

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Report for Information

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Item 8. Religious Education in English Schools: Non Statutory Guidance 2009</b>
<b>Presented to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Presented by:</b>	Director of Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	<b>23 February 2010</b>
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#### **1) Purpose of Report : 'RE in English Schools: Non statutory guidance 2009'**

1.1 This report draws SACRE's attention to a national publication entitled 'Religious Education in English schools: Non statutory guidance 2009'. It is produced by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) in response to the Minister for Education's decision to revise the guidance of Circular 1/94. The document provides non statutory guidance for schools, local authorities, SACRES, governors, teacher trainers, RE organisations, parents and representatives of religion and belief communities about the place and purpose of RE within the developing curriculum. The guidance supersedes the guidance given on RE in Circular 1/94. It does not constitute an authoritative legal interpretation of the provision of education legislation.

#### **2) Contextual Issues:**

2.1 This paper supports the Corporate Strategy (maximising well being) by ensuring children's provision in religious education is secure.

#### **3) Summary of the Report**

3.1 This comprehensive document of 48 pages will be available to

download from the following website:  
[www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications)

3.2 The document provides guidance under the following headings:-

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Religious Education - the legal framework
- 3) The importance of religious education
- 4) The Non Statutory National Framework for Religious Education
- 5) What Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education and local authorities need to know
- 6) What school governors and head teachers need to know
- 7) What those who manage, plan, teach and support religious education need to know
- 8) Information on parents' and pupils' entitlements
- 9) The right of withdrawal
- 10) For further reference

**4) What Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education and local authorities need to know**

4.1 Section 5 of the document provides guidance for SACREs and local authorities (See Appendix 1) in relation to roles and responsibilities.

4.2 Useful self evaluation questions are identified on page 22 of Appendix 1 for SACRE members to reflect on and discuss in terms of the effectiveness of the partnership between SACRE and the local authority.

**5) Conclusions: To discuss the report and note any implications for SACRE's 5 year plan.**

**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.)

Document

Location