

Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan Williams
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive
CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices
LLANGFNI
Ynys Môn - Anglesey
LL77 7TW

Ffôn / tel (01248) 752500
Ffacs / fax (01248) 750839

RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
CYNGOR YMGYNGHOROL SEFYDLOG (CYS)	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)
DYDD MERCHER, 17 GORFFENNAF 2024 AM 2:00 O'R GLOCH	WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 2024 AT 2:00 PM
YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY ZOOM	COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM
Swyddog Pwyllgor	Shirley Cooke 01248 752518
	Committee Officer

AELODAU/MEMBERS

Cynghorwyr / Councillors:

Non Dafydd, Gwilym O Jones, Dylan Rees, Arfon Wyn
(Sedd Wag/Vacant Seat x 2)

Yr Enwadau Crefyddol / Religious Denominations

Parch/Rev Neil Ridings (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru/The Church in Wales), Colette Owens (Yr Eglwys Babyddol/The Catholic Church), Parch/Rev Sue Altree (Yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd/The Methodist Church), Parch/Rev Deborah Stammers (Undeb y Bedyddwyr/The Baptist Union of Wales), Edward Morus Jones (Undeb yr Annibynnwyr Cymraeg/ Union of Welsh Independents), Elaine Green (Yr Eglwys Bresbyteriaid/ Presbyterian Church of Wales)

Athrawon/Teachers

Mefys Jones-Edwards (Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones), Heledd Hearn (Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern), Owain Roberts (Ysgol Cybi), Manon Morris Williams (Ysgol Santes Dwynwen)

Aelod Cyfetholedig/Co-Opted Member

Rheinallt Thomas

Aelodau Eraill/Other Members

Sarah Kingman (Dyneiddwyr/Humanists)

Please note that meetings of the Committee are streamed for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The Authority is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act and data collected during this live stream will be retained in accordance with the Authority's published policy.

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive any declaration of interest from a member or officer in respect of any item of business.

2 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the previous SACRE meeting held on 21 February 2024.

3 WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES (WASACRE) (Pages 7 - 20)

- To submit for information, the draft minutes of the Carmarthenshire WASACRE meeting held virtually on 5 March 2024.
- To receive an update from the WASACRE'S Annual General Meeting held on 13 June 2024 at Wrexham University.

4 RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL SETTINGS OF ANGLESEY

Open discussion.

5 WELSH NATIONAL CENTRE FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To receive a presentation by Dr Gareth Evans-Jones on the work of the Welsh National Centre for Religious Education.

6 DIOCESE OF BANGOR

To receive an update on the work of the Diocese.

7 ANALYSIS OF ANGLESEY ESTYN REPORTS (Pages 21 - 26)

To receive and analyse Estyn's recent Inspection Reports.

8 UPDATE BY WJEC ON GCSES AND A LEVELS

Update by Mr Christopher Owen, WJEC, on GCSEs and A Levels.

9 UPDATE BY THE DIRECTOR

To receive an update by the Director of Education, Skills and Young People.

10 ANY OTHER MATTERS

Any other matters - with prior agreement of the Chair.

11 **NEXT MEETING**

The SAC's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 17 October 2024 at 2:00 pm.

This page is intentionally left blank

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(SACRE)**

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2024

PRESENT: Councillor Non Dafydd (Chair)
Councillor Arfon Wyn (Vice-Chair)

The Education Authority

Councillors Gwilym O Jones, Dylan Rees

The Religious Denominations

Mrs Elaine Green (Presbyterian Church in Wales)
Mr Edward Morus Jones (Union of Welsh Independents)
Mrs Collette Owens (The Catholic Church)
Rev Deborah Stammers (The Baptist Union of Wales)

Teacher Representatives

Mrs Manon Morris-Williams (Ysgol Santes Dwynwen)

Co-opted Member

Mr Rheinallt Thomas (from 11:30am)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Marc Berw Hughes (Director of Education, Skills and Young People)
Mr Owen T Davies (Primary Senior Manager, Education) (RVE Advisor to the SACRE)
Mrs Shirley Cooke (Committee Officer)

APOLOGIES: Rev Neil Ridings (The Church in Wales)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chair reported on the heartbreaking news that Miss Bethan James, the SACRE's Supporting Improvement Advisor has sadly passed away, and offered her condolences to all who knew her. She asked Mr Owen Davies to say a few words in remembrance of Miss James, who had been his friend and colleague for over 20 years.

Mr Owen Davies paid tribute to Miss Bethan James and stated that she had been a very kind and caring individual, who had worked with the SACRE over many years. He stated that she had been an excellent educator in the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and had a wealth of information and expertise in this field. She had worked as a consultant for Cynnal and more recently GwE. He stated that

Miss James' passing will be a huge loss to the Ynys Môn SACRE.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People echoed the words already spoken about his friend and co-worker, Miss Bethan James. He stated that he had worked very closely with Miss James for the past ten years, and her passing will be a huge loss to education, Ynys Môn and to many on a personal level.

The SACRE observed a minute's silence in remembrance of Miss Bethan James.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Dylan Rees declared a personal interest in Item 6 on the agenda, as he is a member of the Pioneer Movement.

2. MINUTES

The draft minutes of the previous SACRE meeting held on 16 November 2023 were presented and confirmed as correct.

Matters arising from the minutes: -

- The Primary Senior Manager gave an update on the resources that are available on Hwb, which include E-newsletters on Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) to support the work of designing the curriculum, which schools and SACREs can access. He stated that there are teaching modules to support the primary and secondary sectors with links to presentations on RVE, which will be shared with the SACRE.
- With reference to collating information on religious and spiritual settings on Anglesey, this matter will be discussed in Item 5 on the agenda.
- An update on the work of the Pererin Pilgrimage Project by the Church in Wales is ongoing. It is hoped that a member of the project can attend the SACRE's next meeting to provide an update on her work in preparing resources for schools.

3. WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES (WASACRE)

The draft minutes of the WASACRE meeting held virtually on 25 October 2023 were submitted for information and noted.

The Chair requested nominations for the WASACRE's Executive Committee. She stated that any nominations should be completed and returned to the Secretary to the WASACRE by 22 March 2024.

A member of the SACRE informed the Committee that the WASACRE's Conference this year will be held in Wrexham on 13 June 2024. The Primary Senior Manager reported that invitations to attend the conference will be forwarded to the SACRE following today's meeting.

RESOLVED that the Primary Senior Manager circulates a reminder for nominations to the WASACRE'S Executive at the beginning of March 2024.

4. LEARNING WALKS – YSGOL BODFFORDD

The Chair reported that she visited Ysgol Bodffordd with Mr Edward Morus Jones on a 'learning walk' on 6 February 2024, and provided a summary of her visit in the agenda papers. As part of the visit, the SACRE members attended a Christian collective worship session, which had a theme of 'love and kindness'.

Mr Edward Morus Jones gave feedback from his visit and reported that Ysgol Bodffordd has a Head Teacher, 3 teachers and 85 registered pupils. He stated that the pupils discussed the word 'arrogance', and the importance of kindness. The pupils answered questions and relayed how people from the community come to the school to participate in school activities e.g. 'Open the Book'. The school's motto 'Kind Words, Kinds Hands, Kind Feet' was also recited.

Both SACRE members reported that they had been impressed by the natural and relaxed atmosphere they had experienced at the school and felt privileged to have been included in discussion with the Head Teacher, teachers and pupils.

The SACRE were inspired by the way young people are adapting to change in our schools and appreciated the positive feedback received following the visit to Ysgol Bodffordd. It was highlighted that the SACRE will also need to be challenged and learn from the changes pupils are experiencing in schools.

Members of the SACRE felt that it would be beneficial to experience 'learning walks' in the secondary sector to promote collaboration between the SACRE and Anglesey schools. The Primary Senior Manager reported that the SACRE's next 'learning walk' will take place in Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni.

RESOLVED: -

- **To note the information presented on 'Learning Walks' for Schools.**
- **That the Primary Senior Manager plans the SACRE's next Learning Walk to Ysgol Gyfun, Llangefni.**

5. RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL SETTINGS ON ANGLESEY

The Primary Senior Manager reported that in the previous SACRE meeting, discussion had focused on selecting 2 or 3 religious and spiritual settings on Anglesey for the purpose of creating resources to share with Anglesey schools.

In response to the request for information, members of the SACRE put forward the the following locations for consideration, and gave a summary of their reasons for suggesting each setting: -

- Eglwys Unedig Noddfa, Trearddur Bay
- Capel Rhos y Gad, Llanfairpwll
- Anglesey Guide Centre, Penrhoslligwy
- Rhosyr area - St Dwynwen's Church, Llanddwyn Island, Aberffraw
- Newborough Church
- St Cybi's Church, Holyhead

- The story of St Cybi and St Seiriol; Fynnon Cybi, Holyhead and Ffynnon Seiriol, Penmon
- Llanbadrig Church, Cemaes
- Beaumaris – historic Church; St Tysilio Church, Menai Bridge and Llanfair PG
- Capel Cildwrn and Capel Penuel, Llangefni
- Llanfigael Church, Llanfachraeth
- Friend of Friendliest Churches
- Ebenezer Chapel, Rhosmeirch
- Seion Chapel, Llandrygarn
- The Catholic Church; Eglwys y Llan; Capel Mawr, Amlwch

Members of the SACRE reported that there are books available on religious settings in Anglesey. It was suggested that the SACRE works with the Libraries and Archives Service to create packages containing a variety of information. It was noted that a member of staff from the Pererin Project is currently working on resources for Anglesey schools, which include St Seiriol and St Cybi.

The Senior Primary Manager reported that he would contact staff in the Archives Service to request assistance in collating and presenting information on religious and spiritual settings. The SACRE would then have an opportunity to comment and approve the resources packages for schools in due course.

RESOLVED that the Primary Senior Manager contacts the Archives and Library Service to discuss and prepare the SACRE’s resources for schools.

6. MEMBERSHIP AND CONSTITUTION OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People reported that following legislative changes brought about by the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021, the requirement for a local authority to constitute a SACRE has been replaced by a requirement to constitute a Standing Advisory Council (SAC). The Director stated that the SAC’s brief is wider than that of the SACRE, as it now includes Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) within the Curriculum for Wales Framework. The SAC’s Constitution will also be different and should include representatives with non-religious philosophical convictions.

In March 2022 a report was presented to the SACRE suggesting that a Humanist be invited to join the SACRE. Following that meeting, legal advice was sought, and it was decided to review the SACRE’s membership in its entirety.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People reported that Officers from the Learning Service have undertaken the task of collating and analysing data on all the different religious groups on Anglesey. Correspondence was sent to some groups to request their membership numbers, and the responses received have been included in the report. It was noted that although the data is incomplete, it has been used to provide a recommendation to the County Council, to progress the matter further.

The SACRE were asked to consider the recommendations in the report, i.e. to continue to offer seats to each of the six Christian denominations, which are the strongest religions on Anglesey (51.5%). In addition, to allocate a seat to a representative from Jehovah's Witness, Humanists UK and Islam. The proposed changes would ensure a fair representation of the Christian faith, other religions and non-religious beliefs, and would comply with statutory requirements.

Members of the SACRE highlighted discrepancies in the number of members quoted to represent membership of Christian denominations. The following update was provided by members of the SACRE: -

- The Presbyterian Church of Wales had 962 members in 2022.
- The figures quoted for the Catholic Church were for attendances on one day of the year and did not reflect the number of members of the Catholic Church.
- The Baptist Union of Wales has an additional 28 members from the Baptist of Great Britain Church who have not been included in the figures.

Members of the SACRE expressed concern regarding the figures quoted for membership of the Christian Churches, particularly the Pentecostal and Pioneer Churches, who could be labelled as charismatic, and have many active members. It was highlighted that if the figures for both these churches were combined, they would be much larger than one of the current Christian representatives listed in the report.

Discussion focused on the changes to the SACRE's Constitution to ensure more equality and diversity. It was suggested that the SACRE looks at its current membership and considers inviting churches with more members to join the SACRE.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that he would be happy to seek further legal advice on this issue and conduct a review following comments made at today's meeting in relation to the membership of the SACRE's Christian denominations in due course.

RESOLVED: -

- **That the SACRE recommends to full Council on 7 March 2024, that the name SACRE be changed to Standing Advisory Council (SAC) and that its Terms of Reference be included in the Council's Constitution by the Monitoring Officer, in accordance with the legislative requirement for the SAC; and**
- **That the County Council takes all reasonable steps to secure that the SAC's membership is broadly proportionate to the strength of each religion, denomination, or non-religious philosophical conviction, in its local area.**
- **That the County Council agrees that the membership of SAC includes a total of 9 seats, made up of 6 seats to the current members and an additional 3 new seats, as follows: -**
 - **Humanists UK**
 - **Islam**

- **Jehovah's Witness**
- **That a further review be conducted on the current Christian seats (thus, excluding Jehovah's Witnesses from the next consultation) following comments made when SACRE was consulted and the figures that have been received.**

7. ANY OTHER MATTERS

The Primary Senior Manager reported that he is preparing the SACRE's draft Annual Report, which will be presented to the SACRE next meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the SACRE's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 July 2024 at 2:00 pm.

The meeting concluded at 12:40 pm

**COUNCILLOR NON DAFYDD
CHAIR**



**Wales Association of SACREs
Carmarthenshire meeting
virtual meeting through Zoom
Tuesday 5th March 2024
10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

Attendance

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Arfon Wyn (AW)</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent Kathy Riddick (KR)</p> <p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Edward Evans (EE) Alice Parry (AP) Donna Graves (DG)</p> <p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly</p> <p>Caerdydd / Cardiff Donna Graves (DG) Rheinallt Thomas (RT)</p> <p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire Keith Evans (KE) Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR) Gareth Morgan (GM)</p> <p>Ceredigion Rhianydd James (RJ) MMC Morgan</p> <p>Conwy Roger Boon (RB) Phil Lord (PL) Nicholas Richter (NR)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Jennie Downes (JD) Phil Lord (PL)</p> <p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Vicky Barlow (VB) Catherine McCormick (CM)</p> <p>Gwynedd Meryl Roberts (MR) Eurfryn Davies (ED)</p> <p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil Donna Graves (DG)</p> <p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Louise Brown (LB) Rachel Buckler (RBU)</p> <p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot Nia Jenkins (NJ) Rachel Samuel (RS)</p> <p>Casnewydd / Newport</p> <p>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</p> <p>Powys John Mitson (JM)</p>	<p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Mathew Maidment (MM) Donna Graves (DG)</p> <p>Torfaen Cllr Lucy Williams</p> <p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan Donna Graves (DG) Kathy Riddick (KR) Tyler Saunders (TSA)</p> <p>Wrexham / Wrexham Tania ap Siôn (TS) Libby Jones (LJ) Hugh Jones (HJ)</p> <p>SACs to be confirmed? Ali Mahamad Alison Harding Amanda Davies Delyth Jones Michael Thomas N Haran Paul Davies Owen SC Ann</p>	<p>Observers:</p> <p>REMW Paul Morgan (PM)</p> <p>WJEC Chris Owens (CO)</p> <p>Estyn Aranwen Morgans-Thomas (AMT)</p> <p>Church in Wales Elizabeth Thomas (ET)</p> <p>Catholic Education Service Angela Keller (AK)</p> <p>Qualification Wales Kate Russell (KRU)</p> <p>NAPfRE Phil Lord</p> <p>Minutes (from recording) Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p> <p>Translator: Sioned Jones</p>
--	---	--	---

Minutes of the meeting

1. Introduction and welcome

TaS welcomed members to the Spring meeting and thanked Carmarthenshire's SACRE/SAC and LA for hosting the meeting.

Gareth Morgan, Director of Education and Children Services gave a warm welcome and thanked SACRE/SAC and WASACRE for arranging the meeting.

GM officially introduced the meeting with the following:

Carmarthenshire support 27,000 learners in 108 schools and placements. GM's background is in primary sector, an ex-head teacher who used to teach Religious Education.

As the world is constantly changing, with the suffering in Gaza and the war in Ukraine, there is need to ensure that education in Wales remains contemporary and relevant to today's citizens. All schools are on an exciting journey with a curriculum that is relevant and local to fulfil the requirements of the communities.

This is a huge task to ensure every aspect of the learning experience has room, including RVE within its rightful place in Humanities.

RVE is one of the most important aspects of the curriculum. RVE will enrich the curriculum by making children and young people informed, aware and respect the world and the people in it. It is an important area to ensure that learners can engage with a wide range of religious and non-religious concepts in order to develop into principled people. We have a responsibility like every LA that the agreed syllabus is in place for RVE and that it is monitored.

GM thanked Carmarthenshire SACRE/SAC for their work in accordance with the legislation and guidelines.

The syllabus has been written to help teachers and to support them with recommendations and guidelines. It is a flexible syllabus that is suitable for their needs. We have noted that support is needed and there are PL opportunities offered by Carmarthenshire which included PL community on MS Teams, monthly session for teachers and network meetings every term for secondary RVE teachers plus a wide range of resources. Hope this will be a useful session in sharing ideas.

GM thanked everyone for attending.

Jennifer Harding Richard shared a video of the recent work conducted by Carmarthenshire SACRESAC.

2. Quiet reflection

TaS introduced PL who led a quiet reflection to remember and give thanks for the life and work of Bethan James, a much-valued colleague of WASACRE and NAPfRE who will be dearly missed.

PL: It was a great shock in the new year to find out that Bethan had passed away. She was a great colleague and a great friend of myself and many other RVE practitioners across Wales. Bethan embodied love within education. She embodied care and kindness for the pupils and for the teachers. When schools were due to have an Estyn visit, Bethan was known to bake cakes and encourage the staff of the schools that she worked with. I thought that Bethan was the embodiment of the love that Steve Davis spoke about some time ago at a conference in Llandudno. He said that the one thing missing in the education system is 'love'. It is something that I try to emulate in my work. I will always remember her for demonstrating that practical love within the education system, and something that I hope lives long in the people that have known her and lives long in my interactions with schools. Bethan will be dearly missed.

TaS thanked PL and a short period of silence followed to remember Bethan.

3. Apologies

Apologies received from Revd David Brownutt from RCT SACRE/SAC, Hayley Jones from EAS SACREs/SACs, Paula Webber from WASACRE Exec Committee and NAPfRE, Councillor Martin Palfreyman, Councillor Mansell Charles, and Mrs Helen Gibbon from Carmarthenshire, and Linda Maddock. No other apologies were recorded in the chat.

4. Minutes of the last meeting, Zoom, 25th October 2023

The minutes were checked for accuracy.

ACTION: LJ to confirm David's and Jane's full names.

ACTION: Add Rhianydd James, Ceredigion to the list of attendees

With the above corrections made. EE proposed and RS seconded that the minutes are an accurate record of what was said in the last meeting. TaS will sign the minutes and send to AP for filing.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Any matters arising are covered on this agenda or are currently being followed up.

6. Welsh Government [WG] matters

RS gave the following update from Welsh Government:

The last meeting was held on the 29th November 2023. In attendance were RS, LJ and TaS from WASACRE and John Pugsley (JP), Kerry Davies (KD) and Caitlin Doyle (CD) from WG.

Three main agenda items:

1) Updates from WASACRE questions that were sent in advance:

- A request for an update on the agreed syllabus review carried out by WASACRE on behalf of Welsh Government

WG have been in touch with several SACREs/SACs since the informal review and are in discussion with LAs where points were raised in the review. WG thanked WASACRE and the members that conducted the work on the review. This discussion about the agreed syllabi is now closed and in the hands of the WG.

- Question on the definition of religion in the legal summary on Hwb

LJ provided the context; this discussion follows on from the last meeting held with WG and WASACRE where Lloyd Hopkin intended to speak with the legal services. KD confirmed that an internal discussion with legal services has been held and the outcome will be shared with WASACRE. No written update from WG received at the time of this meeting.

- Update review of the Annual reports

These annual reports are completed by each SACRE/SAC. WG confirmed they have not completed any work on the annual reports with regards to adaptations to the new curriculum. WG have requested that WASACRE and NAPfRE send details to KD and JP on why a review of the annual reports is needed.

Next steps for WASACRE Executive and NAPfRE will be to work together to draw up a response to justify the need to look at the annual reports.

2) Recruitment crisis

- a) The decline in numbers taking Religious Studies at GCSE and A level.
- b) The decline of undergraduates of RE.
- c) The decline of numbers at ITE courses, and the RVE foundation qualification that WASACRE has been in discussions about with Qualifications Wales (QW).

This meeting took place before Qualifications Wales released the results of its consultation and announced its decisions.

- GW suggested that WASACRE and NAPfRE should contact Kevin Palmer (KP) with their concerns. KP oversees ITE within Welsh Government.

- WG confirmed it is not involved with qualifications or numbers of entries. WG stated that it is a school's choice which qualifications are completed by learners. With regards to the RVE foundation qualification, WG advised WASACRE to liaise with Qualifications Wales which is an independent body. WG also meets with QW and offered to suggest that QW waits until after the consultation response to speak with WASACRE and NAPfRE stakeholders. Consultation has subsequently been published in January.
- WASACRE have met with Qual Wales and this will be reported later in this meeting.
- A meeting with Kevin Palmer and WASACRE has now been arranged for 20th March to discuss WASACRE's concerns.

3) Request for withdrawal on religious grounds based on two queries with RVE and swimming

- LJ shared the context, and it was discussed thoroughly.
- As WG haven't heard from head teachers directly that this is a problem, WG do not see it as a significant issue and would not consider providing guidance. Suggested Headteachers continue to gain advice from advisors and support officers in each LA.
- With the swimming query, WG stated this is an issue for the health and well-being team of WG. WG stated that the first point of call should be the AoLE department in WG rather than other agencies such as Swim Wales.
- WASACRE receives requests for support with regards to the right to withdrawal from RVE. As a result of this meeting, WASACRE aims to maintain records of these requests with the corresponding feedback. If a repeat query is received, WASACRE would be able to maintain consistency in the feedback provided.

4) Professional learning resources

- These are the resources that WASACRE are developing alongside WG.
- WASACRE requested an update on the WG's commitment to additional modules and the three existing modules that are still in development
- WG acknowledged that there were budget constraints which will affect the work that can be commissioned.
- WASACRE emphasised how helpful Rachael Hicks (RH) from WG had been. Kerry Davies is to contact Rachel Hicks to gain a clearer idea of the resources that are incomplete and are awaiting finalisation and what is possible to complete. There is an update, this will be discussed later in the meeting.
- We shared information about the upcoming conference and integrating the Minister for Education into the conference. This will be discussed in our next meeting with WG.
- RT: Is there any information about a new appointment for January and the department lead by Mr George to produce resources for the new curriculum?
- RS: No, not until WG conduct a review of the resources on Hwb. Suggest we raise this at the next meeting. It is still early days regarding this appointment.
- KE: Thanked WASACRE for taking the questions to WG. It appears that there is lack of definitive decisions from WG – it is important that RVE is established properly in our schools and it is disappointing that there are delays.
- RS: It is always a challenge working with a big organisation with various people with different responsibilities. RS confirmed that WASACRE will continue to push its agenda with WG and to revisit issues, when necessary, in order that WG achieves its commitment.
- RBU: As I am new to this meeting I would like a better understanding of the operations. Why is there three WASACRE representatives at the Welsh Government meetings?
- RS: WASACRE has an Executive Committee. When there are external meetings, we ensure a representative of the Executive Committee is present which is usually the Chair of WASACRE, a NAPfRE representative and other available personnel who have the expertise in the area to be discussed.

ACTION: At the next WG meeting WASACRE to ask whether there is any information about a new appointment for January and the department lead by Mr George to produce resources for the new curriculum.

7. National Professional Learning resources

TaS and LJ met with WG colleague Rachael Hicks (RH) on the 31 January 2024. RH was able to confirm that the new playlist for school governors will be available on the Hwb shortly. It is in a queue waiting for publication.

TaS and LJ have supported RH in processing the three cross curricular skills playlists through the reference group and making the necessary amendments. These three playlists are now with the Hwb team who are working on outstanding questions on Welsh language equity.

There are two further playlists in the pipeline that require some work 1) RVE in the Humanities and 2) RVE and Pedagogy. It is hoped that Welsh Government will allow WASACRE to support the final development of these two playlists as WASACRE feel that they are extremely useful to practitioners across Wales. WASACRE are waiting for confirmation from RH to give the go ahead of the final development of those two playlists.

8. WASACRE conference

TaS shared a presentation providing an update on the WASACRE conference. WASACRE are working in partnership with NAPfRE. The conference is fully funded by WASACRE. It is free to all member SACs, and to those practitioners working in the corresponding local authorities.

The aims of the conference are:

- To celebrate religion, values, and ethics (RVE) in the Curriculum for Wales
- To provide significant professional learning opportunities for our member SACs and their schools
- To offer opportunities to raise and discuss issues that really matter for RVE in Wales
- To make connections and share insights across Wales.

The format of the conference:

- A series of online pre and post conference day seminars (summer term)
- Conference Day, Wrexham University on 13 June 2024.

TaS encouraged the WASACRE members to continue to publicise the event as widely as possible in order that as many people as possible can benefit from this professional learning opportunity. Details are available on the WASACRE website home page and the conference day booking link is <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=-DqPEA6XUUSU-gGFwqFoUuVbWoO7EM5EqaUPjo4xdRFUN1RNTEVTMEIMUDFNUVRaSzIYQjZPTTY3TS4u>

TaS shared the draft programme of the conference day which included so far:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 9.30 | Welcome (William Aston Hall) |
| 9.45 – 10.15 | Keynote speech 1 (William Aston Hall): Minister for Education.
Conference video: Value of RVE |
| 10.15 – 10.50 | Keynote speech 2 (William Aston Hall): Professor Graham Donaldson - mapping the journey |
| 11.00 – 12.00 | Workshops: emerging practice in RVE (3 parallel sessions)
a. Learning with history on religious tolerance and peace: RVE and the RETOPEA project
b. Science and RVE (primary)
c. Example of emerging practice (tbc) |
| 12.00 – 12.45 | Lunch |
| 12.45 – 13.35 | Panel debate: Pluralism and RVE (William Aston Hall) |
| 13.40 – 13.50 | Keynote speaker 3 (William Aston Hall) Bishop of Llandaff, Rt Revd Mary Stallard: Significance of RVE for young people (Film) |
| 14.00 – 15.00 | Workshops: emerging practice in RVE (3 parallel sessions)
a. Inspiring young people to take up GCSE / A-level and further study in RVE.
b. Example of emerging practice (tbc) |

c. P4C in RVE

15.05 – 15:30 Closing words and opening AGM (William Aston Hall)

The online seminars: pre-conference day are as follows:

Seminar 1: (23/04/24, 16.30 - 18.00) - An introduction to SAC / SACRE: What do you need to know?

Seminar 2: (30/04/24, 18.30 - 19.30) - What does RVE look like in the early years setting?

Seminar 3: (07/05/24, 18.30 - 19.30) - Developing empathy through story in the nursery setting.

Seminar 4: (14/05/24, 16.30 - 18.00) - Approaching RVE planning: Having regard to the RVE Guidance

Seminar 5: (21/05/24, 16.30 - 18.00) - Sensitive issues in RVE: Conflict

The post conference seminars are currently being finalised.

Online Seminar registration link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-DqPEA6XUUSU-gGFWgFoUuVbWoO7EM5EqqUPjo4xdRFUOE1BQIRFM1c3V0NFSEITM0pWVjZLUUU0Ry4u>

TaS: Any questions you have or anything WASACRE can do to facilitate or provide information about the conference, please get in touch.

ACTION: This presentation is to be sent to WASACRE members with registration links included.

9. Qualifications

- Qualifications Wales (QW)

LJ: QW has published its consultation report, which offers a detailed explanation of the decisions they have taken for 14 to 16 qualifications that will sit alongside the GCSEs. The main decision that WASACRE want to draw this committee's attention to is QW's decision not to proceed with a standalone foundation qualification in RVE. This decision has been met with some disappointment and confusion, especially as 61% of respondents to the consultation supported a standalone qualification for RVE.

One of the most common reasons cited within the report by those not in favour of a standalone qualification was that RVE did not lend itself to being assessed through a formal qualification. Now, I think many of us would refute this point, in my professional opinion and as a key member of the team that drafted the guidance RVE, it is assessable through formal qualifications. This is a conversation that WASACRE can have with QW as we move forward.

QW have added three new skills for life units to the proposals instead. And they say that these will provide opportunities to consider and explore a number of the RVE topics identified within the curriculum guidance. Centres will be able to choose to what extent to incorporate the delivery of these units in order to meet their statutory requirements. Learners will also be able to choose topics related to RVE for their personal project qualification. There are definite opportunities provided within the wider offer that have potential, but it's going to depend on the decisions made at a local school level as to whether learners will be able to gain a qualification for mandatory RVE. As RS mentioned earlier, WASACRE officers met with colleagues from QW before the report was published, to listen to the reasoning and to try and understand the decision. It was a positive meeting and WASACRE will continue talks with QW and support them in ensuring as much as we can, that these units will be appropriate and provide rich and meaningful opportunities for RVE that have regard to the guidance and the agreed syllabi in Wales.

ACTION: If there is anything that SACs would like us to raise with QW at these meetings, please inform WASACRE in writing by email to either myself or our secretary, AP.

- Equality and diversity qualification (ncfe) / Agored Cymru – Exploring worldviews

- The Equality and Diversity qualification through NCFE and Agored Cymru's Exploring Worldviews qualification will both now continue until September 2027. But in September

2027, they will cease to exist. There will be a tendering process for the skills suite units, both the NCFE and Agored Cymru will be able to bid for the contracts to provide the qualifications for the RVE units. As many of our schools are offering their learners and working very hard to provide resources for these qualifications it is positive that Agored Cymru and NCFE may continue to be involved.

- The RVE proposed units in this skills suite are not intended to support all statutory guidance in this area, they include faiths and beliefs in the local community, ethical choices, and values for life. WASACRE will meet with QW regularly to support them with the skills suite.
- With regard to learning at 14 to 16, and relation to qualifications, there is a Welsh Government consultation that is currently open on the draft 14 to 16 statutory learner guidance: <https://www.gov.wales/14-16-learning-under-curriculum-wales>.
- The closing date for the consultation is the 8th May 2024. There is time if your SAC or you personally want to provide a response to that.
- We just want to highlight to you section 5.12 on humanities which is on page 16 of the draft guidance, it says the following: For the avoidance of doubt, schools must continue to provide learning in RVE for all learners in years 10 and 11 in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the RVE guidance. However, this is separate to the requirements to secure learning in this area. It is not necessary for this learning to result in any specific qualification. It will be for schools to design the most appropriate approach to meet the needs of their learner'. WASACRE officers felt that this was positive for RVE to be included in the guidance and for it to be highlighted as a mandatory subject that schools are required to teach right through to age 16.
- KRU: QW have not made decisions on all qualifications that is why the designation policy is important. So, if you do have particular wishes, or things that you think we should know, in relation to various qualifications, please complete this consultation and this will inform our decisions in terms of existing qualifications ('Our proposed Approach to Designating 14-16' - <https://haveyoursay.qualifications.wales/our-proposed-approach-to-designating-14-16-qualifications> Deadline: 14 May 2024). To give you the context, the new GCSE, in Religious Studies, for example, had to be developed because of the new curriculum and we were tasked with developing made for Wales GCSE to relate to the curriculum. There is a lot of qualifications that exist that are not made for Wales qualifications so that's why we have needed to refer back and this is why the consultation is important, so if you do have particular views on the existing qualifications that are not GCSEs particularly, please complete that consultation and share it with colleagues as well.
- TaS thanked KRU for her support and her work with WASACRE throughout this process in developing new qualifications.
- MM: Question for LJ - where were you quoting from when you mentioned that it was still mandatory for schools to be delivering RVE to year 10 and 11 even when there is no qualification exam. Helpful for schools to use that link to present to senior management.
- LJ: This is direct from the draft guidance that's been consulted upon for 14 to 16 which is called [draft 14 to 16 statutory learner guidance](#).
- RB: The decision not to proceed with a standalone qualification is a drastic decision from our perspective. Did you feel that this was a political decision that completely ignored all the feedback from the consultation? Do you think WASACRE need to change its strategy in exercising its influence in this area of the curriculum? I was very fortunate very recently to be invited to the local primary heads forum to speak about SACRE. Interestingly enough, only one person had read the comprehensive SACRE report.
- LJ: I cannot answer your first question as to whether it was a political decision but WASACRE's thoughts are that it was not a political decision. It was a positive meeting with QW. WASACRE listened to the reasons why the decision had been reached even though we may not agree with the final decision. Maybe that is something you could raise with QW from your local SACRE.

As the advisor for Wrexham, we are looking at how to can encourage schools to invest in their RE and RVE departments. It is not easy looking for different solutions. My attendance at the Wrexham Association of Secondary Head Teachers, and the Primary Heads Federation meetings has helped. This is something that other local authorities and SACs may like to

consider doing themselves. WASACRE may need to consider a new strategy and this is something the Executive could discuss.

- KRU: QW is an independent body. The decision is made quite clear in the decisions report as to why QW did not go with a standalone RVE qualification. It was a difficult decision, conversations with WASACRE have been ongoing. QW are also conscious of other issues in this space and that we are still creating qualifications linked to RVE but just not a qualification that is RVE alone. In terms of ongoing situations, there is more work from QW to explain our role, and perhaps the differences between the curriculum requirements and the requirements, that can be quite technical, but are linked to qualifications and how they are created. Recommended that QW provide WASACRE with more information, more context and more background information.
- LB: I am unclear as to why these skills qualifications would not line up with the mandatory requirements for RVE. How will schools actually manage to teach this if it's not a qualification? And would it end up meaning that the mandatory element is left out because it is not part of the qualification? If the mandatory element ends up being taught as a non-qualification, then it may not be taken as seriously by pupils in the school.
- TaS: These are all very important points, and this will remain on WASACRE's agenda.

ACTION: WASACRE to consider new strategies to exert its influence.

10. What Covid-19 reveals to religious education specialists in Europe?

TaS shared a short presentation on a research project which WASACRE helped facilitate in conjunction with other EFTRE Board members. This presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

The research results were presented at a number of conferences in 2023, including the EFTRE conference in Rome in August. A number of articles are currently being published in well-known international journals for religious education.

AP shared a link to one of the papers recently published which is open access: 'Covid made me think about ...What really matters in religious education: A European research project' : <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40839-024-00225-4>

There is another article currently in the review process regarding the relationship between social unrest and religious education. An abstract has also been accepted to write a full paper for a special issue in the British Journal of Religious Education concerning what can this research tell us about technology and religious education. In addition, the research group has been invited to submit articles to an international Polish journal and an International Greek journal.

WASACRE wants to share this research with you to show how Wales is being involved in significant research in religious education at a European level. It is generating a huge amount of interest outside Wales at the moment. It would be good if it can generate some interest in Wales as well and be publicised.

11. NAPfRE presentation: *Objective, critical and pluralistic RVE in the primary classroom* Presented by Elizabeth Thomas, Provincial Director of Education for the Church in Wales

ET gave a short presentation giving an overview of the project. A copy of the presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

The project was conducted under the auspices of being a practical classroom-based approach as to what objective critical and pluralistic might look in order to provide schools extra support, and for them to deliver RVE in the primary context.

The team leads were Beccie Morteo (BM), Education Lead for Llandaff and Monmouth and Jennie Downes (JD), Schools' Officer St Asaph who both worked closely with schools. ET coordinated the

project and provided input from the legal side. Hayley Jones from the EAS and Donna Graves from CSC also worked alongside the team during the project.

ET mentioned this was a project overview and that a more detailed presentation including BM and JD would be available in the summer.

TAS thanked ET and the team involved for this valuable piece of research.

This research will be included as part of WASACRE's Conference post-Conference online seminars. ET and colleagues will be providing an hour and a half, which would include time to discuss and explore this much further.

12. Estyn: 2024 – 2030 inspection plans

Aranwen Morgans-Thomas provided the following update: A handout which includes an overview of the work carried out to date will be made available after the meeting.

The document includes:

- An update on the inspection work that has continued during the autumn and the spring terms.
- An update on the annual report. There are a number of links included in the documents regarding Estyn's work in all sectors as well as the secondary sector that KRU is focused on.
- With regards to inspecting for the future 2024 - 2030, piloting work has been carried out on the new framework, which will now come into effect as of September 2024. The next cycle of inspections will start in September, and the changes to our current arrangements will be as follows:
 - The overarching principle is that we will provide more regular feedback and assurances. There will be a rebalancing with individual provider inspections and the whole system of improvement education in Wales.
 - We aim to build constructive relationships, to be responsive through flexibility, and ensure arrangements are deliverable and sustainable across Wales.
 - In terms of the arrangements for core inspections of maintained schools and PIUs, this has been developed through consultation and piloting work. The main headlines are included in the document. Estyn will revert to a six-year cycle and reduce the number of inspection areas from five to three.
 - Our three main inspection areas will be 1) teaching and learning 2) care, support well-being and 3) leading and improving. The 10-day notice period will be retained to give sufficient time for questionnaires and for providers to upload relevant documentation.
 - The role of peer inspectors will be retained. These are head teachers, deputy head teachers, assistant head teachers, who are currently practising practitioners.
 - We will also engage more frequently with providers. At the moment the plan is to conduct interim visits. Schools will have a core inspection every six years. Midway through this cycle, there will be an interim shorter visit which will focus on the recommendations from the core inspection and the progress the school has made against those recommendations.
 - Estyn continues to trial its approaches for feedback and reports. The report is very much similar to the current reports, in terms of the narrative, but we welcome feedback if changes are required.
 - For the inspection for the future 2024 - 2030, we do not have any current documentation live on our website. Once we finalise the findings from our pilot inspection work, I will update WASACRE when the documentation is to become available.
- TaS thanked Aranwen Morgans-Thomas for providing the update in person online.

ACTION: LJ to convert Estyn's document into a PDF for circulation to all SACs post meeting.

13. Up-dates:

- Report from the Executive Committee held on 7 February 2024 (Tania ap Sion)

Due to time constraints this item was not covered, although many areas are covered on this agenda.

- WJEC

Christopher Owens gave the following report:

- As in previous years, there were two live events in the autumn of 2023, in Cardiff, and Llandudno. This year, there was an additional CADAG meeting in North Wales. All materials are available on the WJEC website.
- The entry figures this year are to be finalised in March. For GCSE, AS and A level, the figures are static and stable this year. However, there is a continuing decline in the short course entry as we would expect.
- At the moment, WJEC is continuing to work on the new specification for the new qualification. The current plan is that the new specification with SAMs (the specimen assessment materials), will be available in September, with the first exam in September 2026. The materials will be available in September 2024 for first teaching in September 2025. So effectively, schools will have quite a long time to prepare.
- In support that there will be 12 nationwide PL events across Wales. This will be in the spring term, February, and March 2025. It is important that RS teachers book their places on these particular events. The local authorities are closing the schools on these training days. It is an opportunity for every RS teacher in Wales to have training. We will not have the guidance for teachers available in September 2024. We will make sure when teachers start teaching in September 2005, that there is a detailed guidance for teaching produced by the WJEC.
- LJ: I am aware that the qualification development is done using a co-constructive process. One of the questions that I have been asked is, when the schools receive this qualification detail in September 2024, will that be the final version? Is there going to be any further consultation?
- CO: There has been consultation all the way through in the initial stage. For example, we have a subject advisory group composed of people who have looked at the development of the specification. The specification will go to Qualification Wales who will decide whether the specification is fit for purpose. But in reality, the specification that comes out in September to schools will be the finished product. So as an examination board, we are required to provide the specification and the SAMs, because we have two exams and two NEA tasks as part of the new specification. When that comes out in September, that will be the final draft.
- MM: Will there be more opportunities for us to be involved in the process and consultation before the final product?
- CO: I will double check on whether there is another opportunity for teachers to feedback I doubt it.

ACTION: CO to check whether there is an opportunity for further feedback and inform WASACRE.

- REC

LJ gave the following update:

- The REC has co-opted an RVE specialist representative from Wales onto its board. This is an important development. This is a temporary place on the REC board for one year. It is hoped that it will support relations between Wales and England and offer the REC the specialist advice and guidance on RVE to carry out its duties as the RE Council for both England and Wales.
 - All REC Board co options are for one year and the board can renew these for up to three years. There is hope that this co-opted position will continue.
 - LJ applied for the position as part of a formal selection process and is now the co-opted RVE specialist board member for the REC. LJ thanked Kathy Riddick, who is also a board member of the REC as KR has offered a Welsh voice at meetings. Our two countries are very different, but they do share some of the same issues with regard to RE and RS. As we have already discussed in the meeting today, the REC has processes already in place to address some of the issues that we share, and how they deal with them in England, and they are keen to support Wales. The board has asked how it can best be of service to Wales. So, LJ suggests that the WASACRE executive has an agenda item on this in its summer meeting in May, so that members can discuss what support if any, is required.
- TaS confirmed that it will put on the Executive agenda and the conversation will continue.

ACTION: Add to Agenda for the May meeting re. how REC can support Wales.

- EFTRE

PL gave the following update:

- Preparations are underway for the next conference in Budapest from 21st – 24th August 2025. The COVID research materials that TaS and colleagues presented at the EFTRE conference (referred to earlier) are available on the EFTRE website. There is also a notable presentation on controversial issues. With the current conflict in the Middle East, this might be something to point schools towards.
- TaS stated from personal experience (and from LJ and AP who were also present) that the EFTRE conference is well worth attending.

- REMW

PM gave the following brief update:

- REMW is reconsidering its role in the changing context of RE and the Curriculum for Wales.

- NAPfRE 2.02.17

PL gave the following update:

- NAPfRE usually meet prior to the WASACRE main meeting, but it had to be scheduled for the following week. NAPfRE rep will be attending the meeting with Welsh Government (Kevin Palmer) regarding teacher recruitment referred to earlier. We have discussed previously the materials around Palestine / Israel and controversial issues, and I know that advisors have access to these resources that can be shared with schools.

- IFN

LJ gave the following update:

- I can confirm that the IFN has had to make the difficult decision to move towards closure due to the UK Government's decision to withdraw funding from the organisation.
- WASACRE received a news release from the IFN on 8th February 2024 announcing the decision. A statement issued by IFN's board was received on 24th January 2024 following a letter they received on 19th January from the Secretary of State, the Right Honourable Michael Gove MP which stated that he was withdrawing the funding offered in July 2023. In the statement, Mr Gove detailed his concerns about IFN having a trustee who is a member of the Muslim Council of Britain. We have a link to Michael Gove statements and the IFN co-chairs response if any members would like to read it.
- The IFN board is grateful to the many individuals and organisations who have written to MPs and ministers or signed petitions, made donations and in other ways shown deep and often humbling support to IFN across the last year. It is very sad and disappointing news.
- RT: I assume this does not affect the Interfaith network in Wales, because it is not funded.
- LJ: It is a relief that it doesn't affect the Interfaith network in Wales. This organisation is not funded and has a positive relationship with the Welsh Government. I attended a North Wales interfaith meeting last week. There was a representative from the Interfaith Council for Wales there who assured everybody that they were still running obviously with no money as they have been doing that for many years. Obviously, there was discussion in that meeting on how to support our colleagues and friends in England and the rest of the UK. There was talk of asking our assembly members whether there was a commitment to continue Interfaith dialogue in Wales.
- RB: If Wales has continued to have an interfaith faith network, is it not possibility that it could continue in England?
- LJ: I think the issues that they have in England with the interfaith network is that they have about four full-time members of staff and require funding in order to make it possible for them to do the work. The work that happens in Wales is voluntary. There is not as much work conducted at the Interfaith Council for Wales compared to what the IFN for the UK. It doesn't look like IFN UK is going to run on voluntary basis.

14. Local matters / enquiries

1. Linking to RS's feedback from the Welsh Government meeting about support for schools

dealing with requests for withdrawal from RVE, e.g. at seasonal celebrations and the records kept by WASACRE. Wrexham SAC has started to collate the advice that has been offered to its local schools. It already has one case study, and another one is in development. These are helpful to refer to when similar enquiries are received. It is something that other SACs and their advisors could also develop. WASACRE could collate those case studies and review them, possibly making them available for wider use on the website.

ACTION: TaS requested LJ to share this case study with WASACRE.

2. There is a lot of creative and rich RVE taking place in schools in northeast Wales. Some of our schools have raised the issue of lower numbers of learners showing an interest in and opting for GCSE religious studies. What we are trying to do in Wrexham is address this by engaging teachers in professional dialogue about possible solutions. We have a real concern that this particular issue of falling numbers will impact on staffing even further, especially at a time of severe budget cuts to schools.

Obviously, there are many reasons that can affect GCSE numbers in any subject, but some of the main ones we've identified locally for RVE are the disparity in regards to time and provision at Key Stage Three for RVE compared to some of the humanities subjects, higher numbers of non-specialists having to teach RVE at key stage three, and also lack of professional learning provided in school for those non-specialists.

These factors often lead to some learners in year seven and eight not having contact with a specialist RE teacher until year nine. I believe this has an effect on low numbers at GCSE, which then has a knock-on effect to staffing, and other impacts as well.

WASACRE would like to know whether any of the other SACs have similar issues in some of their schools. I know it is not just a Wrexham local issue and it is not in all of our schools. The the question is, how can we encourage our schools to invest in RE and RVE departments when funding is such an issue?

15. Correspondence

AP: Received four items of correspondence:

- 1) From the IFN that LJ has already talked about in the IFN update
 - 2) Patricia Hannam, who is chair of the steering group for the RE hubs project has emailed the WASACRE Chair to express an interest to work with WASACRE through the RE Hubs project. An initial meeting has been set up.
 - 3) An email has been received from Pam Evans, who is the CEO of Peace Mala requesting the opportunity to explore the possibility of partnership working with WASACRE. An initial online meeting will be set up.
 - 4) Wrexham SAC have asked WASACRE to raise with Estyn the use of the word 'costumes' in inspection reports, when referring to religious and cultural outfits that children have the opportunity to wear in class, when they are exploring religious beliefs. The word 'costume' has offended one of the Sikh SAC members. Wrexham SAC suggest that a more appropriate word to use is 'outfit'. Members of Wrexham SAC feel that this is probably a national issue rather than just a local one and would like support from WASACRE.
- AMT: I will pass that information back to my AD. Following any report from a school setting, the school has five days to respond to any wording or any information that is in the report, those five days are available to check for accuracy, etc. But clearly, this has probably come from a member of the community as opposed to directly from the school community.

16. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)

LJ: A letter via email has been sent to all SACs concerning the WASACRE Executive nominations. If SACs wish to nominate an individual, the proforma SACs received on 6th February is to be returned to LJ by 22nd March. LJ will send SACs the list of nominations bilingually by 26th April in order that nominations can be discussed in their summer term meetings, in time for the voting in the WASACRE AGM on 13th June (which will take place at the end of the WASACRE conference). There are two places available one for the vice chair position and one for an executive member position. LJ has received two nominations to date.

17. Date for next meeting (AGM) – Thursday, 13th June 2024, Wrexham (Wrexham University)

ACTION: The links in the chat to be collated and circulated to members.

TaS closed the meeting by thanking Carmarthenshire SAC and LA for the warm welcome today. TaS looks forward to seeing as many people as possible at the online seminars and on the RVE conference day. TaS thanked Sioned Jones for her translation, the presenters and everyone who has contributed.

Meeting ended 1.00pm

This page is intentionally left blank

Anglesey Estyn Reports SMSC Analysis (Reports published between April 2023 – May 2024)

School	Estyn Report Published
Ysgol Gynradd Pencarnisiog	16/05/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Number of pupils on roll 196 - Pupils of statutory school age 142 - Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 27 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%) 26.6% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%) 28.9% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 15.8 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/01/2017 - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 01/03/2015 - Start date of inspection 19/06/2023 	
Ysgol Gynradd Llandegfan	09/05/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Type of school Primary - Number of pupils on roll 163 - Pupils of statutory school age 122 - Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 20 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.7%) 12.4% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 13.2%) 7.4% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 21.3% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/09/2017 - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 07/12/2015 - Start date of inspection 04/03/2024 	
Ysgol Gynradd Rhosneigr	24/04/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Number of pupils on roll 85 - Pupils of statutory school age 71 - Number in nursery classes 7 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a threeyear average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.7%) 18.7% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 13.2%) 9.9% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 31% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/09/2015 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 10/11/2015 - Start date of inspection 20/02/2024 	
Ysgol Gymuned Y Ffridd	03/04/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Type of school Primary - Number of pupils on roll 85 - Pupils of statutory school age 67 - Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 10 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a threeyear average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.7%) 16.3% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 13.2%) 20.9% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 74.6% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/09/2011 - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 01/01/2016 - Start date of inspection 29/01/2024 	
Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd	18/12/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Type of school Primary - Number of pupils on roll 88 - Pupils of statutory school age 65 - Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 7 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a threeyear average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%) 12.2% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%) 23.1% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 76.9% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/09/2000 - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 11/05/2015 - Start date of inspection 16/10/2023 	
Ysgol Gymuned Llanerch-y-medd	11/12/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language of the provider Welsh - Type of school Primary - Number of pupils on roll 139 - Pupils of statutory school age 105 - Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 18 - Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a threeyear average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%) 13.4% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%) 36.2% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 67.6% - Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0% - Date of headteacher appointment 01/09/2017 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 21/09/2015 - Start date of inspection 09/10/2023 	
Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn	04/12/2023
<p>Language of the provider Welsh</p> <p>Type of school Primary</p> <p>Number of pupils on roll 186</p> <p>Pupils of statutory school age 132</p> <p>Number in nursery classes (if applicable) 26</p> <p>Percentage of statutory school age pupils eligible for free school meals over a three year average (The national percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals over a three-year average in the primary sector is 23.0%) 11.8%</p> <p>Percentage of statutory school age pupils identified as having additional learning needs (a) (The national percentage of pupils identified as having an additional learning need in the primary sector is 16.1%) 15.2%</p> <p>Percentage of statutory school age pupils who speak Welsh at home 45.7%</p> <p>Percentage of statutory school age pupils with English as an additional language 0.0%</p> <p>Date of headteacher appointment 01/04/2013</p> <p>Date of previous Estyn inspection (if applicable) 01/04/2015</p> <p>Start date of inspection 02/10/2023</p>	

Well-being and attitudes to learning

- Nearly all pupils develop a sound understanding of the importance of being moral and principles citizens. They develop the ability and confidence to discuss their feelings and show empathy towards others. A good example of this is the way in which pupils have welcomed and supported peers who have had to flee the war in Ukraine. By studying the trials and tribulations faced by Martin Luther King and Betty Campbell, they learn about injustice and show a mature awareness of issues relating to equity, equality and children's rights. (Ysgol Gynradd Kingsland)
- Most pupils contribute thoughtfully to various charities and have firm ideas about who should benefit from their contributions. For example, the school council decided to make a donation to a local guide dog charity following the school's thanksgiving service. This has a positive effect on their understanding of other people's needs, both locally and nationally. (Ysgol Gynradd Y Ffridd)
- Many pupils develop as ethical and knowledgeable citizens through their awareness of fairness and equality. Through their research and sensible discussions, they begin to understand the importance of respecting the needs and rights of other people as part of a diverse society. A good example of this is how they research the life of the leader Martin Luther King and the history of the activist Rosa Parks and use this information to consider what contributes to a society that respects human rights. (Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd)
- Pupils' well-being and attitudes to learning are sound due to their enthusiastic involvement in developing their creative skills. Most pupils are willing contributors when developing their artistic skills. For example, the youngest pupils are adventurous when experimenting successfully with a variety of media, such as printing different patterns to decorate Bishop William Morgan's Bible. (Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd)
- Many pupils are increasingly becoming principled and knowledgeable citizens. They show an increasing sense of empathy and compassion towards others and their awareness of diversity and equality is developing appropriately. For example, older pupils discuss the story of Malala Yousafzai and her campaign to ensure that girls have the right to an education in Pakistan. Most pupils are beginning to show an awareness of children's rights and are able to explain how these have an effect on their own everyday lives and the lives of others. (Ysgol Gymuned Llannerch-y-medd)

Teaching and Learning experiences

- A core aspect of the school's work is the valuable opportunities that are provided by staff to promote Welsh identity, history and culture. For example, pupils study the history of Ynys Llanddwyn and the local link with St Dwynwen. (Ysgol Gynradd Kingsland)
- Staff take advantage of the close and beneficial links the school has with a number of groups in the local area, such as the church and the chapel. As a result, most pupils have a strong sense of belonging to the village of Llandegfan and a thorough knowledge of their cynefin or local area. (Ysgol Gynradd Llandegfan)

Care, Support and Guidance

- There are purposeful opportunities to promote pupils' understanding of their Welsh identity, heritage and culture. These include celebrating St David's Day by holding a concert and taking part in a parade in Holyhead. Everyone celebrates the 'Welsh speaker of the Week' during the school assembly and local educational visits are organised regularly. The school provides effective opportunities for pupils to develop sound values and explore their spiritual and ethical beliefs when considering a range of religions in the morning assemblies and during theme work which discusses, for example, Judaism and Hinduism. (Ysgol Gynradd Kingsland)
- The school promotes equality and diversity and provides effective opportunities for pupils to develop a good understanding of their Welsh heritage. Within whole school assemblies, pupils learn to respect the customs and morality of different religions. For example, they compare Ramadan and Lent well and discuss the spiritual values of St David to help other people skilfully. This promotes pupils' spiritual, social and cultural development successfully. (Ysgol Gynradd Llandegfan)
- Staff succeed in developing pupils' moral and spiritual attitudes well. For example, by holding collective worship assemblies, they emphasise the importance of respecting and helping others. Pupils come to respect other people's needs and situations, for example by organising a stall at the summer fair to sell goods to raise money for Children in Need. (Ysgol Gynradd Y Ffridd)
- The school uses collective worship successfully to promote pupils' spiritual and moral development. For example, pupils support a local food bank by collecting donations at their harvest festival celebrations. These activities contribute well to pupils' understanding that supporting each other is important in a caring society. (Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd)
- Arrangements for collective worship provide valuable opportunities to support pupils in learning about issues relating to various beliefs, in addition to reflecting on fundamental questions and their own values. Across the school, staff support pupils to understand issues relating to equality, diversity and inclusion. They also develop A report on Ysgol Gymuned Llannerch-y-medd October 2023 7 values that develop pupils to understand their own needs and rights and those of others. (Ysgol Gymuned Llannerch-y-medd)
- The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development appropriately through a range of diverse opportunities. For example, in assemblies, teachers share messages about the importance of caring for the planet. Teachers promote healthy relationships appropriately and a clear emphasis is placed on ensuring fairness and equal opportunities for all within the school community. Many activities and learning experiences are based on respect and empathy. This ensures that the school is a caring, friendly and inclusive place. The emphasis on valuing diversity is based on the principle that everyone is equal and is a central element of the school's work. (Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn)

New Inspection Framework

- Staff support pupils to develop their spiritual and moral awareness purposefully. For example, in mass assemblies, rich opportunities are provided for pupils to reflect on important ethical issues, including showing kindness and respecting the rights of others in society. Most pupils develop a clear understanding of the essential values that contribute to their development as well-rounded

and responsible citizens, including treating others with kindness and respect. The way in which the oldest pupils support and care for the youngest pupils during break times reflects this effectively. (Ysgol Gynradd Rhosneigr)

This page is intentionally left blank