

# Durham SACRE

## The RE Inspector Reports

A summary of some of the support in RE provided by the RE Inspector, Isobel Short, since September 2013.

### RE Networks

As part of the Service Level Agreement between schools and Durham's Education Development Service (EDS), teachers of RE can attend free networks.

#### Primary RE Networks

This continues to run termly. Attendance is good.

- **November network** – 31 attendees.  
Two visitors came to make presentations on the use of story in RE – Elizabeth Baker (a local storyteller) and Chris Hudson (Barnabas Trust).
- **February network** – 24 attendees.  
Agenda:
  - Using Philosophy of Children to develop critical thinking in RE
  - discussion and analysis of the RE Ofsted report and its implication for primary schools
  - planning materials on "What do Christians believe about God?"
  - presentation by Karenza Passmore, Director of NERLRC.

#### Secondary RE Networks

Held termly. Attendance is generally good.

- **November network** – 16 attendees, including some RE Co-ordinators from other Local Authorities (Darlington, Sunderland).  
Agenda:
  - Realising the Potential: RE Ofsted key report
  - Planning materials for a unit: How and why are the arts used to express religious belief and spirituality?

#### Special Schools RE Networks

A new termly network this year as requested. Attendance low, with only one delegate from a Darlington school attending in November. However, this was a profitable time as the session was tailored to meet needs and included developing some planning materials for use in that school.

- **February network** – 3 attending.  
Agenda:
  - The 3 elements of RE in special schools
  - Adapting planning for special schools
  - Good practice case study: Little Heath School.

## **Secondary Monitoring Visits**

Inspectors no longer visit all Durham secondary schools to monitor provision in subjects unless requested and paid for by the school (previously all schools were visited every 2/3 years by subject inspectors).

Several schools have still made this request for RE so it will still be possible to have some overview picture of RE in Durham schools.

## **Contracts**

Schools can request Inspector/Adviser time to support the development of RE.

I have visited several primary, secondary and special schools in order to:

- deliver staff meetings on using the Agreed Syllabus
- produce RE planning
- develop understanding of assessing, leading in RE.

## **Enquiry Project**

This is the main development project in RE this year in Durham. Please see separate agenda item.