

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
17 November 2010
Report of the Director of Children's Services
Religious Education in English Schools: Non-statutory guidance 2009

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present members of SACRE with a brief update on Religious Education in Schools: Non Statutory Guidance 2009.

2 Summary

- 2.1 In 2009 Religious Education in Schools: Non Statutory Guidance was published to support the provision of high quality religious education (RE) in maintained schools in England. With the opening of Staffordshire's first Academies this is an opportunity to look more closely at the guidance in relation to Academies.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That members of SACRE consider the possibility of sending a letter of introduction with an offer of appropriate (charged) support for RE the JCB Academy, Rocester.

4 Background

- 4.1 The JCB Academy opened its doors to students in September 2010. It currently offers RE provision in line with the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and teaches KS4 students a short course GCSE in Religious Studies.

- 4.2 The new guidance gives clearer advice on academies than previously. It states that:
All academies are required, through their funding agreements, to teach RE.
For Academies without a religious character, this will be the locally agreed syllabus

and:

All academies are inspected on the quality of their RE by Ofsted as part of the normal inspections regime.

Members of SACRE may wish to consider whether to send a letter of introduction to the JCB Academy in Rocester offering appropriate (charged) support for religious education

5 Equal Opportunities

- 5.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the County Council's policies on equal opportunities.

6 Financial implications

- 6.1 There are no immediate financial implications

Contact Officer
Telephone number:

Emma Senior
01785 277997