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**Decision Maker:** Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**Title:** School Visits - Guidelines

**Contact Officer:** Penny Smith-Orr, RE Adviser  
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**Chief Officer:** Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services

**Ward:** N/A

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1. Reason for report

To discuss guidelines for members use on school visits.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

To discuss the attached guidelines which have been altered in light of discussions at the last meeting and accept these as the finished document

### **3. COMMENTARY**

#### **Guidelines for Bromley SACRE members when visiting schools**

The reason for these visits is to give the members of SACRE on going information about religious education and collective worship in the Borough's schools. This is important so that SACRE members understand what happens in schools and since the new Ofsted reports do not give specific subject reports it will give SACRE members a chance to see how schools manage RE and collective worship.

The other reason for the visits is for SACRE to have an opportunity to show support for schools in the organisation and delivery of RE and Collective worship. This support might be practical or may take the form of listening to concerns and bringing these back to SACRE for discussion.

During a visit the SACRE members would generally;

- Discuss the school's RE and collective worship policies and provision with the Head Teacher.
- Talk to the RE co-ordinator about the use of the syllabus and the scheme of work
- Visit some RE lessons as observers
- See some examples of the pupils RE work and notice any evidence of RE displays in the classrooms and corridors
- Attend an act of collective worship.

While the visit is in no way an inspection the following questions are provided as a useful guide for SACRE members taking part in the visit. The answers to these questions will be used to provide a short report to the rest of the SACRE committee.

#### **Religious Education;**

1. Is it clear in the school brochure that pupils may be withdrawn from RE lessons?
2. How many pupils are withdrawn from RE lessons?
3. Is RE well resourced in terms of artefacts/ books, timetabling and budget?
4. How long has the co-ordinator been in post?
5. Are they given time to monitor RE and is there a development plan for RE?
6. Are they allowed/encouraged to attend inset and co-ordinator meetings to keep up to date?
7. Is there a programme of RE visits and visitors?

Collective worship should be planned in the same way that schools plan other areas of learning. Each school will have its own planning sheets and methods.

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**Theme:**

**Led by;**

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**Date:**

**Age of pupils:**

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**Music:** (live/recorded/singing)

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**Organisation:**

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**Resources:**

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**Comments on;**

Atmosphere

Effectiveness

Engagement

Age Appropriate Content

## Commentary on an RE lesson

Visit to.....

Class/Year group.....

Name of Visitor.....

Are Pupils..	COMMENTS
engaged with the lesson?	
enthusiastic, taking a pride in their work?	
using religious vocabulary properly	
given time to reflect on what they have learnt	
questions and ideas valued?	
Is the lesson well planned	
Are there different learning strategies in place and is ICT used	