

WASACRE meeting 26th March 2019 Cardiff County Hall

The meeting began with welcome addresses from the Lord Mayor and CC Merry lead member for Education

This was followed by apologies and a moment of quiet reflection.

1. NAPfRE presentation Nicky Hagendyk, Humanities AoLE covered the following:

- Curriculum sits within a number of other changes-e.g. review of Estyn
- All reforms should be seen together
- Key word is experience
- New curriculum and 4 core purposes focus on process and purpose
- **“What matters” statements are key concepts and are not meant to be seen in isolation. 3-16 continuum.**
- Progression within statements
- Less prescription in new curriculum but knowledge and skills vital
- **April will see further detail and consultation-will begin end month and last till beg September**
- NB some queries re RE and possible dilution if taught by Historian for example and also Agreed Syllabus-all Wales format?

2. Withdrawal from RE survey (PW)

- Responses from schools were outlined
- Reasons for withdrawal requests included-Jehovah Witness, (most) Islam issues, Re at home, non-religious views.
- Each local authority collects data-**each SACRE clerk to look at figures for LA**
- Schools should be reminded of right of withdrawal document produced by WASACRE
- There is still some confusion between RE and Collective Worship issue

3. To consider and respond to WG white paper (EE)

- Chair went through the WASACRE response paper and noted the major changes
 1. Nursery school and 6th Forms RE provision
 2. Right of withdrawal
- He noted too that NAPfRE response differed in that they felt that RE should be compulsory across school 6th forms and FE
- **It was agreed that RE in schools must be” objective, critical and pluralistic”**
- How can SACREs monitor provision?

4. Update on supporting framework for RE (LJ and PW)
 - Outline of process and personnel involved
 - January 2020 for draft
 - Defining content of RE is a task for group
 - Agreed syllabus- will be updated-what will it look like?
 - Concepts in RE
 - Curriculum needs to be accessible and user-friendly
5. Professional support for SACREs
 - Lack of availability of above
 - Need DOEs to feedback who is leading on this in each LA
 - Range of support-HODs RE, Challenge Advisers, Consultants etc. PW and LJ only RE dedicated personnel
 - Some local authorities have no support
 - PW and LJ met with ADEW to outline the above difficulties-all 22 ADEW members positive and engaged
6. Professional learning for RE (PW)
 - PW outlined productive meeting with KP (WG)
 - HT training promised-LJ and PW to outline what required
7. NAPfRE update (LJ)
 - Good attendance with good range expertise at 25 March meeting
 - Response to white paper drafted
 - RE framework discussed
 - All contributed to update from each SACRE represented
 - Future inputs suggested
 - No plans yet for WASACRE conference
 - Estyn reports re lack of SMSC-SACREs to contact Michelle Gosney directly
 - CIW input re global neighbours
 - Nominations for board outlined
 - CoRE report discussed
 - Various RE meetings-Dublin and Belfast –outlined
 - T Thomas resignation form EFTRE P Morgan to replace if possible
 - ARIEAC conference 1 and 2 July
 - SACRE handbook being updated-EE
8. WASACRE website (EE)
 - EE outlined plans to update-agreed by group, at current cost
9. Report from WASACRE exec committee-verbal (EE)
 - EE reported on usual termly business plus WG consultation response
 - CPD to be added to summer agenda
 - WASACRE handbook for autumn term agenda

- Reminder of nominations required for WASACRE Exec

10. The Effective SACRE (PW)

- PW outlined work to date-2 youth members co-opted and handbook being revised