

As the curriculum review is getting under way it has been brought to the attention of North Wales SACREs that some schools are confused about the status of their agreed syllabus for Religious Education. The purpose of this statement is to outline to schools what the statutory requirements for Religious Education are. The RE curriculum is still locally determined by the LA and its SACRE and should be implemented in all maintained and Voluntary Controlled schools. Since 2013, due to the proposed changes in the curriculum with the publication of Successful Futures, LA agreed syllabus conferences decided to continue with their current agreed syllabi until such a time as the new curriculum for Wales and the implications for Religious Education are understood. This means that all schools, including those that are experimenting with their curriculum in light of Successful Futures, need to ensure that they are fulfilling the statutory requirements for RE according to their current locally agreed syllabus.

With regard to the delivery of Religious Education at KS4, it has been brought to the attention of North Wales SACREs that some schools believe coverage of the Global Citizenship element of WBQ is sufficient to cover the RE requirements at KS4. It is important for schools to understand that the Global Citizenship unit alone would not be sufficient to cover all aspects of the agreed syllabus programmes of study as outlined on pages 28-29b of the agreed syllabus. Many schools in Wales are providing statutory RE by following either a GCSE Short Course or a GCSE Full Course or a combination of the two courses. North Wales SACREs wish to inform schools that this would fulfil statutory requirements as long as all pupils are receiving religious education whether or not they are entered for accreditation.

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