

WALSALL COUNCIL

*STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION*

MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2013

ACTION PLAN UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update SACRE on progress on the Action Plan, (App. 1 attached).

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That SACRE note the progress on the action plan.

3. Background

- 3.1 The action plan had been requested by SACRE in order to maintain progress on actions agreed at meetings of SACRE.

Rory Borealis – Executive Director (Resources)
28th February, 2013

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RE ACTION PLAN 2011/12

KEY PRIORITIES:

- 1. Support SACRE 5 year plan priorities**
- 2. Walsall SACRE Consultancy support from RE Today**
- 3. Monitoring of provision**
- 4. Curriculum development**

1. SACRE 5 YEAR PLAN PRIORITIES						
ACTION	SUCCESS CRITERIA	BY WHEN?	BY WHO?	MONITORING	EVALUATION	RESOURCES
Plan for SACRE to meet the advanced criteria in the self evaluation					The 5 year priorities have been discussed several times. Need to review minutes to confirm decisions that were agreed	
Monitor collective worship (report on outcome of annual monitoring)						
Promote RE as a field of study for older pupils (2010-11)						
Promote the use of an RE website (2010-11)						
Review of Walsall Agreed Syllabus (2012-13)						
2. WALSALL SACRE CONSULTANCY SUPPORT FROM RE TODAY (LAT BLAYLOCK & FIONA MOSS)						
ACTION	SUCCESS CRITERIA	BY WHEN?	BY WHO?	MONITORING	EVALUATION	RESOURCES
Primary and Secondary Network groups to assist RE subject leaders but also for any teacher of RE and for HLTAs (primary)	Increased attendance at network groups	Ongoing Termly 1pm - 3pm	RE Today staff	ER / SACRE	6.2.13: The networks continue to grow in strength with 18 primary schools now regularly attending. Secondary school interest has been more limited and it was agreed to no longer hold a separate secondary meeting.	Original budget provided by Walsall CS £5,000 SLA agreed with RE today 15 days at £525 a day: £7,875 (Used 8.25 days between Sep 2010 and July 2011)
Another follow up day course for primary teachers: a follow up day course on standards and high achievement through creative teaching and learning	Increased attendance at training events.	Date to be agreed	RE Today	ER / SACRE	This has not taken place. It is important for Walsall SACRE to confirm RE Today's future plans which include training sessions ASAP	
Financing this programme: SERCO is underwriting this work, but our hope and expectation is that it will be self sustaining through the				ER / SACRE	As of February 2013 approximately 3K remains in the SACRE budget. The last RE training session RE Today delivered made a profit. The final 3K	

fees schools pay for the day courses					must be used to generate future funding as well as developing excellence in RE. Future funding streams will also need to be pursued e.g. NASACRE awards	
NQTs programme: Walsall has an extensive programme of support for NQTs. They are needy in terms of understanding RE and cultural and religious diversity. We would like to offer a RE training programme to these people, via SACRE – Earl will report on the feasibility of this	RE seen as a key subject for schools to develop the practice of their NQT's	Summer 2013	RE Today	ER / SACRE	RE Today have plans to support this programme in the future. Walsall's Training and Development Team have been contacted to begin discussions about delivering a training session in the Summer term 2013. NB The NQT's can be charged for attendance.	
Scheme of work support for the syllabus: the consultant will write units of work for the syllabus in a fully planned and ready to teach format – these can be disseminated to schools very easily via the well. Initially, the suggestion is to do four of these for primary RE, taking 2 days of time.	Units written and available for schools. Units used in conjunction with The Agreed Syllabus to support the improved planning and delivery of RE in all key stages.	On going	RE Today	ER / SACRE	7 Units have been written to date. The units have not been placed on the Well but are being sold to schools at £20 on a CD. They are advertised on the Well and at subject leader training sessions.	
Developing original, local resources for planning better RE to put freely on 'The Well' – the learning platform online. These would include additional guidance on teaching the agreed syllabus	Resources used in conjunction with Units and The Agreed Syllabus to support the improved planning and delivery of RE in all key stages.	Termly newsletter	RE Today	ER / SACRE	A termly newsletter has been developed which contains a wealth of resources. Two newsletters have been issued to date.	
A programme of interactive visits to places of worship for RE teachers – Sikh, Muslim, Christian, Hindu. Local, resource generating, confidence building and enabling pupil follow up. This would be charged to schools as professional development activity, and run over two days perhaps	Further develop schools/teachers understanding of the community they live in. Clear links with Ofsted judgments of the schools overall effectiveness grade and SMSC.	Summer 2013	RE Today	ER / SACRE	This has not taken place.	
3. MONITORING						
ACTION	SUCCESS CRITERIA	BY WHEN?	BY WHO?	MONITORING	EVALUATION	RESOURCES

Dates for 'monitoring' the use of Walsall Agreed Syllabus	Dates set	2 visits per term by each ER / SM / RS	ER / SM / RS	SACRE		Time
Create RE self supported review (SSR)	SSR developed	Autumn 2011	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	The audit tool has been produced but no schools have agreed to have it trailed in their school to date. NB no schools have been monitored by SACRE this academic year. As discussed in previous meetings schools have been far more reluctant to be 'monitored'. Increasingly teachers are involving their unions when they feel they are being over observed. Although the focus of SACRE visits is to monitor the use of the Agreed Syllabus it appears that this is not fully understood by schools.	
Create self evaluation tool for RE to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achievement ▪ Leadership & Management ▪ Quality of teaching ▪ Curriculum 	self evaluation tool for RE developed for ease of use in schools	Autumn 2011	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	The audit tool has been produced but no schools have agreed to have it trailed in their school to date.	
Create a common audit that schools across the Black Country can use to further curriculum links and RE development in schools	Common audit tool for RE developed for ease of use in schools (Black Country launch at spring term)	Autumn 2011	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	This has not been achieved.	
Attendance at SACRE meetings by at least one SERCO member (ER/SM/RS)	Attendance at meetings	Ongoing	ER / SM / RS	SACRE	Overall this has been achieved. However no one from the Serco team was able to attend the last SACRE meeting in October 2012.	
4. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT						
ACTION	SUCCESS CRITERIA	BY WHEN?	BY WHO?	MONITORING	EVALUATION	RESOURCES
Form a curriculum working party of primary school subject leaders that will be able to detail cross curricular links (PHSE, Citizenship and MFL) and collect/collate examples of good practice that can be shared	Formation of working party and links and examples made	Autumn 2011	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	This has not been achieved. Head teachers attendance at SACRE meetings is poor	Time Support from head teachers
Identify and support the	School identified	Spring 2012	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	This has not been achieved.	

development of a primary school as a 'RE centre of excellence'	and agreed					
Launch event to disseminate the new schemes of work and share good practice	Date set	Spring 2012	SM / RS	ER / SACRE	The units of work have been well advertised.	

Abbreviations:

ER – Earl Richards

SM – Sandy Moran

RS – Rena Saggu