



Title of meeting: Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Date of meeting: Wednesday 18 March 2020

Subject: SACRE Monitoring Group Report

Report by: Patricia Hannam, SACRE Professional Adviser

1. **Purpose of report:** The purpose of this report is to inform SACRE of the findings and discussions that took place during the meeting of the SACRE monitoring sub-group in 4 March 2020. The group is working to support SACRE in fulfilling its duty to ensure the effectiveness of RE through the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus
The group received an update on GCSE results across the authority, follow up visits to Portsmouth schools as well as consideration of reports from visits to Portsmouth schools by Ofsted that mentioned or alluded to religious education undertaken in Portsmouth since the last meeting.
2. **Recommended that SACRE receive the report**
3. **Background:** The monitoring group met on 4th March at 15.00.

Present:- Cllr Suzy Horton (Chair) Reverend Samantha Duddles (Vice Chair), Jane Kelly, Debbie Lucas, Jo Peach, Patricia Hannam & Joanne Wildsmith.

Apologies: Elizabeth Jenkerson

3.1 Ofsted Visits: the group was reminded about the new Ofsted

Framework/Handbook that now guides the Ofsted visits. Reports are not much shorter and intended for parents, they now give very little detail. 6 Portsmouth primary schools had received an Ofsted visit during the period considered at the meeting. Only one report mentioned 'religion' in relation to



culture, however not in relation to the RE Curriculum. This school was an Academy and it was decided that Portsmouth SACRE Professional Adviser would write to the regional director of the trust to enquire whether Living Difference III was being used for their RE Curriculum.

3.2 Monitoring Visits: SACRE Professional Adviser was able to make a visit to as school and this was reported on positively at the meeting. Two further half day follow-up visits are being made to the RE Department.

3.3 KS4 RE and RS GCSE Results: The unverified data was considered at this meeting. Portsmouth 4+ GCSE result in 2019 was 78.8% and well above the national (71.4). However, there is a wide variation between schools hidden in that data. Although those who sit GCSE Full Course in Portsmouth overall in some schools achieve well, there is still concern about the number of young people who do not have the opportunity to study RE at KS4. The professional adviser runs a secondary network meeting once each term in the Havant area to which Portsmouth schools are welcome to attend.

3.4 Creation of resources: A non-examination Core RE course for KS4 is being developed. It is hoped some Portsmouth Schools might be able to be involved in the piloting of this. In addition, a Human Resource was discussed which could support the curriculum and the school and model community. The professional adviser and vice-chair will follow this up and bring to a future meeting.