

MEETING:	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
MEETING DATE:	29 November 2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	RELIGIOUS STUDIES EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR 2013
REPORT BY:	SACRE Lead Officer

1. Classification

Open

2. Purpose

2.1 To consider the Religious Studies examination results for 2013.

3. Recommendation

THAT: the Religious Studies examination results for 2013 be noted.

4. Key Considerations

4.1 Performance

- Fifteen more children took the full course in 2013 than in 2012. However, results were less favourable with 73.7% gaining a C grade or above compared with 79.8% in 2012. Girls outperformed boys.
- The short course attracted almost 25% more children this year. Results again were less favourable overall, with 41.4% of children gaining a C grade or above. Girls significantly outperformed boys by 11.3%, however the difference between boys and girls has reduced this year, from a 2012 gap of 25.6%. The uptake, by both genders, of this subject was very similar in 2013 as a result of an increase of almost 30% in the number of male entrants.
- The ELQ band C course attracted slightly fewer children this year. The number of children gaining grade 1 or 2 was significantly higher than in 2012.
- There was an increase in the number of A level entries amongst schools with a sixth form facility. The percentage of candidates gaining grade C or above fell by 22.4%. All candidates achieved a 'Pass' at A level (grade E or above).
- Two girls took AS level, both gained an E or above.

4.2 Quality of teaching in Herefordshire.

- Lesson grading in Ofsted inspections must comment on the quality of SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural) aspects of learning. All reports will include some details pertaining to these elements found in lessons, and wider afield, for example in the school curriculum, pastoral care, ethos, aims, relationships, etc. Whilst this may not be

a measurable aspect of school life, specific observations will be collected as evidence of a good school.

- Hereford has been judged as having 79% of its schools to be Good or better. In effect, as Teaching and leadership and management have to be at least good for this grading, it can be assumed that the quality of SMSC is good or better, in almost four and of five of our schools.
- Although there is room for improvement, the situation appears to be better, on the surface at least, in herefordshire, compared to the Ofsted findings in 2010. This report states that the quality of teaching was 'less than good in around half of the lessons seen'. Whilst noting that RE lessons are not the same as SMSC, the many overlaps in curriculum content and children's attitude as well as quality of teaching should be worth noting from Ofsted reports.

5. Appendices

5.1 Appendix A - Religious Studies examination results for 2013

6. Background Papers

6.1 None identified.

GCSE 2013 Results for Religious Studies
GCSE 2012 Results for Religious Studies
Appendix A

Religious Studies						Religious Studies					
Full Course						Full Course					
	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	Number A* to G	% A* to G	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	Number A* to G	% A* to G	
Boys & Girls	680	501	73.7%	668	98.2%	665	531	79.8%	662	99.5%	
Boys	327	215	65.7%	319	349.0%	314	230	73.2%	314	100.0%	
Girls	353	286	81.0%	349	98.9%	351	301	85.8%	348	99.1%	
Religious Studies						Religious Studies					
Short Course						Short Course					
	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	Number A* to G	% A* to G	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	Number A* to G	% A* to G	
Boys & Girls	348	144	41.4%	329	94.5%	281	121	43.1%	267	95.0%	
Boys	176	63	35.8%	168	95.5%	137	41	29.9%	128	93.4%	
Girls	172	81	47.1%	161	93.6%	144	80	55.6%	139	96.5%	
Religious Studies/Education						Religious Studies/Education					
ELQ Band C						ELQ Band C					
	Entered	No. Grds 1-3	% Grade 1	% Grade 2	% Grade 3	Entered	No. Grds 1-3	% Grade 1	% Grade 2	% Grade 3	
Boys & Girls	92	92	20.7%	45.7%	33.7%	99	99	8.1%	47.5%	44.4%	
Boys	59	59	20.3%	50.8%	28.8%	67	67	10.4%	52.2%	37.3%	
Girls	33	33	21.2%	36.4%	42.4%	32	32	3.1%	37.5%	59.4%	
GCE A' Level 2013 Religious Studies						GCE A' Level 2012 Religious Studies					
A Level						A Level					
	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E	
Boys & Girls	25	18	72.0%	25	100.0%	18	17	94.4%	18	100.0%	
Boys	13	11	84.6%	13	100.0%	4	4	100.0%	4	100.0%	
Girls	12	7	58.3%	12	100.0%	14	13	92.9%	14	100.0%	
AS Level						AS Level					
	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E	Entered	Number A* to C	% A* to C	No. A* to E	% A* to E	
Boys & Girls	2	1	50.0%	2	100.0%	9	6	66.7%	9	100.0%	
Boys	0			0		4	4	100.0%	4	100.0%	
Girls	2	1	50.0%	2	100.0%	5	2	40.0%	5	100.0%	

