

SACRE monitoring report overview

By the end of summer 2020 the monitoring group will have completed (as planned currently):

To date the following proportions of schools have received/ or will during 2020 a SACRE monitoring visit:

68% of Primary schools

75% of Special schools/ Alternative provision academy/ PRU

75% of Secondary schools

Total: 70%

This does not include any faith schools – who can request a SACRE visit but who have their own inspection schedules.

Monitoring visits continue to occur over an agreed half day and include discussions with Senior and subject leaders, discussions with pupils, observation of a Collective Worship, visits to Religious Education lessons, time to review learning in books, meeting children, review of related policies and processes in addition to anything that the school wishes to share additionally.

Most schools complete the self-evaluation tool in advance of the visit and share any action/ improvement plans with the visiting team.

Prior to the visit visitors will review information available publically including on the schools website in regard of RE and Collective Worship, AP will review any RE attainment or progress data if applicable.

Schools are written to requesting Head teacher requests firstly each September. There is then a random cycle in place to ensure all schools are offered a visit. Each year so far we have received on average 3 Head teacher requests for visits.

All visits have enabled schools to have a focus on the quality of their provision for Religious Education and Collective Worship.

Schools are all at different stages of development with both these aspects. There have been many elements of excellent practice found within some schools visited, whereas others have been able to use it to support new subject leaders or establish stronger practice. The visit has enabled schools where the elements are not as well embedded/ established or there is new leadership to have focussed school improvement discussion regarding these elements. It has also enabled SACRE members to signpost for schools for strong practice exists locally that they can draw on to support their own improvement as well as the CPD commissioned by SACRE.

Currently all schools visited follow the Locally Agreed Syllabus bar one. This is legal given the status of the school. The Catholic Schools follow their own Diocesan syllabus. Academies almost all follow the Locally Agreed Syllabus with one national academy group having their own syllabus.

The Collective Worship guidance for schools has been developed as a result of requests from schools for support with this aspect. Some schools find it difficult to arrange or establish daily collective worship often as a result of not having defined for themselves what collective worship is at their school.

The intended initial five year cycle, will need to be extended to at least six/seven years to ensure we offer all schools the opportunity to receive a monitoring visit. To fit in with the agreed syllabus cycle of five year review it is proposed that additional time is requested for AP during 2020/2021 so that the remaining 18 schools can all be offered a visit in line with the cycle. The next review of the syllabus will occur through 2020-2021 ready for launch September 2021.

Monitoring overview January 2020.