

MEETING:	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
MEETING DATE:	21 November 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	RELIGIOUS STUDIES EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR 2014
REPORT BY:	SACRE Lead Officer

1. Classification

Open

2. Purpose

2.1 To consider the Religious Studies examination results for 2014.

3. Recommendation

THAT: the Religious Studies examination results for 2014 be noted.

4. Key Considerations

4.1 Performance

- The number of entries for full course GCSE RE was 734 compared to 706 in 2013. Herefordshire consistently enters more learners for full course GCSE RE than the national average.
- Of this year's full course GCSE entries, 76.0% achieved grade C or above, compared to 69.5% nationally. In Herefordshire 99.0% of learners gained grade G or above, compared to 97.8 nationally.
- The short course saw a reduction from 445 entries in 2013 to 260 in 2014. This is the lowest number of entries Herefordshire has seen in the past 5 years. Of these, 48.5% achieved grade C or better, slightly lower than the previous year's attainment of 51.2%. However, the A* to G indicator rose to 98.5%.
- Whitecross High School and Sixth Form College was the only mainstream secondary school to enter learners for the Entry Level Qualification Band C in 2014. 100% of learners achieved level 1 or 2 qualifications.

4.2 Quality of teaching in Herefordshire.

- All schools are committed to developing the spiritual moral, social and cultural (SMSC) aspects of learners' education. Whilst this may not be a measurable aspect of school life, Ofsted's inspection teams are required to consider the impact of a school's SMSC provision as part of the judgement of a school's leadership and management.
- To date, Herefordshire has been judged as having 80.0% of its schools to be Good or better by Ofsted. Due to the interrelationship between leadership and management and the judgement for overall effectiveness, it can be assumed that the quality of SMSC is good or better.

5. Appendices

- 5.1 **Appendix A - Religious Studies examination results for 2014**
Appendix B – Ofsted’s letter to schools, July 2014

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 None identified.