

## Report to SACRE

*I am sorry that I cannot be with you this evening, this is due to my attendance at an RE Council Extraordinary General Meeting concerning the RE Council Review of RE.*

There are three main pieces of national news to report this term:

1. NATRE Survey in the effect of the EBacc
2. RE Council Review of RE
3. Ofsted Subject Report

### 1. NATRE Survey on the EBacc (2012)

The NATRE survey 2012 into the effects of the EBacc has been published. It is attached to this report. The survey received coverage in the Telegraph, TES, Church Times, Methodist Reporter and other publications. It has also led to questions being raised in the House of Lords.

The key findings are:

- 33% of schools reported that legal requirements\* are not being met in key stage 4 (an increase of 5% on 2011)
- 24% of schools reported a reduction in the number of specialist staff employed to teach RE for 2012/2013, and 82% of these reported that the introduction of the EBacc was the main reason for this change (a 27% reduction in specialist staff was reported for 2011/2012)
- 54% of schools reported that they will have no entries for GCSE Short Course in 2014, a rise of 12% over two years
- 63% of schools that reported a drop in Full Course entries cited the EBacc as the main reason (55% in 2011)
- 20% of schools reported that they are trying to deliver the GCSE RS in less than the recommended teaching time. There is a growing body of evidence, from Ofsted subject surveys, that this practice is detrimental to students' RE
- 71% of schools reported that they had received no subject specific training in school in the 2011/12 academic year; 44% reported that they had received no subject specific training outside of school. Just over 10% reported that they had attended two days or more of training outside of school.

There is clearly a lot for SACRE to consider as they think about their role in supporting RE in our local schools. ***What does SACRE think it can do to slow these trends in Havering?***

## **2. RE Council Review of Religious Education** (*Where I am today!*)

The Expert Panel will publish their Phase 1 report on 7<sup>th</sup> November. There will be one month for consultation, and the consultation will affect the way that Phase 2 is organised. Please see the attached newsletter for further information in the meantime. This is a very important moment for RE in England and I hope that every member will take the time to make a contribution to this consultation process. The report will be published on the REC website: [www.religiouseducationcouncil.org](http://www.religiouseducationcouncil.org)

***Do members of SACRE wish to respond both individually and for SACRE to submit a response on behalf of all of us?*** I will email round after the publication of the report to seek views, if SACRE wish to make a submission.

## **3. Ofsted**

The Ofsted report into RE (published every three years) is due for publication later this term. Watch this space.

## **Local News**

I received an email from Nigel Franceschi, Deputy Head at Abbs Cross Academy and Arts College concerning the Agreed Syllabus. I pointed him towards Judith Payne to get hold of the AS and asked him to pass my details to his RE staff. I will be following this contact up later in the term.

**Daniel Hugill**

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2012**