

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report for Information

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| Title: | Item 7. QCDA (Qualification and Curriculum Development Agency)/ NASACRE (National Association of SACREs) Briefing Meeting |
| Presented to: | SACRE |
| Presented by: | Director of Children's Services |
| Date: | 8 June 2010 |
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1) Purpose of Report :

1.1 To inform SACRE about RE and the new primary Curriculum and the guidance provided in the revision of Circular 1/94, RE in English Schools.

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 Meeting

3.1 Members of SACRE and supporting officers were invited to attend a meeting provided by NASACRE (National Association of SACREs) and QCDA (Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency). The meeting was attended by Hampshire SACRE's support officer, Judith Lowndes. The focus for the day was to introduce members of SACREs to the new primary curriculum and how RE relates to this. Key issues about the new primary curriculum are:-

- A move away from a heavy content based curriculum
- Development of a curriculum that will “secure the basics” and will encourage “a love of learning”.
- A programme of learning that sets out 6 areas of learning (rather than specific, separate subject disciplines) plus RE.
- A programme of learning for each of the 6 areas of learning and RE. The guidance for RE includes essential knowledge in RE (big ideas/concepts), key skills, cross curricular links, breadth of learning and progression in learning.

3.1 The afternoon session introduced SACRE members to the new DCSF (Department for Children, Schools and Families) document which revises the previous guidance on RE issues, Circular 1/94 . This document, RE in English Schools, was discussed at Hampshire SACRE’s Spring term meeting (Item 8). It does not constitute an authoritative legal interpretation of the provision of education legislation but provides very useful 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) Recommendation

- i) 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

Appendix 1:

Appendix 2: