

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Standing Advisory Council

for

Religious Education

Annual Report for 2002

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1. Overview

1.1 Requirements as under the Education Act 1996

In accordance with requirements of section 391 (7) of the above act, the SACRE has had no reason during the year to give the Bath and North East Somerset Council any advice with regard to religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with the agreed syllabus. There have been no applications from head teachers in county schools to waiver the requirements that collective worship shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

2. Religious Education

2.1 Locally agreed syllabus

Bath and North East Somerset Council adopted Somerset's locally agreed syllabus from 01 April 1999 for implementation from September 2000.

2.2 Monitoring

Bath and North East Somerset SACRE receives summaries of the relevant sections of reports following inspection of schools under the School Inspection Act 1996 Sec 10 (OFSTED reports) showing coverage of curriculum requirements, the act of collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural provision. There has been a marked improvement in the provision of religious education in Key Stages 1 – 3 but less so for Key Stage 4. Where there have been concerns, SACRE has offered support to schools.

3. Standards in religious education

3.1 OFSTED Reports

In 2002, nine OFSTED reports were considered and only in one case did matters need to be followed up with the school as the quality of teaching and pupils' learning was generally good overall. As most inspections were short, judgements on religious education were rare and of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, brief.

3.2 Public examination results (attached) Summer 2002 (Data provided by DES may not be accurate)

Religious studies full GCSE
Religious studies short GCSE
Religious studies A 5 levels
Religious Studies A Level

4. Methods of teaching, material and training

4.1 Teaching

No advice has been given to the local education authority on teaching. Lay members of the SACRE have visited schools to familiarise themselves with local practices.

4.2 Teaching materials

The SACRE has discussed teaching materials that were received from Somerset and North Somerset LEAs and national organisations. Where appropriate, copies were purchased or recommend to schools.

4.3 Teacher training

No courses were organised this year.

5. Complaints concerning religious education

There were no complaints received.

6. Collective worship

6.1 Advice

No advice was asked for and none was given.

6.2 Monitoring

The local authority advisers undertake this role as part of their link role with schools. Action is one secondary school was necessary.

6.3 Training

No training on collective worship was organised.

7. Determinations

No determinations were sought.

8. Complaints about collective worship

No complaints were received.

9. Links with other agencies

9.1 National

SACRE members attended the following conference:

QCA London 2 December 02

10. Other issues

10.1 Governor training

Governor training has been given, as part of a LEA induction programme, to explain the position of and requirements for religious education and collective worship,

11. SACRE arrangements

11.1 Professional, administrative support and finance

The local authority funds a clerk for 10 days a year, covers members travelling expenses and administration costs. This year, there was an increase in the budget to £9,100 to cover the setting up of a web site, newsletter and training for SACRE members.