



Purpose: For Decision

# Committee Report

Committee	Isle of Wight Monitoring group for the SACRE
Date	14 June 2023
Title	Monitoring group report
Report of	Professional Adviser to the SACRE

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. Purpose of report:** The purpose of this report is to inform SACRE of the findings and discussions that took place during the meeting of the SACRE monitoring sub-group on 15 May 2023. SACRE has a statutory responsibility to monitor the effectiveness of the agreed syllabus and this group meets before each full SACRE meeting in order to support SACRE in fulfilling this responsibility.
- 3.** Those present at the meeting were: Justine Ball (Sacre Professional Adviser), Harry Kirby, Beth Feltham and Cllr Debbie Andre.

The group received updates on professional RE education, monitoring the effectiveness of RE and visits to schools. It also discussed youth voice to SACRE and governor training during the meeting.

### **Recommendations:**

**That SACRE notes the findings of the monitoring group meeting.**

### **2. Inspector/Adviser Updates:**

HIAS primary and secondary RE Network meetings are taking place on the Island for teachers in the Summer term. The primary meetings were held face to face and the secondary meetings are being held virtually. SACRE members are asked to offer any input on their religion or belief as part of these network meetings if possible and to contact the Professional Adviser regarding this.

A common theme in the secondary meetings was raising the profile of RE and the use of texts. Common themes in the primary meetings were requests for CPD on religions and beliefs. There will be a cross phase RE conference on the mainland on 19 October and teachers will be informed about this and encouraged to attend where possible. Workshops on different traditions, SEND, preparing an RE curriculum and exam boards will be offered.

The monitoring group were informed that training for governors had been arranged on the role of SACRE for RE and Collective Worship and this will take place at Westridge on 11 July from 5 until 7 pm. Members of the SACRE are welcome to attend and are asked to contact the Professional Adviser if they would like to do so. Part of the training will include SEND approaches to RE and Collective Worship from a member of our SACRE.

The secondary network group met to discuss and move forward suggestions for youth voice to SACRE in the year ahead and raised the following thoughts for the SACRE to consider:

- Year 9 is suggested as the target group with representation from each school
- Christ the King would be willing to host, and the event would happen either in the Autumn or Spring term
- Overall theme provided in advance is linked to the relevance of RE in the modern world and contemporary issues, potentially, 'the importance of RE in today's world'.
- Help is requested during the event from faith representatives on these issues from those perspectives
- Students will have time in the conference to feedback to their group from the session/input they attended, and then collectively formulate a response to the theme/question
- This feedback is (if possible with data protection) recorded and used as a resource to feed back to individual schools and at the following SACRE meeting after the event. This can then also be used to raise the profile of RE and encourage GCSE uptake as well.
- An additional meeting will be held to continue planning following any comments after SACRE meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June.
- Additional schools who were not able to attend today will be contacted for input
- Questions for clarification- is the above format of a student conference something SACRE would support? Who on SACRE would be available to give input?

### **Other sources of evidence of effectiveness of RE:**

The Inspector/adviser reported that there were no mentions of RE in the Ofsted reports for Isle of Wight schools in the period up to the monitoring group meeting.

### **3. School visits:**

A special school visit had been undertaken with the RE leader and a member of the SACRE in attendance. The visit had a focus on how the RE curriculum and Collective Worship was designed and adapted to explore how the subject is made engaging, meaningful and interesting for all children. The RE leader was asked to present at the

forthcoming training for governors in July and to showcase some of the teaching approaches used in the school that will be of wider interest to other schools and to SACRE members.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. These set out in full the specific recommendation(s) the Committee are being asked to consider. Ensure the recommendation(s) are reflective of those in the options section, and the recommendations are worded in such a way they can be directly used in the Minutes.