

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee/Panel:	SACRE
Date:	9 March 2015
Title:	SACRE Monitoring Sub-Group
Reference:	6650
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to inform SACRE of the findings and discussions that have taken place during the meeting of the SACRE monitoring sub-group on 19 January 2015.
- 1.2. The group was updated on the current situation regarding RS GCSE and discussed Ofsted reports since the last meeting as well as the handbook to the new Ofsted inspection framework. The reports from two SACRE monitoring reports were considered and a further discussion regarding RE and the promotion of SMSC took place.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. This paper supports the Corporate Strategy (maximising well-being) by ensuring children's provision in Religious Education is secure.
- 2.2. The monitoring sub-group met on 19 January 2015 at the County RE Centre.
Those attending were:

Chris Hughes (Chair)

Cllr Roz Chadd

Alasdair Richardson

Rhiannon Love

Elizabeth Jenkerson

Joyce Johnson

Patricia Hannam

Mohammed Ansar

3. Other key issues

- 3.1. A SACRE training session took place on 7 January and was highly successful, with 16 delegates attending from Hampshire and neighbouring authorities using *Living Difference Revised 2011*.
- 3.2. GCSE Data. There has been considerable difficulty obtaining Short Course data this year. This has been an issue causing concern nationally and was discussed in some detail during the meeting. Unverified school residual data was circulated at the meeting for those schools entering students into the Full Course GCSE exam. However the errors in this data from EPAS were significant to make the data too unreliable to base any judgements on. This is concerning as at this time of year we are usually able to write letters of congratulations to schools. It was decided to wait until after the verified data has been released before writing these letters. The exception to this was that it was agreed to write to those schools achieving statistically significantly positive residuals for their whole cohort as it was felt this data would be unlikely to change.
- 3.3. SACRE monitoring. Positive reports from visits to two primary schools were received and discussed.
- 3.4. Ofsted Reports and LA RE Inspection and Advice visits. The DfE document 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools' (DfE Advice November 2014) was circulated and discussed. Ofsted reports of two primary schools where RE had been specifically mentioned were also discussed. This helped the monitoring group to identify the importance of SMSC, Collective worship and RE are having now when Ofsted make overall judgements on the effectiveness of a school.
- 3.5. Supply of Specialist RE teachers. A discussion also took place regarding the supply of well qualified specialist secondary RE teachers. At least three schools in the county were not able to appoint specialist teachers ready for teaching in September 2014. The reinstatement of the bursary for PGCE RE courses was welcomed and it is hoped that this will ensure the supply of new teachers will increase. It was noted that the number of different ways it is possible to train as a secondary teacher is still causing some confusion.
- 3.6. Lord Nash Letter to SACREs - 7 January 2015. The implications of this letter were discussed which is attached as an appendix.

4. Recommendation

- That SACRE notes the report.
- That SACRE endorses the concerns raised with regard to the difficulty of access to accurate GCSE data (full and short course) this year.
- That SACRE agrees that letters should be written to those schools achieving statistically significantly positive residuals.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Monitoring sub-group has the intention to positively impact equality in terms of achievement in Religious Education.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. No impact on crime and disorder as a result of this report has been identified.

3. Climate Change:

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

No impact on climate change as a result of this report has been identified

b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

No necessity for consideration of the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts as a result of this report has been identified.

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