

Analysis of Consultation 1 on prayer and liturgy in Catholic schools and colleges

Context

An online survey was distributed to those in Catholic education through emails from NBRIA (National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisors), ATCRE (Association of Teachers of Catholic Religious Education) and ACCE (Association of Catholic Chaplains in Education). The online survey was available for 21 days (3 weeks), from 28th February 2020 to 20th March 2020. The combined response from 352 respondents resulted in a total of 23,080 words.

The writing group for the Prayer and Liturgy Directory is very grateful to all those who took the time to respond to the online survey. Every response was read. The responses from questions 5-7 were combined into a single 28-page document, called 'Our survey says'. This has become a working tool for the writing group.

Question 1.

I confirm that I work in Catholic Education within England and Wales.



Commentary

It is hard to judge the overall response rate of 362, there are few comparisons; it seems to be a healthy number. However, compared to the number of Catholic schools in England, 2,117, the rate is 17% if each entry was only just from one school. It is likely that there are multiple entries from individual schools which would result in a lower engagement rate per school.

The person identifying as not working in Catholic Education gave responses that are relatively typical of other respondents, therefore their response has been kept in. One person did not answer this question, leaving it blank.

Question 2.

By completing this survey, you give ATCRE permission to hold this information in a secure password protected server for two years. The information collected will not be published anywhere nor will it be placed in the public domain. The information collected will be shared with those involved in developing the Prayer and Liturgy Directory for Catholic Schools and Colleges. All information will be anonymised.

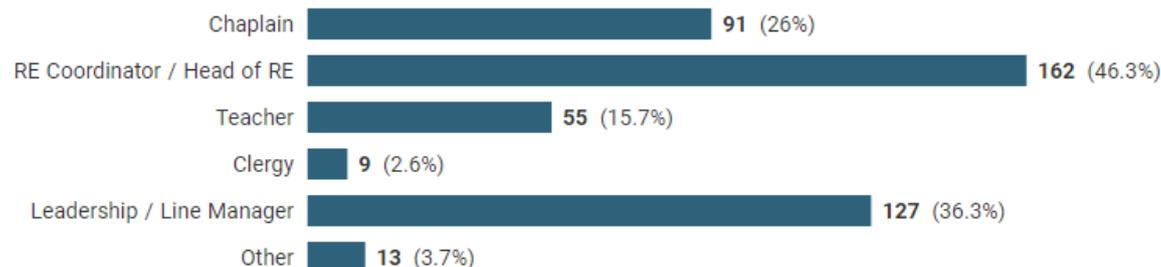


Commentary

It is unclear why the seven respondents felt they could not give permission. As a result, their views have been removed from the survey. Three respondents left the answer blank; therefore they have not given their consent and thus they have also had their data removed. This brings the total number of usable respondents to 352.

Question 3.

What is your role in school?



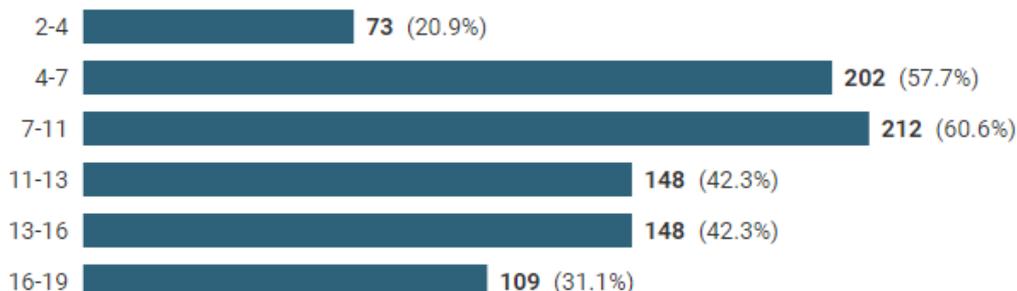
Note. This question allowed for multi answers; therefore, the percentages are the percentage of respondents who selected each answer option (e.g. 100% would represent that all this question's respondents chose that option).

Commentary

It is good that some clergy answered, however this a relatively small number, note only two respondents identified as exclusively clergy, most included chaplain and other roles. The vast majority of respondents were teachers, which was to be expected, with a significant minority of chaplains at 26%.

Question 4.

What age range does your school cover? (tick all appropriate)



Note. This question allowed for multi answers; therefore, the percentages are the percentage of respondents who selected each answer option (e.g. 100% would represent that all this question's respondents chose that option).

Commentary

It is hard to tell from the 31% who just responded from a Catholic Sixth Form College (there are 14 in England), however drilling down in the data reveals 4 respondents identifying from this group. The split is roughly 60% primary and 40% secondary.

Question 5.

What would you like to find in the Prayer and Liturgy Directory?

333 out of 352 responded to this question (95%). A total of 12,756 words were used in this section. There is clearly a confusion as to what is expected, or rather, there is a strong expectation that the Directory will provide more than guidance. A significant number of respondents expect that the directory will be providing resources, in a 'ready to go' format. A recurring request was for exemplar material.

Some key themes emerged: requests for material to help with teachers who are non-practising Catholics and non-Catholic staff; concerns about age-appropriateness (being 'child-friendly') were very common. Most areas identified by the writing group were rehearsed in this section.

