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| Report to: | Lincolnshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education |
| Date: | 28 February 2024 |
| Subject: | SIAMS Inspections |

Summary:

This report provides an update on the statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools (SIAMS Inspections) within Lincolnshire since the last meeting of SACRE.

Recommendation(s):

That SACRE note the contents of the report and provide any relevant feedback for consideration.

1. Background

SIAMS inspection is the statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools. This inspection is carried out every five years and considers the extent to which the school is living up to its foundation as a church school.

During the academic year 2023/24, seven SIAMS inspections have been carried out, of which five have published reports. SIAMS inspection no longer gives graded outcomes; instead, schools are judged to either be living up to their foundation as a church school or as having strengths but also issues that leaders need to address as a matter of priority. Of the church schools with published SIAMS reports so far this academic year, all five have received the former outcome. This includes both primary and secondary church schools.

In relation to RE, the published reports reference the following:

- “RE is a valued part of the curriculum where students feel safe to express their views. A balanced and well-structured curriculum allows students to progress well in their learning.”
- “The RE curriculum is well planned and provides a balance of theology, philosophy and social sciences.”
- “RE provides an incredibly safe space where students confidently ask questions and freely discuss their own beliefs. This enables students to develop both in their academic study of religion and spiritually.”
- “Religious education (RE) is well planned. It is high profile and underpinned by high quality teaching and learning, enabling pupils to flourish.”
- “The [RE] curriculum successfully supports pupils’ understanding of diversity in Britain and around the world.”
- “Pupils enjoy their learning in RE and talk about it with enthusiasm. They confidently discuss their own views and feel empowered to ask big questions in a

safe environment. Through carefully crafted lessons, pupils learn about Christianity and a range of world religions and worldviews. They reflect deeply on the themes they study”

SIAMS inspection also comments on the impact of collective worship on the spiritual flourishing of pupils and adults.

2. Conclusion

Members of SACRE are asked to note the update.

This report was written by Gillian Georgiou, Diocesan RE Adviser.