



Education and Inclusion Services Directorate

Agenda Item No. 8.9

Agreed Syllabus for the Teaching of Religion, Values and Ethics within Rhondda Cynon Taf

1. **Background**

1.1 The teaching of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE), locally, is controlled by a Standing Advisory Council (SAC). It comprises of:

- Representatives of the principal religious and belief groups of the area
- Teacher Representatives
- Local Authority Representatives.

1.2 This group has been tasked to provide guidance in the form an Agreed Syllabus (AS) under the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) act 2021. This AS provides guidance as to how RVE is delivered within the new curriculum for Wales for learners between the ages of 3 to 16 in all schools and settings maintained by the Local Authority. It clearly outlines the elements that are statutory or mandatory.

1.3 The AS may be found at [Religion, Values and Ethics \(RVE\) | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/religion-values-and-ethics-rve)

2. **The Agreed Syllabus Rollout for Rhondda Cynon Taf**

2.1 The AS has been approved by the SAC and subsequently by the authority and all maintained schools and settings are required to have regard to the agreed syllabus including schools of a religious character, in their design of the agreed syllabus element of their RVE provision.

2.2 There is no parental right to withdraw learners from RVE within the Curriculum for Wales. The right to withdraw from collective worship remains.

2.3 The Agreed Syllabus will be effective from September 2022, for RVE in respect of all learners, up to and including year 6. In respect of year 7 learners, schools in the region will have flexibility on whether to roll out the Curriculum for Wales in September 2022, or to roll out the Curriculum for Wales for years 7 and 8 together in September 2023. During the period of curriculum roll out, as a secondary school or setting 'adopts' the Curriculum for Wales Framework for a particular year group, this Rhondda Cynon Taf Agreed Syllabus will supersede the current/legacy Rhondda Cynon Taf Agreed Syllabus. From September 2023, the Agreed syllabus,

in respect of years 7 and 8 as all schools and settings will have implemented the Curriculum for Wales for those learners. Thereafter, the phased roll-out of the Curriculum for Wales will continue, and this Rhondda Cynon Taf Agreed Syllabus will supersede the other:

- year 9 learners in September 2024
- year 10 learners in September 2025
- year 11 learners in September 2026

3. What Governors Need to do Now?

- 3.1 Governors should familiarise themselves with the AS and the statutory and mandatory elements within it.
- 3.2 Governors should also be aware of the way in which their setting has paid due regard to the AS and to the rollout schedule. Governors should be satisfied that their settings have covered all the elements of the legislation and are content with any arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the delivery and progression of their learners.
- 3.3 The SAC would like to thank governors for their assistance with this matter and would welcome any suggestions or observations.

4. Point of Contact

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