

MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

DATE: 1ST NOVEMBER 2016

SUBJECT MERTHYR SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS 2015/16

SACRE Synopsis: Main findings

During the academic year Autumn 2015- Summer 2016, three primary schools and two secondary schools were inspected.

Spiritual Development

Comments in relation to spiritual development are evident in all inspection reports.

Collective Worship

Meeting statutory requirements

The Estyn Common Inspection Framework notes that inspectors should only report on instances where the school does **not** comply with statutory requirements. We can assume that all schools inspected – as Estyn has not noted any instances of non-compliance - meet statutory requirements in relation to collective worship.

Quality

Two reports made comment on the quality of collective worship

Good features

- The local minister is invited to the school to conduct valuable assemblies
- Daily assemblies reinforce the school's values very successfully and provide valuable opportunities for pupils to reflect on the world around them.

Shortcomings

None

RECOMMENDATION:

For SACRE to discuss and consider the inspection reports

Merthyr Primary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2015/16: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
YGG Santes Tydfil June 2016	Provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is comprehensive and staff promote values based on respect and kindness. The very close links with local chapels and churches offer valuable experiences to pupils e.g. the local minister is invited to the school to conduct valuable assemblies.	Yes	Within school assemblies, the Eco Council promotes pupils' awareness of how to live sustainably. The local minister is invited to the school to conduct valuable assemblies.	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good Teachers plan the curriculum appropriately in order to ensure that learning experiences meet the requirements of the Foundation Phase, the National Curriculum and the agreed syllabus for religious education. There are effective opportunities to learn about global citizenship, which fosters pupils' understanding of the lives of people in other countries. A good example of this is the pupils' activities in comparing their life in Wales with the life of a child in Africa.
YGG Coed -Dderwen Jan 2016	The school has good arrangements to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Through an agreed set of values it develops pupils' care and respect for others effectively. Daily acts of collective worship develop pupils' spiritual awareness successfully.	Yes		Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Good Pupils are tolerant of different views and beliefs. The school develops pupils' understanding of sustainability and global citizenship well. The eco committee meets regularly and makes a useful contribution, to help pupils care for their school environment. Pupils develop an appropriate awareness of the wider world, for example through beneficial links with schools in Zanzibar and Poland.

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
Cyfarthfa Park Primary Dec 2015	The school provides a coherent and structured programme to promote pupils' health and wellbeing. This supports their spiritual, moral and cultural development very effectively.	Yes	Daily assemblies reinforce the school's values very successfully and provide valuable opportunities for pupils to reflect on the world around them.	Current performance: Good Prospects for improvement: Excellent The calm and welcoming ethos encourages pupils to develop tolerance, respect and understanding of each other. There are successful arrangements for recognising, respecting and celebrating diversity. The school provides a range of interesting visits and activities that promote pupils' understanding of other cultures, such as a recent visit to the local mosque. Education for sustainable development and global citizenship is a strength of the school and has been developing well over a number of years. Pupils' understanding of the wider world is promoted very effectively. The school has forged very strong links with the local community. It works very effectively alongsideplaces of worship. This impacts positively on pupils' wellbeing and enriches their experiences

Estyn monitoring of Merthyr Schools

Twynnyrodyn Primary school (Inspected Jan 2015). In March 2016 Estyn conducted a monitoring visit to the school and the school was judged to have made **satisfactory progress** on **Key Issue 7** *Comply fully with the statutory requirement for the daily act of collective worship.*

Merthyr Secondary School Inspection Reports for Academic Year 2015/16: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	Other comments / issues
<p>Cyfarthfa High school March 2016</p>	<p>The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well through its curriculum, personal and social education programme, tutorial arrangements and cross-curricular learning activities.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No comment</p>	<p>Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum, which meets statutory requirements. Most subjects develop pupils' understanding of global citizenship well. Equality and diversity are promoted effectively through personal and social education, subject areas and in the general work of the school.</p>
<p>Pen y Dre High School Nov 2015</p>	<p>There is a comprehensive programme for personal and social education that is supported effectively by a range of outside speakers and providers. This supports well the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No comment</p>	<p>Current performance: Adequate Prospects for improvement: Good The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils.</p>