

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

8th July 2015

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of People

Suggestions for SACRES to consider

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To present SACRE members with a selection of suggestions as a result of the NASACRE conference.

2 Summary

2.1 Throughout the 2015 NASACRE conference, keynote speakers and NASACRE executive committee members made suggestions that SACREs might consider adopting in their meetings:.

3 Recommendation

3.1 That members of SACRE receive the suggestions. That members use this as an opportunity to reflect on good practice.

4 Background

4.1 It is good practice for SACRE's to self-review and consider suggestions for future actions. This is reported on annually in the annual report.

5 Equal Opportunities

5.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the County Council's policies on equal opportunities.

6 Financial implications

6.1 There are no immediate financial implications

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Suggestion to be considered

1. Take note of the information in the booklet "Relationship between RE and schools" due to be published in Summer 2015 written by Rt. Hon. Charles Clarke former Secretary of State for Education and Skills 2002-200 and Linda Woodhead.
2. Ensure that teacher unions are properly represented on all SACREs.
3. Engage with a "What is Religious Education?" survey- "a thought-provoking survey which forces you to think through what your views are and to focus on what is important in RE". Follow the link bishopp.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/sacre-what-is-re-for-2
4. Consider what are the successful ways in which you engage with local schools, including Academies, to support their RE?
5. How do you raise the profile of RE with local partners and communities?
6. How do you know what schools are providing in RE when there is now such a range of types of school?
7. Encourage schools to sign up for the RE Quality Mark (REQM)
8. Develop youth SACREs and encourage young people's contributions.
9. Ensure your annual report is shared with NASACRE
10. Report schools which do not include RE or do it properly to the local authority
11. Make links with post 16 RE to raise the status of RE at this level.
12. Celebrate good practice and encourage the use of high quality resources.
13. Reflect on the British values agenda.
14. Work to support faith group visitors into schools
17. Engage governors.
18. Engage teachers in working parties when developing a locally agreed syllabus. Process is important not just the end product and this involves and develops teachers.
19. Encourage schools to apply for bursaries to develop RE
20. Ensure whatever you do has a positive impact on teaching and learning in classrooms.
21. Contact your local MPs and provide them with information about the work of SACRE.