good is outcomes?	
Wellbeing	3
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	
Learning Experiences	8
Care support and guidance	10
Learning Environment	5
Key Question 3: How good is leadership and management?	
Partnership working	4

  

<b><i>Negative Comments</i></b>	<b><i>No of schools</i></b>
Recommendations:	
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 continue to be 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 commissioned the creation of a selection of case studies to promote good practice relating to local communities supporting Religious Education and Collective Worship. Schools have submitted examples that will be collated and sent to all schools in the LA to inspire and promote similar activities. Case studies from local faith communities and how they have worked with local schools have also been requested and received.

### **b) National**

Members received a presentation created by WJEC explaining the key points from an analysis of the data from the GCSE and 'A' level 2014 examinations in Religious Education in 2014.

Members have also, in response to a presentation regarding 'SACRE and local Consortia Arrangements' agreed to change some of its practices in 2015-16. SACRE will be held, where possible, in secondary schools across the LA. The facilitation of School to school collaborative groups will also be organised to support and promote good practice in both Religious Education and Collective Worship.

Members received a presentation regarding the implications of the Donaldson Review on Religious Education.

**(i) Estyn:**

Estyn's thematic review of Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship was presented to Members. It was noted that Religious Education can support the work of this important area in schools.

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

**(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.

**(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*

Infant Headteacher  
*Dawn Westaway*

Infant Headteacher  
*Yvonne Barker*

Junior Classteacher  
*Ibad Hussain*

Special School  
*Mrs L Harkin*

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

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

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

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

Director of Lifelong Learning  
*Mr Ian Budd*

Challenge Adviser  
*Philip Lord*

**b) Number and dates of meetings**

SACRE meetings:

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2014**

**11<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

**c) Organisations receiving the report**

- DFES
- The report is available on the WASACRE website for interested organisations

**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</b> <i>Ysgolion</i>	<b>Total</b> <i>Cyfanswm</i>	<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>%</b> <i>A*-C</i>	<b>%</b> <i>A-G</i>
Elfed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connah's Quay/ <i>Cei Conna</i>	140	2	1.4	10	7.1	20	14.3	23	16.4	18	12.9	28	20.0	21	15.0	11	7.9	7	5.0	<b>39.3</b>	<b>95.0</b>
Flint/ <i>Fflint</i>	29	3	10.3	10	34.5	9	31.0	5	17.2	2	6.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>93.1</b>	<b>100</b>
St.Richard Gwyn	156	1	0.6	7	4.5	20	12.8	42	26.9	28	19.9	17	10.9	22	14.1	9	5.8	10		<b>44.9</b>	<b>93.6</b>
Hawarden/ <i>Penarlag</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Holywell/ <i>Treffynnon</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castell Alun	93	7	7.5	15	16.1	28	30.1	24	25.8	10	10.8	7	7.5	1	1.1	1	1.1	0	0.0	<b>79.6</b>	<b>100</b>
Alun,Mold	13	0	0.0	3	23.1	5	38.5	4	30.8	1	7.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	<b>92.3</b>	<b>100</b>
Argoed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maes Garmon	59	0	0.0	3	5.1	12	20.3	11	18.6	14	23.7	9	15.3	8	13.6	2	3.4	0	0.0	<b>44.1</b>	<b>100</b>
John Summers	27	2	7.4	3	11.1	0	0.0	6	22.2	5	18.5	6	22.2	3	11.1	2	7.4	0	0.0	<b>40.7</b>	<b>100</b>
St.David's / <i>Dewi Sant</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AALl</i>	<b>517</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>96.7</b>
<i>All Wales</i> <i>Holl Cymru</i>	<b>11,368</b>		<b>10%</b>		<b>19%</b>		<b>22%</b>		<b>19%</b>		<b>11%</b>		<b>7%</b>		<b>5%</b>		<b>3%</b>		<b>2%</b>	<b>72%</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***

<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	97	2	2.1%	10	10.3%	24	24.7%	23	23.7%	16	16.5%	11	11.3%	9	9.3%	0	0.0%	2	2.1%	<b>60.8%</b>	<b>97.9%</b>
Connah's Quay	189	2	1.1%	5	2.6%	15	7.9%	14	7.4%	21	11.1%	30	15.9%	33	17.5%	45	23.8%	24	12.7%	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>87.3%</b>
Flint	207	1	0.5%	5	2.4%	10	4.8%	38	18.4%	38	18.4%	55	26.6%	28	13.5%	20	9.7%	12	5.8%	<b>26.1%</b>	<b>94.2%</b>
St.Richard Gwyn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawarden	176	7	4.0%	29	16.5%	36	20.5%	35	19.9%	23	13.1%	17	9.7%	15	8.5%	11	6.3%	3	1.7%	<b>60.8%</b>	<b>98.3%</b>
Holywell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castell Alun	116	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	12	10.3%	26	22.4%	32	27.6%	31	26.7%	12	10.3%	2	1.7%	0	0.0%	<b>33.6%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Alun,Mold	239	14	5.9%	31	13.0%	56	23.4%	50	20.9%	28	11.7%	27	11.3%	22	9.2%	9	3.8%	2	0.8%	<b>63.2%</b>	<b>99.2%</b>
Argoed	122	3	2.5%	23	18.9%	30	24.6%	34	27.9%	18	14.8%	10	8.2%	4	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>73.8%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Maes Garmon	18	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.6%	4	22.2%	5	27.8%	7	38.9%	1	5.6%	0	0.0%	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>100%</b>
John Summers	41	0	0.0%	2	4.9%	1	2.4%	5	12.2%	3	7.3%	13	31.7%	8	19.5%	6	14.6%	3	7.3%	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>92.7%</b>
St.David's Saltney	92	1	1.1%	15	16.3%	15	16.3%	20	21.7%	21	22.8%	10	10.9%		4.3%	3	3.3%	3	3.3%	<b>55.4%</b>	<b>96.7%</b>
LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AALL</i>	<b>1297</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>46.0%</b>	<b>95.9%</b>
<i>All Wales Holl Cymru</i>	<b>12,191</b>		<b>5%</b>		<b>10%</b>		<b>17%</b>		<b>21%</b>		<b>14%</b>		<b>13%</b>		<b>8%</b>		<b>6%</b>		<b>6%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>94%</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> <i>Ysgolion</i>	<b>Total</b> <i>Cyfanswm</i>	<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>A*-C</b>	<b>%</b> <b>A-E</b>
Elfed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connah's Quay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flint	3	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	1	33.3%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
St.Richard Gwyn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawarden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Holywell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castell Alun	29	1	3.4%	5	17.2%	13	44.8%	8	27.6%	1	3.4%	1	3.4%	0	0.0%	<b>93.1%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Alun,Mold	9	0	0.0%	1	11.1%	5	55.6%	3	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Argoed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maes Garmon	2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>50%</b>	<b>100%</b>
John Summers	1	0	0.0%	1	100%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
St.David's Saltney	3	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
LEA Totals <i>Cyfanswm AALL</i>	47	1	2.1%	8	17.0%	20	42.6%	15	31.9%	2	4.3%	1	2.1%	0	0%	<b>93.6%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>All Wales</i> <i>Holl Cymru</i>	<b>1432</b>		<b>3%</b>		<b>15%</b>		<b>32%</b>		<b>29%</b>		<b>14%</b>		<b>5%</b>		<b>2%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>98%</b>