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CYNGOR SIR
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ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

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Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive
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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
CYNGOR YMGYNGHOROL SSEFYDLOG (CYS)	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)
DYDD IAU, 16 HYDREF 2025 AM 2:00 O'R GLOCH	THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2025 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, Keith Roberts, Arfon Wyn

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 Deborah Stammers (Undeb y Bedyddwyr/The Baptist Union of Wales), Undeb yr Annibynnwyr Cymraeg/Union of Welsh Independents (sedd wag/vacant seat), Huw Owen (Yr Eglwys Bresbyteriaidd/Presbyterian Church of Wales); Yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd/The Methodist Church (sedd wag/vacant seat); Islam (sedd wag/vacant seat); Tystion Jehova/Jehova Witness (sedd wag/vacant seat)

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

Cynrychiolydd Anghrefyddol/Non-Religious Representative

Sarah Lloyd (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 - 8)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the previous SAC meeting held on 10 July 2025.

Matters arising from the minutes: -

- To invite the Diversity, Equality and Hate Crime Officer to attend the SAC's next meeting.
- The Primary Senior Manager to write to Estyn to ask for consistency in its reporting process by providing comments on schools that have achieved positive results in their Estyn reports.

3 WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES (WASACRE) (Pages 9 - 20)

To submit for information: -

- The report of the WASACRE's activities during 2024/25
- Annual General Meeting – 2.7.24

4 THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL'S DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024/25 (Pages 21 - 32)

To submit the Anglesey SAC's draft Annual Report for 2024/25 for approval, subject to any amendments.

5 DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF BANGOR

To introduce Joanna Thomas, the Director of Education for the Bangor Diocese.

6 ANGLESEY SAC(RE)'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2025/26 (Pages 33 - 38)

To discuss how best the SAC can support its schools: -

- Promotion of SAC(RE)
- Development of Religion, Values and Ethics
- Development of Collective Worship

7 CULHAM ST GABRIEL - GRANT APPLICATION

To submit a verbal report on a grant application in relation to the Holyhead Primary

Cluster RVE planning project.

8 SAC NEWSLETTER (Pages 39 - 42)

To discuss the possibility of creating and distributing an Anglesey SAC newsletter.

9 EFTRE (EUROPEAN FORUM OF TEACHERS OF RE) CONFERENCE 2025

To submit a verbal report from the recent EFTRE Conference held in Budapest.

10 ANY ISSUES SPECIFIC TO THE SAC

Matters for the next meeting.

11 NEXT MEETING

The SAC's next meeting will be held on 10 February 2026 at 2:00 pm.

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STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2025

PRESENT: Councillor Non Dafydd (Chair)
Councillor Arfon Wyn (Vice-Chair) (from 2:45pm)

The Education Authority

Councillors Gwilym O Jones, Keith Roberts

The Religious Denominations

Mr Edward Morus Jones (Union of Welsh Independents)
Rev Deborah Stammers (The Baptist Union of Wales)

Teacher Representatives

Mr Owain Roberts (Ysgol Cybi)
Mrs Manon Morris-Williams (Ysgol Santes Dwynwen)

Non-Religious Representative

Sarah Lloyd (Humanists)

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Education, Skills & Young People
Mr Owen T Davies (Senior Manager, Primary Sector) (RVE Advisor to the SACRE)
Mr Phil Lord (Independent RVE Advisor)
Mrs Shirley Cooke (Committee Officer)

ALSO PRESENT: Jenny Downs (Bangor University)
Nia Lloyd Thomas (Ysgol Rhyd y Llan, Llanfaethlu)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Dylan Rees
Mrs Collette Owens (The Catholic Church)
Rev Neil Ridings (The Church in Wales)
Mrs Mefys Jones-Edwards (Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones, Amlwch)
Mrs Heledd Hearn (Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern)
Mr Rheinallt Thomas (Co-opted Member)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reported that Elaine Green, who represented the Presbyterian Church in Wales on the SAC for the past four years has retired from the role. The Chair thanked Mrs Green for her valuable contribution to the SAC over the years and wished her well for the future.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

2. MINUTES

The draft minutes of the previous SAC meeting held on 13 February 2025 were presented and confirmed as correct, subject to the following:

Matters arising from the minutes: -

- The Senior Manager, Primary Sector (SMPS) reported that he has emailed the SAC's Catholic Church representative to discuss amendments to the Section 50 reports template and is awaiting a response from Mrs Owens.
- The SMPS reported that the link to the WASACRE RVE video has been shared with schools through the schools' bulletin and SharePoint.
- It was confirmed that the 'The Teacher Voice Project' has been shared with all schools on Anglesey through the schools' bulletin.
- The SMPS confirmed that the new Governors' Playlist has been added to the Governors' Training Programme for next year. He reported that a pack has been prepared for the Training Programme.
- It was confirmed that dates for the Governors' training session will be included in the Governors' Training Programme and shared in due course.
- The SMPS explained that a Welsh version of the RVE and the Curriculum for Wales presentation for Primary Teachers has not yet been completed. He stated that it is on the Department's Work Programme to be completed.
- As the Diversity, Equality and Hate Crime Officer could not attend today's meeting to give a presentation on her work for North Wales Police, it was **RESOLVED to invite the Officer to attend the SAC's next meeting.**
- It was confirmed that the SMPS has emailed Dr Gareth Evans-Jones for clarification on the current situation at Bangor University on joint working and is awaiting a response, and
- copied The Welsh Language Commissioner and Lynne Neagle, the Minister for Education in Welsh Government in the email.

3. WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES (WASACRE)

- The draft minutes of the last meeting of the Association held virtually on 6 March 2025 were submitted for information and noted.
- **RESOLVED to note the letter to Lynne Neagle, MS, Cabinet Secretary for Education from the Chair of WASACRE on support for mandatory Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) in Wales.**
- The SAC's RVE Advisor reported that the Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual WASACRE meeting hosted by Anglesey on 2 July 2025.

The RVE Advisor referred to a presentation in the meeting on Sentientism, an offshoot of Humanism and Atheism, looking at the respect all Sentient individuals deserve. He stated that since RE has changed to RVE, there is more scope for

schools to look at different belief systems and non-religious world views. He referred to Atheism, which is divided into a lot of separate belief systems and encouraged schools to explore the variety of topics within the systems.

4. MEMBERS' VISIT TO YSGOL Y GRAIG, LLANGFNI

A visit was conducted by the Chair and Councillor Dylan Rees to Ysgol y Graig, Llangefni in March this year. The Chair reported that a virtual service is held in the school on Monday mornings, which is conducted from the classroom. She explained that on alternate weeks, the service is held in Ysgol y Graig Fach on Fridays.

The Chair reported that she and Councillor Rees had enjoyed participating in the morning service, where the children acted out a story about Jesus. She explained that it was evident in the presentation that the children enjoyed acting and bringing different educational elements together. At the end of the performance, the school awarded prizes to each class, and the children were given stickers to thank them for helping out. She stated that the school celebrates the simple things in life, and the pupils' actions were appreciated, which was positive to see.

A teacher explained that the school uses Bible.net and commented that she would like to see the website updated, together with the four RVE purposes being available on Hwb. She asked the Chair to raise these matters with the SAC.

The Chair reported that she thoroughly enjoyed the visit to Ysgol Rhyd y Llan, as did Councillor Rees.

The RVE Advisor stated that he encourages schools to separate collective worship and RVE, as the right of withdrawal is relevant for RVE, but not for collective worship. He stated that the Anglesey Agreed Syllabus is on HwB as part of the Humanities AoLE, which has been digitised.

RESOLVED to note the content of the report.

5. TRANSLATING THE UNTRANSLATABLE (that which is so meaningful it cannot be translated)

A presentation was received by Jenny Downs from Bangor University on the impact the 1588 translation of the Welsh Bible has had on the spirituality of Wales, its linguistic culture and landscape. She stated that she has explored the translation narrative through 'Cynefin' and sought to understand its deeper meaning and how it supports learners' spiritual development in the Humanities AoLE in the Curriculum for Wales.

Ms Downs explained that the Welsh Language Act of 1993 has been significant in raising the profile of the Welsh language and has brought about the changes that led to the development of the Curriculum for Wales. She referred to the four purposes driving the change, which prepares future generations to navigate in an uncertain world. The importance of the mandatory element of RVE was also highlighted in this journey.

Ms Downs referred to the methodology used in her research, using 'Cynefin' as a

lens to explore the six dimensions of the translation narrative. Each section is divided into three parts: the history of biblical translation; how the translators sourced ancient manuscripts; the bardic poetry that informed the language. She stated that the links to the Curriculum and Humanities 'What Matters?' are examined, demonstrating how learners' spiritual development can progress through using the context of the translation as a theme. For instance, considering what motivated William Morgan – specifically, the influence of the natural landscape around him, particularly Ty Mawr and Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant, the places where he lived which inspired his thinking. It was noted that the word 'Cynefin' can describe a sense of the spiritual, the sacred, an interweaving of heritage, identity and culture.

Ms Downs reported that her literature review started with the use of 'Cynefin' in the Curriculum and the evolution of 'Welshness'. She has further researched the global aspects of 'Cynefin', with particularly links to the New Zealand Curriculum, which focuses on cultural narratives, languages and traditions.

Ms Downs concluded the following findings from her research:

- It is essential to create a safe learning environment that fosters exploration of the deeper questions of RVE and so supporting spiritual development.
- The authentic context of the translation could be used across the learning continuum and Wales;
- The importance of enabling emerging practice in RVE;
- The next phase of Ms Downs' research is on narrative and 'Cynefin'.

The Primary Senior Manager questioned whether information from the presentation could be adapted from academic to classroom level and shared with schools? Ms Downs responded that there is definitely a piece of work that schools could use looking at the story of the Welsh Bible and stated that she would be happy to assist in any way.

The RVE Advisor reported that he is currently applying for funding from Culham St Gabriels to fund a 'Cynefin' project with teachers as part of the Humanities AoLE, to see what History, Geography and RVE could bring together.

The Chair thanked Ms Downs on behalf of the SAC for her very interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED to note the information presented.

6. EMERGING, RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE) PRACTICE IN AN ANGLESEY SCHOOL

A presentation on RVE was received by Nia Lloyd Thomas, Headteacher of Ysgol Rhyd y Llan, Llanfaethlu, which was opened 8 year ago.

The Headteacher reported that currently 116 children attend the school. She referred to the school's motto 'Hwyl a Her yn ein Hafan Hapus', which translates to '*fun and challenge in our happy haven*' and explained that it is her vision for the school. She stated that Ysgol Rhyd y Llan is a happy school, where the teachers have a lot of fun with the children. She highlighted the importance of challenging the

children and creating a happy environment at the school.

The Headteacher reported that last year Ysgol Rhyd y Llan had very few books with tasks linked to RVE. She stated that since then, this issue has been prioritised and included in the school's Development Plan for the year ahead. It was noted that teachers have been allocated time to read up on RVE to understand the requirements of the curriculum. It was further noted that an audit of resources has also been undertaken at the school.

As part of the schools' self-valuation process, the Headteacher reported that one of the school's Governors is linked to a certain priority, and the individual visits the school to look at books and talk to the learners about their experiences.

The Headteacher reported that one of the main points learned is that RVE is much more than Religious Education. The values elements is the school's ethos; how the children work from day to day; how they behave towards each other.

It was noted that the lenses have been very useful for teachers, providing a framework to build on. The Headteacher explained that when engaging in tasks linked to religion, the focus needs to be on RVE and not language. The Headteacher stated that the next stage will be to continue to plan interesting tasks and ensure that there is depth to the learning.

The Headteacher gave a slideshow of the work the children have undertaken at the school, including visiting a local Church, the story of Noah's Ark, Santes Dwynwen, the Good Samaritan, different religions and beliefs, nature etc.

A member of the SAC who has visited the school reported that the children were very welcoming and easy to talk to at the school. He stated that the pupils are encouraged to be confident individuals who will grow up to be valued members of their communities.

The Chair thanked Mrs Thomas for her interesting presentation and insight into school life at Ysgol Rhyd y Llan.

RESOLVED to note the content of the report.

7. UPDATE ON SECONDARY SCHOOL RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS SUPPORT

The SAC's RVE Advisor gave a verbal report on the development of a secondary school RVE network on Anglesey, as discussed in the last SAC meeting. He reported that he met with the Headteachers in the spring, followed by a meeting with four Heads of Departments recently, which was very successful. The conversation focused on the mandatory elements for Key Stage 4 for Years 10 and 11, which many schools are not providing. The teachers discussed how schools would be impacted and how pupils' access to RVE could be improved over a sustained period of time using tutorial periods, drop-down days, the Centre for RE for conferences. He stated that he has emailed the Headteachers and hopes to continue the secondary network next year.

RESOLVED to note the content of the report.

8. ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS

The SAC's Independent RVE Advisor gave an analysis of recent Estyn inspection reports. The Chair questioned why Estyn had not commented on some schools in their reports. The RVE Advisor reported that Estyn only report on schools when there is a negative element in relation to collective worship or Religion Values and Ethics. He stated that the positive comments have been included in the report and are to be welcomed. It was noted that Estyn has provided less comments in its reporting on schools, which is reflected in the SAC's Annual Report process.

This year is the first year for Estyn to use the new Inspection Framework, with reports being incorporated into one narrative for each subject, whereas previously a systematic approach was in place.

RESOLVED: -

- **To note the information presented.**
- **That the Senior Manager, Primary Sector will consult with the Local Authority's Estyn Local Inspector on RVE consideration and reporting within the new Estyn Framework.**

9. ANY ISSUES SPECIFIC TO THE SAC

- The RVE Advisor reported that he will be preparing the SAC's Annual Report for 2024/25 over the summer. He stated that he has raised the issue of annual reports in the last WASACRE meeting, when it was decided that WASACRE were considering lobbying Welsh Government on the content of annual reports. He explained that annual reports need to include information that the SAC and schools can utilise to improve RVE across the island. He stated that when annual reports are viewed, they are reflected over the last 12 months, rather than looking forward.

The RVE Advisor reported that he has suggested that WASACRE propose to Welsh Government (WG) that its method of viewing annual reports be updated. He suggested that the SAC work on 2 or 3 bullet points to project the Committee's work in moving forward. He stated that in 12 months' time the SAC could have its own development plan to look back on with any action points included. It was noted that this plan could be in place by September, driven by the local authority.

The Director of Learning, Skills and Young People reported that he agreed with the proposal, and would continue discussion with the RVE Advisor in due course.

- Mr Edward Morus Jones reported that he will be retiring from the SAC after 40 years' service as a Welsh Independents representative. He stated that he has enjoyed being involved in the SAC's work and wished the members of the Committee well for the future.

The Chair thanked Mr Jones for his valued contribution to the SAC over a long

period. She stated that he will be greatly missed due to his vast experience and wished him well for the future.

10. NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the SAC's next meeting will be convened on 16 October 2025.

The meeting concluded at 3:35 pm

**COUNCILLOR NON DAFYDD
CHAIR**

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Report of the activities of the Association 2024-2025

It has been another busy year for the Association, especially following on from the WASACRE RVE Conference in the Summer term, which provided a major free professional learning package for SACs and practitioners in their local authorities.

1. This year the Association met on three occasions.

Our Autumn meeting on 14 November 2024 was hosted by Monmouthshire SACRE/SAC through Zoom. Our spring meeting on 6 March 2025 was hosted by Bridgend SACRE /SAC through Zoom. Our Summer meeting on 2 July 2025 was hosted by Anglesey SACRE/SAC through Zoom. We are grateful for the continued support of SACREs / SACs with their hosting of these meetings.

2. The Executive Committee met on three occasions.

The meetings took place on 2 October 2024, 5 February 2025 and 14 May 2025 all of which were held on-line through Zoom. The Executive Committee had a full agenda throughout the year that included the following items and activities.

- a. The continued consideration and response to developments relating directly to RVE and RE within the Curriculum for Wales.
- b. Advice and support given to advisors and SACREs / SACs in Wales in response to their enquires. This included the creation of a FAQs infographic and a 'How do we support our member SACs' infographic.
- c. Representatives from the WASACRE Executive Committee (with a NAPfRE representative) met with Welsh Government colleagues as part of WASACRE's established regular cycle of meetings. These meetings gave opportunity to raise issues of importance to local SACREs / SACs. In addition, agenda items included the recruitment crisis in RS GCSE and A-level and ITE, professional learning resources, aspects of the summary of legislation on Hwb, and the presentation of SAC annual reports among other topical issues. The recruitment crisis issue is being taken forward with Kevin Palmer from Welsh Government in conversation with WASACRE.
- d. The completion by WASACRE of the second phase of the major national professional learning partnership between the Welsh Government and WASACRE. The second batch of national professional learning resources is currently awaiting publication on the Welsh Government Hwb. All resources are rigorously quality assured before publication on the Welsh Government Hwb.
- e. Representatives from the WASACRE Executive Committee (often with a NAPfRE

representative) met with various organisations both within and outside Wales on a number of occasions throughout the year. Within Wales this included a number of meetings with Qualifications Wales in relation to the 14-16 qualifications.

f. Significant correspondence with the Cabinet Secretary for Education regarding support for Mandatory RVE. A letter was sent to the Vice Chancellor of Cardiff Metropolitan University to express WASACRE's concern of the impact of their proposed redundancies on the future of RVE teaching in Wales.

g. WASACRE has agreed again this year to fund two teachers to attend the EFTRE Conference in Budapest in August 2025. A report from these teachers will be received at a future WASACRE meeting.

h. Other significant discussions at the Executive meeting were (1) the future of WASACRE meetings – online or face-to-face? It was agreed that for the foreseeable future WASACRE would continue with online meetings; (2) Support for a research project “The Teacher Voice: RVE in the curriculum for Wales”. This project is being undertaken in conjunction with St Giles’ Centre, Wrexham and at no cost to WASACRE; (3) Celebrating 30 years of WASACRE; (4) receipt of SACRE Annual Reports; (5) Correspondence from Philip Blaker, Chief Executive Qualifications Wales, explaining the rationale for the delay in the final specification for GCSE Religious Studies in response to disquiet raised at the Autumn WASACRE meeting; (6) The Executive received information on the dissolution of REMW and paid tribute to the work that it had undertaken in Wales in promoting Religious Education. (7) Consideration of a request to hold the EFTRE Conference in Wales, with all its various implications; (8) A discussion on the practicalities of holding another WASACRE conference in the not-to-distant future; (9) Maintenance and updating of our Web Site; (10) reports on the usual meetings with Welsh Government, Qualifications Wales, Estyn and the shape of future RVE qualifications, e.g. Agored Cymru and WJEC; (11) Funding and supporting the making of an RVE film.

3. Accounts.

The Treasurer's report for 2023-2024 was shared at the summer AGM of 2024. A Statement of accounts and a report explaining the information was presented. It was noted that expenditure exceeded income for the year by £3,718.66 compared with an excess income of £8,989.44 in the previous year. The Treasurer explained in detail for reasons for this change. The cost to WASACRE for hosting the Conference in Wrexham totalled £17235 and the cost of the film made to promote RVE as a subject worth considering by pupils amounted to £10341. It has been agreed at subsequent WASACRE meetings when these figures have been reported that the money was well spent. There is enthusiasm for a future Conference to be held albeit in a different format.

All SACREs / SACs who are in membership of WASACRE have paid their subscriptions for the year, however it is sad to note that two SACREs/SACs (Swansea and Pembrokeshire) have withdrawn from membership of WASACRE. It was noted that the financial position remained in a healthy condition and that the level of funds available to WASACRE to fund its planned activities was encouraging. It was recommended and agreed that the yearly subscription for 2024-2025 would remain the same in light of the current difficult financial circumstances.

4. New members of the Executive Committee

At the Summer AGM 2024 Rachel Samuel, representing Neath Port Talbot was elected to the position of Vice Chair and Kathy Riddick representing Blaenau Gwent was elected to the Executive Committee for the period of 2024-2027:

5. NAPfRE and WASACRE presentations:

As there were no 'physical meetings' NAPfRE presentations have been kept to a minimum and focused on the most immediate priority.

- The Monmouthshire meeting on 14 November 2024 included a presentation of the WASACRE RVE Film
- The Bridgend meeting on 6 March 2025 included a presentation by Phil Lord on SACRE Annual Reports
- The Anglesey meeting on 2 July 2025 included a presentation by Jamie Woodhouse on Sentientism

As Chair of WASACRE, I would like to thank all our member SACREs / SACs for their commitment to the Association and their support. Also, my thanks go to all the hard work of our Executive Committee members without whom our activities would not be possible. I have been grateful to the Vice Chair and Immediate Past Chair who have chaired meetings when I have been unable to be present through either illness or technology problems.

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WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACREs
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2nd JULY, 2024

REPORT BY: Treasurer
SUBJECT: Report for 2024/2025 Financial Year
REPORT FOR: Information and Decision

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

Attached, as an appendix to this report, is the independently examined statement of accounts for the 2024/2025 financial year. Members will note that, during the year, expenditure exceeded income by £21,420.96. This is compared with an £3718.66 excess of expenditure over income in 2023/2024 and an £8,969.44 excess of income over expenditure in 2022/2023. Further information on the reasons for this change is provided below. The accounts include payments received from four SACREs/SACs, regarding 2023/2024 which were received after the end of the last financial year. At the end of the current financial year, subscriptions have been received from 18 SACREs/SACs and payments from a further 2 SACREs were received after the end of the financial year. Sadly, I have to report that membership of WASACRE remains as 20 SACREs/SACs rather than 22 as Pembrokeshire and Swansea SACREs/SACs are no longer members. Hopefully they will reconsider their positions and rejoin WASACRE in the future as it is important for WASACRE to be able to speak for and represent the interests of all SACREs/SACs in Wales. The financial year commenced with a balance of £50,753.57 and ended with a balance of £29,332.61. Members were warned at the 2023/2024 AGM that significant expenditure would take place during the 2024/2025 financial year because of the excellent 2024 WASACRE Conference, and the preparation of a film on RVE during the same financial year. The finances of WASACRE, therefore, remain in a healthy condition, if reduced by the above planned expenditure, and there are still sufficient funds available to WASACRE, to fund its planned activities.

a) Receipts

As in previous years, the main source of income for WASACRE during 2024/2025 has been the annual subscriptions paid by member SACREs/SACs. Members will be aware that, at the 2024 Annual General Meeting of WASACRE, it was decided that the annual subscription for 2024/2025 should remain at £495.00, the same amount as for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 because of the current difficult financial circumstances experienced by Local Authorities. This has resulted in income of £8,910.00, which represents the 18 subscriptions received during the financial year. It is pleasing to report that the remaining 2 SACRE/SAC subscriptions have

now been paid. Therefore, I can report that all 20 subscriptions for 2024/2025 have now been received. The receipts also included the late payment of £1,980.00 which represents the 4 subscriptions of £495.00 relating to the 2023/2024 financial year.

During the year, a payment of £1,125.00 was received from the Welsh Government for the development of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) Professional Learning modules undertaken by WASACRE colleagues and this was a welcome addition to the WASACRE funds.

The other regular annual source of income for WASACRE has been Bank Interest and this amounted to £109.39 in 2024/2025, an increase of £14.43 on £94.96, the amount received in 2023/2024. It is encouraging to note the increase in interest paid on the WASACRE Business Money Manager Account but, members will be aware that interest rates have begun to fall again. It is clear, as has been previously noted, that it will be some time before significant income is received through bank interest.

b) Expenditure

The areas of expenditure in the 2024/2025 accounts are as follows:-

The main area of expenditure in the 2024/2025 accounts is the costs of convening the WASACRE Conference, held on 13th June, 2024. The total cost amounted to £17,235.24 and the breakdown is provided below:-

Delivery of seminar pre-conference	250.00
Filming during conference	6600.00
Fee for presenter	988.93
Officer travel	159.00
Officer accommodation	252.79
Conference pens	134.85
Room hire	4242.00
Simultaneous translation	682.56
Conference incidentals	591.32
Catering	3261.83
Purchase of name tags	71.96

Members will agree that this was an excellent conference and well worth the expenditure involved.

The second main area of expenditure in the 2024/2025 accounts is the cost of preparing the WASACRE film on RVE and this has been very well received. The cost of preparing the film amounted to £10,200.00 and a gift of £141.50 was given to Awen, the presenter.

The cost of convening meetings amounted to £2,739.27 and this is broken down into £1,424.92 for the translation of documents and simultaneous

translation in meetings, and £1,314.35 for minute taking. This cost compares with an expenditure of £3,359.02 in 2023/2024 and is less because no supply cover was provided and the cost of a zoom licence for 2024/25 has fallen outside of the 2024/2025 financial year.

Members will be aware that the WASACRE secretarial arrangements have continued unchanged. The post of Co-ordinating Secretary has continued with the role of overseeing the secretarial function but without the full range of secretarial activities. This post attracts an honorarium of £1,500.00 and this is usually paid as termly instalments. The Coordinating Secretary is supported by an Assistant Secretary and this post also attracts an honorarium of £1,500.00. The secretarial costs have been minimised through the use of electronic communications and no claims for secretarial expenses were made during the year. The post of Minute Secretary also attracts an honorarium of £1,500.00 but the post has remained unfilled since the departure of the previous post holder. With the departure of the Minute Secretary the services were bought in of an individual who was willing to minute the meetings, remotely, from recordings of the meetings. The costs of this service for the 2024/2025, amounted to £1,314.35 and are well within the honorarium that would have been paid to a Minute Secretary. The payment relates to the actual amount of work involved, rather than an honorarium. WASACRE is fortunate in being able to secure the services of an individual who is able to provide high quality minutes of the meetings and, so far, this arrangement has worked well.

The Treasurer's Expenses amounted to £55.35, which is very similar to £43.90, the level of expense in 2023/2024. These expenses relate, in the main, to postage charges and stationery.

The sum of £10.79 has been paid to maintain the website domain name. Members will be aware that WASACRE now has an excellent new website which raises the profile of WASACRE and is a valuable source of information on Religion, Values and Ethics, as well as Collective Worship for SACREs/SACs, teachers and other professionals.

Members will be aware from last year's Treasurer's report that Bank Charges are now levied on the WASACRE Charitable Account. This account carries a monthly fee of £5.00 and cheques paid into and out of the account over the counter are charged at £0.40 per cheque. The charges for 2024/2025 amounted to £73.20 compared with £74.00 in 2023/2024. The good news is that HSBC will be removing the monthly fee of £5.00 with effect from the 1st July, 2025. This will result in a saving of £60.00 in a full year.

During the year, £90.00 was spent on a Membership Subscription which relates to the following:-

- EFTRE (2024) - £90.00

Doubtless others will follow in due course.

Members are invited to receive and adopt the attached statement of accounts.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025/2026

In considering an appropriate annual subscription per SACRE/SAC for membership of WASACRE during the 2025/2026 financial year, members will be aware that the decision was taken at the 2001 Annual General Meeting of WASACRE that, in future, the subscription to WASACRE would be increased, annually, in line with inflation. This practice was followed annually until the 2023/2024 financial year when the decision was taken to not increase the subscription but maintain it at £495.00, the same level as for 2022/2023. This decision was taken because of the difficult financial circumstances, experienced by Local Authorities.

Although the WASACRE finances are currently in a healthy state, it is important that a substantial balance is maintained if WASACRE is to be able to, with confidence, arrange further national events and undertake more projects. However, it is reasonable that, in the light of the ongoing difficult financial circumstances, experienced by Local Authorities, there should be no uplift to the subscription to WASACRE for 2025/2026. It is, therefore,

RECOMMENDED that the annual subscription per SACRE/SAC for membership of WASACRE, during the 2025/2026 financial year, remain at £495.00, the same level as the 2024/2025, 2023/2024 and 2022/2023 subscriptions.

PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

Members will recall that the following arrangements for the payment of expenses were either agreed at the 2020 Annual General Meeting of WASACRE or agreed subsequently: -

- payments of 45 pence per mile to officers undertaking business on behalf of WASACRE where they are unable to claim from their local SACREs/SACs and reimbursement at the same level for speakers contributing to WASACRE meetings;
- reimbursement to officers of actual parking costs, where incurred, in relation to the conduct of WASACRE business;
- where public transport is used rather than private car, reimbursement of actual rail/coach fares up to the level of standard fare on the understanding that advantage of saver arrangements would be taken wherever possible;
- reimbursement of reasonable subsistence costs in respect of officers of WASACRE and speakers at WASACRE meetings;

- reimbursement of actual costs of overnight accommodation on the understanding that reasonable costs are incurred;
- in relation to teachers being released from school to make presentations at meetings of WASACRE, WASACRE will fund up to one full day's supply cover. In the event of this proving inadequate, early contact must be made with the Treasurer, who will be given discretion to agree a higher level of supply cover in consultation with either the Chair or Vice Chair;
- members of SACREs/SACs and others attending main meetings of WASACRE are not eligible to claim expenses from WASACRE but should claim from their own SACRE/SAC or the body that they represent;
- the Coordinating Secretary will receive an annual honorarium of £1,500.00. If the position is taken by a serving teacher, then supply cover would be paid in addition to the existing honorarium and expenses (necessary travel, accommodation, and subsistence). Supply cover would be paid to the school, and the honorarium would be paid to the individual officer;
- the Assistant Secretary will receive an annual honorarium of £1,500.00. If the position is taken by a serving teacher, then supply cover would be paid in addition to the existing honorarium and expenses (necessary travel, accommodation, and subsistence). Supply cover would be paid to the school, and the honorarium would be paid to the individual officer;
- if appointed, a Minute Secretary will receive an annual honorarium of £1,500.00 plus expenses, plus overnight accommodation if necessary. If the current arrangement continues, WASACRE will pay invoices submitted by the individual preparing minutes from recordings of meetings in accordance with the level of work involved;
- members of the WASACRE Executive Committee are able to claim expenses from WASACRE for attendance at executive committee meetings where they are unable to claim expenses from elsewhere;
- members of the WASACRE Executive Committee, who are serving teachers, are eligible to claim supply cover costs to enable them to be released to attend meetings. The claim should be submitted to the Treasurer by the employing school and should represent actual costs;
- although there is some common membership, NAPfRE is a separate entity and WASACRE is unable to fund their meetings or expenses;
- where NAPfRE members are undertaking work on behalf of WASACRE, WASACRE will contribute to their expenses. Requests must be submitted, in advance, to the Treasurer who will be given discretion to consider them in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair;
- WASACRE will, on occasion, pay fees for people to attend meetings or carry out work on professional working days if this has been agreed in advance. Requests must be submitted, in advance, to the Treasurer, who will be given discretion to consider them in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair. It is

expected that there will be evidence of the work undertaken and this could be a paper or report following the meeting attended.

It is

RECOMMENDED that the above arrangements be approved for 2025/2026.

WALES ASSOCIATION OF SACRES

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

RECEIPTS

Annual Subscriptions 2023/2024 (4 SACREs at 495.00 per SACRE)	1980.00
Annual Subscriptions 2024/2025 (18 SACREs at 495.00 per SACRE)	8910.00
Welsh Government for professional learning undertaken	1125.00
Bank Interest	109.39

Total Receipts	12124.39
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EXPENDITURE

WASACRE Conference (13th June, 2024):

Delivery of seminar pre-conference	250.00	
Filming during conference	6600.00	
Fee for presenter	988.93	
Officer travel	159.00	
Officer accommodation	252.79	
Conference pens	134.85	
Room hire	4242.00	
Simultaneous translation	682.56	
Conference incidentals	591.32	
Catering	3261.83	
Purchase of name tags	71.96	
		17235.24

Meeting Expenses:

Translation of documents	1424.92	
Minute taking	1314.35	
		2739.27

Website – domain name	10.79
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Bank Charges	73.20
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Co-ordinating Secretary's Honorarium	1500.00
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Assistant Secretary's Honorarium	1500.00
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Film on Religion Values and Ethics:

Production of film	10200.00	
Gift for presenter	141.50	
		10341.50

EFTRE (2024)	90.00
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Treasurer's Expenses	55.35
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Total Expenditure	33545.35
--------------------------	-----------------

LESS Excess of Expenditure over Receipts	21420.96
---	-----------------

12124.39

BALANCE SHEET AT 31/3/25

Balance at 31/3/24	50753.57	
LESS		
Excess of Expenditure over Receipts	<u>21420.96</u>	
Balance at 31/3/25		<u>29332.61</u>

Represented by:

Bank Balances at 31/3/25:

Business Money Manager Account	5715.72	
Charitable Bank Account	<u>24316.92</u>	
	30032.64	
LESS		
3 cheques drawn and not presented on 31/3/25		
	55.35	
	394.68	
	<u>250.00</u>	
	<u>700.03</u>	
		<u>29332.61</u>

Inspected and found correct:

Signed:

Date:

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

ANGLESEY ANNUAL REPORT September 2024 - August 2025



**CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Director of Learning, Skills and Young People
Aaron Evans**

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- 3.2 SAC(RE) meetings held during the reporting period
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SAC(RE)'s function in relation to Religious Education

The requirement for LAs as regards Standing Advisory Councils for Religion, Values and Ethics and Agreed Syllabus conferences are set out in the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2022, Part 3 Section 9 (3.1A) and Part 3 Section 7(7) and Section 390 of the Education Reform Act 1996.

SAC(RE) advises the Education Authority on matters relating to the provision of Religious Education, Religion, Values and Ethics and collective worship, and is responsible for the establishment of an ad hoc body, the Agreed Syllabus Conference, to produce or consider amendments to the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

1.1 SAC(RE) Chair's Summary

It is a privilege once again, as Chair of the Ynys Môn SACRE, to present the Annual Report for 2024/25.

This year has felt particularly energising and purposeful. While we continue to navigate the evolving landscape of the Curriculum for Wales, especially within the 'Religion, Values and Ethics' (RVE) area, I'm heartened by the growing confidence of schools in approaching this new era of teaching and learning. The questions being raised are meaningful, and the dialogue has been rich.

A significant and positive development for us this year has been the permanent appointment of Phil Lord as a consultant to our SACRE. Phil's contribution has been invaluable — his deep knowledge of the RVE curriculum, combined with his clarity and calm manner in explaining complex ideas, has made every meeting feel purposeful and engaging. His ability to guide discussions and respond to questions with both precision and thoughtfulness has lifted the quality of our work immeasurably.

The work of strengthening and broadening our membership has continued. Alongside Phil, I must also acknowledge the ongoing efforts of Owen Davies, who has worked tirelessly to ensure our committee reflects both the educational needs of the island and the diversity of voices we need around the table. We hope to welcome new members over the coming year, ensuring we remain as representative and informed as possible.

Reference was made to Mrs Elaine Green, who has retired from her role as a representative of the Presbyterian Church in Wales on the SAC for the past four years. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Green for her valuable contribution to the SAC over the years and best wished were conveyed to her for the future.

At our most recent meeting, we also marked the retirement of Edward Morus Jones from his long-standing role representing Ynys Môn at WASACRE. Edward has been a consistent and committed voice over many years, and his passion for religious education and the Welsh language has always shone through. He will be greatly missed, and we extend our heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes to him for the future. We also look forward to welcoming a new representative, who will no doubt bring fresh insight and enthusiasm to the role.

School visits have continued to be a real source of inspiration this year. I had the pleasure of joining Dylan Rees on a visit to Ysgol y Graig, Llangefni, where we saw first-hand how the school

has thoughtfully embedded RVE throughout the curriculum. One particularly moving moment was during assembly, where pupils performed a drama for their peers — a performance that truly brought a tear to my eye. It was a beautiful reminder of how children can explore and express big ideas — values, belief, community — through creativity and play. Moments like this reinforce just how meaningful and impactful this work is. I also sat in on a Humanities lesson at the Ysgol Gyfun, where pupils were questioning Ethics through everyday life situations, and listening to each pupil's reasoning as they reached their own personal conclusions was an incredibly interesting experience.

We hope to increase the number of school visits in the year ahead, giving more SACRE members the opportunity to witness the curriculum in action across the island.

And to finish, it was a real privilege for Ynys Môn to host the WASACRE meeting during the summer — an opportunity for us to showcase the commitment and passion for RVE across our island.

Thank you for taking the time to read this introduction. I remain proud of the work being done by the Ynys Môn SACRE and excited for the year ahead.

Non Dafydd – Chair

SECTION 2: ADVICE TO ANGLESEY'S EDUCATION AUTHORITY

2.1 SAC(RE)'s Function in relation to Religious Education

SAC(RE)'s function in relation to Religious Education

The requirement for LAs as regards Standing Advisory Councils for Religion, Values and Ethics and Agreed Syllabus conferences are set out in the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2022, Part 3 Section 9 (3.1A) and Part 3 Section 7(7) and Section 390 of the Education Reform Act 1996.

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2.2 The Agreed Syllabus

Gwynedd and Anglesey SAC(RE)s have adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3 to 19 year old learners' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Gwynedd and Anglesey (2008).

A SAC(RE)'s main function is '*...to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the Religious Education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.*' (Education Reform Act 1988 s.11 (1) (a)).

Anglesey County Council held their Agreed Syllabus Conference 15th February 2022 to review the syllabus and to recommend an appropriate syllabus to the Local Authority to adopt.

The Agreed Syllabus on Religion, Values and Ethics was adopted to reflect guidance written by practitioners and Religious Education experts. The purpose of the syllabus is to provide additional

support on how Religion, Values and Ethics can be taught within the field of Humanities. Anglesey Agreed Syllabus for Religion Values and Ethics is based on Welsh Governments Guidance for Religion, Values and Ethics. The guidance emphasises that Religion, Values and Ethics are an integral part of the Humanities area or learning and experience. It also outlines the subject's unique and specific contribution to the Curriculum for Wales.

The Guidance can be accessed below:

- <https://hwb.gov.wales/cwricwlwm-i-gymru/y-dyniaethau/cynllunio-eich-cwricwlwm/#canllawiau-ar-grefydd,-gwerthoedd-a-moeseg>
- <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/humanities/designing-your-curriculum/#religion,-values-and-ethics-guidance>

During the academic year 2024-25, in accordance with the changes to the Curriculum for Wales 2022, Religion, Values and Ethics was taught to all primary school children and learners in year 7, 8 and 9. In the academic year 2024-25, secondary schools continued to teach the pre 2022 curriculum (called Curriculum for Wales 2008), including the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, to pupils in years 10 and 11.

The Agreed Syllabus, conforming to the requirements of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022, relates the subject titled 'Religion, Values and Ethics'. The previous Agreed Syllabus, still applicable for secondary schools for the reasons described above, relates to the subject titled 'Religious Education'. This is an important distinction.

Anglesey adopted the 'National Exemplar Framework for Religious Education for 3-19 year olds' as the Locally Agreed Syllabus for 'Religious Education' in 2008. To download a copy of the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education please go to:

- [National exemplar framework for religious education for 3 to 19-year-olds - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#)
- [Fframwaith enghreifftiol cenedlaethol ar gyfer cyflwyno addysg grefyddol i ddysgwyr 3 i 19 oed yng Nghymru - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#)

2.3 How good are standards?

Anglesey SAC(RE) monitors Religious Education and collective worship by:

- receiving a summary of a school's self-evaluation report in response to the key questions of ESTYN's Inspection Framework;
- reviewing ESTYN inspection reports to identify good practice and to further support any references to 'Religious Education' or 'collective worship' that need to be strengthened;
- inviting teachers and headteachers to share their good practice with members in the termly meetings;
- visiting schools, through invitation, to attend a collective worship session;
- encouraging collaboration between schools to identify and support good practice.

SAC(RE) members received a presentation from 1 primary school exploring their emerging practice for RVE.

A presentation has been provided to all secondary Head Teachers as to the expectations regarding the mandatory aspect of RVE and RE.

One primary cluster received a presentation as to the mandatory aspects of the RVE curriculum and changes in the Anglesey Agreed Syllabus.

The chair and Councilor Dylan Rees reported back on their visit to Ysgol y Craig where they

observed a daily act of collective worship.

2.3.1 Schools' self-evaluation reports

No school self-evaluations were reviewed this year within the Religious Education area due to the acknowledgement of so many upcoming changes and that schools require time to prepare for those changes. Estyn re-started school inspections in the summer term 2022.

SAC(RE) Recommendations to Anglesey's Education Authority

Ensure that the resources and good practice presented to SAC(RE) members is distributed to schools across Anglesey

The LA will consider how it monitors Religion, Values and Ethics within Humanities.

2.3.2 School's Examination reports

Due to continued guidance from Welsh Government on the way data is presented and to avoid arbitrary comparison of schools, members were not presented with and were unable to discuss the comparative examination data for examinations awarded in 2024/25.

The table below gives an overview of trends in pupil numbers pursuing Religious Education in GCSE.

School	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2019	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2020	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2021	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2022	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2023	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2024	Number of GCSE Pupils Summer 2025
YSTJ	25	14	17	21	31	40	
YUC	0	1	16	0	0	0	
YGLI	14	20	4	9	3	30	
YDH	33	31	51	24	52	33	
YUB	22	17	15	10	6	14	
Total	94	83	103	64	92	117	

The table below provides an overview of the trends in pupil numbers pursuing RE at A Level.

School	Number of A Level Pupils 2019	Number of A Level Pupils 2020	Number of A Level Pupils 2021	Number of A Level Pupils 2022	Number of A Level Pupils 2023	Number of A Level Pupils 2024	
YSTJ	13	8	8	7	2	8	
YUC	0	0	1	0	0	0	
YGLI	6	0	3	2	2	0	
YDH	8	10	2	12	11	5	
YUB	2	7	6	3	4	3	
Total	29	25	20	24	19	16	

SAC(RE)'s recommendations to Anglesey Education Authority

Supporting Anglesey schools to design an exciting and relevant curriculum within Religion, Values and Ethics which in turn will encourage more pupils to study the subject further as an academic subject.

In collaboration with GwE, preparing Humanities coordinators who will have the most up to date knowledge for the new Curriculum for Wales requirements within the Religion, Values and Ethics area.

Ensuring that schools have access to guidelines and good practice that would improve Religion, Values and Ethics education outcomes.

2.3.3 ESTYN Inspection Reports

During the academic year, 6 schools' inspection reports were presented to SAC(RE) members. Schools were inspected between July '24 and March '25.

- Ysgol Gynradd Parc Y Bont
- Ysgol Gymuned Rhosybol
- Ysgol Gynradd Llanbedrgoch
- Ysgol David Hughes (Secondary)
- Ysgol Gymuned Bryngwran
- Ysgol Gynradd Bodedern

There are no subject judgments in the current Estyn inspection framework. Instead, members receive information from the reports relating to Estyn's comments of a schools' provision of SMSC.

There is no expectation for inspectors to report on whether a school meets the statutory duty to provide a daily act of collective worship, there would be an expectation of a comment in the report if a school were to be found in breach of its statutory duty.

As part of the process of monitoring, Estyn Inspection Reports are analysed for comments on collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). These are compiled and noted by SAC(RE).

Two of the schools' inspection reports contain no reference to Religion, Values and Ethics, Collective Worship or their Spiritual and moral development. There were no areas of development included for RVE, RE or collective Worship.

2.4 Response of the Local Authority

- The 'Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021' makes it explicit that any agreed syllabus for RVE must reflect both religious beliefs and also non-religious beliefs which are philosophical convictions. The inclusion of 'Non-Religious Philosophical Convictions' had already been included in the Anglesey Agreed Syllabus. Anglesey SAC(RE) constitution has been amended to include membership of the British humanists (BHA) as part of Committee A. A member of the BHA sits on Committee A.
- Phil Lord continues to be commissioned by the LA as a professional consultant to support the work of Anglesey SAC(RE).
- SAC(RE) members received an presentation regarding the updated GCSE specifications for Religious Studies.
- SAC(RE) members were made aware of Welsh Government's RVE playlists which include support for Governors. These playlists were made in collaboration with WASACRE.
- Members received two presentations regarding the mandatory aspects of RVE and how they impact schools.
- Members received a presentation from Jennie Downs (Bangor University Masters Student) on the impact the 1588 translation of the Bible has had on the spirituality of Wales.
- Members received a presentation from Ysgol Rhyd y Llan exploring the emerging practice regarding the planning of RVE in the primary sector.

- A secondary school RVE network is being develop as a response to meeting with the secondary Head Teachers.
- Resources created as part of the WASACRE Conference (summer 2023) continue to made available to all Anglesey's schools.

2.5 Religious Education and the Welsh Government

- SAC(RE) members were informed of Professional Learning resources supporting the role out of the new curriculum, created by a Welsh Government and WASACRE collaboration. The latest resource, a playlist for governors was published Summer 2024: Playlist - Repository - Hwb (gov.wales)

SAC(RE)'s Recommendations to Anglesey's Education Authority

Continue to ensure that all teachers are aware of the new Agreed Syllabus September 2022.

Holding a review of the SAC(RE) Committee's constitution to respond to the requirements in the new Agreed Syllabus.

Ensuring that teachers are aware of 'what is important' in the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience and make full use of HWB resources.

Continuing to facilitate Anglesey's Religious Education and Religious, Values and Ethics teachers and members of the Anglesey SAC(RE) to fully contribute to any review of the curriculum and assessment arrangements.

2.6 SAC(RE)'s Function in relation to Collective Worship

Welsh Office Circular 10/94 notes that the LEA should work with SAC(RE) to keep an eye on the daily collective worship provision, and should consider with it any steps which may be taken to improve such provision.

The collective worship must be "of a broadly Christian character". The "determination" procedure permits the suspension of these requirements in relation to some or all of the pupils in a school where they are deemed inappropriate.

- SAC(RE) members and Anglesey schools have previously received collective worship guidance documents:
- Guidance on Collective Worship (WASACRE, June 2013)
- Supplementary guidance: collective worship in non-denominational schools' (ESTYN, October 2017);
- An 'Update for Inspectors (ESTYN, April 2018)'. The following extract was highlighted in the guidance:-
'A failure to meet the statutory duty might not affect the judgement for IA4. This is something for the team to consider. The team will need to weigh up a number of factors in each specific case, such as the number of pupils that it affects, and the team will have to decide whether this is significant or not and whether it should affect the overall judgement for IA4. Irrespective of whether or not inspectors decide to report on collective worship, they must always report on the spiritual, moral social and cultural development of pupils.'
- Anglesey SAC(RE) monitors the standard of collective worship in schools by reviewing schools' self- evaluation reports during the meetings.

- Prior to Covid-19, the SAC(RE) made use of pro-forma to record their observations during their visits.
- The chair and Councilor Dylan Rees reported back on their visit to Ysgol y Graig where they observed a daily act of collective worship.

SAC(RE)'s Recommendations to Anglesey's Education Authority

Continue visits by invitation to ensure that schools comply with the statutory requirements in regards to collective worship

SECTION 3: APPENDICES

3.1 Anglesey SAC(RE) Membership September 2024

Committee A

The Methodist Church	Rev. Sue Altree
Union of Welsh Baptists	Rev. Debra Stammers
Presbyterian Church of Wales	Elaine Green/Huw Owen
Church in Wales	Rev. Neil Ridings
Union of Independents	Edward Morus Jones
The Catholic Church	Collette Owens
Methodist	Vacancy
Islam representative	Vacancy
Jehovah's Witness	Vacancy
British Humanist Association	Sarah Kingman

Committee B (Teacher Associations)

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

Committee C (Councillors)

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

Councillor	Non Dafydd (Chair)
Councillor	Gwilym O Jones
Councillor	Dylan Rees
Councillor	Arfon Wyn
Councillor	Keith Robers (Spring and Summer)
Councillor	Alwen P Watkin (Spring only)

Co-opted Members (non voting)

Rheinallt Thomas	Free Church Council of Wales
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Officers

Mr Owen T Davies	Primary Senior Manager, Education
Mr Phil Lord	RVE Consultant
Shirley Cooke	Committee Officer

3.2 SAC(RE) meetings 2024-2025

A summary of SAC(RE) meeting discussions is provided in the Annual Report. During 2024 – 25 Anglesey SAC(RE) met virtually and in person on three occasions:

17 October 2024
13 February 2025
10 July 2025

All agendas and minutes can be accessed on the Anglesey's County Council [Website](#):

3.3: A record sheet for Anglesey SAC(RE) members who attend a school's collective worship session

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education.

I attended a collective worship session in a:	special school	☐
	primary school	☐
	secondary school	☐
I observed a collective worship session attended by:	the whole school	☐
	a class	☐
	a key stage	☐
Contributing to the collective worship were the:	headteacher	☐
	pupils	☐
	teacher(s)	☐
	a local religious leader	☐
	parent(s)	☐
	governors	☐
The collective worship session lasted for:	less than 5 minutes	☐
	between 5-10 minutes	☐
	between 10-15 minutes	☐
	over 15 minutes.	☐

The theme of the collective worship session was: _____

I heard a:

Biblical story	☐	A presentation by an adult	☐
Story from another religion	☐	A presentation by pupils	☐
Suitable moral/contemporary/historical story	☐	Pupils reflecting quietly in response to a stimulus	☐
Pupils praying (individually/together)	☐		☐
Christian hymn/carol	☐		☐
A suitable song	☐		☐

Underline the three statements that best describe the collective worship session. Today, the collective worship session:

- developed learners' ability to reflect on their own feelings, values and attitudes;
- developed learners' awareness of inner life and the spiritual dimension of each person;
- discussed and encouraged responses to fundamental questions about the meaning of life, change and death;
- developed beliefs and values, both personal and communal;
- encouraged an understanding of the beliefs and values of others, either locally or globally;
- increased self-esteem and a sense of purpose in life;
- nurtured the human ability to make moral choices for good or evil,
- encouraged shared values, meaning and purpose;
- provided opportunities to share and reflect on the 'happy' and 'sad' events and experiences which impact the school community and the local community;
- supported shared understanding of how individual learners and a school may contribute positively to the wider community;
- developed an understanding of global diversity and inequality; Any other comment

CYSAG Ynys Môn – Cynllun Datblygu (2025-26)

Rôl y Cyngor Ymgynghorol Sefydlog (ar Addysg Grefyddol):

Prif rolau CYS(AG) yw:

- Cyngori'r Awdurdod Lleol ar faterion sy'n ymwneud ag Addysg Grefyddol, Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg ac addoli ar y cyd, neu Ddatblygiad
- Ysbrydol a Moesol.
- Ystyried ceisiadau gan Benaethiaid i gael rhyddhau eu hysgol o'r gofyniad statudol sy'n nodi bod rhaid i'w sesiynau Addoli ar y Cyd fod yn gyfan
- gwbl neu'n bennaf o natur gyffredinol Gristnogol (gelwir y fath geisiadau'n 'Ddyfarniadau').
- Gofyn i Awdurdod Lleol adolygu ei Faes Llafur Cytunedig.
- Monitro a chefnogi darpariaeth AG, Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg, addoli ar y cyd a datblygiad ysbrydol, moesol, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol yn
- ysgolion yr Awdurdod Lleol.
- Rhoi cyngor ar y maes llafur AG a Chrefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg y cytunwyd arno gydag athrawon, gan gynnwys y dewis o ddeunyddiau
- athrawon.
- Cyngori'r Awdurdod Lleol ar ddarparu hyfforddiant i athrawon (mewn AG a Chrefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg).
- Ystyried cwynion am ddarpariaeth AG, Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg ac addoli ar y cyd a wneir i'r Awdurdod Lleol.
- Cyhoeddi Adroddiad Blyneddol ar ei waith.

Cyfansoddiad y CYS(AG):

Mae gofynion statudol sefydlu CYS(AG) yn gofyn am lunio tri phwyllgor o aelodau:

- Grŵp A - Cynrychiolwyr byd-olygon crefyddol ac anghrefyddol
- Grŵp B - Cynrychiolwyr yr athrawon
- Grŵp C - Cynrychiolwyr y Cyngor Sir
- Mae hawl hefyd i gyfethol aelodau.

Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer 2025-26

Blaenoriaeth 1: Datblygu effeithiolrwydd CYS(AG)

Blaenoriaeth 2: Monitro a chefnogi darpariaeth AG a Chrefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn ysgolion yr Awdurdod Lleol

Blaenoriaeth 3: Monitro a chefnogi darpariaeth addoli ar y cyd a datblygiad ysbrydol, moesol, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol yn ysgolion yr Awdurdod Lleol

Anglesey SAC(RE) – Development Plan (2025-26)

The Role of the Standing Advisory Council (for Religious Education):

The principal roles of SAC(RE) are:

- Advise the Local Authority on matters to do with Religious Education, Religion, Values and Ethics and collective worship, or Spiritual and Moral Development.
- Consider applications from Headteachers that their school be released from the statutory requirements for Collective Worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character (such applications are known as 'Determinations').
- Require a Local Authority to review its Agreed Syllabus.
- Monitor and support the provision of RE, RVE, collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority.
- Give advice on teacher agreed syllabus RE and RVE including the choice of teacher materials.
- Advise the Local Authority on the provision of training for teachers (in RE and RVE).
- Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of RE, RVE and collective worship made to the Local Authority.
- To publish an Annual Report on its work.

The Composition of SAC(RE):

The statutory requirements for the setting up of SAC(RE)s require three committees of members:

- Group A - Representatives of religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Group B - Teacher representatives.
- Group C - County Council representatives.
- There is also the right to co-opt members.

Priorities for 2025-26

Priority 1: To develop the effectiveness of SAC(RE)

Priority 2: Monitor and support the provision of RE, RVE, in the schools of the Local Authority.

Priority 3: Monitor and support the provision of collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority.

Blaenoriaeth 1: Datblygu effeithiolrwydd CYS(AG)/***Priority 1: To develop the effectiveness of SAC(RE)*****Rheswm am y Flaenoriaeth/*Reason for Priority***

- Mae gan CYS(AG) Ynys Môn nifer o swyddi gwag ar Bwyllgor A: Cynrychiolwyr Ffydd a Chred.
- Mae CYS(AG) Ynys Môn yn cynnig cymorth i ysgolion, ond faint mae'r ysgolion yn gwybod am ein gwaith? Sut wyddom ni hyn?
- *Anglesey SAC(RE) has a number of vacancies on Committee A: Faith and Belief Representatives.*
- *Anglesey SAC(RE) provide support for schools, but how much do schools know about our work? How do we know?*

Meysydd i'w Datblygu/*Areas to Develop*

- 1) Sicrhau aelodaeth lawn ar dri phwyllgor CYS(AG).
 - 2) 2) Codi proffil CYS(AG) yn yr Awdurdod Lleol.
- 1) To ensure a full complement of members on all three SAC(RE) Committees.*
- 2) To raise the profile of SAC(RE) amongst the Local Authority*

Gweithgaredd	Unigolyn Arweiniol	Amserlen	Datblygu staff	Cost	Monitro	Meini Prawf Llwyddiant	Dyddiad Cwblhau
Activity	Lead person	Timescale	Staff development		Monitoring	Success Criteria	Date Completed
Specific Action to be taken							
Camau penodol i'w cymryd							
•							

Blaenoriaeth 2: Monitro a chefnogi darpariaeth AG a Chrefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn ysgolion yr Awdurdod Lleol

Priority 2: Monitor and support the provision of RE, RVE, in the schools of the Local Authority.

Rheswm am y Flaenoriaeth/*Reason for Priority*

- Gweler 'Rôl y Cyngor Ymgynghorol Sefydlog (ar Addysg Grefyddol)'.
- Helpu ysgolion i fodloni gofynion statudol.
- *See 'The Role of the Standing Advisory Council (for Religious Education)'.*
- *To support schools to meet statutory requirements*

Areas to Develop

- 1) Cael dealltwriaeth o ymwybyddiaeth ysgolion o ofynion Cwricwlwm Cytûn Môn.
 - 2) Cynorthwyo ysgolion i wella eu darpariaeth Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg.
 - 3) Cefnogi ysgolion wrth iddynt werthuso eu darpariaeth Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg eu hunain.
- 1) *Gain an understanding of schools' awareness of the requirements of the Anglesey Agreed Syllabus.*
 - 2) *To help schools improve their RVE provision.*
 - 3) *To support schools as they evaluate their own RVE provision.*

Gweithgaredd Activity	Unigolyn Arweiniol Lead person	Amserle n Timescale	Datblygu staff Staff development	Cost	Monitro Monitoring	Meini Prawf Llwyddiant Success Criteria	Dyddiad Cwblhau Date Completed
Specific Action to be taken Camau penodol i'w cymryd							
•							

Blaenoriaeth 3: Monitro a chefnogi darpariaeth addoli ar y cyd a datblygiad ysbrydol, moesol, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol yn ysgolion yr Awdurdod Lleol
Priority 3: Monitor and support the provision of collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in the schools of the Local Authority.

Rheswm am y Flaenoriaeth/Reason for Priority

- Gweler 'Rôl y Cyngor Ymgynghorol Sefydlog (ar Addysg Grefyddol)'.
- Mae gofyn i ysgolion ddarparu Gweithred Ddyddiol o Addoli ar y Cyd.
- *See 'The Role of the Standing Advisory Council (for Religious Education)'.*
- *There is a requirement on schools to provide a Daily Act of Collective Worship.*

Meysydd i'w Datblygu/Areas to Develop

- 1) Cael dealltwriaeth o ymwybyddiaeth yr ysgolion o'r disgwyliadau mewn perthynas ag Addoli ar y Cyd.
 - 2) Helpu ysgolion i wella eu darpariaeth Addoli ar y Cyd.
 - 3) Helpu ysgolion i werthuso eu darpariaeth Addoli ar y Cyd eu hunain.
- 1) *Gain an understanding of schools' awareness of the expectations regarding Collective Worship.*
 - 2) *To help schools improve their Collective Worship provision.*
 - 3) *To support schools as they evaluate their own Daily Act of Collective Worship.*

Gweithgaredd Activity	Unigolyn Arweiniol Lead person	Amserle n Timescale	Datblygu staff Staff development	Cost	Monitro Monitoring	Meini Prawf Llwyddiant Success Criteria	Dyddiad Cwblhau Date Completed
Specific Action to be taken Cymau penodol i'w cymryd							
•							

REach

Denbighshire and Conwy SAC/RE Newsletter

Issue 4: Autumn 2025

HELLO

and welcome to REach, the newsletter supporting the work of Denbighshire and Conwy's SAC/REs. All the past editions can be accessed by joining our North Wales Religious Education Hwb Network... <https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3> and/or our Conwy or Denbighshire Microsoft TEAMS. Please email lord-p2@hwbcymru.net for more information.

Conference Season

This edition of the REACT newsletter has a summer conference feel. As an independent RE/RVE adviser I am keen to keep myself up to date with what is going on in the World of RE. To this end, I am a member of the Association of RE Inspectors, Advisors and Consultants (AREIAC). Their annual conference was held in June in the wonderful surroundings of Exeter University. The theme of the conference was 'To Boldly Go' discussing the future of RE. I am also fortunate enough to represent Wales on the 'European Forum of Teachers of RE'. The EFTRE conference was held in Budapest during the tail end of August.

The articles in the newsletter are all related to these conferences, either the content of the keynote presenters or relevant research that would be beneficial for any RE or RVE enthusiast. I would strongly urge you to take a look at the conference pages on both [EFTRE](#) and [AREIAC's](#) websites.



The AREIAC conference took place at the University of Exeter on 26th and 27th June 2025. A large number of seminars, symposia and workshops took place over the two days as well as time for networking, conversations and catching up.

The conference brought together researchers, teacher educators, advisers and teachers. Those working in aligned fields such as Education Studies, Moral Education, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Theology as well as from within Childhood and Youth studies from the UK and overseas.

The Art of Narrative Theology in Religious Education (Bible Society / Westhill Endowment Trust)

The conference was opened by Rob Freathy from the University of Exeter. He presented his research into how children develop RE skills such as asking good questions, debating critical understanding as well as exploring experiential learning. Through his research he, along with others, have developed '[The RE-searchers approach](#)' with example units of work and activities. This varied approach into the questions we as continue in his work on [Who is Jesus?](#), materials that can be used for older secondary school pupils.

Sustainability and Environment Education

Dr. Kate Christopher, senior lecturer at the Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), presented a open and honest reflection on the barriers to the effective teaching of sustainability and climate education. Whilst sustainability included in much of our curricula materials—is education making a difference when children leave school?

What is EFTRE?



The European Forum of Teachers of RE (EFTRE) is a network that connects educators involved in Religious Education across Europe. It provides a platform for sharing ideas, fostering dialogue, and promoting best practices among professionals in the field. EFTRE organises conferences, offers resources, and encourages collaboration to support the development of effective and inclusive Religious Education throughout Europe.

The EFTRE conference held in Budapest in 2025 brought together Religious Education professionals from across Europe to engage in meaningful discussions and share innovative practices. Key themes included inclusivity in RE, cross-cultural understanding, and the integration of digital resources into teaching. Attendees participated in workshops, keynote lectures, and networking events, fostering collaboration and the exchange of ideas to enhance RE provision throughout Europe.



The Art of *Empowerment* in RE

Budapest Conference 2025

Questioning Empowerment

Esther Kodacsy-Simon's presentation, "Questioning Empowerment", explored the vital role of questioning within Religious Education (RE). She referenced Peter Greenaway's concept of using objects to represent the world and poses fundamental existential questions such as, "Who are we?", "Where do we come from?", and "What is the point of all of this?". Kodacsy-Simon highlighted that the ability to ask questions is a key human characteristic, yet empirical studies show that pupils rarely have the opportunity to ask their own questions in class. Instead, most questions come from teachers—ranging from 82 to 291 per 45-minute session—while students ask far fewer, and their questions often focus on technical aspects rather than subject content. Teachers also tend to allow very little wait time for students to respond.

Kodacsy-Simon commented on theoretical perspectives such as Gadamer's "hermeneutical horizon" and Sven Hartman's views to argue that fostering questioning in RE connects students to the subject, bridges their experiences and the curriculum, and drives personal and academic growth. She advocated for the creation of safe spaces where students can ask healthy questions, engage meaningfully with stories, and reflect on the existential queries found in sacred texts. Ultimately, empowering students to ask questions not only enhances their understanding and interest in RE but also supports broader educational and personal development.

To access the current Agreed Syllabus and resources supporting RE and collective worship please join our North Wales Religious Education Hwb Network... <https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3> and/or our Conwy or Denbighshire Microsoft TEAMS. Please email lordp2@hwbcymru.net for more information.

Existential resilience

The keynote by Prof Arniika Kuusisto, "Child in time: supporting children and youth in world construction and existential resilience", explored how children and young people form their understanding of the world and develop resilience to existential questions. She discussed the importance of self-reflection, noting that in more secular societies, religious questions are often dismissed as unimportant. Kuusisto also raised the tension between parents wanting their children to make independent choices about beliefs at adulthood, yet questioning whether children need information beforehand to make informed decisions. She concluded by considering the possible correlation between parents' attitudes and the wider environment in shaping young people's worldviews.

Jewish-Muslim relations and Religious Education

The Saturday keynote, "Bridging Histories, Empowering Futures: Jewish-Muslim Relations in Religious Education" by Fahimah Ulfat (Münster University), examined the historical and current complexities between Jews and Muslims. The presentation highlighted the centuries-long coexistence, intellectual exchange, and occasional conflicts that shape Jewish-Muslim relations, while noting that present-day tensions often overshadow this rich history. Ulfat advocated for using nuanced historical perspectives in Religious Education to challenge simplistic narratives, encourage critical engagement, and foster mutual understanding.

Key points included: the Kaaba's original role as a centre of worship and trade in Makkah; distinctions in the Quran between believers and Muslims; and examples of monotheism prior to Islam. The keynote discussed how re-examining assumptions about Muhammad's lifetime can positively influence Jewish-Muslim relations. It was noted that historical violence against Jews was less common in Muslim contexts compared to Christian ones, and that legal traditions in both faiths often addressed similar issues, with some Muslim law borrowing from Jewish Rabbinic law.

The presentation also addressed anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim racism, urging that education, human rights, and inclusive pedagogical practices are vital for tackling prejudice. Ulfat pointed out the imbalance in research, with much focus on Muslim attitudes towards Jews but little on Jewish perspectives towards Muslims. Finally, she called for addressing challenging content within sacred texts and fostering balanced, informed discussion in Religious Education.





AGored

Newyddlen CYSAG Sir Ddinbych a Chonwy

Rhifyn 4: Hydref 2025

HELO

a chroeso i AGored, y newyddlen sy'n cefnogi gwaith SAC/REs Sir Ddinbych a Chonwy. Gellir cael mynediad at yr holl rifynnau blaenorol drwy ymuno â'n Rhwydwaith Hwb Addysg Grefyddol Gogledd Cymru... <https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3> a/neu Microsoft TEAMs Conwy neu Sir Ddinbych. Anfonwch e-bost at lordp2@hwbcymru.net am ragor o wybodaeth.

Tymor Cynadleddau

Mae'r rhifyn hwn o newyddlen AGored yn sôn am y gynhadledd a gynhaliwyd yn yr haf. Fel Ymgynghorydd Annibynnol ar Addysg Grefyddol a Chrefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg, rwy'n awyddus i gael gwybod beth sy'n digwydd ym myd Addysg Grefyddol. Mae'n fuddiol yn hynny o beth fy mod yn aelod o Gymdeithas Arolygwyr ac Ymgynghorwyr Addysg Grefyddol (AREIAC). Cynhaliodd y Gymdeithas ei chynhadledd flynyddol ym mis Mehefin o fewn muriau godidog Prifysgol Caerwysg. Thema'r gynhadledd oedd 'To Boldly Go' a dyfodol Addysg Grefyddol oedd y prif bwnc trafod.

Rwy'n ffodus iawn hefyd i gynrychioli Cymru yn Fforwm Athrawon Addysg Grefyddol Ewrop (EFTRE). Cynhaliodd y Fforwm gynhadledd yn Budapest ddiwedd mis Awst.

Mae a wnelo'r holl erthyglau yn y newyddlen hon â'r ddwy gynhadledd, boed hynny'n sôn am yr pethau y bu'r prif gyflwynwyr yn siarad amdanynt neu waith ymchwil sy'n berthnasol a buddiol i bawb sy'n ymddiddori mewn Addysg Grefyddol. Rwy'n eich annog i daro golwg ar dudalennau'r naill gynhadledd a'r llall ar wefanau'r Fforwm ac AREIAC.

Cynhaliwyd cynhadledd AREIAC ym Mhrifysgol Caerwysg ar 26ain a 27ain Mehefin 2025. Cynhaliwyd nifer fawr o seminarau, symposia a gweithdai dros y ddau ddiwrnod yn ogystal â chyfnod ar gyfer rhwydweithio, sgysiau a dal i fyny.

Daeth y gynhadledd â ymchwilwyr, hyfforddwyr athrawon, ymgynghorwyr ac athrawon ynghyd. Roedd y rhai oedd yn gweithio mewn meysydd perthnasol megis Astudiaethau Addysg, Addysg Foesol, Athroniaeth, Astudiaethau Crefyddol a Theoleg yn ogystal â rhai o fewn Astudiaethau Plentynod ac Ieuencid o'r DU a thramor.

Celf Theoleg Naratif mewn Addysg Grefyddol (Bible Society / Westhill Endowment Trust)

Agorwyd y gynhadledd gan Rob Freathy o Brifysgol Caerwysg. Cyflwynodd ei ymchwil i sut mae plant yn datblygu sgiliau Addysg Grefyddol megis gofyn cwestiynau da, trafod dealltwriaeth feirniadol yn ogystal ag archwilio dysgu trwy brofiad. Trwy ei ymchwil ef, ynghyd ag eraill, mae wedi datblygu 'The RE-searchers approach' gyda gweithgareddau ac enghreifftiau o unedau gwaith. Mae'r dull amrywiol hwn o fynd at y cwestiynau rydym ni, fel y mae'n parhau yn ei waith ar Pwy yw Iesu? 'Who is Jesus?', yn cynnwys deunyddiau y gellir eu defnyddio ar gyfer disgyblion ysgol uwchradd hyn.

Cynaliadwyedd ac Addysg Amgylcheddol

Cyflwynodd Dr. Kate Christopher, darlithydd uwch ym Mhrifysgol Anglia Ruskin (ARU), fyfyrdd agored a gonest ar y rhwystrau i addysgu cynaliadwyedd ac addysg hinsawdd yn effeithiol. Er bod cynaliadwyedd wedi'i gynnwys mewn llawer o'n deunyddiau cwricwlaidd—a yw addysg yn gwneud gwahaniaeth pan fydd plant yn gadael yr ysgol?



Beth yw EFTRE?

Fforwm Ewropeaidd Athrawon Addysg Grefyddol (EFTRE) yw rhwydwaith sy'n cysylltu addysgwyr sy'n ymwneud ag Addysg Grefyddol ar draws Ewrop. Mae'n

darparu platform ar gyfer rhannu syniadau, meithrin deialog, ac annog arferion gorau ymhlith gweithwyr proffesiynol yn y maes. Mae EFTRE yn trefnu cynadleddau, yn cynnig adnoddau, ac yn annog cydweithrediad i gefnogi datblygiad Addysg Grefyddol effeithiol a chynhwysol ledled Ewrop.

Daeth cynhadledd EFTRE a gynhaliwyd ym Mhudapest yn 2025 â gweithwyr Addysg Grefyddol o bob cwr o Ewrop ynghyd i gymryd rhan mewn trafodaethau ystyrlon a rhannu arferion arloesol. Roedd prif themâu'n cynnwys cynhwysiant mewn AG, dealltwriaeth rhwng diwyllïannau, ac integreiddio adnoddau digidol mewn addysgu. Cymerodd y mynychwyr ran mewn gweithdai, darlithoedd allweddol, a digwyddiadau rhwydweithio, gan feithrin cydweithrediad a chyfnod syniadau i wella darpariaeth AG ledled Ewrop.



Celf Grymuso mewn Addysg Grefyddol

Gynhadledd Budapest 2025

Grymuso Cwestiynu

Mae cyflwyniad Esther Kodacsy-Simon, "Grymuso Cwestiynu", yn archwilio'r rôl hanfodol sydd gan gwestiynu o fewn Addysg Grefyddol (AG). Mae'n cyfeirio at gysyniad Peter Greenaway o ddefnyddio gwrthrychau i gynrychioli'r byd ac yn gofyn cwestiynau egistensialaidd sylfaenol fel, "Pwy ydym ni?", "O ble y daethom?", a "Beth yw pwrpas hyn i gyd?". Mae Kodacsy-Simon yn amlygu mai gallu gofyn cwestiynau yw un o brif nodweddion dynol, ond mae astudiaethau empirig yn dangos nad yw disgyblion yn aml yn cael cyfle i ofyn eu cwestiynau eu hunain yn y dosbarth. Yn hytrach, mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r cwestiynau'n dod gan athrawon—yn amrywio o 82 i 291 mewn sesiwn 45 munud—tra bo disgyblion yn gofyn llawer llai, ac mae eu cwestiynau'n tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar agweddau technegol yn hytrach na chynnwys y pwnc. Mae athrawon hefyd yn dueddol o roi ychydig iawn o amser i ddisgyblion ymateb.

Mae Kodacsy-Simon yn tynnu ar safbwyntiau damcaniaethol megis "gorwel hermeneutig" Gadamer a safbwyntiau Sven Hartman i ddadlau bod meithrin cwestiynu ym maes AG yn cysylltu disgyblion â'r pwnc, yn pontio eu profiadau a'r cwricwlwm, ac yn gyrru twf personol ac academiaidd. Mae'n dadlau dros greu llyfdd diogel lle gall disgyblion ofyn cwestiynau iach, ymgysylltu'n ystyrlon â straeon, ac ystyried y cwestiynau egistensialaidd sydd i'w cael mewn testunau sanctaidd. Yn y pen draw, mae grymuso disgyblion i ofyn cwestiynau nid yn unig yn gwella eu dealltwriaeth ac ymddiddordeb yn AG ond hefyd yn cefnogi datblygiad addysgol a phersonol ehangach.

I weld y Maes Llafur Cytunedig presennol a'r adnoddau sy'n cefnogi AG ac addoli ar y cyd, ymunwch â'n Rhwydwaith Hwb Addysg Grefyddol Gogledd Cymru... <https://hwb.gov.wales/go/d8tfh3> a/neu Microsoft TEAMs Conwy neu Sir Ddinbych. E-bostiwrch lordp2@hwbcymru.net i gael mwy o wybodaeth.

Gwydnwch egistensialaidd

Archwiliodd y brif araith gan Yr Athro Arniika Kuusisto, "Plentyn mewn amser: cefnogi plant a phobl ifanc wrth adeiladu'r byd a gwydnwch egistensialaidd", sut mae plant a phobl ifanc yn ffurfio eu dealltwriaeth o'r byd ac yn datblygu gwydnwch i gwestiynau egistensialaidd. Trafododd bwysigrwydd hunan-ymchwiliad, gan nodi bod cwestiynau crefyddol yn aml yn cael eu dileu fel rhai dibwys mewn cymdeithasau mwy seciwlar. Cododd Kuusisto hefyd y tensiwn rhwng rhieni eisiau i'w plant wneud dewisiadau anibynnol am eu cred mewn oedolaeth, ond yn cwestiynu a oes angen gwybodaeth ar blant ymlaen llaw i wneud penderfyniadau gwybodus. Gorffennodd drwy ystyried y cysylltiad posibl rhwng agweddau rhieni a'r amgylchedd ehangach wrth lunio safbwyntiau pobl ifanc ar y byd.

Perthynas Iddewaidd-Mwslimaidd ac Addysg Grefyddol

Archwiliodd y brif araith ddydd Sadwrn, "Pontio Hanesion, Grymuso'r Dyfodol: Perthynas Iddewaidd-Mwslimaidd mewn Addysg Grefyddol" gan Fahimah Ulfat (Prifysgol Münster), gymhlethdodau hanesyddol a chyfoes rhwng Iddewon a Mwslimiaid. Amlygwyd cydfodolaeth, cyfnwied deallusol, a gwrthdaro achlysurol dros ganrifoedd sy'n siapi'r berthynas Iddewaidd-Mwslimaidd, tra'n nodi bod tensiynau presennol yn aml yn gorgyffwrdd â'r hanes cyfoethog hwn. Dadleuodd Ulfat dros ddefnyddio safbwyntiau hanesyddol cynnil mewn Addysg Grefyddol i herio naratifau syml, annog ymgysylltiad beirniadol, a meithrin dealltwriaeth gilyddol.

Roedd pwyntiau allweddol yn cynnwys: rôl wreiddiol y Kaaba fel canolfan addoli a masnach yn Mecca; gwahaniaethau yn y Quran rhwng credinwyr a Mwslimiaid; ac enghreifftiau o unddu cyn Islam. Trafodwyd sut y gall ailystyried rhagdybiaethau am oes Muhammad ddylanwadu'n gadarnhaol ar y berthynas Iddewaidd-Mwslimaidd. Nodwyd bod trais hanesyddol yn erbyn Iddewon yn llai cyffredin mewn cyd-destunau Mwslimaidd o'i gymharu â rhai Cristnogol, a bod traddodiadau cyfreithiol y ddwy ffydd yn aml yn mynd i'r afael â materion tebyg, gyda rhywfaint o gyfraith Fwslimaidd yn benthg o gyfraith Rabinaidd Iddewaidd.

Cyfeiriodd y cyflwyniad hefyd at wrth-Semitaeth a hiliaeth yn erbyn Mwslimiaid, gan annog bod addysg, hawliau dynol, ac arferion pedagogeg cynhwysol yn hanfodol i fynd i'r afael â rhagfarn. Nododd Ulfat y diffyg cydbwysedd mewn ymchwil, gyda llawer o sylw i agweddau Mwslimaidd tuag at Iddewon ond ychydig iawn i safbwyntiau Iddewaidd tuag at Fwslimiaid. Yn olaf, galwodd

