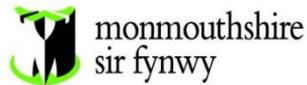


Public Document Pack



County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 24 February 2026

Notice of meeting

Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC)

Wednesday, 4th March, 2026 at 3.00 pm,
Exclusively Remote Meeting

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Welcome and Apologies	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	Question from Philip Middleton: The issue of Chair's absence necessitating the postponement of meetings	
4.	To consider realigning meetings to one per term.	
5.	Membership Report	1 - 2
6.	Update from EAS RVE Adviser	
7.	WASACRE Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">WASACRE Minutes from November 2025Sharing the date (Spring WASACRE Meeting): Thursday 19th March via Zoom. Meeting link, agenda and papers to be sent nearer the meeting.WASACRE Executive Committee nominations	3 - 18
8.	Forward Work Plan	19 - 20
9.	To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting	21 - 26
10.	Next Meeting: 17th June 2026	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Rachel Buckler	Devauden;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor John Crook	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Paul Pavia	Mount Pleasant;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Angela Sandles	Magor East with Undy;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Laura Wright	Grofield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru

Representing the Church in Wales (1)

Clare Werrett

Representing the Roman Catholic Church (1)

Bev Bannon

Representing Free Churches (4)

Revd. J. Greaves

Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Representing the Bahá'í Faith (1)

Mrs S. Cave

Representing the Buddhist Faith (1)

Vacancy

Representing the Hindu Faith (1)

Vacancy

Representing the Jewish Faith (1)

Vacancy

Representing the Sikh Faith (1)

Vacancy

Representing the Muslim Faith (1)

Maddie Saraireh

Representing Non Religious Philosophical Convictions

Phillip Middleton

Representing the Teachers Associations (7)

Mrs C. Rhodes

Tina Bryant

Gareth James

Claire Rosato

Susan Marles

Vacancy

Vacancy

Co-opted Members (2)

Vacancy

Vacancy

R.E Advisor

Hayley Jones (EAS)

Representing Chief Officer, Children and Young People

Sharon Randall-Smith

Public Information

Access to paper copies of agendas and reports

A copy of this agenda and relevant reports can be made available to members of the public attending a meeting by requesting a copy from Democratic Services on 01633 644219. Please note that we must receive 24 hours notice prior to the meeting in order to provide you with a hard copy of this agenda.

Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

- to become a zero-carbon county, supporting well-being, health and dignity for everyone at every stage of life.

Objectives we are working towards

- Fair place to live where the effects of inequality and poverty have been reduced;
- Green place to live and work with reduced carbon emissions and making a positive contribution to addressing the climate and nature emergency;
- Thriving and ambitious place, where there are vibrant town centres and where businesses can grow and develop
- Safe place to live where people have a home where they feel secure in;
- Connected place where people feel part of a community and are valued;
- Learning place where everybody has the opportunity to reach their potential

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

Kindness: We will show kindness to all those we work with putting the importance of relationships and the connections we have with one another at the heart of all interactions.

Agenda Item 5

SAC Membership (October 2025) (4 Year term of Office)

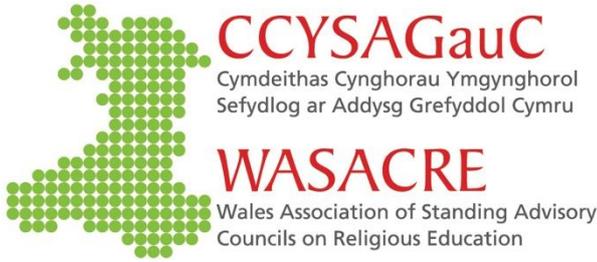
NAME	From	To
County Councillors (6)		
CC L. Wright (Cabinet Member for Education) - Chair	Ex Officio	Ex Officio
CC A. Sandles	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
CC P. Pavia	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
CC L. Brown (v)	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
CC R. Buckler	7 th February 2024	6 th February 2028
CC J. Crook	13 th March 2024	12 th March 2028
Representing the Church in Wales (1)		
Clare Werrett	17 th July 2025	16 th July 2029
Representing the Roman Catholic Church (1)		
Bev Bannon	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Representing the Free Church Council (4)		
Vacancy		
Vacancy		
Rev. J Greaves (Baptist Church)	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
Vacancy		
Representing the Baha'i Faith:		
Mrs. S. Cave	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
Representing the Buddhist Faith:		
Vacancy		
Representing the Hindu Faith:		
Vacancy		
Representing the Jewish Faith:		
Vacancy		
Representing the Muslim Faith:		
Maddie Saraireh	14 th June 2023	13 th June 2027
Representing the Sikh Faith:		
Vacancy		
Representing Non-religious Philosophical Convictions (1)		
Phillip Middleton	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Representing Teachers Associations (7)		
Charlotte Rhodes	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Tina Bryant	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Gareth James	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Claire Rosato	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Susan Marles	15 th May 2025	14 th May 2029
Vacancy		
Vacancy		
Co-opted Members (2)		
Vacancy		

Vacancy		
RVE Adviser		
Hayley Jones	Ex Officio	Ex Officio
Representing Chief Officer, Children and Young People		
Sharon Randall-Smith	Ex Officio	Ex Officio
Clerk		
Wendy Barnard	Ex Officio	Ex Officio

October 2025, the Clerk wrote regarding filling vacancies to:

The Buddhist Council for Wales
The Sikh Gurdwara in Cardiff
The Baptist Union of Wales
The Methodist Church
The Synagogue in Cardiff
Union of Welsh Independents
Presbyterian Church of Wales
Churches of God
Church of the Pentecost
Shree Swaminarayan Temple Cardiff

Agenda Item 7



Wales Association of SACREs
Anglesey meeting
Virtual meeting through Zoom
2nd July 2025
10.00 a.m. – 12.20 p.m.

Attendance

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Non Dafydd (ND)</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Kathy Riddick (KR)</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Alice Parry (AP) Edward Evans (EE)</p> <p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly Eifion ap Llwyd Dafydd (ELD)</p> <p>Caerdydd / Cardiff</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire Gaynor Jones-Higgs (GJH)</p> <p>Ceredigion Rhianydd James (RJ)</p> <p>Conwy Phil Lord (PL) Roger Boon (RB)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Phil Lord (PL) Collete Owen (CO) Jennie Downes (JD)</p> <p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Vicky Barlow (VB) Trevor Dobson (TB)</p> <p>Gwynedd</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil Donna Graves</p> <p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Louise Brown (LB)</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot Rachel Samuel (RS)</p> <p>Casnewydd / Newport</p>	<p>Powys John Mitson (JM)</p> <p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Matthew Maidment (MM)</p> <p>Torfaen Hayley Jones (HJ)</p> <p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan Tyler Saunders Marged Williams</p> <p>Wrexham / Wrexham Tania ap Siôn (TS) Libby Jones (LJ)</p> <p>Rhys Evans</p>	<p>NAPfRVE Phil Lord (PL) Donna Graves (DG)</p> <p>EFTRE Phil Lord (PL)</p> <p>Observers:</p> <p>WJEC Paul Morgan</p> <p>ESTYN</p> <p>Welsh Government</p> <p>REC Kathy Riddick (KR) Libby Jones (LJ)</p> <p>Church in Wales</p> <p>Catholic Education Service</p> <p>Qualification Wales</p> <p>Interfaith Network</p> <p>ADEW</p> <p>Guest Speaker Jaimie Woodhouse</p> <p>Minutes (from recording) Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p> <p>Translator: Sioned Jones</p>
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Minutes of the meeting

1. Introduction and welcome

EE welcomed members to the summer meeting and thanked Anglesey LA and its SACRE for hosting today's meeting. EE welcomed Councillor Non Dafydd, Advisor and Chair of Anglesey SACRE who gave the following introduction [translated from Welsh]:

It is a privilege to host the WASACRE meeting. We are coming together with a commitment to foster the development of RVE in schools in Wales, recognising its fundamental role in fostering understanding of our moral purpose. As we start on this effort together, let us recognise the role of the LAs in ensuring the RVE curriculum meets the diverse needs of our communities and the experiences of all pupils in schools.

RVE in schools serves as a milestone for society that is inclusive, by engaging with difficult ethical questions, exploring different world views and respecting differences. Students have a valuable insight into different beliefs and values systems that form our world today. Having such knowledge leads understanding reduces prejudices and encourages meaningful dialogue between individuals from various backgrounds.

LAs are in a unique position to facilitate this journey, bridging between policy and practical operation. Our contributions are essential to make sure education continues to be dynamic and responding to the evolving needs for both learners and teachers.

Thank you to all of you for your commitment to this continuing journey. Your participation in this meeting shows your readiness to consider the development of this important aspect of education. I hope we can all take advantage of this opportunity to share ideas to inspire actions and to foster partnerships to strengthen education across Wales

Together we can build a brighter future for our students based on values, respect, understanding and responsibility.

EE thanked Non Dafydd.

2. Quiet reflection

EE led a reflection on peace and compassion and shared the story "Nothing More Than Nothing". EE concluded with a prayer for unity.

3. Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor Nia Jenkins (Neath Port Talbot), Councillor Rachel Buckler (Monmouthshire), Christopher Owens (WJEC), Michaela Benjamin (Estyn), Ellen Stock (WLGA), Emily Lloyd (Church in Wales). Vicky Barlow noted early departure.

4. Minutes of the last meeting, Zoom, (6th March 2025, Bridgend)

The minutes were reviewed and are to be amended as follows:

- Andrew Bennett should be listed under Carmarthenshire.
- "RE experts" changed to "RE advisors."
- "Sex education" amended to "sexuality education."

RS proposed and VB seconded that, with these amendments, the minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting held on 6th March 2025.

EE, the Chair, will sign the minutes to indicate that it is the final version and provide this signed copy to AP for filing

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting, (6th March 2025, Bridgend)

- No new matters arising outside the current meeting's agenda.
- RB mentioned that TaS's bilingual report didn't reach his SACRE.
- LJ confirmed it had been sent to all SACREs and will resend to RB.

6. NAPfRVE presentation

Jaimie Woodhouse (JW) thanked WASACRE and NAPfRVE for the privilege of speaking at this meeting. JW is a school speaker on Humanism and Sentientism.

JW presented slides on Sentientism. A copy of the detailed presentation JW shared is to be circulated to the SACREs after this meeting. In summary:

- The word Sentientism is a modern worldview with ancient heritage worldviews, with echoes of themes from the Dharmic religions, the Abrahamic religions, Humanism and Veganism as a worldview too. It is a simple worldview summarised as evidence, reason and compassion for all sentient beings.
- Young people are concerned about diversity, discrimination and identity and deeply concerned about nature, environment and the climate. which is becoming more immediate with the impact of artificial intelligence and the implications for those technologies on the way we lead our lives. Sentientism worldview ties in with and resonates with many of those different themes and this is the context into which Sentientism fits as another non-religious worldview.
- It is a simple, radical, pluralistic philosophical platform.
- JW presented ideas on how to teach Sentientism in RVE and how it is aligned with the objectives for RVE as a subject. It can be addressed at every level, from 17/18-year-olds and university students down to early years.
- JW presented 4 lesson ideas.
- JW offered to help WASACRE further and his contact details are detailed on the slides.

EE thanked JW for his presentation.

7. Welsh Government [WG] matters

Usual termly meetings with Welsh Government (WG) colleagues

WASACRE officers met with Welsh Government colleagues, Alison Tom, Lloyd Hopkin and Guy DeLong-Smith on Monday 19th of May. Summary of meeting as follows:

- Discussion on the SACRE annual reports and the numbers received for 2023/24.
 - WG and WASACRE shared a list of the reports received. WG said that they would raise this with Association of Directors of Education in Wales (ADEW) in order to remind them of its legal duties regarding SACREs' Annual Reports.
 - WG confirmed that the reports are filed securely, and they are read and considered by appropriate colleagues in the Welsh Government Education Team. The reports are used to inform conversations in house. WG will consider providing summary reports in the future.
- WASACRE asked 'How does Welsh Government expect schools to provide mandatory RVE in year 10 and 11 from September 2025 without a designated qualification on offer, like the previous RS short course?'
 - WG responded that the LA should be involved in school improvement, and [Adnodd](#) is now set up and running and will support the development of resources. RVE has been identified as an area of priority.
- WASACRE asked 'If the skill suite and personal project are not designed to meet the mandatory requirement for RVE alone, what does WG suggest schools do, to ensure that they have covered the mandatory requirement for RVE from 2027?'
 - WG mentioned that schools should be avoiding everything being assessed. Welsh Government supports a more holistic approach in year 10 and 11. It is not just knowledge and skills but also dispositions and values that are important. WG recognise that schools are still in the mindset of qualifications and include things on the timetable that require reporting on and are still working to those current performance measures, which will change.
- There was also a discussion on whether the new performance measures will support the mandatory provision of RVE, and when is the consultation on this. LH said that he felt it is either out now, or it is coming soon. LH to report back to WASACRE on this.
- WASACRE asked if a decision had been made as to whether the Agored Cymru and Exploring Worldviews Qualifications will be available to schools in Wales for a September 2027 entry, because many schools are just starting this qualification in September 2025.
 - Subsequently WG have informed us that there is an appeal process happening for this qualification, as it was decided in May by Qualifications Wales that the Agored Cymru Exploring Worldviews would not be designated from September 2027. The final decision will be made by Qualifications Wales at the end of September, when schools will be informed. WASACRE knows

- of a number of schools that have written letters to Agored Cymru in support of the qualification and that has been included in their appeal.
- The HE cuts were discussed and WASACRE asked, what is WG doing to address the cuts in Theology and Religious Studies at Cardiff University, and the impact of redundancies on the BA Education and PGC courses at Cardiff Met, which obviously will both have a direct impact on specialism in RVE and the future generations of learners.
 - Welsh Government stated it has no authority over universities and no say in decisions made regarding the programs. WG has developed a new professional learning body called Adnodd, who are responsible for developing professional learning resources for practitioners in Wales and WG mentioned again that RVE has been identified by this body as a priority area. They have also a new Welsh Government body called [Medr](#), it is a mixture of Welsh words for skill and ability. It's a WG sponsored body overseeing post 16 education and research in Wales, which became operational in August 2024.
 - WG will make some inquiries as to who is leading on the overview of subject demand, provision and distribution in HE in Wales within Medr and will report back. This work is likely to consider where interventions might be required to ensure the continuation of strategically important subject areas, which obviously we have stressed that RVE is one.
- There was also an update on the IT project that WASACRE was working on with Kevin Palmer's team and Max. This project was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. WASACRE have been given the contact details of the new Deputy Director of School Practitioner division, Chris Warner.
- The final agenda item was the implications of the middle tier review on SACREs and SACs and RVE advisors, particularly in LAs, who have no current dedicated advisor, and those that have been pulled out of the new regional service, which has now been implemented around Wales.
 - WG said that they envisage more informal partnerships being forged to support all aspects of the curriculum. Welsh Government would be concerned if there was not capacity for RVE support or SACRE support within each local authority.
- MM: Has WASACRE contacted Qualifications Wales (QW) and WJEC regarding the Agored Cymru course? Is there anything else we can do to try and support this course? I am starting it this year, and it seems a good alternative to the GCSE in terms of the flexibility and the content. A qualification is useful to motivate pupils.
- LJ: WASACRE met with qualification Wales in April 2025, and RS is to update the Committee later in the meeting. QW sees it as a change of culture for teachers, and it's also a change of culture for learners and parents to think of new ways to motivate learners without that qualification, which is a challenge for schools. WASACRE certainly take on board that a qualification is a good motivator for learners, but maybe not all learners.
- RB: Conway shared similar concerns with QW. RB shared QW's response with Sam Rowlands, the local North Wales assembly member, who in turn had a meeting with Lynn Neagle. There were some inconsistencies in the feedback from QW and Lynn Neagle.

ACTION: RB to share all correspondence with WASACRE by email to LJ.

Response from Cabinet Secretary Lynne Neagle

EE reported the following:

The letter sent to LN was circulated to all SACREs prior to the meeting.

The letter contained the following questions:

- What steps is the Welsh Government taking to support and monitor delivery of mandatory RVE?
- What mechanisms are in place to ensure that schools are complying with the statutory requirements of the curriculum and assessment Wales Act in relation to RVE?
- How is Welsh Government supporting the professional development of existing and future RVE teachers?
- What is the role of SACs going forward?

EE read out the response from LN. the full response was circulated with the agenda papers. LN thanked WASACRE for its continued support in helping schools deliver RVE. LN recognised the importance of WASACRE and SACs in supporting schools to meet legislative requirements.

EE mentioned the important of WASACRE's regular meetings with WG and how appreciative WG are of WASACRE and SACRE's roles.

8. WASACRE supported research - The Teacher Voice Project: RVE in the Curriculum for Wales
TaS: A survey reminder with links and QR codes was included in the agenda papers.
The Teacher Voice Survey for RVE is closing in just under three weeks. It has been open since the end of January, and it closes on the 22nd of July with several reminders having been sent. At the last stage to receive as many responses as possible. It is open to all involved in the teaching of our RVE in 3 to 16 schools or settings - nursery, secondary, special and PRU.
TAS asked all SACRE members to promote this survey using the links and QR codes. A particular request for responses required from teachers at Welsh medium schools.

9. University cuts

LJ mentioned that because of the Staff cuts and the closures of schools within Welsh Universities, WASACRE has written to Cardiff Metropolitan to put forward its position and support and emphasised the need for RVE expertise for the Secondary RE PGCE, Primary PGCE and the BA in Primary Education. A similar letter will be sent to Cardiff University.

WASACRE plans to continue working with WG on finding solutions to address and reduce the potential negative impact of these decisions on learners.

WASACRE has already contributed to developing a project plan with Kevin Palmer's Team.

There are ongoing discussions between WASACRE and WG colleagues to consider the pipeline into secondary schools, improving incentive schemes, enhance professional learning for specialists, campaigns and other innovative ways to ensure that all learners have an optimised access to experts in RVE.

As mentioned previously, Adnodd who are responsible for developing professional learning resources for practitioners in Wales have said that RVE has been identified by the body as a priority area and there is the new body, Medr, that will be responsible for funding and regulating the tertiary education and research sector in Wales.

The RE Council for England and Wales was also concerned and held a meeting (19th June 2025) of its member bodies and organisations who are in Wales or have an interest in Wales. As the Wales Advisor to the REC, LJ, encouraged member body representatives of the REC to recognise Wales as an equal partner and offer support in a way that was appropriate and respectful, remembering that education in Wales is devolved, no matter how similar our issues may appear to be. The outcome of that meeting, in short, was that the REC will write an open letter about the impact of these cuts on RVE.

LJ asked for any questions/comments:

GJH: As a Christian chaplain at Swansea University, my role is currently at risk of redundancy. Please be aware that faith teams are being impacted, as well as academic departments.

JD: Very concerning as the roll out of the curriculum is only just impacting on secondary education, and obviously further education is part of that narrative.

RB: Very concerning and proposed to contact Sam Rowland.

KR: If there are no new teachers coming through, the subject is going to suffer greatly. The REC held a meeting specifically about this subject and the impact on Wales. There is also the concern that if we end up recruiting teachers from England to fill RVE positions they won't be trained to the new curriculum or have the language skills.

The REC's open letter to the education minister is to be signed by all interested parties and shows there is an overwhelming joint concern.

It is vital that WASACRE contacts Senedd, because whilst the Senedd doesn't have oversight or control of the universities, it does control bursaries and the level of importance that they put on the subject.

We can ask for Senedd members to put together an end of day debate. There are lots of things that we can do to engage with Senedd members from the faith cross party group and wider. I would like to be involved in helping with the strategy for engaging with the Senedd.

PL: Suggested in any correspondence that there has been considerable work conducted on RVE and more impetus is needed for it to work. The effort and energy to rollout this new curriculum could be undone by external forces that are not connected with the RVE, but that relate to school governance or decisions that are made outside of the school.

ACTION: WASACRE Exec Officers to discuss and decide on a plan of action regarding approaching the Senedd member and the Senedd itself.

10. Qualifications

Meeting with Oliver Stacey (29-4-25)

RS gave the following update: [Translated from Welsh]:

WASACRE met with Qualification Wales (QW) representatives Oliver Stacey and Laura Williams. The following topics were discussed:

- 1) The Agored Cymru qualification – Exploring world Views which runs until 2027.
QW said it had a high profile and how popular it was. But there is a period of recognising if it is suitable or has duplicated content. QW have until the end of September to decide whether this qualification will continue after 2027. An appeal has gone in from WG plus letters of support from WASACRE, NAPfRVE and schools. Notification at the end of September.
QW referred to the Pearson entry level qualification, QW are considering this as a possible qualification that could be used for English medium Catholic schools, if Pearson wanted to make an application.
- 2) The role of, and the rights of WASACRE to see the draft specification for the skills unit.
A number of assessments boards will be looking at qualifications such as WJEC and Agored Cymru plus other stakeholders such as WASACRE will be talking directly to the assessment boards. WJEC and Agored Cymru are advertising for people to sit on the steering groups. WASACRE has been added to the directory of stakeholders which is shared with the assessment boards.
- 3) Are there specific experts to create these units and how many subject specialists have been on the group?
QW mentioned that some assessment boards have already advertised for input for the new standards e.g. Agored Cymru are looking for people to work with them. Some subject experts available, there is a steering group but not subject experts. OS confirmed because of the importance of RVE, the units will be given thorough attention, as a mandatory subject to 16.
QW mentioned it has approvals team working with skills suite. Every unit is to be available by Sept 2026. Some units to be published if ready before others. WASACRE raised concerns as this could have a negative impact for those skills being released at a later date.
June Jenkins will be leading on the qualifications.

It was a beneficial meeting to gain a better understanding. Further meetings to be held as these qualifications are developed.

RB: Skills suite is crucial to the future of RVE at Key Stage Four, does the kind of structure of consultation enable expert input into that process?

RS: WASACRE are part of this directory of 'go to' people to contact for the developers of the qualification. Qualifications Wales has recognised that there is a need to look more closely at the intended development of those three specific units above others. It is difficult, as no one has been appointed to write these qualifications yet.

PL: PL is on a panel of experts that will be looking through the bids and steering them. PL won't be offering support to individual bodies because that will be a conflict of interest, but he will be able to see what is submitted and provide advice to Qualifications Wales.

RS: Must be mindful of two things 1) It is not designed to cover all RVE requirements and 2) It is down to all individual schools what, if any, of the skills suites they offer their learners. This is something to notify advisors to schools and LAs, that there is a push required to look at the value of those three units, to encourage take up.

11. EFTRE Conferences

The conference is held every three years and is in Budapest this year. WASACRE have invited teachers to apply for a bursary to attend. Two teachers have applied and have been successful in their application. WASACRE is pleased to be able to sponsor the RVE teachers. The teachers will report back to WASACRE on their visit.

PL, EFTRE representative, will also be attending and encourages the members to read the program published on the EFTRE website and to read the fascinating country reports.

PL has suggested to WASACRE to consider Wales as the location for the 2028 conference. EFTRE works in partnership with the host country. The host will have a greater percentage of presenters and EFTRE encourages teachers to present. Suggested a potential for a European project looking at Cynefin around Europe. EFTRE will meet as a board at the end of the 2025 conference.

EE: PL mentioned this at the last Exec. meeting in May, and questions were raised. The Exec. will return to this subject at the next meeting, after further information received post EFTRE conference.

12. Report by the Executive Committee held on 14-5-25

TaS: Most matters are being covered on today's agenda.

It was noted that the response to the conference day had been positive. Numerous requests have been received for further online seminars, similar to the WASACRE pre and post conference seminars last year.

The Executive are keen to follow up on the success of the conference in the next school year. A small working group has been formed to generate some initial ideas for further discussion, which will be shared in due course.

13. Updates

• **CBAC / WJEC (Christopher Owens)**

CO was unable to attend and sent a brief written update which RS read out to the members. Update as follows:

It is a very busy time for the board with exam season, the summer series for A level, AS and GCSEs are taking place. Exams have been sat and marking in process. For GCSE religious studies entries, all units had entries in both English and Welsh medium, the only religion that didn't have an entry, and this has been the case for a number of years, is Sikhism. For the autumn term, there are professional learning events scheduled. It will be online professional learning, and it will focus primarily on the NEA for unit two. No date has been scheduled yet. The first teaching of the new GCSE will be September 2025 with first examining of the unit two NEA and the exam paper units in the summer of 2026.

• **REC (Kathy Riddick)**

KR gave the following update:

As previously mentioned, REC are writing an open letter to the education minister and will share with WASACRE.

REC has been occupied with the curriculum review in England. Sarah Lane Court, who is chair of the REC has been presenting to the Education Committee in England about the state of RE problems. REC are recommending a national exemplar framework and waiting to see how the curriculum review develops. The output from that and the decisions about how they are going to move forward with that curriculum review are due in the autumn.

There is a board meeting this afternoon,

• **PYCAG / NAPfRVE (Phil Lord)**

PL gave the following update:

With the natural cycle of chairs moving on and vice chairs taking on the new role. I've taken on the role as chair for NAPfRVE for the foreseeable future, Paula Webber has stepped down from the role, and DG has stepped into the role of Vice Chair.

In our last meeting, we discussed many of the issues being covered today. NAPfRVE wrote a letter to the Vice Chancellor of Cardiff University regarding the cuts and closures and was sent on 9th June 2025. NAPfRVE have requested that the university explore the potential consequences of what the cuts and closures might mean, whether they have any concerns, and what would they do about it? There has been no response, so the letter will be resent next week.

Annual reports were discussed and how would a good annual report look, awaiting guidance from Welsh Government.

NAPfRVE have offered support to WJEC regarding its conversations on the skills suite. Conscious that NAPfRVE do not want to favour certain organisations. If there are other organisations that people know that will be looking to bid for those skills suites, please let PL know. WJEC are meeting next week, and NAPfRVE is represented at these meetings.

NAPfRVE are trying to produce valuable support letters for the world of RVE through 'RVE coffee'. There is a meeting in a fortnight's time to look at progression in RVE with a view to provide guidance and support material on this subject.

EE congratulated PL and DG for taking on the role of chair and vice chair respectively, and WASACRE looks forward to continuing the relationship between NAPfRVE and WASACRE.

- **Estyn (Gwawr Meirion)**
No update available
- **Materion lleol / ymholiadau / Local matters / enquiries**
No enquiries received on local matters.

14. Correspondence

- All correspondence has been dealt with in this meeting.

15. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)

- No AOB

16. Date for next meeting (AGM) – via zoom, hosted by The Vale of Glamorgan on Wed 19th November 2025

Meeting ended at 12.20pm.

DRAFT

Yn bresennol

<p>Ynys Môn Non Dafydd (ND)</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Kathy Riddick (KR)</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr Alice Parry (AP) Edward Evans (EE)</p> <p>Caerffili Eifion ap Llwyd Dafydd (ELD)</p> <p>Caerdydd</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin Gaynor Jones-Higgs (GJH)</p> <p>Ceredigion Rhianydd James (RJ)</p> <p>Conwy Phil Lord (PL) Roger Boon (RB)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych Phil Lord (PL) Collete Owen (CO) Jennie Downes (JD)</p> <p>Sir y Fflint Vicky Barlow (VB) Trevor Dobson (TB)</p> <p>Gwynedd</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful Donna Graves</p> <p>Sir Fynwy Louise Brown (LB)</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot Rachel Samuel (RS)</p> <p>Casnewydd</p>	<p>Powys John Mitson (JM)</p> <p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Matthew Maidment (MM)</p> <p>Torfaen Hayley Jones (HJ)</p> <p>Bro Morganwg Tyler Saunders Marged Williams</p> <p>Wrecsam / Wrecsam Tania ap Siôn (TS) Libby Jones (LJ)</p> <p>Rhys Evans</p>	<p>PYCCGM Phil Lord (PL) <i>Donna Graves (DG)</i></p> <p>EFTRE Phil Lord (PL)</p> <p>Arsylwyr:</p> <p>CBAC Paul Morgan</p> <p>ESTYN</p> <p>Llywodraeth Cymru</p> <p>REC Kathy Riddick (KR) Libby Jones (LJ)</p> <p>Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru</p> <p>Gwasanaeth Addysg Gatholig</p> <p>Cymwysterau Cymru</p> <p>Rhydwaith Rhyng- ffydd</p> <p>ADEW</p> <p>Siaradwr Gwadd Jaimie Woodhouse</p> <p>Cofnodion (o'r recordiad) Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p> <p>Cyfieithydd: Sioned Jones</p>
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Cofnodion y cyfarfod

1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso

Croesawodd EE yr aelodau i gyfarfod yr haf a diolchodd i Awdurdod Lleol Ynys Môn a'i CYSAG am gynnal cyfarfod heddiw. Croesawodd EE y Cynghorydd Non Dafydd, Ymgynghorydd a Chadeirydd CYSAG Ynys Môn a roddodd y cyflwyniad canlynol:

Mae'n fraint cynnal cyfarfod CCYSAGauC. Rydym yn dod ynghyd gydag ymrwymiad i feithrin datblygiad Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru, gan gydnabod ei rôl sylfaenol wrth feithrin dealltwriaeth o'n pwrpas moesol. Wrth i ni ddechrau ar yr ymdrech hon gyda'n gilydd, gadewch inni gydnabod rôl yr ALLau wrth sicrhau bod y cwricwlwm CGM yn diwallu anghenion amrywiol ein cymunedau a phrofiadau pob disgybl mewn ysgolion.

Mae CGM mewn ysgolion yn garreg filltir i gymdeithas sy'n gynhwysol, trwy ymgysylltu â chwestiynau moesegol anodd, archwilio gwahanol fydolygon a pharchu gwahaniaethau. Mae myfyrwyr yn cael mewnwelediad gwerthfawr i wahanol systemau credoau a gwerthoedd sy'n ffurfio ein byd heddiw. Mae cael gwybodaeth o'r fath yn arwain at ddealltwriaeth sy'n lleihau rhagfarnau ac yn annog deialog ystyrion rhwng unigolion o wahanol gefndiroedd.

Mae ALLau mewn sefyllfa unigryw i hwyluso'r daith hon, gan bontio rhwng polisi a gweithrediad ymarferol. Mae ein cyfraniadau'n hanfodol i sicrhau bod addysg yn parhau i fod yn ddeinamig ac yn ymateb i'r anghenion sy'n esblygu ar gyfer dysgwyr ac athrawon.

Diolch i chi gyd am eich ymrwymiad i'r daith barhaus hon. Mae eich cyfranogiad yn y cyfarfod hwn yn dangos eich parodrwydd i ystyried datblygiad yr agwedd bwysig hon ar addysg. Gobeithio y gallwn ni i gyd fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i rannu syniadau i ysbrydoli camau gweithredu ac i feithrin partneriaethau i gryfhau addysg ledled Cymru.

Gyda'n gilydd gallwn adeiladu dyfodol disgleiriach i'n myfyrwyr yn seiliedig ar werthoedd, parch, dealltwriaeth a chyfrifoldeb.

Diolchodd EE i Non Dafydd.

2. Myfyrdod tawel

Arweiniodd EE fyfyrdod ar heddwch a thrugaredd a rhannodd y stori "Dim Mwy na Dim". Gorffennodd EE gyda gweddi am undod.

3. Ymddiheuriadau

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau gan y Cynghorydd Nia Jenkins (Castell Nedd Port Talbot), y Cynghorydd Rachel Buckler (Sir Fynwy), Christopher Owens (CBAC), Michaela Benjamin (Estyn), Ellen Stock (CLILC), Emily Lloyd (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru). Nododd Vicky Barlow y byddai'n rhaid iddi adael yn gynnar.

4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod diwethaf, Zoom, (6 Mawrth 2025, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr)

Adolygwyd y cofnodion a dylid eu diwygio fel a ganlyn:

- Dylid rhestru Andrew Bennett o dan Sir Gaerfyrddin.
- Newid "arbenigwyr AG" i "ymgynghorwyr AG".
- Newid "addysg rhyw" i "addysg rhywioldeb".

Cynigiodd RS ac eiliodd VB, gyda'r newidiadau hyn, fod y cofnodion yn cael eu derbyn fel cofnod cywir o'r cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 6 Mawrth 2025.

Bydd EE, y Cadeirydd, yn llofnodi'r cofnodion i nodi mai dyma'r fersiwn derfynol ac yn darparu'r copi wedi'i lofnodi hwn i AP i'w ffeilio.

5. Materion yn codi o gofnodion y cyfarfod diwethaf, (6 Mawrth 2025, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr)

- Dim materion newydd yn codi y tu allan i agenda'r cyfarfod presennol.

- Soniodd RB nad oedd adroddiad dwyieithog TaS wedi cyrraedd ei CYSAG.
- Cadarnhaodd LJ ei fod wedi'i anfon at bob CYSAG a bydd yn ei ailanfon at RB.

6. Cyflwyniad PYCCGM

Diolchodd Jaimie Woodhouse (JW) i CCYSAGauC a PYCCGM am y fraint o gael siarad yn y cyfarfod hwn. Mae JW yn siaradwr ysgol ar Ddyneiddiaeth a Sentientiaeth.

Cyflwynodd JW sleidiau ar Sentientiaeth. Bydd copi o'r cyflwyniad manwl a rannodd JW yn cael ei ddsbarthu i'r CYSAGau ar ôl y cyfarfod hwn. I grynhoi:

- Mae'r gair Sentientiaeth yn fydolwg fodern gyda bydolygon treftadaeth hynafol, sydd ag adleisiau o themâu o'r crefyddau Dharmaidd, y crefyddau Abrahamaidd, Dyneiddiaeth a Feganiaeth fel byd-olwg hefyd. Mae'n fydolwg syml wedi'i chrynhoi fel tystiolaeth, rheswm a thrugaredd at bob bod ymwybodol.
- Mae pobl ifanc yn pryderu am amrywiaeth, gwahaniaethu a hunaniaeth ac yn bryderus iawn am natur, yr amgylchedd a'r hinsawdd, sy'n dod yn fwy o fygythiad gydag effaith deallusrwydd artifisial a'r goblygiadau i'r technolegau hynny ar y ffordd rydym yn byw ein bywydau. Mae bydolwg teimladwy yn cysylltu ac yn atseinio â llawer o'r themâu gwahanol hynny a dyma'r cyd-destun y mae Sentientiaeth yn perthyn iddo fel byd-olwg anghrefyddol arall.
- Mae'n blatfform athronyddol syml, radical, plwraliaethol
- Cyflwynodd JW syniadau ar sut i addysgu Sentientiaeth mewn CGM a sut mae'n cyd-fynd â'r amcanion ar gyfer CGM fel pwnc. Gellir mynd i'r afael ag ef ar bob lefel, o rai 17/18 oed a myfyrwyr prifysgol i lawr i'r blynyddoedd cynnar.
- Cyflwynodd JW 4 syniad am wers.
- Cynigiodd JW helpu CCYSAuC ymhellach ac mae ei fanylion cyswllt i'w gweld ar y sleidiau.

Diolchodd EE i JW am ei gyflwyniad.

7. Materion Llywodraeth Cymru [LIC]

Cyfarfodydd tymhorol arferol gyda chydweithwyr Llywodraeth Cymru (LIC)

Cyfarfu swyddogion CCYSAGauC â chydweithwyr Llywodraeth Cymru, Alison Tom, Lloyd Hopkin a Guy DeLong-Smith ddydd Llun 19eg o Fai. Mae crynodeb o'r cyfarfod fel a ganlyn:

- Trafodaeth ar adroddiadau blynyddol CYSAG a'r niferoedd a dderbyniwyd ar gyfer 2023/24.
 - Rhannodd LIC a CCYSAGauC restr o'r adroddiadau a dderbyniwyd. Dywedodd LIC y byddent yn codi hyn gyda Chymdeithas Cyfarwyddwyr Addysg Cymru (ADEW) er mwyn eu hatgoffa o'i dyletswyddau cyfreithiol ynghylch Adroddiadau Blynyddol CYSAGau.
 - Cadarnhaodd LIC fod yr adroddiadau'n cael eu ffeilio'n ddiogel, a'u bod yn cael eu darllen a'u hystyried gan gydweithwyr priodol yn Nhîm Addysg Llywodraeth Cymru. Defnyddir yr adroddiadau i lywio sgysiaid mewnol. Bydd LIC yn ystyried darparu adroddiadau cryno yn y dyfodol.
- Gofynnodd CCYSAGauC 'Sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyl i ysgolion ddarparu CGM mandadol ym mlwyddyn 10 ac 11 o fis Medi 2025 heb gymhwyster dynodedig yn cael ei gynnig, fel y cwrs byr AG blaenorol?'
 - Ymatebodd y Llywodraeth y dylai'r ALI fod yn rhan o wella ysgolion, ac mae [Adnodd](#) bellach wedi'i sefydlu ac yn rhedeg a bydd yn cefnogi datblygu adnoddau. Mae CGM wedi'i nodi fel maes blaenoriaeth.
- Gofynnodd CCYSAGauC 'Os nad yw'r gyfres sgiliau a'r prosiect personol wedi'u cynllunio i fodloni'r gofyniad mandadol ar gyfer CGM yn unig, beth mae LIC yn awgrymu y dylai ysgolion ei wneud, i sicrhau eu bod wedi bodloni'r gofyniad mandadol ar gyfer CGM o 2027?'
 - Soniodd Llywodraeth Cymru y dylai ysgolion osgoi asesu popeth. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi dull mwy cyfannol ym mlwyddyn 10 ac 11. Nid gwybodaeth a sgiliau yn unig sy'n bwysig ond hefyd tueddfryd a gwerthoedd. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod bod ysgolion yn dal i feddwl am gymwysterau ac yn cynnwys pethau ar yr amserlen y mae angen adrodd arnynt ac yn dal i weithio yn ôl y mesurau perfformiad cyfredol hynny, a fydd yn newid.
- Cafwyd trafodaeth hefyd ynghylch a fydd y mesurau perfformiad newydd yn cefnogi'r ddarpariaeth fandadol o CGM, a phryd mae'r ymgynghoriad ar hyn. Dywedodd LH ei fod yn credu ei fod naill ai allan nawr, neu ei fod yn dod yn fuan. LH i adrodd yn ôl i CCYSAGAUc ar hyn.
- Gofynnodd CCYSAGAUc a oedd penderfyniad wedi'i wneud ynghylch a fydd Cymwysterau Archwilio Bydolygon Agored Cymru ar gael i ysgolion yng Nghymru ar gyfer cofrestru ym mis Medi 2027, oherwydd bod llawer o ysgolion newydd ddechrau'r cymhwyster hwn ym mis Medi 2025.

- Wedi hynny, mae LIC wedi ein hysbysu bod proses apelio yn digwydd ar gyfer y cymhwyster hwn, gan iddo gael ei benderfynu ym mis Mai gan Gymwysterau Cymru na fyddai Archwilio Bydolygon Agored Cymru yn cael ei ddynodi o fis Medi 2027. Gwneir y penderfyniad terfynol gan Gymwysterau Cymru ddiwedd mis Medi, pan fydd ysgolion yn cael gwybod. Mae CCYSAGauC yn gwybod am nifer o ysgolion sydd wedi ysgrifennu llythyrau at Agored Cymru i gefnogi'r cymhwyster ac mae hynny wedi'i gynnwys yn eu hapêl.
- Trafodwyd y toriadau Addysg Uwch a gofynnodd CCYSAGauC beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r toriadau mewn Diwinyddiaeth ac Astudiaethau Crefyddol ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, ac effaith diswyddiadau ar y cyrsiau BA Addysg a TAR ym Met Caerdydd, a fydd yn amlwg yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar arbenigedd mewn CGM a chenedlaethau'r dyfodol o ddysgwyr.
 - Dywedodd Llywodraeth Cymru nad oes ganddi unrhyw awdurdod dros brifysgolion nac unrhyw lais mewn penderfyniadau a wneir ynghylch y rhaglenni. Mae LIC wedi datblygu corff dysgu proffesiynol newydd o'r enw Adnodd, sy'n gyfrifol am ddatblygu adnoddau dysgu proffesiynol ar gyfer ymarferwyr yng Nghymru, a dywedodd LIC eto fod y corff hwn wedi nodi CGM fel maes blaenoriaeth. Mae ganddyn nhw hefyd gorff newydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru o'r enw [Medr](#), sy'n gymysgedd o eiriau Cymraeg am sgil a gallu. Mae'n gorff a noddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru sy'n goruchwylio addysg ac ymchwil ôl-16 yng Nghymru, a ddaeth yn weithredol ym mis Awst 2024.
 - Bydd LIC yn gwneud ymholiadau ynghylch pwy sy'n arwain ar y trosolwg o'r galw am bynciau, y ddarpariaeth a'r dosbarthiad mewn AU yng Nghymru o fewn Medr a bydd yn adrodd yn ôl. Mae'n debyg y bydd y gwaith hwn yn ystyried lle gallai fod angen ymyriadau i sicrhau parhad meysydd pwnc strategol bwysig, ac yn amlwg rydym wedi pwysleisio bod CGM yn un ohonyn nhw.
- Roedd diweddariad hefyd ar y prosiect TG yr oedd CCYSAGAUc yn gweithio arno gyda thîm Kevin Palmer a Max. Cafodd y prosiect hwn ei ohirio oherwydd amgylchiadau annisgwyl. Mae CCYSAGauC wedi cael manylion cyswllt Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr newydd yr adran Ymarferwyr Ysgol, Chris Warner.
- Yr eitem olaf ar yr agenda oedd goblygiadau'r adolygiad haen ganol ar CYSAGau a CYSau ac ymgynghorwyr CGM, yn enwedig mewn ALLau, nad oes ganddynt ymgynghorydd penodedig ar hyn o bryd, a'r rhai sydd wedi'u tynnu allan o'r gwasanaeth rhanbarthol newydd, sydd bellach wedi'i weithredu ledled Cymru.
 - Dywedodd LIC eu bod yn rhagweld y bydd partneriaethau mwy anffurfiol yn cael eu ffurfio i gefnogi pob agwedd ar y cwricwlwm. Byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn bryderus pe na bai capasiti ar gyfer cefnogi CGM neu gefnogaeth i'r CYSAGau o fewn pob awdurdod lleol.
- MM: A yw CCYSAGauC wedi cysylltu â Chymwysterau Cymru (CC) a CBAC ynghylch cwrs Agored Cymru? Oes unrhyw beth arall y gallwn ei wneud i geisio cefnogi'r cwrs hwn? Rwy'n ei ddechrau eleni, ac mae'n ymddangos yn ddewis arall da i'r TGAU o ran yr hyblygrwydd a'r cynnwys. Mae ennill cymhwyster yn ddefnyddiol i ysgogi disgyblion.
- LJ: Cyfarfu CCYSAGauC â Chymwysterau Cymru ym mis Ebrill 2025, a bydd RS yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Pwyllgor yn ddiweddarach yn y cyfarfod. Mae Cymwysterau Cymru yn ei weld fel newid diwylliant i athrawon, ac mae hefyd yn newid diwylliant i ddysgwyr a rhieni i feddwl am ffyrdd newydd o ysgogi dysgwyr heb y cymhwyster hwnnw, sy'n her i ysgolion. Mae CCYSAGauC yn sicr yn ystyried bod cymhwyster yn gymhelliant da i ddysgwyr, ond efallai nid i bob dysgwr.
- RB: Roedd Conwy wedi rhannu pryderon tebyg gyda CC. Rhannodd RB ymateb CC gyda Sam Rowlands, aelod cynulliad lleol Gogledd Cymru, a gafodd gyfarfod â Lynn Neagle yn ei dro. Roedd rhai anghysondebau yn yr adborth gan CC a Lynn Neagle.

CAM GWEITHREDU: RB i rannu'r holl ohebiaeth â CCYSAGauC drwy e-bost at LJ.

Ymateb gan Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet Lynne Neagle

Adroddodd EE y canlynol:

Cafodd y llythyr a anfonwyd at LN ei ddisbarthu i bob CYSAG cyn y cyfarfod.

Roedd y llythyr yn cynnwys y cwestiynau canlynol:

- Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i gefnogi a monitro'r ddarpariaeth o CGM mandadol?
- Pa fecanweithiau sydd ar waith i sicrhau bod ysgolion yn cydymffurfio â gofynion statudol Deddf cwricwlwm ac asesu Cymru mewn perthynas â CGM?
- Sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi datblygiad proffesiynol athrawon CGM presennol a darpar athrawon?
- Beth yw rôl CYSau yn y dyfodol?

Darllenodd EE yr ymateb gan LN. Dosbarthwyd yr ymateb llawn gyda phapurau'r agenda. Diolchodd LN i CCYSAGauC am ei chefnogaeth barhaus wrth helpu ysgolion i gyflwyno CGM. Cydnabu LN bwysigrwydd CCYSAGauC a CYSau wrth gefnogi ysgolion i fodloni gofynion deddfwriaethol.

Soniodd EE am bwysigrwydd cyfarfodydd rheolaidd CCYSAGauC gyda'r Pwyllgor Gwaith a chymaint mae'r Pwyllgor Gwaith yn gwerthfawrogi rolau CCYSAGauC a'r CYSAGau.

8. Ymchwil a gefnogwyd gan CCYSAGauC - Prosiect Llais yr Athro: CGM yn y Cwricwlwm i Cymru

TaS: Cafodd nodyn atgoffa am yr arolwg gyda dolenni a chodau QR ei gynnwys yn y papurau agenda. Mae Arolwg Llais yr Athro ar gyfer CGM yn cau mewn ychydig o dan dair wythnos. Mae wedi bod ar agor ers diwedd mis Ionawr, ac mae'n cau ar yr 22ain o Orffennaf ar ôl anfon sawl nodyn atgoffa yn y cam olaf i dderbyn cymaint o ymatebion â phosibl. Mae ar agor i bawb sy'n ymwneud ag addysgu ein CGM mewn o ysgolion neu leoliadau 3 i 16 - meithrin, uwchradd, arbennig ac Unedau Cyfeirio Disgyblion.

Gofynnodd TAS i holl aelodau CYSAG hyrwyddo'r arolwg hwn gan ddefnyddio'r dolenni a'r codau QR. Gofynnir yn benodol am ymatebion gan athrawon mewn ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg.

9. Toriadau prifysgol

Soniodd LJ, oherwydd y toriadau staff a chau ysgolion ym Mhrifysgolion Cymru, fod CCYSAGauC wedi ysgrifennu at Brifysgol Metropolitan Caerdydd i gyflwyno ei safbwynt a'i chefnogaeth a phwysleisio'r angen am arbenigedd CGM ar gyfer y TAR Addysg Grefyddol Uwchradd, y TAR Cynradd a'r BA mewn Addysg Gynradd. Bydd llythyr tebyg yn cael ei anfon at Brifysgol Caerdydd. Mae CCYSAGauC yn bwriadu parhau i weithio gyda LIC i ddod o hyd i atebion i fynd i'r afael ag effaith negyddol bosibl y penderfyniadau hyn ar ddysgwyr a'i lleihau.

Mae CCYSAGauC eisoes wedi cyfrannu at ddatblygu cynllun prosiect gyda Thîm Kevin Palmer. Mae trafodaethau parhaus rhwng cydweithwyr CCYSAGauC a'r Llywodraeth i ystyried y biblinell i ysgolion uwchradd, gwella cynlluniau cymhelliant, gwella dysgu proffesiynol ar gyfer arbenigwyr, ymgyrchoedd a ffyrdd arloesol eraill o sicrhau bod gan bob dysgwr y mynediad gorau posibl at arbenigwyr mewn CGM.

Fel y soniwyd yn flaenorol, mae Adnodd sy'n gyfrifol am ddatblygu adnoddau dysgu proffesiynol ar gyfer ymarferwyr yng Nghymru wedi dweud bod y corff wedi nodi CGM fel maes blaenoriaeth a bod corff newydd, Medr, a fydd yn gyfrifol am ariannu a rheoleiddio'r sector addysg drydyddol ac ymchwil yng Nghymru.

Roedd Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol Cymru a Lloegr hefyd yn bryderus a chynhaliodd gyfarfod (19 Mehefin 2025) o'i gyrrff a'i aelod-sefydliadau sydd yng Nghymru neu sydd â buddiant yng Nghymru. Fel Ymgynghorydd Cymru i'r Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol, anogodd LJ, gynrychiolwyr cyrff aelodau'r Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol i gydnabod Cymru fel partner cyfartal a chynnig cefnogaeth mewn ffordd briodol a pharchus, gan gofio bod addysg yng Nghymru wedi'i datganoli, ni waeth pa mor debyg yw ein materion. Canlyniad y cyfarfod hwnnw, yn fyr, oedd y bydd y Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol yn ysgrifennu llythyr agored am effaith y toriadau hyn ar Addysg Grefyddol.

Gofynnodd LJ am unrhyw gwestiynau/sylwadau:

GJH: Fel caplan Cristnogol ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe, mae fy rôl mewn perygl o gael ei diswyddo ar hyn o bryd. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod timau ffydd yn cael eu heffeithio, yn ogystal ag adrannau academaidd.

JD: Yn bryderus iawn gan mai dim ond ar addysg uwchradd y mae cyflwyno'r cwricwlwm yn effeithio, ac yn amlwg mae addysg bellach yn rhan o'r naratif hwnnw.

RB: Yn bryderus iawn ac wedi cynnig cysylltu â Sam Rowland.

KR: Os nad oes athrawon newydd yn dod drwodd, bydd y pwnc yn dioddef yn fawr. Cynhaliodd y REC gyfarfod yn benodol am y pwnc hwn a'r effaith ar Gymru. Mae pryder hefyd, os byddwn yn recriwtio athrawon o Loegr i lenwi swyddi CGM, na fyddant wedi cael eu hyfforddi yn y cwricwlwm newydd nac yn meddu ar y sgiliau iaith.

Mae llythyr agored y REC at y gweinidog addysg i gael ei lofnodi gan bob parti sydd â diddordeb ac mae'n dangos bod pryder mawr yn gyffredinol.

Mae'n hanfodol bod CCYSAGauC yn cysylltu â'r Senedd, oherwydd er nad oes gan y Senedd oruchwyliaeth na rheolaeth dros y prifysgolion, mae'n rheoli bwrsariaethau a'r lefel o bwys maen nhw'n ei roi ar y pwnc.

Gallwn ofyn i aelodau'r Senedd drefnu dadl ddiwedd y dydd. Mae yna lawer o bethau y gallwn eu gwneud i ymgysylltu ag aelodau'r Senedd ar y grŵp trawsbleidiol ffydd ac yn ehangach. Hoffwn fod yn rhan o helpu gyda'r strategaeth ar gyfer ymgysylltu â'r Senedd.

PL: Awgrymwyd mewn unrhyw ohebiaeth fod gwaith sylweddol wedi'i wneud ar CGM a bod angen mwy o ysgogiad iddo weithio. Gallai'r ymdrech a'r egni i gyflwyno'r cwricwlwm newydd hwn gael eu dadwneud gan rymoedd allanol nad ydynt yn gysylltiedig â'r CGM, ond sy'n ymwneud â llywodraethu ysgolion neu benderfyniadau a wneir y tu allan i'r ysgol.

GWEITHREDU: Swyddogion Gweithredol CCYSAGauC i drafod a phenderfynu ar gynllun gweithredu ynghylch cysylltu â'r Aelod Senedd a'r Senedd ei hun.

10. Cymwysterau

Cyfarfod ag Oliver Stacey (29-4-25)

Rhoddodd RS y diweddariad canlynol:

Cyfarfu CCYSAGauC â chynrychiolwyr Cymwysterau Cymru (CC), Oliver Stacey a Laura Williams.

Trafodwyd y pynciau canlynol:

1) Cymhwyster Agored Cymru – Archwilio Bydolygon sy'n rhedeg tan 2027.

Dywedodd CC fod ganddo broffil uchel a pha mor boblogaidd ydoedd. Ond mae cyfnod i gydnabod a yw'n addas neu a ydyw'n dyblygu cynnwys. Mae gan CC tan ddiwedd mis Medi i benderfynu a fydd y cymhwyster hwn yn parhau ar ôl 2027. Mae apêl wedi dod i law gan Lywodraeth Cymru ynghyd â llythyrau cefnogaeth gan CCYSAGauC, PYCCGM ac ysgolion. Hysbysiad ddiwedd mis Medi. Cyfeiriodd CC at gymhwyster lefel mynediad Pearson, mae CC yn ystyried hwn fel cymhwyster posibl y gellid ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer ysgolion Catholig cyfrwng Saesneg, pe bai Pearson am wneud cais.

2) Rôl, a hawliau CCYSAGauC i weld y fanyleb ddrafft ar gyfer yr uned sgiliau.

Bydd nifer o fyrddau asesu yn edrych ar gymwysterau fel CBAC ac Agored Cymru ynghyd â rhanddeiliaid eraill fel CCYSAGauC yn siarad yn uniongyrchol â'r byrddau asesu. Mae CBAC ac Agored Cymru yn hysbysebu am bobl i eistedd ar y grwpiau llywio. Mae CCYSAGauC wedi'i ychwanegu at y cyfeiriadur o randdeiliaid sy'n cael ei rannu gyda'r byrddau asesu.

3) A oes arbenigwyr penodol i greu'r unedau hyn a faint o arbenigwyr pwnc sydd wedi bod ar y grŵp? Soniodd CC fod rhai byrddau asesu eisoes wedi hysbysebu am fewnbwn i'r safonau newydd e.e. mae Agored Cymru yn chwilio am bobl i weithio gyda nhw. Mae rhai arbenigwyr pwnc ar gael, mae grŵp llywio ond nid arbenigwyr pwnc. Cadarnhaodd OS, oherwydd pwysigrwydd CGM, y bydd yr unedau'n cael sylw trylwyr, fel pwnc gorfodol hyd at 16.

Dywedodd CC fod ganddo dîm cymeradwyo yn gweithio gyda'r gyfres sgiliau. Mae pob uned i fod ar gael erbyn mis Medi 2026. Bydd rhai unedau'n cael eu cyhoeddi os ydynt yn barod cyn eraill. Cododd CCYSAGauC bryderon gan y gallai hyn gael effaith negyddol ar y sgiliau hynny sy'n cael eu rhyddhau yn ddiweddarach.

June Jenkins fydd yn arwain ar y cymwysterau.

Roedd yn gyfarfod buddiol i gael gwell dealltwriaeth. Cynhelir cyfarfodydd pellach wrth i'r cymwysterau hyn gael eu datblygu.

RB: Mae'r gyfres sgiliau yn hanfodol i ddyfodol CGM yng Nghyfnod Allweddol Pedwar, a yw'r math o strwythur ymgynghori yn galluogi mewnbyn arbenigol i'r broses honno?

RS: Mae CCYSAGauC yn rhan o'r cyfeiriadur hwn o bobl y gall y rhai sy'n datblygu'r cymhwyster droi atynt. Mae Cymwysterau Cymru wedi cydnabod bod angen edrych yn fanylach ar y bwriad i ddatblygu'r tair uned benodol hynny uwchlaw eraill. Mae'n anodd, gan nad oes neb wedi'i benodi i ysgrifennu'r cymwysterau hyn eto.

PL: Mae PL ar banel o arbenigwyr a fydd yn edrych drwy'r cynigion ac yn eu llywio. Ni fydd PL yn cynnig cefnogaeth i gyrff unigol oherwydd bydd hynny'n wrthdaro buddiannau, ond bydd yn gallu gweld beth sy'n cael ei gyflwyno a rhoi cyngor i Gymwysterau Cymru.

RS: Rhaid bod yn ymwybodol o ddau beth 1) Nid yw wedi'i gynllunio i gwmpasu pob gofyniad CGM a 2) Mae'n dibynnu ar bob ysgol unigol pa rai, os o gwbl, o'r setiau sgiliau maen nhw'n eu cynnig i'w dysgwyr. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth i ddweud wrth ymgynghorwyr ysgolion ac ALLau, bod angen gwthio i edrych ar werth y tair uned hynny, i annog eu dilyn.

11. Cynhadledd EFTRE

Cynhelir y gynhadledd bob tair blynedd ac mae yn Budapest eleni. Mae CCYSAGauC wedi gwahodd athrawon i wneud cais am fwrariaeth i fynychu. Mae dau athro wedi gwneud cais ac wedi bod yn llwyddiannus yn eu cais. Mae CCYSAGauC yn falch o allu noddî'r athrawon CGM. Bydd yr athrawon yn adrodd yn ôl i CCYSAGauC ar eu hymweliad.

Bydd PL, cynrychiolydd EFTRE, hefyd yn bresennol ac mae'n annog yr aelodau i ddarllen y rhaglen a gyhoeddwyd ar wefan EFTRE ac i ddarllen yr adroddiadau diddorol am y wlad.

Mae PL wedi awgrymu i CCYSAGauC ystyried Cymru fel lleoliad ar gyfer cynhadledd 2028. Mae EFTRE yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth â'r wlad sy'n cynnal y gynhadledd. Bydd gan y wlad sy'n cynnal y gynhadledd ganran uwch o gyflwynwyr ac mae EFTRE yn annog athrawon i gyflwyno. Awgrymwyd potensial ar gyfer prosiect Ewropeaidd yn edrych ar Cynefin ledled Ewrop. Bydd EFTRE yn cyfarfod fel bwrdd ar ddiwedd cynhadledd 2025.

EE: Soniodd y PL am hyn yng nghyfarfod diwethaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith ym mis Mai, a chodwyd cwestiynau. Bydd y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn dychwelyd at y pwnc hwn yn y cyfarfod nesaf, ar ôl derbyn rhagor o wybodaeth ar ôl cynhadledd EFTRE.

12. Adroddiad gan y Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 14-5-25

TaS: Mae'r rhan fwyaf o faterion yn cael eu trafod ar agenda heddiw.

Nodwyd bod yr ymateb i ddiwrnod y gynhadledd wedi bod yn gadarnhaol. Derbyniwyd nifer o geisiadau am seminarau ar-lein pellach, yn debyg i seminarau cyn ac ar ôl y gynhadledd a gynhaliwyd gan CCYSAGauC y llynedd.

Mae'r Pwyllgor Gwaith yn awyddus i ddilyn llwyddiant y gynhadledd yn y flwyddyn ysgol nesaf. Mae gweithgor bach wedi'i ffurfio i gynhyrchu rhai syniadau cychwynnol ar gyfer trafodaeth bellach, a fydd yn cael eu rhannu maes o law.

13. Diweddariadau

• **CBAC (Christopher Owens)**

Nid oedd CO yn gallu bod yn bresennol ac anfonodd ddiweddariad ysgrifenedig byr a ddarllenwyd i'r aelodau gan RS. Y diweddariad fel a ganlyn:

Mae'n gyfnod prysur iawn i'r bwrdd gyda thymor arholiadau, mae cyfres yr haf ar gyfer AS, Safon Uwch a TGAU yn digwydd. Mae arholiadau wedi'u sefyll ac mae'r marcio yn mynd rhagddo. Ar gyfer ceisiadau TGAU astudiaethau crefyddol, roedd gan bob uned geisiadau trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg, yr unig grefydd nad oedd wedi'i ddewis, ac mae hyn wedi bod yn wir ers nifer o flynyddoedd, oedd Sikhiaeth. Ar gyfer tymor yr hydref, mae digwyddiadau dysgu proffesiynol wedi'u trefnu. Bydd yn ddysgu proffesiynol ar-lein, a bydd yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar yr Asesiad Di-arholiad ar gyfer uned dau. Nid oes dyddiad wedi'i drefnu eto. Yr addysgu cyntaf ar y TGAU newydd fydd mis Medi 2025 gyda'r arholiad cyntaf ar yr Asesiad Di-arholiad uned dau a'r unedau papur arholiad yn haf 2026.

• **Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol (REC) (Kathy Riddick)**

Rhoddodd KR y diweddariad canlynol:

Fel y soniwyd yn flaenorol, mae REC yn ysgrifennu llythyr agored at y gweinidog addysg a byddant yn ei rannu gyda CCYSAGauC.

Mae'r REC wedi bod yn brysur gyda'r adolygiad cwricwlwm yn Lloegr. Mae Sarah Lane Court, cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Addysg, wedi bod yn cyflwyno i'r Pwyllgor Addysg yn Lloegr am gyflwr problemau Addysg Grefyddol. Mae'r REC yn argymhell fframwaith enghreifftiol cenedlaethol ac yn aros i weld sut mae'r adolygiad cwricwlwm yn datblygu. Disgwylir y canlyniadau o hynny a'r penderfyniadau ynghylch sut maen nhw'n mynd i symud ymlaen â'r adolygiad cwricwlwm hwnnw yn yr hydref.

Mae cyfarfod bwrdd y prynhawn yma,

• **PYCCGM (Phil Lord)**

Rhoddodd PL y diweddariad canlynol:

Gyda'r cylch naturiol o gadeiryddion yn symud ymlaen ac is-gadeiryddion yn cymryd y rôl newydd, rydw i wedi cymryd y rôl fel cadeirydd PYCCGM am y dyfodol rhagweladwy, mae Paula Webber wedi camu i lawr o'r rôl, ac mae DG wedi camu i rôl yr Is-gadeirydd.

Yn ein cyfarfod diwethaf, trafodwyd llawer o'r materion a drafodwyd heddiw. Ysgrifennodd PYCCGM llythyr at Is-Ganghellor Prifysgol Caerdydd ynghylch y toriadau a'r cau ac fe'i hanfonwyd ar 9 Mehefin 2025. Mae PYCCGM wedi gofyn i'r brifysgol archwilio canlyniadau posibl yr hyn y gallai'r toriadau a'r

cau ei olygu, a oes ganddynt unrhyw bryderon, a beth fyddent yn ei wneud yn ei gylch? Nid oes ymateb wedi dod i law, felly bydd y llythyr yn cael ei ail-anfon yr wythnos nesaf.

Trafodwyd adroddiadau blynyddol a sut olwg fyddai ar adroddiad blynyddol da, gan aros am ganllawiau gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Mae PYCCGM wedi cynnig cefnogaeth i CBAC ynghylch ei sgysiau ar y gyfres sgiliau. Yn ymwybodol nad yw PYCCGM eisiau ffafrio rhai sefydliadau. Os oes sefydliadau eraill y mae pobl yn eu hadnabod a fydd yn ystyried cynnig am y gyfres sgiliau hynny, rhowch wybod i PL. Mae CBAC yn cyfarfod yr wythnos nesaf, ac mae PYCCGM wedi'i gynrychioli yn y cyfarfodydd hyn.

Mae PYCCGM yn ceisio cynhyrchu llythyrau cymorth gwerthfawr ar gyfer byd CGM trwy 'goffi CGM'. Mae cyfarfod ymhen pythefnos i edrych ar gynnydd mewn CGM gyda'r bwriad o ddarparu canllawiau a deunydd cymorth ar y pwnc hwn.

Llongyfarchodd EE PL a DG am ymgymryd â rôl cadeirydd ac is-gadeirydd yn y drefn honno, ac mae CCYSAGauC yn edrych ymlaen at barhau â'r berthynas rhwng PYCCGM a CCYSAGauC.

- **Estyn (Gwawr Meirion)**

Dim diweddariad ar gael

- **Materion lleol / ymholiadau**

Ni dderbyniwyd unrhyw ymholiadau ar faterion lleol.

14. Gohebiaeth

- Mae'r holl ohebiaeth wedi cael ei thrin yn y cyfarfod hwn.

15. Unrhyw fater arall (i'w gytuno cyn y cyfarfod gyda'r Cadeirydd)

- Dim unrhyw fater arall.

16. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf – drwy zoom, a gynhelir gan Fro Morgannwg ar ddydd Mercher 19 Tachwedd 2025

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 12.20pm.

Standing Advisory Council for Religion , Values and Ethics (SAC) Forward Work Programme

What	When	Who
Review of Terms of Reference (inc. Quorum)	tbc	SAC
Collective Worship Report (schools being sent a form to return in the Autumn Term – teacher representatives could give their own schools experience)	tbc	Sharon and Hayley
WJEC/GCSE – update on content and delivery How GCSE is bedding in having been taught since September	tbc	Hayley

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 9

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC) held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Wednesday, 10th September, 2025 at 3.00 pm with remote attendance

PRESENT: FAITH AND BELIEF REPRESENTATIVES
Revd. J. Greaves
Phillip Middleton
Clare Werrett

COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
County Councillor Laura Wright (Chair)
County Councillor Louise Brown
County Councillor Rachel Buckler
County Councillor Su McConnel
County Councillor Paul Pavia
County Councillor Angela Sandles

TEACHER REPRESENTATIVES
Charlotte Rhodes
Clare Rosato
Susan Marles

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Sharon Randall-Smith	Head of Achievement and Attainment
Wendy Barnard	Democratic Services Officer
Geraint Edwards	Head of Litigation and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Hayley Jones	Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE)

APOLOGIES:

County Councillor John Crook (substituted by Su McConnel), Bev Bannon, Maddie Sareireh, Sue Cave.

1. Confirmation of the appointment by Council of the Cabinet Member for Education as Chair of SAC

It was confirmed that Council had appointed the Cabinet Member for Education, County Councillor Laura Wright, as Chair of SAC.

2. Appointment of Vice Chair

County Councillor Louise Brown was appointed as Vice Chair.

3. Welcome, Introduction of New Members and Apologies for Absence

The Chair noted that several new members had been recruited to SAC, as follows:

Bev Bannon, representing the Roman Catholic Church
Tina Bryant, Teacher Representative

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Gareth James, Teacher Representative
Susan Marles, Teacher Representative
Phillip Middleton, Humanist
Charlotte Rhodes, Teacher Representative
Clare Rosato, Teacher Representative
Clare Werrett, representing the Church in Wales

The new members were all welcomed to SAC. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Presentation: Staff from Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales VA Primary School

The Chair welcomed Nicky Wheeler, Deputy Headteacher of Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School to the meeting who provided a presentation about life at the school.

She explained about the Welsh Curriculum; the four purposes, cross curricular responsibilities of literacy, numeracy and digital competence, the six different areas of learning and experience of Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing, Humanities, Languages, Literacy and Communication, Mathematics and Numeracy, Science and Technology.

She explained the 'What Matters' statements and the 5 cross-curricular themes of Relationships and Sexuality Education, Human rights, Diversity, Careers and work-related experiences and Local, national and international contexts.

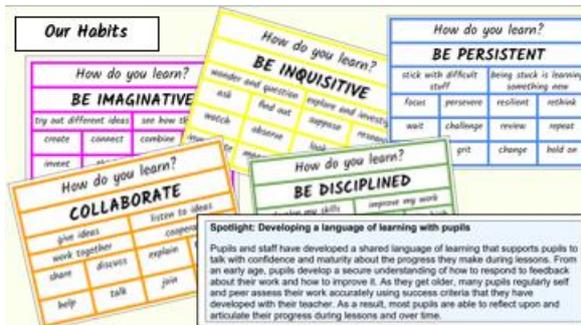
Mrs Wheeler presented the school curriculum vision statement. She explained the Curriculum offer at the school and that supporting provision includes using Understanding Christianity, Forest Schools and Eco schools to help teach the children to be responsible and ethical citizens and Thrive and ELSA to support the children's social and emotional skills.

The School's RVE Provision was explained. RVE is no longer a stand-alone topic but is delivered as part of a theme, a topic, or is the topic driver or the centre of a topic. The RVE Lead has written clear guidance and policy and has worked with the Church in Wales Diocesan Director of Education to conduct a mock Section 50 inspection. The RVE Lead now shares her good practice with other RVE Leads across the diocese. Christian values permeate through all learning; other faiths and non-religious beliefs are also taught. Mrs Wheeler explained how the school's values are embodied in worship and emphasised the importance of Visitors and visits to provide examples of lived experience.

Touching on professional learning, it was explained that every year staff choose a book to read together and reflect upon. Parents, and Governors are also invited to read the chosen book (examples were provided). Policies and practice are updated based on this reflection e.g. practice has changed to improve the children's language of learning used when listening to learners (see below). This approach is to be developed across the cluster.

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Mrs Wheeler shared a typical day in the life of the school and encouraged members to visit the school website to view photographs and information about the school.

A Member welcomed the school's stance on the time allocated to worship and collective worship. Other Members had visited the school and felt very welcome. They confirmed they had experienced the school's positive ethos and practices as explained in the presentation. The Chair and SAC Members thanked Mrs Wheeler for her presentation.

6. To note the record of the previous meeting held on 19th March 2025 and the Recruitment Panels held on 19th March 2025 and 26th June 2025

The notes of the following meetings were approved as an accurate record:

SAC Meeting: 19th March 2025

SAC Recruitment Committee: 19th March 2025

SAC Recruitment Committee: 26th June 2025

Arising from the minutes, a Member noted that the census on faith and belief had not been circulated to schools. It was agreed this matter should be followed up. [ACTION: Hayley Jones/Sharon Randall-Smith]

7. Membership Update

Regarding the two vacancies for teacher representatives, it was confirmed that trade unions have been approached again.

A Member noted that there are also three vacancies for Free Church Council representatives. The Clerk advised that Cytun is no longer able to assist with filling vacancies but have provided a list of churches/organisations within the Free Church Council to approach and also suggested that there may be contacts from within SAC.

8. To receive an update from the EAS RVE Advisor

The RVE Adviser provided an update as follows:

In terms of Professional Learning (PL), there will be continued emphasis on PL throughout the year. Schools will receive support for curriculum planning and development where needed with a shift towards exploring progression within the curriculum. The EAS will continue to identify and share examples of effective practice across schools.

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Secondary Schools receive support for the new GCSE, particularly the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). PL and network meetings are planned to embed this.

In collaboration with Bangor University, training for teachers without a background in RE/RVE is planned with the aim of building confidence and skills for effective RVE teaching. To enhance effective pedagogy, the EAS is revisiting and introducing new teaching strategies to provide tangible tools for immediate classroom application, PL sessions and network meetings for both primary and secondary phases. Enquiry-Based Learning is being explored looking specifically at enquiry processes in RVE to enhance curriculum development.

The first meeting of the Youth SAC is scheduled in two weeks. The Youth SAC will be hosting an Interfaith panel with diverse religious and non-religious representatives. The Youth panel members have been asked to prepare questions for discussion. The event is aligned with Interfaith Week.

A member asked to see the resources provided to the Youth SAC particularly about the religious and non-religious groups. It was confirmed that there are no formal resources only questions devised by the schools themselves. These will be provided in advance to the panels. Topics include climate, science, religion, and Artificial Intelligence

More information was requested on the structure of the Interfaith panel, which religious and non-religious groups are represented and how representatives are chosen.

The EAS continues to provide bespoke School support based on individual schools' needs.

The RVE Adviser noted that no RC Primary Schools in Monmouthshire were able to provide a presentation on the S50 inspection due to workload pressures. The RVE Adviser provided a presentation from St. Helen's RC Primary School in Caerphilly which outlined how Religious Education (RE) is structured and delivered in a Catholic school:

1. Identity and Mission of a Catholic School

Catholic schools must clearly understand and embrace their unique identity.
Faith should permeate all aspects of school life.
RE is taught as truth, not just belief (e.g., Jesus as the Son of God).

2. Structure of Religious Education

RE is delivered through three interconnected areas:

Knowledge – Religious Education Directory (RED): “To know you more clearly”

Worship – Prayer and Liturgy: “To love you more dearly”

Life – Catholic Life and Mission: “To follow you more nearly”

3. Aims of Catholic Education

Systematic study of Catholic beliefs.

Authentic teaching of faith.

Dialogue of encounter with other worldviews.

Critical and personal engagement.

Application across subjects (e.g., history, literacy).

4. Teaching Methodology

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RED is structured around: Hear, Believe, Celebrate, Live.
Teachers are supported with background notes and professional development.
Creative teaching methods include drama, art, outdoor activities, and cross-curricular links.

5. Assessment and Planning

Assessment is in transition; outcomes are defined but not yet formalised.
RE follows a liturgical calendar with consistent themes across school years.

6. Teacher Support and Inclusivity

Teachers of all faiths (or none) can teach RE with proper training.
Culture of honesty and support for teachers unfamiliar with Catholic teachings.
Use of governors and parish priests for guidance and development.

7. Prayer and Liturgy

Daily prayer, Christian meditation, and weekly assemblies.
Creative worship practices (e.g., burying and resurrecting “Hallelujah”).
Formal liturgies like Mass are integral and unchangeable.

8. Catholic Life and Mission

Based on the Jesuit Pupil Profile – virtues integrated into curriculum planning.
Purpose planning starts with virtues and links to Welsh curriculum.
Catholic Social Teaching and ethics taught discretely.

9. RSE and Ethics

Fertile Heart and Life to the Full programmes used to meet Welsh Government requirements.
Faith-based approach to relationships and ethics education.

10. Inspection and Accountability

Schools are inspected every three years across all three areas.
Grading system similar to Ofsted; all areas must be addressed.

11. FAQs Addressed

Non-Catholics can teach in Catholic schools.
Teachers lead prayer regardless of personal belief.
RE must constitute 10% of the weekly timetable.
Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales sets guidelines.

9. WASACRE Business

1. Nominations to the WASACRE Executive Committee: Noted
2. WASACRE Minutes of the March 2025 meeting: Noted
3. SAC Annual Reports: Slides from Phil Lord presentation: Noted
4. WASACRE Letter to Lynne Neagle, Cabinet Secretary for Education: It was noted that schools have to teach the mandatory RVE and examinations. This has caused a problem for schools because of time available/workload. It was considered that the letter

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and that the letter may not have fully addressed that point. It was also noted that officials are going to update on the outcomes and an updated response may be provided.

5. Papers for WASACRE Summer meeting – 2nd July 2025: Noted

10. Annual Report

The draft Annual report was received, and comments were invited.

It was noted that there were no visits to observe collective worship in schools this year. It was queried if that was something that could be considered in the coming year. The Head of Achievement and Extended Services announced that a collective worship survey has been prepared. The survey will be shared with SAC members for comments over the next few weeks. When finalised, the survey will be sent out to schools. The survey will also ask if schools are willing to have SAC Members observe collective worship.

in response to a question, the legal representative confirmed that the SAC's Terms of Reference and the Monmouthshire County Council Constitution include advising the authority on collective worship and RVE in its schools. Worship is distinct from and falls outside the remit of the RVE curriculum.

11. To note the Forward Plan

Noted.

12. Date of Next Meeting: 3rd December 2025 at 3pm

The meeting ended at 4.40 pm