

## Materion Addysg

Ymddiheuriadau, ond fel y llynedd, mae'n gwrthdaro â'r union ddyddiad yr wyf fel golygydd yn cyflwyno'r Blwyddlyfr i'r Henaduriaeth.

1. Atodaf yma Gylchlythyrau Addysg am y ddau fis diwethaf (yn y ddwy iaith) i'ch sylw. Mae digon o amser cyn y cyfarfod i chi eu darllen ac yna gallwch godi materion ohonynt os dymunwch..
2. Atodaf ymateb a gafwyd ar ran Huw Lewis i'r llythyr y cytunwyd y tro diwethaf i yrru ato.

Hwyrach mai gadael pethau fel y maent ydi'r callaf ar hyn o bryd a disgwyl am adolygiad Donaldson **OND** mae gofyn i'n cynrychiolwyr ar CYSAGau y 22 Sir fod yn effro a gwyllo'n fanwl ar unrhyw ddatblygiadau/newidiadau par uno CYSAGau. Sylwer yn fanwl ar gynnwys y llythyr yn hyn o beth.

3. Disgwylir Adroddiad Donaldson ddechrau'r flwyddyn. Bu llythyr rhyngddo a'r Gweinidog ddechrau Hydref ac fe ymatebais fel a ganlyn a chafwyd yr ymateb a atgynhyrchir isod.

I note from Prof Donaldson's letter to the Minister that part of the process is:

"Identifying and articulating the values and purposes which should underpin the curriculum"

I note from the Minister's response that:

The Curriculum should be: authentic: rooted in Welsh values and culture and aligned with an agreed set of stated purposes;

Linking those two together I am very surprised to see that Prof Donaldson has NO reference whatsoever to spiritual/religious/moral aspects of the curriculum which have been over the years "underpinning the curriculum" in Wales and an essential part of the Welsh "values and culture". It cannot be "authentic" unless these aspects are taken on board and reflected in the Curriculum.

I trust that my concerns/misgivings have no foundation.

*Rheiniol A Thomas*

Education Secretary,  
Free Churches Council for Wales and Presbyterian Church of Wales

From: Davies, Kerry (DfES - Curriculum Division) [Kerry.Davies@Wales.GSI.Gov.UK] on behalf of Curriculum Review [CurriculumReview@Wales.GSI.Gov.UK]

Thank you for your email of 14 October, and for the helpful comments enclosed. Please be assured that the issues raised are being fully considered as part of Professor Donaldson's review of curriculum and assessment arrangements in Wales.

Professor Donaldson is due to report his final recommendations to the Minister for Education and Skills at the turn of the year.

I hope this goes someway to reassuring you, however, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or comments.

Kind Regards

Megan

4. Mynychais Bwyllgor Addysg Cyngor Eglwysi Rhyddion yn Llundain ar Hydref 15fed.

Roedd y Swyddog Addysg ( Sarah Lane Court) wedi cael profedigaeth fawr ym marwolaeth ei gwr ac roedd yn dal i ffwrdd adeg y cyfarfod. Bu'n rhaid canslo y gynhadledd arfaethedig "Faithful and Free" oherwydd diffyg niferoedd. Mae pryder am ddyfodol y Grwp oherwydd ffactorau cyllido. Mae bwriad darparu dogfen ar faterion addysg cyn yr etholiad yn Mai. Roedd dyfodol addysg grefyddol ychydig yn fwy gobeithiol yn Lloegr yn dilyn apwyntiadau newydd yn y DfE. Mae'r Pwyllgor a'r grwp yn dal i ddatblygu cynllun strategol. Dyddiadau cyfarfodydd 2015 – 18 Mawrth; 17 Mehefin a 21 Hydref.

*Rheiniol A Thomas*

5/11/2014

## Education Matters

Apologies for absence, but as last year, the date clashes when I as Editor present the Year Book to Presbytery

1. I attach the Education Newsletters for the past two months (in both languages). There is sufficient time before the meeting for you to read them and to raise any matters if you wish.
2. Attached also is the response on behalf of Huw Lewis to the agreed letter that was sent following our last meeting.

Maybe that the wisest thing is to leave matters as they are at present and wait for the Donaldson Review., **BUT** it is imperative that our representatives on SACREs in the 22 LAs to be very awake and watch carefully for any moves regarding developments/changes re uniting any SACREs. Pay particular attention to the content of the letter in this respect.

3. The Donaldson Review is expected early in 2015. There was correspondence between him and the Minister at the beginning of October and I responded as seen below which resulted in the reply also reproduced below.

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4. I attended the Free Church Education Committee in London on October 15th. The Education Secretary (Sarah Lane Court) has had a huge bereavement in the death of her husband and was still on compassionate leave when we met. The proposed conference "Faithful and Free" was cancelled because of lack of attendees. There are concerns about the future funding of the Group. There is an intention to prepare an education matters document prior to May's election. The future for RE is more hopeful as a result of re-shuffling of DfE officers. The Committee and Group are still developing a Strategic Plan. Dates for 2015 meetings – 18 March; 17 June and 21 October.

*Rheiniall A Thomas*

5/11/2014