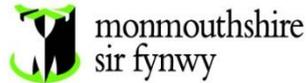


Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga
NP15 1GA

County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 26 September 2023

Notice of Reports Received following Publication of Agenda.

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

Wednesday, 4th October, 2023 at 3.00 pm,
Council Chamber - Council Chamber and remote attendance

Attached are reports that the committee will consider as part of the original agenda but were submitted to democratic services following publication of the agenda.

Item No	Item	Pages
4.	To confirm the draft Annual Report 2022/23	1 - 40

Paul Matthews
Chief Executive

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monmouthshire
sir fynwy

MONMOUTHSHIRE

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGION, VALUES AND
ETHICS**

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

A MESSAGE FROM MONMOUTHSHIRE SAC MEMBERS

Members of the Monmouthshire Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC) would like to express gratitude to everyone in the education sector for the sterling work you are doing to provide children and young people in Wales with care, support, and education despite the many challenges and uncertainties faced as we have emerged from the wake of the pandemic. It has also been a time for great change and growth as schools move into the new Curriculum for Wales 2022.

Members would like to remind practitioners engaged with Religious Education (RE) and Religion Values and Ethics (RVE) that SAC is here to support you with advice on teaching, learning and resources, as well as advice on RVE in the new Curriculum for Wales.

Additionally, support from SAC is also available for the Daily Act of Collective Worship.

Monmouthshire SAC welcomes correspondence via the contacts below:

Wendy Barnard, Clerk to Monmouthshire SAC

wendybarnard3@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Hayley Jones, Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) - Southeast Wales EAS

hayley.jones@sewaleseas.org.uk

**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONMOUTHSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY
COUNCIL FOR RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

2022-2023

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**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF MONMOUTHSHIRE
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

2022-2023

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SAC

1.1 Duty to Establish SAC

All Local Authorities are required to constitute a Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC) within their local area under s 390 of the Education Act 1996, as amended by the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021.

At a meeting of its Full Council on 18 May 2023, Monmouthshire County Council formally constituted its SAC, replacing the predecessor body Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). Legacy functions of SACRE will be exercised by SAC pending the phase out of the pre-Curriculum for Wales 2022 syllabus.

1.2 Composition of SAC

Representation on SAC is required as follows: -

- i. Christian denominations and other religions and religious denominations, and non-religious philosophical convictions, the number of members appointed to the group to represent a religion, denomination or non-religious philosophical conviction being broadly reflective, so far as is consistent with the efficient discharge of the group's functions, of the proportionate strength of the religion, denomination or non-religious philosophical conviction in the area ("faith and belief group");
- ii. Representatives of teachers' associations;
- iii. Representatives of the local authority.

The Local Authority determined that the SAC representation be allocated as follows: 13 representatives for the faith and belief group, 7 representatives for teachers' associations, and 6 Local Authority representatives. In addition, SAC can co-opt up to 2 individuals as non-voting members. Both co-opted places are currently vacant.

1.3 Membership of SAC

The membership list showing the position for 2022 – 2023 is attached at Appendix 1.

In line with the new legislative requirements introduced by the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021, the membership of SAC is wider than the old SACRE in that the faith and belief group now include representation of those with non-religious philosophical convictions as well as Christian denominations and other religions and religious denominations. The LA is currently seeking expressions of interest with respect to vacancies within this group.

With respect to vacancies generally, the LA is currently reviewing its arrangements for appointment of new members to SAC and is proposing to formalise the appointments process.

2 co-opted places are also vacant and work is ongoing to fill these places. There has been discussion of co-opting youth representation via this avenue.

1.4 Functions of SAC

- To advise the Local Authority on worship, religious education and Religion, Values and Ethics to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus including methods of teaching, advice on materials and the provision of training for teachers
- To consider whether to recommend to the local authority that its current agreed syllabus should be reviewed by convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- To consider whether the requirement that religious worship in a county school should be 'broadly Christian in nature' should be varied (determinations)
- To report to the Local Authority to Welsh Government on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings

SACRE met on two occasions during the academic year 2022-2023:

26th October 2022
8th March 2023

In addition, SAC met on the following occasion in the same academic year:

14th June 2023

All three meetings have been hybrid during 2022-2023. However, it has been resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship.

1.6 Circulation of Report

Copies of this report are circulated electronically to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 3. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ADVICE GIVEN BY SAC (SACRE PRE 18-MAY 2023)

Summary of the advice given to the local authority by SAC

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and standards in RE

Action

1. SAC considers and analyses school inspection reports and gleans what information it can in relation to religious education and collective worship. If there are any issues regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up.
2. SAC usually visits schools on an annual basis to receive a presentation on RE/ RVE at the school. However, SAC did not visit any schools during 2022-2023.

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and ensure the agreed syllabus is being implemented in schools

Action

1. In 2008 the Agreed Syllabus Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools, which was implemented from September 2008. In June 2013 the Agreed Syllabus Conference end, endorsed the re-adoption of the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review.
2. SACRE (as it then was) subsequently received updates via email of developments with the Curriculum and the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience.
3. During 2020-2021 SACRE responded to the Welsh Government consultation on the Guidance for Religion Values and Ethics in the Curriculum for Wales 2022.
4. Following the publication of the RVE guidance SACRE advised the local authority to convene an Agreed Syllabus conference where the adoption or adaption of the framework as the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus was discussed.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources for RE/ RVE.

Action

Schools were sent the following information and resources, with SACRE Members also sent a copy of the information:

1. Schools were informed of the 2022 Interfaith Week, Saturday, 12th to the 19th of November. Resources can be found on their website <https://www.interfaithweek.org> – these include lesson plans, case studies, collective worship material suitable for primary to post-16.
2. Schools were informed of the 2023 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Ordinary People'. Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.
3. WASACRE continued to provide resources and advice for RE, RVE and collective worship which was distributed to schools via SACRE.
4. Schools were informed about Welsh Government consultations and publications for Humanities and RVE.
5. Primary and Secondary Network Meetings for curriculum leads and offers of support were sent to all primary and secondary schools through the EAS Humanities Network.
6. Farmington Scholarships 2023-2024 information was sent to all schools and shared via SACRE meetings.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers can access appropriate professional learning (PL).

Action

The principle of subsidiarity in Curriculum for Wales, and EAS have offered a range of professional learning opportunities, for all practitioners within the region, focusing on sharing practice and empowering teachers.

The EAS has provided RE specific training to secondary school practitioners via the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. During 2022-2023 the EAS provided RVE specific PL to both primary and secondary school practitioners via Learning Network Schools, Humanities meetings, and the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. The focus of the training included the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022, approaches to curriculum design and pedagogy, in addition, changes to legislation around RVE.

Schools in the region were also provided with ongoing RVE Headteacher briefings, with the aim to understand the mandatory requirements of RVE, develop understanding of RVE and how it has evolved in the context of the Curriculum for Wales and consider some of the planning or implementation issues that may arise because of the new RVE framework in schools.

Schools were informed of the 2022 Interfaith Week and resources shared their website <https://www.interfaithweek.org> – these include lesson plans, case studies, collective worship material suitable for primary to post-16. It is hoped that schools will find the materials useful and they have been asked to let SAC know of their involvement in order to hear about pupil experiences and learning outcomes.

Schools were informed of the 2023 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Ordinary People' and resources shared their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students. It is hoped that schools will find the materials useful and they have been asked to let SAC know of their involvement in order to hear about pupil experiences and learning outcomes.

WASACRE continued to provide resources and advice for RE, RVE and collective worship which was distributed to schools via SAC.

Schools were informed of any further Welsh Government consultations and publications for Humanities and RVE.

The cross regional Curriculum Design Project continued (supported by Lucy Crehan in 2022) resources were shared with schools, published on Hwb.

Teachers were invited to share good practice with SACRE.

WASACRE commissioned specific professional learning relating to RVE, with Welsh Government funding. The first in a suite of modules were published in March 2023. These resources are intended to support practitioners with the changes to RVE (formerly Religious Education), within the Curriculum for Wales. The modules are specifically tailored and aim to support practitioners. They help with the transition to a new way of thinking, planning, and delivering an RVE curriculum that is purposeful for learners in Wales.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Issue

To ensure that schools fulfil statutory requirements for collective worship and provide a worthwhile experience for pupils.

Action

1. SAC monitors the sections of inspection reports that are concerned with collective worship and SMSC and the LA follows up on any non-fulfilment of statutory requirements by requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023. Estyn did not identify any instances of non-compliance from this inspection with statutory requirements. In nearly all schools, it is reported that spiritual, moral and social skills are developing well and pupils have beneficial opportunities to

develop good understanding of spiritual and ethical beliefs through assemblies, reflection time, comparing different faiths and beliefs.

2. Schools have been informed by SAC of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g., HMD 2022-2023.
3. SAC resolved to hold meetings at schools in the County and observe an act of collective worship, where possible, to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision, and quality of collective worship. This will be planned for in 2023-2024.

OTHER ISSUES:

Aim: To ensure a more informed SAC through providing regular updates on local and national issues.

1. SAC has maintained its membership of WASACRE and receives termly feedback from the meetings of the Association.
2. The RVE Partner is a member of NAPfRE and regularly attends meetings on SAC's behalf.
3. SAC members receive regular training to keep up to date with legislative and educational changes and to understand the role and function of SACs.
4. SAC takes seriously Holocaust Education and advises the LA and its schools on this.
5. SAC has received updates on the development and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022 and the implications for religious education. It has responded to Welsh Government consultations on Curriculum for Wales.
6. SAC has received updates on the development of the Qualifications Wales Full 14-16 qualifications offer consultation and the implications for religious education. It has responded to this.
7. SAC, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Monmouthshire for members to familiarise themselves with RE, RVE and collective worship in schools. This year it was not possible to hold a meeting within a school however, it is something that will be planned for in 2023-2024 where possible.

SECTION 2: ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics (Curriculum for Wales 2022)
Monmouthshire Local Authority convened an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC). The ASC advised the LA to adopt the Religion, Values and Ethics Guidance as the basis of the Local Agreed Syllabus for RVE. Changes have been made to ensure that the document can be read as a Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for RVE. In accordance with the changes to the Curriculum for Wales 2022, Religion, Values and Ethics has been taught to all primary school children and possibly year 7 learners from Sept 2022. Secondary schools were able to defer the teaching of the new curriculum until September 2023. If a secondary school choose to do this, they will teach the new curriculum, including RVE, to both year 7 and 8 in Sept 2023. Secondary schools will continue to teach the pre 2022 curriculum (called Curriculum for Wales 2008), including the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, to pupils in year 8 in Sept 2022 and the 2008 curriculum will follow them during their time in compulsory secondary education.

The new Agreed Syllabus, conforming to the requirements of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022, relates the subject titled 'Religion, Values and Ethics'. The previous Agreed Syllabus, still applicable for secondary schools for the reasons described above, relates to the subject titled 'Religious Education'. This is an important distinction. Monmouthshire adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for 'Religious Education' in 2008.

2.2 Standards In RE

SAC has adopted several strategies for monitoring standards being achieved in religious education in the Authority's schools that include the following.

School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SAC to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Monmouthshire County and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023 this process was re-instated following the Covid -19 pandemic. There are no subject judgments in the current Estyn inspection framework. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a schools' provision of SMSC.

Examination Reports

It has been the practice of SAC to analyse examination results over a three-year period and identify trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data.

However, due to continued guidance from Welsh Government on the way data is presented and to avoid arbitrary comparison of schools, members were not presented with and were unable to discuss the comparative examination data for examinations awarded in 2021-2022. There has been, and will continue to be, a much closer relationship between the LA and SACRE. The EAS partner will be able to

identify schools requiring additional support as a result of a schools' own self-evaluation, Estyn inspections and collaboration with the EAS.

Through the EAS Humanities and RVE practitioner meetings, schools were updated on the changes to the GCSE and GCE examinations for Religious Studies. The practitioners and all issues concerning the examinations for Religious Studies and views were shared with SAC, WASACRE, NAPfRE and the WJEC.

During 2023-2024 SAC will discuss ways in which the Local Authority will be able to provide meaningful information to SAC about the quality of Religious Education and Religious Studies (RS) at KS4 within its schools.

SAC was informed and discussed the national challenges facing RE/RS and the decline in GCSE and A Level entry. The RE Council of England and Wales published a report. SAC were provided with a national update and discussed concerns. Concerns shared with WASACRE and NAPfRE.

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teaching Materials and Teacher Training

Professional Learning

SAC has continued to provide advice and guidance to schools on pedagogy and resources. The EAS, as regional provider of school improvement services and professional learning support to schools and practitioners, has provided a wide range of professional learning programmes, materials and approaches shared with schools in the region.

EAS advertises its courses through CPD online. Mrs Hayley Jones offered bespoke support for Religious Education within the region during 2022-2023.

SAC was advised that the EAS has invested in delivering bespoke support for RE/RS and RVE. This enables schools to receive direct support from the Curriculum Partner for RE/RVE and SACRE/SAC, for example in developing their understanding of the Curriculum for Wales, planning, and designing their RVE and Humanities curriculum. Cluster schools also work together, with the support of the adviser to co-construct and collaborate their RVE and Humanities curriculum design along the learning continuum, from 3 to 16 years. This offer is open to all schools and has allowed schools to build and increase the collective ownership for the development of curriculum, pedagogy, and leadership. This model is becoming the main driver to ensure the realisation of the new curriculum from September 2022 and the delivery of professional learning and will support the national changes in accountability and self-evaluation. RVE practitioners can access EAS professional learning and resources on pedagogy.

Learning Network Schools for Religious Education

The work of the Learning Network Schools (LNS) in each consortium has continued through 2022-2023 and the guidance and support arising from the LNS, together with the

work undertaken between colleagues across SACs and NAPfRE, has been cascaded to teachers of RE.

Bassaleg LNS has produce and shared resources to upskill non-specialist RE/RVE practitioners through information summaries of the major world religions. These resources are available to both primary and secondary schools in the EAS Humanities Teams space and all recordings of Humanities meetings are recorded and stored in the files there for practitioners to return to. Bespoke support is also available as required.

Teaching Materials

A wide range of teaching materials have been made known to schools by SAC as follows:

Farmington Scholarships

SAC provided Monmouthshire schools with information about Farmington Scholarships 2022 - 2023 which are free to Teachers of religious education in the UK. Practitioners can study any aspect of religious education they wish but preference will be given to applicants whose work can be seen to be of direct value to the teaching of RE in schools. The Scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, board and lodging where appropriate, essential local travel and, by negotiation with the school, the salary of a replacement teacher up to point 6 of the main pay scale. School/home-based Scholarships may be taken in the form of day release, for instance for one day a week over a term or over the year or for continuous periods up to a maximum of 30 days. University-based Scholarships may be taken as a block of up to eight weeks or in the form of day release up to 30 days. More information for schools can be found at www.farmington.ac.uk or E-mail: farmington@hmc.ox.ac.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 Resources

For Holocaust Memorial Day 2023, SAC wrote to all schools to encourage them to commemorate the day in some way. They were advised of the theme, and free educational Holocaust resources that can be found on [the Holocaust Memorial Day website](#) – these included lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

The cross regional Curriculum Design Project with Lucy Crehan resources published on Hwb

The Jewish History Association of South Wales resources and website link to support RVE <https://www.jhasw.com/>

JHASW/CHIDC aims to uncover, document, preserve, and share the heritage of the Jewish communities of south Wales. The charity has produced new Holocaust Resources for teachers and students in Wales. The new classroom activities, educational resources and teacher guidance notes on the history of the Holocaust are bilingual (English and Welsh) and completely free to download.

The resources incorporate video testimonies from child refugees who came to Wales during the 1930s to escape Nazi persecution. They tell local stories and show Jews as part of a collective, shared Welsh history. They also give voice to the individuality and common humanity of Jewish lives affected by or lost in the Holocaust.

The training introduced teachers to the charity's Holocaust education resources and explain the rationale, research and pedagogical principles underpinning these new materials.

EAS Humanities Newsletter

An EAS Humanities Newsletter is emailed to all school on a termly basis. The newsletter contains useful information around the teaching and delivery of RVE together with updates relating to the work and function of SACRE.

DRAFT

SECTION 3: ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SAC to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Monmouthshire County Borough and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023 this process was put on hold and will be re-examined for the academic year 2022-2023.

SAC have resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable.

3.2 Applications for Determinations

No applications were received from schools for determinations to be made on the lifting of the requirements for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

3.3 School Visits

SAC appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. Members did not have the opportunity to host a SAC meeting at a school or observe an act of collective worship during 2022-2023. This is something that SAC would like to reinstate during 2023-2024.

SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SAC has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2022-23 academic year issues considered at WASACRE meetings have been fully reported back to SACRE and full discussions have taken place. SAC welcomes the pro-active work of WASACRE in taking up issues that have implications for RE and keeping member SACRE's fully informed. Monmouthshire SAC has received regular feedback from Mrs Jones and those representing SAC at WASACRE meetings.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 Resources – ‘Ordinary People’

Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January 2023, theme ‘Ordinary People’ – is a time put aside to come together to remember, reflect and to learn about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, in the hope that there may be one day in the future with no genocide. We learn more about the past, we empathise with others today, and we take action for a better future.

Commemoration of the event Millions of people who lost their lives in the Holocaust during the Second World War and in genocides around the world was remembered with a special memorial event at Caldicot Hub. The event hosted by Friends of Caldicot Library was held on Thursday 26th of January, ahead of the annual commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day on Friday 27th of January. Members of the public, Monmouthshire County Council cabinet members and colleagues were all in attendance to hear the stories of survivors, listen to readings and to light candles in the victims’ memory.

Wales also hosted its second digital Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony.

For Holocaust Memorial Day 2023, SACRE will write to all schools to encourage them to commemorate the day in some way and will advise them of theme and free educational Holocaust resources that can be found on [the Holocaust Memorial Day website](#) – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.



4.3 CURRICULUM FOR WALES 2022

SAC has received timely updates on the developments being made with regards to Religious Education and the new Curriculum for Wales. SACRE (as it then was) received for information the embargoed copy of the CfW RVE guidance in December 2021 and were able to commence preparations on the new Agreed Syllabus (as an Agreed syllabus Conference) in early 2022 following the publication of the guidance by Welsh Government.

4.4 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

SAC members receive training on the Roles and Responsibilities of SAC at the beginning of each academic year. Members had the opportunity to attend a hybrid training session during 2022-2023, which focused on the roles and responsibilities of SACRE / SAC and explored the impact the Curriculum for Wales 2022 had on SACRE/ SAC and the changes that have been implemented following this.

[SACRE PL 2022 Monmouth](#)

4.5 MEMBERSHIP OF SAC

The current membership list showing the position as of August 2023, is attached at Appendix 1.

The following positions are currently vacant:

Co-opted places – SAC have discussed co-opting two youth representatives onto the Committee. Work and discussions around membership in this area are ongoing.

Committee A – Work is ongoing to fill the vacancies for the four non-Christian faith representatives.

Committee B – Four positions remain vacant for Trade Union Representatives. SACRE have written to schools and are in the process of writing again to seek further expressions of interest to fill these places.

SAC Officers

Sharon Randall-Smith provides support to SAC in her role as Head of Achievement and Attainment and Mrs Hayley Jones the EAS Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) to provide professional support to Monmouthshire SAC within the EAS region. Geraint Edwards is Legal Advisor to SAC. Mrs Wendy Barnard continues to act as Clerk to SAC and Members are very grateful to Mrs Barnard for all her work which is vital to the effective and efficient functioning of Monmouthshire SAC.

Appendix 1: MONMOUTHSHIRE SAC MEMBERSHIP AUTUMN 2022-SUMMER 2023

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS, AND NON-RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL CONVICTIONS - COMMITTEE A

Mr. A. Szwagrzak (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)
Mrs. S. Gooding (Presbyterian Church)
Ms. R. Morteo (Church in Wales) from February 2022
Revd. J. Greaves (Baptist)
Mrs S. Cave (Bahá'í Faith)
Ms. Maddie Saraireh (Muslim Faith)
Chris Francis (Humanism)

Vacancies:

The Methodist Church (1)
The Salvation Army (1)
Hindu Faith (1)
Jewish Faith (1)
Sikh Faith (1)

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS - COMMITTEE B

Mr. N. Jenkins
Mrs S. Hamer
Ms. Charlotte Rhodes

Four vacancies

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMMITTEE C

Cllr. Martyn Groucutt (Chair) from June 2022
Cllr. Angela Sandles from June 2022
Cllr. Louise Brown
Cllr. Paul Pavia

Two vacancies

CO OPTED MEMBERS

Two vacancies

OFFICERS

Sharon Randal Smith (Head of Achievement and Attainment)
Mrs Hayley Jones (EAS Partner for RVE and SAC)
Geraint Edwards (Solicitor, Legal Advisor)

CLERK TO SACRE

Wendy Barnard (Democratic Services Officer)
Email: wendybarnard3@monmouthshire.gov.uk

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

Monmouthshire SACRE Meeting

Wednesday, 26th October 2022 at 10.00 am, Hybrid.

AGENDA

Welcome and Apologies for absence;

Minutes of the previous meeting held on, Wednesday 15th June 2022 and matters arising;

To confirm the Annual Report 2021/22;

Constitution Update;

Membership Update and members training;

EAS RVE Partner update:

- WG RVE resources
- Estyn Update
- Monitoring provision and way forward
- HMD 2023 -Ideas to commemorate;

WASACRE business

- i. To receive and note draft minutes from WASACRE meetings
- ii. To note dates of future WASACRE meeting and confirm representation:
- iii. Autumn – Blaenau Gwent (Wednesday, 16th at 1.00 p.m, Microsoft

Any Other Business

To note the date of the next meeting as 8th March 2023

Monmouthshire SACRE Meeting

Tuesday, 8th March 2023 at 10.00 am, Hybrid

Welcome and Apologies

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th October 2022 and matters arising

SAC Constitution and Terms of Reference

Membership Report

EAS RVE Partner Update

WASACRE Business:

- i. Minutes of Autumn meeting held on 16th November 2022
- ii. WASACRE Executive Committee Nominations
- iii. WASACRE Letter: Welsh Government to undertake a short desk-based exercise, which involves looking at the text of the agreed syllabi for each local authority to get a sense of how faithful these are to the vision and ethos of RVE in the Curriculum for Wales.
- iv. WASACRE Spring Meeting: the meeting will be hosted virtually by Pembrokeshire SACRE and will take place on Tuesday 21st March.

Any Other Business

Date of next and future meetings:

- 14th June 2023 at 3pm (Please note new time)
- 13th September 2023, 3pm
- 6th December 2023, 3pm
- 13th March 2024, 3pm

Monmouthshire SAC Meeting

Wednesday, 14th June, 2023 at 3pm, Hybrid

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

Appointment of Vice Chair

Welcome and Apologies

To note the record of the last meeting held on 8th March 2023 (not quorate)

SAC New legal status: Geraint Edwards, Solicitor

Membership and Future Recruitment Arrangements

Qualifications Wales Full 14-16 qualifications offer consultation

- Consultation links:
- Video link: <https://wasacre.org.uk/news/>
- English: <https://haveyoursay.qualifications.wales/hub-page/the-full-14-16-offer>
- Welsh: <https://dweudeichdweud.cymwysterau.cymru/hub-page/cefndir-ycynnig-llawn14-16>

Monmouthshire Inspection Reports (Summary)

EAS RVE Partner Update

Planning for the Annual Report

Arrangements to review the progress schools are making towards delivering RVE

WASACRE Business

- i. Minutes of Spring WASACRE meeting (21st March 2023)
- ii. WASACRE Summer Meeting - Monday 19th June 2023

Any Other Business:

Dates of Next and Future meetings:

- 13th September 2023 at 3.00pm
- 6th December 2023 at 3.00pm
- 13th March 2023 at 3.00pm

APPENDIX 3: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the Local Authority website and the WASACRE website for interested parties to download.

Members of Monmouthshire County Council

Chair of Education Scrutiny

Regional Director of South East Wales Education Advisory Service (EAS)

Welsh Government Education Officer responsible for Religious Education

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

All members of SACRE

Principals and Governing Bodies of all Colleges within the County Borough

Wales Association of SACRE's (WASACRE)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

The National Library of Wales

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MONMOUTHSHIRE

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

A MESSAGE FROM MONMOUTHSHIRE SACRE MEMBERS

Members of Monmouthshire Standing Advisory Council (SACRE) would like to express gratitude to everyone in the education sector for the sterling work you are doing to provide children and young people in Wales with care, support, and education despite the many challenges and uncertainties faced as we have emerged from the wake of the pandemic. It has also been a time for great change and growth as schools move into the new Curriculum for Wales 2022.

Members would like to remind practitioners engaged with Religious Education (RE) and Religion Values and Ethics (RVE) that SACRE is here to support you with advice on teaching, learning and resources, as well as advice on RVE in the new Curriculum for Wales.

Additionally, support from SACRE is also available for the Daily Act of Collective Worship.

Monmouthshire SACRE welcomes correspondence via the contacts below:

Wendy Barnard, Clerk to Monmouthshire SACRE

wendybarnard3@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Hayley Jones, Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) - Southeast Wales EAS

hayley.jones@sewaleseas.org.uk

**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONMOUTHSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY
COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

2020- 2021

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**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF MONMOUTHSHIRE STANDING
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

2022-2023

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ABOUT SACRE

1.1 Duty to Establish SACRE

All Local Authorities are required to constitute Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) within their local area.

1.2 Composition of SACRE

Representation on SACRE is required as follows: -

- (i) Such Christian and other religious denominations and non-religious philosophical convictions as, in the opinion of the Local Authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area. Since 2018, on the Direction of the Welsh Government Cabinet Minister for Education, humanists can be full members of this Committee as well as other belief groups analogous to religious belief;
- (ii) Representatives of teachers' associations;
- (iii) Representatives of the local authority.

The Local Authority determined that the SACRE should comprise of six elected members, ten bodies representative of religion and belief and seven representatives of teachers' associations. In addition, the Authority allowed for two other individuals to be co-opted. Both co-opted places are currently vacant (see 1.3 regarding actions to fill vacant positions).

1.3 Membership of SACRE

The membership list showing the position for 2022 – 2023 is attached at Appendix 1.

SACRE is continuing to make efforts to seek representation from religious organisations other than Christianity but have experienced delays in finding such representation because of changes to working practices. With regards to Committee A, advice has been sought by the LA regarding updating the constitution in line with the new Curriculum for Wales to ensure diversity, whilst also reflecting the principal religious and non-religious traditions in the area. With regards to Committee B, SACRE is in the process of contacting schools to seek expressions of interest to fill the vacant places on the committee.

Two co-opted places are vacant, and work is ongoing to fill these places. SACRE has discussed co-opting youth representation in this area as SACRE looks forward to young people joining the Standing Advisory Council (SAC) in the future.

1.4 Functions of SACRE

- To advise the Local Authority on worship, religious education and Religion, Values and Ethics to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus including methods of teaching, advice on materials and the provision of training for teachers
- To consider whether to recommend to the local authority that its current agreed syllabus should be reviewed by convening an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- To consider whether the requirement that religious worship in a county school should be 'broadly Christian in nature' should be varied (determinations)
- To report to the Local Authority to Welsh Government on its activities on an annual basis.

1.5 Meetings

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2022-2023.

26th October 2022

8th March 2023

14th June 2023

All three SACRE meetings have been hybrid during 2022-2023. However, SACRE has resolved that, where possible, meetings will be held at alternative venues such as schools or places of worship.

1.6 Circulation of Report

Copies of this report are circulated electronically to those organisations and establishments listed in Appendix 3. It is also available on the Local Authority and the WASACRE website.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ADVICE GIVEN BY SACRE

Summary of the advice given to the local authority by SACRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Issue

To monitor provision and standards in RE

Action

1. SACRE considers and analyses school inspection reports and gleans what information it can in relation to religious education and collective worship. If there are any issues regarding RE, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up.
2. SACRE usually visits schools on an annual basis to receive a presentation on RE/ RVE at the school. However, SACRE did not visit any schools during 2022-2023.

Issue

To fulfil the legal requirement to review the agreed syllabus for RE on a five yearly basis and ensure the agreed syllabus is being implemented in schools

Action

1. In 2008 the Agreed Syllabus Conference endorsed and adopted a new agreed syllabus for the Authority's schools, which was implemented from September 2008. In June 2013 the Agreed Syllabus Conference end, endorsed the re-adoption of the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education with an understanding that the syllabus would be reviewed once further information is received in relation to the assessment and national curriculum review.
2. SACRE has since received updates via email of developments with the Curriculum and the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience.
3. During 2020-2021 SACRE responded to the Welsh Government consultation on the Guidance for Religion Values and Ethics in the Curriculum for Wales 2022.
4. Following the publication of the RVE guidance SACRE advised the local authority to convene an Agreed Syllabus conference where the adoption or adaption of the framework as the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus was discussed.

TEACHING MATERIALS

Issue

To ensure that schools are informed of suitable resources for RE/ RVE.

Action

Schools were sent the following information and resources, with SACRE Members also sent a copy of the information:

1. Schools were informed of the 2022 Interfaith Week, Saturday, 12th to the 19th of November. Resources can be found on their website <https://www.interfaithweek.org> – these include lesson plans, case studies, collective worship material suitable for primary to post-16.
2. Schools were informed of the 2023 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Ordinary People'. Holocaust resources can be found on their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.
3. WASACRE continued to provide resources and advice for RE, RVE and collective worship which was distributed to schools via SACRE.
4. Schools were informed about Welsh Government consultations and publications for Humanities and RVE.
5. Primary and Secondary Network Meetings for curriculum leads and offers of support were sent to all primary and secondary schools through the EAS Humanities Network.
6. Farmington Scholarships 2023-2024 information was sent to all schools and shared via SACRE meetings.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR TEACHERS

Issue

To ensure that teachers can access appropriate professional learning (PL).

Action

The principle of subsidiarity in Curriculum for Wales, and EAS have offered a range of professional learning opportunities, for all practitioners within the region, focusing on sharing practice and empowering teachers.

The EAS has provided RE specific training to secondary school practitioners via the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. During 2022-2023 the EAS provided RVE specific PL to both primary and secondary school practitioners via Learning Network Schools, Humanities meetings, and the Curriculum Partner for RVE and SACREs. The focus of the training included the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022, approaches to curriculum design and pedagogy, in addition, changes to legislation around RVE.

Schools in the region were also provided with ongoing RVE Headteacher briefings, with the aim to understand the mandatory requirements of RVE, develop understanding of RVE and how it has evolved in the context of the Curriculum for Wales and consider some of the planning or implementation issues that may arise because of the new RVE framework in schools.

Schools were informed of the 2022 Interfaith Week and resources shared their website <https://www.interfaithweek.org> – these include lesson plans, case studies, collective worship material suitable for primary to post-16. It is hoped that schools will find the materials useful and they have been asked to let SACRE know of their involvement in order to hear about pupil experiences and learning outcomes.

Schools were informed of the 2023 Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Ordinary People' and resources shared their website www.hmd.org.uk – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students. It is hoped that schools will find the materials useful and they have been asked to let SACRE know of their involvement in order to hear about pupil experiences and learning outcomes.

WASACRE continued to provide resources and advice for RE, RVE and collective worship which was distributed to schools via SACRE.

Schools were informed of any further Welsh Government consultations and publications for Humanities and RVE.

The cross regional Curriculum Design Project continued (supported by Lucy Crehan in 2022) resources were shared with schools, published on Hwb.

Teachers were invited to share good practice with SACRE.

WASACRE commissioned specific professional learning relating to RVE, with Welsh Government funding. The first in a suite of modules were published in March 2023. These resources are intended to support practitioners with the changes to RVE (formerly Religious Education), within the Curriculum for Wales. The modules are specifically tailored and aim to support practitioners. They help with the transition to a new way of thinking, planning, and delivering an RVE curriculum that is purposeful for learners in Wales.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Issue

To ensure that schools fulfil statutory requirements for collective worship and provide a worthwhile experience for pupils.

Action

1. SACRE monitors the sections of inspection reports that are concerned with collective worship and SMSC and the LA follows up on any non-fulfilment of statutory requirements by requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023. Estyn did not identify any instances of non-compliance from this inspection with statutory requirements. In nearly all schools, it is reported that spiritual, moral and social skills are developing well and pupils have beneficial opportunities to

develop good understanding of spiritual and ethical beliefs through assemblies, reflection time, comparing different faiths and beliefs.

2. Schools have been informed by SACRE of appropriate resources and websites that support collective worship in schools e.g., HMD 2022-2023.
3. SACRE resolved to hold meetings at schools in the County and observe an act of collective worship, where possible, to monitor fulfilment of statutory requirements, provision, and quality of collective worship. This will be planned for in 2023-2024.

OTHER ISSUES:

Aim: To ensure a more informed SACRE through providing regular updates on local and national issues.

1. SACRE has maintained its membership of WASACRE and receives termly feedback from the meetings of the Association.
2. The RVE Partner is a member of NAPfRE and regularly attends meetings on SACRE's behalf.
3. SACRE members receive regular training to keep up to date with legislative and educational changes and to understand the role and function of SACREs.
4. SACRE takes seriously Holocaust Education and advises the LA and its schools on this.
5. SACRE has received updates on the development and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales 2022 and the implications for religious education. SACRE has responded to Welsh Government consultations on Curriculum for Wales.
6. SACRE has received updates on the development of the Qualifications Wales Full 14-16 qualifications offer consultation and the implications for religious education. SACRE has responded to this.
7. SACRE, where possible, would hold meetings at schools in Monmouthshire for members to familiarise themselves with RE, RVE and collective worship in schools. This year it was not possible to hold a meeting within a school however, it is something that will be planned for in 2023-2024 where possible.

SECTION 2: ADVICE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2.1 The Locally Agreed Syllabus

Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics (Curriculum for Wales 2022)
Monmouthshire Local Authority convened an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC). The ASC advised the LA to adopt the Religion, Values and Ethics Guidance as the basis of the Local Agreed Syllabus for RVE. Changes have been made to ensure that the document can be read as a Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for RVE. In accordance with the changes to the Curriculum for Wales 2022, Religion, Values and Ethics has been taught to all primary school children and possibly year 7 learners from Sept 2022. Secondary schools were able to defer the teaching of the new curriculum until September 2023. If a secondary school choose to do this, they will teach the new curriculum, including RVE, to both year 7 and 8 in Sept 2023. Secondary schools will continue to teach the pre 2022 curriculum (called Curriculum for Wales 2008), including the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, to pupils in year 8 in Sept 2022 and the 2008 curriculum will follow them during their time in compulsory secondary education.

The new Agreed Syllabus, conforming to the requirements of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022, relates the subject titled 'Religion, Values and Ethics. The previous Agreed Syllabus, still applicable for secondary schools for the reasons described above, relates to the subject titled 'Religious Education'. This is an important distinction. Monmouthshire adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for 'Religious Education' in 2008.

2.2 Standards In RE

SACRE has adopted several strategies for monitoring standards being achieved in religious education in the Authority's schools that include the following.

School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SACRE to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Monmouthshire County and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023 this process was re-instated following the Covid -19 pandemic. There are no subject judgments in the current Estyn inspection framework. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a schools' provision of SMSC.

Examination Reports

It has been the practice of SACRE to analyse examination results over a three-year period and identify trends in performance benchmarked against all Wales data.

However, due to continued guidance from Welsh Government on the way data is presented and to avoid arbitrary comparison of schools, members were not presented with and were unable to discuss the comparative examination data for examinations awarded in 2021-2022. There has been, and will continue to be, a much closer relationship between the LA and SACRE. The EAS partner will be able to

identify schools requiring additional support as a result of a schools' own self-evaluation, Estyn inspections and collaboration with the EAS.

Through the EAS Humanities and RVE practitioner meetings, schools were updated on the changes to the GCSE and GCE examinations for Religious Studies. The practitioners and all issues concerning the examinations for Religious Studies and views were shared with SACRE, WASACRE, NAPfRE and the WJEC.

During 2023-2024 SACRE will discuss ways in which the Local Authority will be able to provide meaningful information to SACRE about the quality of Religious Education and Religious Studies (RS) at KS4 within its schools.

SACRE was informed and discussed the national challenges facing RE/RS and the decline in GCSE and A Level entry. The RE Council of England and Wales published a report. SACRE were provided with a national update and discussed concerns. Concerns shared with WASACRE and NAPfRE.

2.3 Methods of Teaching, Teaching Materials and Teacher Training

Professional Learning

SACRE has continued to provide advice and guidance to schools on pedagogy and resources. The EAS, as regional provider of school improvement services and professional learning support to schools and practitioners, has provided a wide range of professional learning programmes, materials and approaches shared with schools in the region.

EAS advertises its courses through CPD online. Mrs Hayley Jones offered bespoke support for Religious Education within the region during 2022-2023.

SACRE was advised that the EAS has invested in delivering bespoke support for RE/RS and RVE. This enables schools to receive direct support from the Curriculum Partner for RE/RVE and SACRE/SAC, for example in developing their understanding of the Curriculum for Wales, planning, and designing their RVE and Humanities curriculum. Cluster schools also work together, with the support of the adviser to co-construct and collaborate their RVE and Humanities curriculum design along the learning continuum, from 3 to 16 years. This offer is open to all schools and has allowed schools to build and increase the collective ownership for the development of curriculum, pedagogy, and leadership. This model is becoming the main driver to ensure the realisation of the new curriculum from September 2022 and the delivery of professional learning and will support the national changes in accountability and self-evaluation. RVE practitioners can access EAS professional learning and resources on pedagogy.

Learning Network Schools for Religious Education

The work of the Learning Network Schools (LNS) in each consortium has continued through 2022-2023 and the guidance and support arising from the LNS, together with the

work undertaken between colleagues across SACREs and NAPfRE, has been cascaded to teachers of RE.

Bassaleg LNS has produced and shared resources to upskill non-specialist RE/RVE practitioners through information summaries of the major world religions. These resources are available to both primary and secondary schools in the EAS Humanities Teams space and all recordings of Humanities meetings are recorded and stored in the files there for practitioners to return to. Bespoke support is also available as required.

Teaching Materials

A wide range of teaching materials have been made known to schools by SACRE as follows:

Farmington Scholarships

SACRE provided Monmouthshire schools with information about Farmington Scholarships 2022 - 2023 which are free to Teachers of religious education in the UK. Practitioners can study any aspect of religious education they wish but preference will be given to applicants whose work can be seen to be of direct value to the teaching of RE in schools. The Scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, board and lodging where appropriate, essential local travel and, by negotiation with the school, the salary of a replacement teacher up to point 6 of the main pay scale. School/home-based Scholarships may be taken in the form of day release, for instance for one day a week over a term or over the year or for continuous periods up to a maximum of 30 days. University-based Scholarships may be taken as a block of up to eight weeks or in the form of day release up to 30 days. More information for schools can be found at www.farmington.ac.uk or E-mail: farmington@hmc.ox.ac.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 Resources

For Holocaust Memorial Day 2023, SACRE wrote to all schools to encourage them to commemorate the day in some way. They were advised of the theme, and free educational Holocaust resources that can be found on [the Holocaust Memorial Day website](#) – these included lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.

The cross regional Curriculum Design Project with Lucy Crehan resources published on Hwb

The Jewish History Association of South Wales resources and website link to support RVE <https://www.jhasw.com/>

JHASW/CHIDC aims to uncover, document, preserve, and share the heritage of the Jewish communities of south Wales. The charity has produced new Holocaust Resources for teachers and students in Wales. The new classroom activities, educational resources and teacher guidance notes on the history of the Holocaust are bilingual (English and Welsh) and completely free to download.

The resources incorporate video testimonies from child refugees who came to Wales during the 1930s to escape Nazi persecution. They tell local stories and show Jews as part of a collective, shared Welsh history. They also give voice to the individuality and common humanity of Jewish lives affected by or lost in the Holocaust.

The training introduced teachers to the charity's Holocaust education resources and explain the rationale, research and pedagogical principles underpinning these new materials.

EAS Humanities Newsletter

An EAS Humanities Newsletter is emailed to all school on a termly basis. The newsletter contains useful information around the teaching and delivery of RVE together with updates relating to the work and function of SACRE.

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SECTION 3: ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

3.1 School Inspection Reports

It has been the practice of SACRE to scrutinise relevant sections of Estyn school inspection reports for schools across the Monmouthshire County borough and if any issues emerge regarding collective worship, such as non-fulfilment of statutory requirements, then the LA follows this up requesting their action plan. During 2022-2023 this process was put on hold and will be re-examined for the academic year 2022-2023.

SACRE have resolved to continue to use inspection reports to monitor that statutory requirements are being met and to use whatever comments are applicable.

3.2 Applications for Determinations

No applications were received from schools for determinations to be made on the lifting of the requirements for collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

3.3 School Visits

SACRE appreciates the opportunities accorded to members to observe acts of collective worship in schools. Members did not have the opportunity to host a SACRE meeting at a school or observe an act of collective worship during 2022-2023. This is something that SACRE would like to reinstate during 2023-2024.

SECTION 4: OTHER ISSUES

4.1 WASACRE

SACRE has continued to affiliate to WASACRE and representatives have attended its meetings. During the 2022-23 academic year issues considered at WASACRE meetings have been fully reported back to SACRE and full discussions have taken place. SACRE welcomes the pro-active work of WASACRE in taking up issues that have implications for RE and keeping member SACRE's fully informed. Monmouthshire SACRE has received regular feedback from Mrs Jones and those representing SACRE at WASACRE meetings.

4.2 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 Resources – ‘Ordinary People’

Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January 2023, theme ‘Ordinary People’ – is a time put aside to come together to remember, reflect and to learn about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, in the hope that there may be one day in the future with no genocide. We learn more about the past, we empathise with others today, and we take action for a better future.

Commemoration of the event Millions of people who lost their lives in the Holocaust during the Second World War and in genocides around the world was remembered with a special memorial event at Caldicot Hub. The event hosted by Friends of Caldicot Library was held on Thursday 26th of January, ahead of the annual commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day on Friday 27th of January. Members of the public, Monmouthshire County Council cabinet members and colleagues were all in attendance to hear the stories of survivors, listen to readings and to light candles in the victims’ memory.

Wales also hosted its second digital Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony.

For Holocaust Memorial Day 2023, SACRE will write to all schools to encourage them to commemorate the day in some way and will advise them of theme and free educational Holocaust resources that can be found on [the Holocaust Memorial Day website](#) – these include lesson plans, film clips, case studies, collective worship/assembly material and worksheets suitable for primary to post 16 students.



4.3 CURRICULUM FOR WALES 2022

SACRE has received termly updates on the developments being made with regards to Religious Education and the new Curriculum for Wales. SACRE received for information the embargoed copy of the CfW RVE guidance in December 2021 and were able to commence preparations on the new Agreed Syllabus (as an Agreed syllabus Conference) in early 2022 following the publication of the guidance by Welsh Government.

4.4 TRAINING OF SACRE MEMBERS

SACRE members receive training on the Roles and Responsibilities of SACRE at the beginning of each academic year. Members had the opportunity to attend a hybrid training session during 2022-2023, which focused on the roles and responsibilities of SACRE / SAC and explored the impact the Curriculum for Wales 2022 had on SACRE/ SAC and the changes that have been implemented following this.

[SACRE PL 2022 Monmouth](#)

4.5 MEMBERSHIP OF SACRE

The current membership list showing the position as of August 2023, is attached at Appendix 1.

The following positions are currently vacant:

Co-opted places – SACRE have discussed co-opting two youth representatives onto the Committee. Work and discussions around membership in this area is ongoing.

Committee A – Work is ongoing to fill the vacancies for the four non-Christian faith representatives.

Committee B – Four positions remain vacant for a Trade Union Representatives. SACRE have written to schools and are in the process of writing again to seek further expressions of interest to fill these places.

SACRE Officers

Sharon Randall-Smith provide support to SACRE/SAC in her role as Head of Achievement and Attainment and Mrs Hayley Jones the EAS Curriculum Partner (SACs and RVE) to provide professional support to Monmouthshire SACRE/SAC within the EAS region. Mrs Wendy Barnard continues to act as Clerk to SACRE and Members are very grateful to Mrs Barnard for all her work which is vital to the effective and efficient functioning of Monmouthshire SACRE.

Appendix 1: MONMOUTHSHIRE SACRE MEMBERSHIP AUTUMN 2021-SUMMER 2022

CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS - COMMITTEE A

Mr. A. Szwagrzak (Roman Catholic Archdiocese)
Mrs. S. Gooding (Presbyterian Church)
Ms. R. Morteo (Church in Wales) from February 2022
Revd. J. Greaves (Baptist)
Mrs S. Cave (Bahá'í Faith)
Ms. Maddie Saraireh (Muslim Faith)
Chris Francis (Humanism)

Vacancies:

The Methodist Church (1)
The Salvation Army (1)
Hindu Faith (1)
Jewish Faith (1)
Sikh Faith (1)

TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS - COMMITTEE B

Mr. N. Jenkins
Mrs S. Hamer
Ms. Charlotte Rhodes

Four vacancies

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMMITTEE C

Cllr. Martyn Groucutt (Chair) from June 2022
Cllr. Angela Sandles from June 2022
Cllr. Louise Brown
Cllr. Paul Pavia

Two vacancies

CO OPTED MEMBERS

Two vacancies

OFFICERS

Sharon Randal Smith (Head of Achievement and Attainment)
Mrs Hayley Jones (EAS Partner for RVE and SAC)

CLERK TO SACRE

Wendy Barnard (Democratic Services Officer)
Email: wendybarnard3@monmouthshire.gov.uk

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS

Monmouthshire SACRE Meeting

Wednesday, 26th October 2022 at 10.00 am, Hybrid.

AGENDA

Welcome and Apologies for absence;

Minutes of the previous meeting held on, Wednesday 15th June 2022 and matters arising;

To confirm the Annual Report 2021/22;

Constitution Update;

Membership Update and members training;

EAS RVE Partner update:

- WG RVE resources
- Estyn Update
- Monitoring provision and way forward
- HMD 2023 -Ideas to commemorate;

WASACRE business

- i. To receive and note draft minutes from WASACRE meetings
- ii. To note dates of future WASACRE meeting and confirm representation:
- iii. Autumn – Blaenau Gwent (Wednesday, 16th at 1.00 p.m, Microsoft

Any Other Business

To note the date of the next meeting as 8th March 2023

Monmouthshire SACRE Meeting

Tuesday, 8th March 2023 at 10.00 am, Hybrid

Welcome and Apologies

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th October 2022 and matters arising

SAC Constitution and Terms of Reference

Membership Report

EAS RVE Partner Update

WASACRE Business:

- i. Minutes of Autumn meeting held on 16th November 2022
- ii. WASACRE Executive Committee Nominations
- iii. WASACRE Letter: Welsh Government to undertake a short desk-based exercise, which involves looking at the text of the agreed syllabi for each local authority to get a sense of how faithful these are to the vision and ethos of RVE in the Curriculum for Wales.
- iv. WASACRE Spring Meeting: the meeting will be hosted virtually by Pembrokeshire SACRE and will take place on Tuesday 21st March.

Any Other Business

Date of next and future meetings:

- 14th June 2023 at 3pm (Please note new time)
- 13th September 2023, 3pm
- 6th December 2023, 3pm
- 13th March 2024, 3pm

Monmouthshire SACRE Meeting

Wednesday, 14th June, 2023 at 3pm, Hybrid

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

Appointment of Vice Chair

Welcome and Apologies

To note the record of the last meeting held on 8th March 2023 (not quorate)

SAC New legal status: Geraint Edwards, Solicitor

Membership and Future Recruitment Arrangements

Qualifications Wales Full 14-16 qualifications offer consultation

- Consultation links:
- Video link: <https://wasacre.org.uk/news/>
- English: <https://haveyoursay.qualifications.wales/hub-page/the-full-14-16-offer>
- Welsh: <https://dweudeichdweud.cymwysterau.cymru/hub-page/cefndir-ycynnig-llawn14-16>

Monmouthshire Inspection Reports (Summary)

EAS RVE Partner Update

Planning for the Annual Report

Arrangements to review the progress schools are making towards delivering RVE

WASACRE Business

- i. Minutes of Spring WASACRE meeting (21st March 2023)
- ii. WASACRE Summer Meeting - Monday 19th June 2023

Any Other Business:

Dates of Next and Future meetings:

- 13th September 2023 at 3.00pm
- 6th December 2023 at 3.00pm
- 13th March 2023 at 3.00pm

APPENDIX 3: CIRCULATION OF REPORT

Copies will be sent electronically to the relevant bodies. This report will be available on the Local Authority website and the WASACRE website for interested parties to download.

Members of Monmouthshire County Council

Chair of Education Scrutiny

Regional Director of South East Wales Education Advisory Service (EAS)

Welsh Government Education Officer responsible for Religious Education

Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all County Borough Schools

All members of SACRE

Principals and Governing Bodies of all Colleges within the County Borough

Wales Association of SACRE's (WASACRE)

Minister for Education, Welsh Assembly Government

The National Library of Wales

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