DDE MONDAY BULLETINS SEPT 2023 – FEB 2024

WEEKLY BRIEFINGS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Article* | *Page Number* |
| **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP** |  |
| Holocaust Memorial Day | 2 |
| Refugees at Christmas  | 2 |
| Sung Worship – Who You Say I Am | 3 |
| World Changer  | 3 |
|  |  |
| **DBE**  |  |
| Academy Conversion | 3 |
| Here for You | 3 |
| New Bishop of Peterborough  | 4 |
| New Year Letter from Archdeacon Richard  | 4 |
| Prayer for Schools  | 4 |
|  |  |
| **ENVIRONMENT** |  |
| Cop 28  | 4 |
| Eco Schools  | 4 |
|  |  |
| **EVENTS** |  |
| Annual Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving for Diocesan Schools  | 4 |
| Bishop Debbie’s Service of Installation – Sunday 3 March | 4 |
| Cathedral Educational Experiences | 5 |
| Headteachers’ Conference – Transformational Teaching – Wed 6 March  | 5 |
| Launch of the Diocesan RE Syllabus for The Diocese of Peterborough (2024 – 2029) – Tuesday 30 April  | 6 |
| Northampton Town FC Schools Programme Open Event  | 6 |
| Peterborough Cathedral  | 6 |
| Prom Praise  | 6 |
| RISE Theatre  | 6 |
| St Phillip’s Centre  | 7 |
|  |  |
| **EXTERNAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** |  |
| Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice | 8 |
| Free Places at The World Education Summit | 8 |
| NPQs | 8 |
| Safer Internet Day Free Webinar – 6 February 9.30am – 12.00pm | 8 |
| SIAMS Inspector Training  | 9 |
|  |  |
| **GOVERNORS** |  |
| Charting The Course To Good Governance  | 9 |
| Improving Church School Governance – Liverpool Hope University  | 9 |
|  |  |
| **POLICIES AND REPORTS** |  |
| Anti-Bullying Policy  | 9 |
| Disability Equality Scheme  | 9 |
| How to Become Attachment and Trauma Friendly  | 10 |
| Leadership of Teaching and Learning  | 10 |
| Race Equality Policy  | 10 |
| School Leadership for Change  | 10 |
| Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development  | 10 |
| Student Welfare and Inclusion  | 10 |
|  |  |
| **RESOURCES** |  |
| Academy and School News Update and Safeguardng Briefing  | 10 |
| Assessment, Recording and Reporting | 10 |
| Center for Action and Contemplation  | 11 |
| CPD School Visits  | 11 |
| Cross-Curricular Literacy and Oracy Guides and Policies  | 11 |
| Educating our Students about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict  | 12 |
| Enterprise Education & Work Related Learning  | 13 |
| ExpertEd | 13 |
| Free Bibles for Schools  | 13 |
| Health Education  | 13 |
| Holocaust Memorial Day  | 13 |
| Information Advice & Guidance re. Careers Education | 13 |
| Leading Schools in Times of International Conflict  | 14 |
| LifeSavers Financial Education  | 14 |
| Pop UK  | 14 |
| RE Newsletter  | 14 |
| Research into School Attendance  | 14 |
| School Photography | 14 |
| ‘Tales from the Miracle Book’  | 15 |
| The *Difference* Course  | 15 |
| This Week’s Picture News  | 15 |
| Watch and Pray – Wisdom and Hope for Lent and Life  | 15 |
| Wellbeing Best Practice | 16 |
|  |  |
| **SPIRITUAL INPUT** |  |
| Daily Hope  | 16 |
|  |  |
| **VACANCIES** |  |
| DBE RE Adviser  | 17 |
| St Mary & St John CE VA Primary School Headteacher Recruitment | 17 |

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

**Holocaust Memorial Day**

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place on the 27th of this month.  Further to my newsletter item about this last week and all the educational HMD resources being made available this year, may also I encourage you to consider encompassing the extraordinary life story of Sir Nicholas Winton in your programmes of study and collective worship this month.  Sir Nicholas’ life story was captured so memorably in the recent film ‘One Life’.  He rescued 669 children, most of them Jewish, from Czechoslovakia on the eve of World War II.  He later received many honours, including the British Hero of the Holocaust award from the government in recognition of British citizens who assisted in rescuing victims of the Holocaust.

**Refugees at Christmas**

UNHCR estimates that there are over 110 million people in the world who have been forcibly displaced and that there are over 36 million refugees.  At this time of year, we remember that Mary and Joseph were forcibly displaced and had to accept poor quality temporary accommodation in Bethlehem, and then had to flee as refugees with the baby Jesus to Egypt.  Considering the Christmas story through the lens of refugees brings a whole new perspective; this is something the Sanctuary Foundation have done in their latest film - [FAR FROM HOME (youtube.com)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmi5xQcB9zA).  You can access all of the Foundation’s educational and collective worship resources for schools here: [Resources for Schools - Sanctuary Foundation](https://sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/resources-for-schools/).

Many of our schools this year have pursued wonderful projects, addressing the theme of courageous advocacy. The film that we showed at our summer term Headteachers’ Conference, with children at a refugee camp in Turkey receiving parcels from the children at All Saints CE Primary School Peterborough, will linger long in my memory.  It’s fantastic to think that the children and young people in our schools can and do make a real difference to the lives of refugees.  This Christmas, above all times, let’s keep refugees in our thoughts, prayers and plans for the future.

**Sung Worship – Who You Say I Am**

Reflecting upon our identity in Christ, may I encourage you to teach this modern worship to your children and students, or invite them to listen to it and / or reflect upon what it means, in the coming weeks: [Who You Say I Am (Lyric Video) - Hillsong Worship (youtube.com)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IcC1Bp13n_4).

**World Changer**

As many of you are exploring courageous advocacy in your primary schools, you might like to try this new worship song from Alive Family Worship called ‘World Changer’, which has some actions to it.  Coventry Diocese featured the song prominently in a huge worship celebration for all their schools at NAEC Stoneleigh in the summer term, and I thought our children would enjoy singing it too.  Here’s the live recording - [(6) World Changers @ ALIVE 2023-WITH LYRICS - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKE9U7Tj_QI) and here is a lower key recording, which you might find more useful for teaching children the words and actions in the first instance - [(35) World Changer - Family Worship Song - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8rP6X94qPY).

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**DBE**

**Academy Conversion**

66 of our 103 schools are now academies, and a further 4 schools are already in the process of converting this year, with the approval of the Diocesan Board of Education. Whilst we actively uphold a mixed economy in Peterborough Diocese, we do believe that most schools are best served, and best placed to serve other schools, by being part of a strong multi-academy trust. If you would like to request a presentation for your governing body about the pros and cons of academy conversion, and your multi-academy trust options in Peterborough Diocese, along with a commentary on the shape of a thorough due diligence process to help you explore your trust options further, please contact education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

**Here for You (newsletter)**

You are very welcome to get in touch with any member of the Diocesan Education Team at any time; our email addresses are below:

Director - peter.cantley@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Deputy Director - peter.french@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Assistant Director - jane.lewis@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Schools’ Effectiveness Adviser - andrew.lakatos@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Schools’ Safeguarding Adviser - lesley.pollard@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Executive Administrator - alex.benoy@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Administrator - louise.ross@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Finance Officer - mark.bedford@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

**New Bishop of Peterborough Announced**

The next Bishop of Peterborough will be the Right Reverend Debbie Sellin, Downing Street announced last Thursday.  Bishop Debbie, currently Bishop of Southampton, will be installed at a service in Peterborough Cathedral in early 2024.  Further details about Bishop Debbie are [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fnew-bishop-of-peterborough-announced.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

**New Year Letter for all Staff, Governors, Parents/Carers, Pupils and Associated Clergy**

Please find [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/new-year-letter-to-all-from-the-venerable-richard-ormston.pdf) a New Year letter from Archdeacon Richard, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education, for emailing to all your staff, governors, parents / carers, pupils and clergy contacts.

**Prayer for Schools**

As a DBE and DBE Education Team, we pray for all our Church of England schools every day.  We also remember particular schools in prayer at the beginning of DBE and DBE Committee meetings, and are always happy to receive specific prayer requests at any time.  We count it a privilege to be able to pray for you and with you.

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**ENVIRONMENT**

**Cop 28 & Eco Schools**

The Pope’s recent address to Cop 28, as read out by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Parolin, can be found here: [Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) (2 December 2023) | Francis (vatican.va)](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2023/december/documents/20231202-dubai-cop28.html).   It was reported on by the BBC here: [Pope Francis calls for end to fossil fuels at COP28 in Dubai - BBC News](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-67599985) and a full recording can be found here: [2023.02.12 Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin delivers Pope Francis’ speech at the COP28 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xF4AgpYjhws).  It would make for an excellent discussion with pupils and students in religious education, science and collective worship.

**Eco Schools**

Eco Schools have now launched their 'cut your carbon' campaign for schools. For further information see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgQhaO2wYvw>.

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**EVENTS**

**Annual Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving for Diocesan Schools**

Jim Bonsor will once again be accompanying and conducting the combined primary school choir.  Jim would like to work with up to 15 pupils from 6 different primary schools choirs.  There is a small charge for Jim’s rehearsal time in each school in September, prior to the main rehearsal on the morning of 3 October.  We would welcome early expressions of interest from primary school headteachers, if you would like pupils from your school choir to take part, via education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

**Bishop Debbie’s Service of Installation – Sunday 3 March**

Bishop Debbie’s appointment as the 39th Bishop of Peterborough will culminate in the Service of Installation which will take place at Peterborough Cathedral on Sunday 3rd March at 3.00pm.  Every school should have received an invitation.  However, we suspect from the number of responses received so far that a number of the invitations from the mass communication invitation may have gone into spam / junk folders.  Therefore, please find [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/bishop-s-installation-service-invitation.pdf) a PDF copy of the invitation, via which you can book tickets directly.  Two places have been allocated per school.  We would very much welcome school representatives from heads, staff, governors, parents and children.  Please book your places this week.

**Cathedral Educational Experiences**

Alex Carton from the Cathedral education team has been in touch to say:

‘Why not extend your visit to the Cathedral by booking a Mother Church session with the Cathedral education team?

• Learn about the role of the bishop, sit on the Bishop’s throne and make paper mitres to take back to school

• Trace your journey from school to your Mother Church

• Celebrate your pilgrimage to your Mother Church by making your own pilgrimage badge (inspired by medieval pilgrim badges) to take back to school

• Learn how ‘Peterborough’ got it’s name and make your own ‘Peter’s Keys’ Prayer cards

• Reflect on your part in the Diocesan Church School Family at our prayer station and add your art work to a collaborative work which will be displayed in the Cathedral

The activities will be set up around the building throughout the day – during the rehearsals – and schools wishing to take part will receive a map to guide them as they ‘free-flow’ between them. There will also be some spotter sheets for children to find out more about the fascinating history and the building itself! We do need schools to book, however, and ask for a £2 fee per student to cover the cost of our materials.

We hope that you will consider enabling your students to take part in these activities designed to help children reflect on their experience of being in a church school, understand that the Cathedral is their’ Mother Church’ and enjoy learning about an awe inspiring sacred space!!

To book or for more information contact Alex or Toni at the Cathedral:

*schoolvisits@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk*.

**Headteachers’ Conference - Transformational Teaching - Wednesday 6 March**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 pupils from Glapthorn Church of England Primary School, who will be joining us for the opening worship and teaching us to use BSL sign language to sign and sing ‘Who You Say I Am'.

Throughout the day, Tom Sherrington will address the momentous theme of ‘Transformational Teaching’, keeping the many and various needs of all our children foremost in our thinking and exploring together:

* The essentials of effective professional learning.  What does the research say? The key elements of a strong CPD or coaching programme.
* Common challenges with learning.  What are the common issues in learning, especially for those at the margins?  Six common issues and how to address them.
* Responsive Teaching in practice.  Some key elements of effective interactive, responsive teaching, with practical examples.
* Mode B Teaching.  Elements of teaching that foster student agency and add important dimensions to a rich, transformational curriculum.

Two free places are allocated per Gold SLA school and bookings can be made via: education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk and [Course, Conference & Consultancy Programme 2023-2024 (d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net)](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/course-conference-consultancy-programme-2023-2024-1-.pdf).  In view of the wider significance of this conference for Deputy Heads and Assistant Heads with a brief to lead on teaching and learning, and for governors charged with oversight of this area, all SLT members and governors with related responsibilities would be most welcome to attend this conference at Kettering Park Hotel.  It may also prove beneficial for regular visitors to schools from our churches who support the teaching of RE and collective worship, and teaching and learning more widely in some instances.  We look forward to welcoming you all.

**Launch of Diocesan RE Syllabus for The Diocese of Peterborough (2024 - 2029) - Tuesday 30 April**

We are very excited to launch our revised RE Syllabus for Church schools in the Diocese of Peterborough on Tuesday April 30th 2024 at Kettering Park Hotel, Kettering Parkway, NN15 6XT from 9.30am - 3.30pm.  Stephen Pett & Fiona Moss (RE Today staff team) will lead workshops to support the teaching and development of the units in schools.  **This event is for primary and secondary RE Teachers and it is absolutely vital that all RE Subject Leaders attend.** In view of the considerable costs involved, there will be a charge of£150 per school representative.  To book click on the link [Course, Conference & Consultancy Programme 2023-2024 (d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net)](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/course-conference-consultancy-programme-2023-2024-1-.pdf) and then select [Diocese of Peterborough New RE Syllabus Launch (google.com)](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKKBh8QbHieVrpo1v0Aykmx0p2Z3M8YFpu8NdMrhAb0nyzBA/viewform)

**Northampton Town FC Schools Programme Open Event**

Northampton Town FC is running an open event for school staff on 24 January to introduce the programmes they offer to schools for supporting different aspects of education.  The event will be in the Carr’s Bar at the Sixfields Stadium from 4.30-5.30pm.  For further details and to book please see [Northampton Town FC Community Trust (ntfccommunity.co.uk)](https://www.ntfccommunity.co.uk/).

**Peterborough Cathedral**

There is an amazing programme of services, concerts, exhibitions and special festivals coming up at Peterborough Cathedral, our ‘Mother Church’ in the Diocese.  It is always such an awe-inspiring experience for our children and young people to experience the worship at Peterborough Cathedral, and there really is no better time than Christmas.  I write as the father of two former cathedral choristers and cannot begin to describe what a wonderful experience it is to celebrate Christmas in a cathedral.  Cathedrals really seem to come into their own at this time of year, and may I encourage you to share, with all the families that you’re in touch with, the highlights of what is on offer at Peterborough Cathedral over this festive season and beyond, into the New Year.  Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/peterborough-cathedral-news.pdf) .

**Prom Praise for Schools at the Royal Albert Hall, Tuesday 12 March, 6.00pm**

If you’re already planning ahead for the spring term, may I just highlight that, after a long absence due to Covid, Prom Praise for Schools returns to the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 6.00pm.  The title of Prom Praise for Schools 2024 is ***King David – a Hero’s Journey***.  Through drama and music, Prom Praise will explore themes of courage, redemption, and servant-hearted leadership in an overview of David’s life.  More details can be found here: [Prom Praise for Schools – keeping music and faith in schools (prompraise4schools.com)](https://prompraise4schools.com/).  It is hugely popular with Church of England schools in London, and Church of England schools from Peterborough Diocese are also very welcome to take part and enjoy this marvellous event.

**RISE Theatre**

RISE Theatre have been in touch to say: *‘We are delighted to announce that we will be taking our interactive primary school day - 'God's Planet' - on tour for the seventh time next spring - from January to March 2024…  After sell out summer and autumn tours this year, 'God's Planet' continues to be an incredibly popular primary school day and we would love to continue to spread the message as far as we can!  I especially want to highlight that we are running*

*a special offer until the 30th November for all school bookings and a further discounts for academy and group bookings which I hope makes the day accessible for even more schools.*

*Warmest regards and thanks in advance*

*Lucy Mckenzie*

*Operations Support*

*0118 324 7775
RISE Theatre CIC*[*www.risetheatre.co.uk*](http://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=AmrG_A5YuetCcQwGRav8GcBnDTv0bdkqh7ooz6YXYXSVbDyFYVXBpvfp7zqfL_XAiu1nK0g09n5ON5nfHTwnNZ-H_-uaNh2MUWHH5r6PtAFiljy0D0-OjRXrAWQxO3PQ_JHeioDNuXePFUuJ1lFDPq-HgU45260MM7co4R8F_5lGUxvdXbPqJfpls70m9jBR7fRxMHnVj9oH1sUpvhMpB3xi84MvaX0BAHUJMJchuuomtN6IauUdhND2HlNgeznSHKzDhSzAyOUkYYjHtoH4VZMYx4i8hvUOOz9IWhHWWgKaSr0-HeStFAGHlZYZ6o8neWqxGRolX-MeQSAPxGcYIzo6I0E7Geq9Lfs9a1POdSM6OiPvdYlgSWqfSw_jokXoAhpW)*’*

Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/rise-theatre.pdf).

**St Philip’s Centre**

Helping our students’ understand the complexities of a multi-faith world and preparing them to be effective citizens in a very diverse UK society is undoubtedly one of our greatest challenges.  The St Philip’s Centre in Leicester has a great deal to offer in this respect, helping to enhance the quality of education in schools.  Ramila Chauhan from the St Philip’s Centre has been in touch with details of programmes and support packages they are offering, which are worthy of consideration.

*‘****The Religion and Belief Roadshow*** *presents a comprehensive school day event that enables pupils to explore a variety of faiths under one roof. We are fortunate to offer exposure to Baha’i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Humanist, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Pagan, and Sikh faiths. Our aim is to have a presence of at least 6 faiths, with the goal of accommodating all nine whenever possible.*

*The event is designed with a marketplace ambience, giving students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the sights, sounds and fragrant aspects of diverse cultures. Each faith is represented by a stall/table showcasing artefacts, manned by a practitioner available for student inquiries. Additionally, a clothing tent showcases clothes worn by various faiths, accompanied by musical elements, making it a truly multi-sensory experience.*

*The standard cost for this event is £2500, for a maximum of 300 children. This cost covers all expenses associated with the event day. This includes the presence of a DBS-checked and safeguarding-trained faith practitioner, faith-related artefacts for student exploration, any materials used in activities, our supervision throughout the visit, and all pre-event organizational tasks. However, we kindly request the school to provide refreshments and lunch for the delivery team.*

*For a preview of the Roadshow program in action, please follow this link:*

[*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FDB2eqd3xE*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FDB2eqd3xE)

*You can appreciate that the cost has gone up considerably since the last time we did the Roadshow for the Diocese, I have spoken to my manager and he has agreed to a price of £1500.*

*I have attached our brochure which contains other programmes which may be of interest to your schools, particularly the Multi-Faith Carousel.*

***Multi-Faith Carousel****is a programme of up to 4 different faith practitioners delivering workshops simultaneously and rotating around different classrooms. This gives the children an opportunity to meet a faith practitioner, ask questions and more importantly see the similarities and differences between the different faiths. This works well with a year group. £80 per faith, per class + Travel (35 Max class size, duration 55 mins per class).*

*Our charges cover all of our side of costs for the day – DBS checked, safeguarding trained faith practitioner, faith-related artefacts for the students to investigate, any materials we use in activities, our supervision of the visit on the day and all organisation beforehand. We offer these on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.’*

Further details of these programmes and more are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/st-philip-s-centre.pdf).

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**EXTERNAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice**

Last Wednesday evening, Elizabeth Olulari, National Education Lead for Racial Justice at the Church of England Education Office, explained the importance of these key EDIJ themes, which are foundational to Church school education.  She also highlighted some courses being run by the national team that may be of interest to school leaders particularly: the Inclusive Curriculum Leadership course - [Courses - Foundation For Educational Leadership (cefel.org.uk)](https://www.cefel.org.uk/Courses/) and the Leaders Like Us programme - [Leaders Like Us - Foundation For Educational Leadership (cefel.org.uk)](https://www.cefel.org.uk/leaderslikeus/).

**Free Places at The World Education Summit**

Sophia Whybrow (swhybrow@osiriseducational.co.uk) has been in touch from The World Education Summit to say: ‘I invite you to sample the World Education Summit sessions at no cost for you and your colleagues for two weeks.  The [World Education Summit](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=j8cygFxN3At5K6qT5SEt9t8E_oD8LryVN-DlIE7KIDqB366pJL9gk7PT0wK_5Ni0xUKnJ7Zl1onfyIuqVzMVls6Xw3NKoKrE_ejAyLnKsjuU38ZVbfsyD0zOVT0V9a20TmHXAPQGQTWa0iQPWnzK7azx-VFRkuMrnmzzqDGbtcvC91EE3GVxFDFNRLa5CoE3A81dyTnKxobnV5fahxYRwmaV1pZEcpDO3Bxr5-5MyasnlaegWJ7FB2O43CsN8lmUMutSNOtyN-ovhSr1eThzowOoRqFhAcWYuocFtmzyAgWHrn-hTEsTm4dSqq9vRNii6CJSYb-XySvv53KzoDdpSTTO6gn948r09a_TP7SXFrHHzHCpP_XyXxMNGxzjl_m2uHvN4uaRnbCwIzo6IxbfeE-kF1hT8ets5SM6OiM9EelcnVlroBfsd_LHGtuG) (WES) brings together the very best in education from around the world to support your academies. By simply choosing 10 sessions over a year aligned to your trust priorities you get the latest thinking from the actual academics/leaders.   We have curated the top [10 WES 2023 sessions](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=1KkFR4AX7bNA5mW1qSm7r58hckY9qHDyuSgrEJN6Bse-uNcUwLMIKmidDiQTdEvGmalHMjWXHkB4_2qSdXrcntR1NHRHfE1jclzALc9_fWWc3qKQjV4ASM_6h_0vjxAR0VMFJBbbOkuQTL96UL2Ydo2P_1LT3eP9gqgcPAcVf-tD91_jqya9LFoywOes0SyUxN3m_M2SwCkHyuQtgqjdMz16a6lI8YKxPWdzZKdwuzjWzvOCKg4VLAGpWSrPqFoSWY-r8W8tuvLzKpPws_JjV79-YelvV1PtwX_kxzhqhIT6zxPXpk-sYrQP8dLLqRxU9i0uqwap4U-XldsIceyxi30zPtjQt-REPGloO7S1C9gXpp1gFjeZRP212DAJItb4Izo6IwnDSVmnrVKeQfuogyM6OiP8d5QtFcDT5BidKUXrDxXS) for you to see how WES can seamlessly integrate into your existing professional learning.  [Click here to access](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=l9Q0QJ4D3K8aAxjaPdECMjEXu8ZRrmra1ydXcWD7xi8mSzAjmxcD3rhFbPmq_gQhA0WouOI0CzoLBHmxDC1EUuHJklufzL-HCm5CSrFoOjq3kGUozy3J1etTEfQbg1LlbnwdzHATqfrxsvFa5uMaibx4WSBJjbGtmSEA8DWf8L8A119H0FB1aShWIIwkUqXpNziAHVC2BtCRjHvYJ-lUnRa6v4fWl9ls-k2jP8CirbmorT0qEG5IPMsDSXvdVRo6y8c1RLQcyO9-S6dhFL-Egxt3WtbvvbkDHVL7CIcE-j6XrZA0KBLtllkuXqHYs6lcrHT4VHc6cIJQWofmlZM5RcrQE9TK5LjQi9QdossRNdym28M6Av6gEFj8H9mH1YJVeDY-aOAgo6tM1Q4onBzDzB1H082C2IedLL-I4BMLGU367jGnCr9LyFVCrkByUJbmyJeAVgK5ebMPV5OwvKBSRd0HD1_xctr5JjR0c_yeVFJ9rhPh5ZmbwQUYIMGJV4WfOmBmhNKoyWgYBzY9NA_3E8raohr__g_N6MmOlb3WLkghcwpDe_q_28XfWvYE-_TaEmuZloP9h2oasVjtjO_a40zk9FDtWfFmXWfqZv4sQ3wjOjojgJBJ2D_XtYjcB7NEIzo6I4KSW_iHtjJV-eKwL8p2c0w), we hope you enjoy it…  See the phenomenal 2024 line-up - [bit.ly/WES24SummitGuide](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=ENphifHwGIogMIOhyl7LKp481CvYPEZUUKwgXdGlzEfUZc3e3SJGSCD8TBTB6SjAhJYaH2Wn3rETsPffx7klKlIwWm0KOB3HS9YZ4-OX1mI_oCXzEWlfdWQHMWmNrhPxebt5i5jYuBbtb6onlcpu66GPNcv-59MjMReSsLzNUHznZej2lORJP5G4OXB5bHHkYkx7D5wYks8hos1_StVLtGyVBu6vZ6P5UACxG8dOdU-Fc4FPIeMvSUlQkOZrHFqXrn9NuVwLmVn8Y14aoy0vP8GPrmeZBQ16VktC-XvjmUVQIkivhLxJG3VnUodbkI7A28da3XtdJUWqqHgj37OiHZ4UkEF0FKQy1j1d25EkchjnodIMQrj910WMx7ucxC8cHpK-7D9X334qIzo6I9XxVeqcPazfOYHS5CM6OiPmC0glHK-5ult71a4UkSix).’

**NPQs**

Richard Jackson (Church of England Programme Lead for NPQSmall and NPQEY/LL), who was with us at our June Headteachers’ Conference, has been in touch to say: ‘Thank you for your support during the Summer and earlier part of this term to help colleagues in small schools apply for the NPQSmall…  In the last week, we have successfully launched the Autumn cohort and they have their first online days this month.

As you’d expect, we are turning our attention to our Spring cohort and again we’d appreciate your support in getting the message to small schools in your diocese and in encouraging participants to apply.  I have included an updated link for the video introduction to NPQSmall <https://vimeo.com/877421389/aa1220c8ec?share=copy> – and I’ve also [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/npq-small.pdf) an updated flier for this cohort.  Our applications are currently open for the next cohort of NPQSmall which starts in March. The closing date for applications is February 2nd 2024.

One of the key messages for colleagues and schools is that the DfE have only committed to funding the NPQs up until this February’s cohort - so teachers and leaders would be wise to apply for this cohort if they are thinking of doing an NPQ rather than delaying.

We also know that the additional funding for schools (£800 per member of staff participating in an NPQ for schools between 1 -150 pupils) is only guaranteed for this year too!’

**Safer Internet Day Free Webinar – 6 February 9.30am – 12.00pm**

Simon Aston has been in touch to say: ‘Join us for an exciting freeonline event, the Safer Internet Day 2024 Webinar! This is your chance to learn all about helping children and young people stay safe on the internet. Our expert speakers will cover topics like gangs, county lines, grooming, supporting SEND children and young people, online trends, resources and digital well-being. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and tips to help children and young people navigate the online world with confidence. Whether you're a, educator, social worker or work with children and young people, this webinar is for you! Mark your calendar and join us on Safer Internet Day 2024 for an informative and engaging online event.  Click here to book your space.  You can also join us in celebrating Safer Internet Day and helping safeguard children and young people online by accessing the resources here: [Free Safer Internet Day 2024 Education Resources now live - UK Safer Internet Centre](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=le1hYlrXU0ddkJ796Gg_ZxkL-JPg1T9UC7BSolSLtJfUAxLAj323HEt1rc5j7L7LJDg3rr3nq3e8YPHZ8IPNXidcF5k7b_xc4J50CCgEaMVNpraV1YF02hMHwxL0zzbI1Vx4zVIQnGoNnxFcCT2zKpemlWM-xKZCnpVYvdlAd-KjZ70iCyDeQ5ZZIF7eS_YjSeISR9BXKHf1FwqqQN8X487AMbLrqH-A6_rFSoBVAUS_lvQyaKwJOBVTUd9WAM-GbtLEzV13kAE8O0HCckgb7MyF_YxtHHWkvlzEMKKOV7xJAPn3YGoOG6jUjcb4_VcmNimAb2z4gDTUBQnBH7UY9m_ZkGqgcFnRtFt5ypcgQaV1B3JrVXTrE5PcVNv60nDnn2wxmkB5lO5Ivg-Yvw1RzLkXUULaOklceMB02sCjAqk1cBw2AAZ3V8FGjV5BTiPW0y2A_nPFVhFtCZtmgnR-LrEjOjojG3DZXrq0C2Z6sztAIzo6I3-8iB1pRT9LFn5mmETl1vA).  If you require further information please email Simon Aston Online Safety and Wellbeing Officer - onlinesafety.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk.’

**SIAMS Inspector Training**

The next cohort of training will start in September 2024. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 22 March 2024 and the key documents for applicants are as below:

[SIAMS Inspector 2024 - Job Description](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/siams-inspector-2024-job-description.pdf)

[SIAMS New Inspector Training Application and Course Guidance 2024](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/siams-new-inspector-training-application-and-course-guidance-2024.pdf)

[Link to the SIAMS Inspector Training Application Form 2024](https://churchofengland.tfaforms.net/4903892)

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**GOVERNORS**

**Charting The Course To Good Governance**

The NGA’s latest publication on good governance, entitled ‘Charting the course to good governance; common challenges’, is now available - [erg-report-publication-final.pdf (nga.org.uk)](https://www.nga.org.uk/media/iugnxhkx/erg-report-publication-final.pdf).  It is full of insightful advice and observations; a must read for any school governor.

**Improving Church School Governance – Liverpool Hope University (9, 16 Oct, 6, 13, 20 Nov, 4, 11, 18 Dec)**

Liverpool Hope University will be running a 6-month online training programme, beginning in January.  It is aimed at providing support for governors and trustees (directors) committed to improving provision and outcomes for children and young people in Church schools.  The programme has been developed by experts in Church school leadership, governance and inspection.  Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/improving-church-school-governance---liverpool-hope-university.pdf) .

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**POLICIES AND REPORTS**

**Anti-Bullying Policy**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fanti-bullying-policy.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model anti-bullying policy from Tony Stephens, which could be adapted to create a policy which would suit the vision and values of your school.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; this is one model policy, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Disability Equality Scheme**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fdisability-equality-scheme.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model document from Tony Stephens, regarding key principles for devising a disability equality scheme.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; this is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**How to Become Attachment and Trauma Friendly**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fattachment-and-trauma-friendly.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model plan from Tony Stephens about how schools can become attachment and trauma friendly.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; this is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Leadership of Teaching and Learning**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fleadership-of-teaching-and-learning.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model document from Tony Stephens, regarding the leadership of teaching and learning.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; these is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Race Equality Policy**

Ensuring that everyone in our schools is treated with respect and dignity, and committed to the same throughout their lifetime, is vital and represents an ongoing challenge to the depth, quality and influence of the education we provide.  To support you in you in this, please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Frace-equality.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) sample race equality policy from educational consultant Tony Stephens.  I trust you find this helpful for reviewing and improving your own policy.

**School Leadership for Change**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fschool-leadership-for-change.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a paper from Tony Stephens about school leadership approaches to bringing about change.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; this is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fspiritual--moral--social-and-cultural-development.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model policy, from Tony Stephens, regarding spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; these is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Student Welfare and Inclusion**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fstudent-welfare-and-inclusion.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) a model policy from Tony Stephens about student welfare and inclusion.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; this is one such paper, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

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**RESOURCES**

**Academy & Schools News Update and Safeguarding Briefing**

Please also find attached the most recent [academy and school news summary](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Facademy-and-school-news-and-resources-update-27-jan---2-feb-2024.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) from educational consultant Tony Stephens, and a [safeguarding briefing](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/safeguarding-briefing-5-feb-2024.pdf) from specialist safeguarding consultant Andrew Hall.

**Assessment, Recording and Reporting**

Tony Stephens, the educational consultant who puts together our weekly academy and schools news summaries, has also put together a template policy on Assessment, Recording and Reporting, particularly with secondary schools in mind, as [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fassessment--recording-and-reporting.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), but which primary colleagues may also find helpful.

**Center for Action and Contemplation**

If you enjoyed hearing Paul Rusby at our last conference, then you will certainly enjoy reading the spiritual reflections shared daily by the Center for Action and Contemplation -  [Center for Action and Contemplation (cac.org)](https://cac.org/).

In one of the reflections last week, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel’s writings (1907–1972), was entitled *‘The Dignity of All Things’.* It concluded by highlighting the importance of attuning our senses to experience the awe inspiring wonder of the universe with reverence, in order to gain insight and wisdom and to experience God’s presence:

*‘Forfeit your sense of awe, let your conceit diminish your ability to revere, and the universe becomes a market place for you. The loss of awe is the avoidance of insight. A return to reverence is the first prerequisite for a revival of wisdom, for the discovery of the world as an allusion to God. [3]’*

[3] Abraham J. Heschel, Who Is Man? (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1965), 88–89.

This Christmas provides a fresh opportunity for us to contemplate the universe and the wonder of the God who created us being born to become one of us.  A copy of the whole of this awe inspiring reflection is [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/the-dignity-of-all-things.pdf).

**CPD School Visits**

Visiting other schools for CPD purposes can be really beneficial.  It was a joy to be with our secondary school headteachers when we visited William Perkin Church of England High School in London Diocese in November and when we visited the Malcolm Arnold Academy last month.  We regularly visit each secondary school and meet together on a termly rota basis.   It’s proved to be very beneficial.  We are undoubtedly stronger together.

A number of primary school headteachers have asked for recommendations re. visiting other schools which have defined areas of strength and, of course, before the pandemic we published a school CPD visit map to support this.  So, we have updated the school CPD visit map and would like to share it with you, as [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fcpd-school-visit-map-feb-2024.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), as a rough guide for considering possible visits.  However, I would like to add a significant caveat here.  As Albert Einstein is purported to have said, ‘Not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted’.  Some of the most precious spiritual strengths within our schools cannot be readily counted.  Moreover, small pupil populations in many of our small village schools can lead to a degree of statistical invalidity, and just one pupil with exceptional needs in a small village school can skew an entire school’s data outcomes.  Having said all that, we hope this map, which highlights schools with well above average pupil progress data and / or with excellent / outstanding inspection outcomes in the various components of Ofsted and SIAMS inspections serves a purpose in helping you identify possible schools to visit for CPD purposes.

**Cross-Curricular Literacy and Oracy Guides and Policies**

Please find [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fcross-curricular-one.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) two [guides and policies](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fcross-curricular-two.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), from Tony Stephens, regarding the development of literacy and oracy across the curriculum.  After 20 years as a Head, Tony has spent 15 years advising schools, while at the same time carrying out research into the features of schools that make them successful; these are two such papers, arising from Tony’s extensive experience and research.

**Educating our Students about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

May I recommend the following educational resources which colleagues in many Church of England schools have found helpful:

<http://www.solutionsnotsides.co.uk>

<https://blog.eis.org.uk/piuc/level-3-4-teachers-guide/>

<https://neu.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-10/NEU3179%20Israel%20_%20Palestine%20_%20Issues%20for%20Schools_0_1.pdf>

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/free-resources/teaching-resources-2#heading-1>

[Israel and Hamas: What's happening? | Newsround - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5CobYdmt0Q)

[What is life like for children in Israel and Gaza? | Newsround - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwttVeXzAL4).

In addition, Jane Lewis has recommended some AREIAC resources for secondary colleagues, RE teachers and those leading PHSE type sessions or perhaps work with 6th forms, following an email from Alastair Ross, Chair of AREIAC. Alistair has written to say: ‘The South London Inter Faith Group recently held an online meeting about the Israel/Palestine crisis with two speakers: Dr Chris Hewer, who spoke on the historical background and differing narratives and Julie Siddiqi, who shared how the crisis in Israel/Palestine is affecting us here in our own communities in the UK. The Group has kindly agreed to share the link to the You Tube recording which you may find useful for your own understanding as well as helping to inform any teaching or educational work you are doing. The edited version of the recording can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/100079737889190/videos/1738257716668704> and lasts around 45 minutes.

You may also like to look at [www.togetherforhumanity.co.uk](http://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=pxPVn9qdyPcbi4kWBOTn22DeIuWegcGFj_qU7vvpo4W3p0Vm2ny7Sn7nBzeTtpK0XYmx4pIOFQzfm4gpbs8xHuIxMUDVs3zVgj6ohLoLGf--bHu68RMA48ZhaUmzvJQdEGosZmwsVBW8N5ICuzOiP8v1N0ytgotRVr32Soy6VKUZpLVlu9aFAN_9U1kJo3qY_GbyLWr-EC8-bTGxDlsbo-hpPol7p0mM3-oIUIusIOEVtQqFh6yHRfcnv-RaHQpr47WzDFBshAEyMl8BZAuMh7TOI2TPPgK4BhX7ov_JU2OoKz4eA6gYv7Y4W1LrL9Cp1YH1-hAyGIovvmIUN_MUz3VI1mvUQe5-oR13gFzr6kqn0VmhLx54tatFQg_5MdhWtxnNeMWiUyM6OiP1BDb9IpQm-JNu9vIjOjoj5j9bd8g4OZL8jFtlfoUY2g) which aims to build a movement united against hate, with a focus on fostering a sense of collective unity amongst groups with a shared commitment for peace and coexistence between Israel and Palestine. Of course, other groups and individuals are committed to this work but this is a new initiative you may not have come across.’

Jane has suggested that the video itself might be suitable for 6th form students, but otherwise it would be for staff to watch, to support their teaching and engagement with students on the on-going issues in Israel and Palestine. Jane has come across both the speakers involved in this conversation and they speak with sound sense and realism.

This is a time for galvanising everyone in our school communities, in partnership with parish church communities, to provide help for all those people suffering terribly in Israel and Gaza, through absolutely no fault of their own in the overwhelming majority of cases. In pursuing courageous advocacy projects, you may wish to provide support for:

Christian Aid - [Middle East Crisis Appeal | Christian Aid](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/middle-east-crisis-appeal?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIjaSLz9-8ggMVaI9QBh1nqwRAEAAYASAAEgLCofD_BwE)

Tearfund - [Middle East Emergency Appeal - Tearfund](https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/middle-east-emergency-appeal)

World Vision - [Middle East Emergency Appeal | World Vision UK](https://www.worldvision.org.uk/emergencies/middle-east-appeal/)

Save The Children - [Donate to the Gaza Emergency Appeal | Save the Children UK](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/gaza-emergency-appeal).

**Enterprise Education & Work Related Learning**

Tony Stephens, the educational consultant who puts together our weekly academy and schools news summaries, has also put together a helpful paper on Enterprise Education & Work Related Learning, as [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fenterprise-and-education---work-related-learning.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), which secondary colleagues may find particularly helpful.

**ExpertEd**

One of the most encouraging educational developments in Peterborough Diocese in recent years has been the growing contribution of independent schools with a diocesan heritage to the quality of education provided in our maintained schools and academies. Gordon Montgomery and Kirsty Burns at Oundle School are once again offering a fantastic programme of curriculum enrichment activities this term: family maths and family science evenings online, as well as an impressive programme of live interactive webinars during the school day. Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/experted.pdf) .

**Free Bibles for Schools**

If you would like to present a free copy of the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs to each of your Year 6 pupils later this year, GOOD NEWS For Everyone would be delighted to provide free copies for you.

**Health Education**

Tony Stephens, the educational consultant who puts together our weekly academy and schools news summaries, has also put together a template policy on Health Education, particularly with secondary schools in mind, as [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fhealth-education.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), but which primary colleagues may also find helpful.

**Holocaust Memorial Day**

Educational resources to support teaching about this issue can be found here: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | Schools (hmd.org.uk)](https://www.hmd.org.uk/take-part-in-holocaust-memorial-day/schools/). At the heart of HMD, which takes place on 27 January, is the remembrance of the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people murdered under Nazi persecution of other groups and remembrance of the millions murdered in recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. In commenting further on wider international conflicts at this time, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust have stated: ‘We are aware that some activities will also add references to more recent examples of identity-based persecution, such as the suffering that has been or is being experienced by the Rohingyas in Myanmar, the Uyghurs in China, the Yazidis in Iraq or the Ukrainians at the hands of Russia. These should be an addition to and not a replacement for, remembrance of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and more recent genocides. Likewise, any reference to the situation in Israel and Gaza should be in addition to, and not instead of, remembrance of the Holocaust, Nazi persecutions of other groups and more recent genocides, and should recognise the complexity of the situation. HMD is not a day for division or divisiveness, it’s a day for people and communities to come together in remembrance of both those who were murdered and to remember our shared humanity. HMD activities therefore should be inclusive and respectful of all communities.’

**Information Advice & Guidance re. Careers Education**

Putting in place a comprehensive information, advice and guidance programme that benefits students across all key stages in secondary schools is a significant piece of work which, of course, requires ongoing updating.  To support you in this endeavour, educational consultant Tony Stephens has together a useful template document which is [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fcareers-education---information--advice---guidance.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK).

**Leading Schools in Times of International Conflict**

May I draw your attention to the [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/international-conflict-events.pdf) document about ‘Considerations for Schools in Supporting Pupils and Staff at Times of International Conflict’ from the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership.

May I also suggest that this is a time to galvanise everyone in our school communities to provide help for all those people suffering in Israel and Gaza through no fault of their own.  In pursuing courageous advocacy projects, you may wish to partner with:

Christian Aid - [Middle East Crisis Appeal | Christian Aid](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/middle-east-crisis-appeal?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIjaSLz9-8ggMVaI9QBh1nqwRAEAAYASAAEgLCofD_BwE)

Tearfund - [Middle East Emergency Appeal - Tearfund](https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/middle-east-emergency-appeal)

World Vision - [Middle East Emergency Appeal | World Vision UK](https://www.worldvision.org.uk/emergencies/middle-east-appeal/)

Save The Children - [Donate to the Gaza Emergency Appeal | Save the Children UK](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/gaza-emergency-appeal).

Of course, schools need to remain as politically impartial as they can be, whilst educating children and young people about the complexities of international conflicts.  Useful guidance, in relation to remaining politically impartial, can be found here:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/61f137688fa8f5058a4b2f44/6.7731_DfE_Political_Impartiality_Guidance_Pamphlet_WEB__004_.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-impartiality-in-schools/political-impartiality-in-schools>.

**LifeSavers Financial Education**

May I commend to you the [LifeSavers](https://www.justfinancefoundation.org.uk/) programme; it is a free financial education initiative available for state-funded primary schools.  Delivered by the Just Finance Foundation, LifeSavers has been created to help children manage money wisely now and in the future.  LifeSavers provide a wide range of classroom resources and practical activities to help children engage with learning about money from the beginnings of EYFS through to the end of KS2.  All their resources, time and expertise are completely free for schools. Their promotional video can be seen here: [LifeSavers - The Just Finance Foundation's primary school financial education programme - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmUq8wU0IIE).  Further details are [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Flifesavers-financial-education.doc&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) .

**PopUK**

PopUK has updated its free singing resources, with more songs that are inclusive, distinctive and relevant.  Further details can be found here: [Free song resources to start the new academic year (popuk.org)](https://email.popuk.org/76M0-I9LI-3808CDAE75C1A2C2YOAKPBB5EEF22E3313B37/cr.aspx)

**RE Newsletter**

Please find [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/re-newsletter-spring-term-2024.pdf) a copy of Jane Lewis’ RE Newsletter.  It is packed full of many examples of great practice, details of inspiring courses, helpful resources, stimulating ideas and expert advice.

**Research into School Attendance**

Ensuring pupil attendance returns to pre-pandemic levels is proving to be challenging in many schools.  Please find [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/re-newsletter-spring-term-2024.pdf) a plethora of research reports on this issue, as you chart your way forward this year, which I trust you find helpful.

**School Photography**

Brian Irvine, the former Headteacher of Staverton Church of England Primary School, now provides a school photography service.   Brian offers website and prospectus update photography for schools at budget friendly prices.  He also offer portrait photography for schools, but only small schools, as he is a one man band and processes it all personally.  This portrait photography service is priced to be affordable for all parents / carers.  Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/school-photography.pdf).

**‘Tales from the Miracle Book’ Free Resources**

The authors of ‘Tales from the Miracle Book’, an accredited Understanding Christianity resource, have now made 26 films and accompanying resources available free of charge.  These would be of great benefit for use in primary school collective worship, RE and PSHE, encompassing themes around Advent and Christmas and much more.  Further details are [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/tales-from-the-miracle-book.pdf).

**The *Difference* Course**

The Church of England has just launched the ***Difference***course for secondary schools, following a successful pilot.  Across five sessions, **Difference**teaches three habits that have the potential to transform everyday relationships: be curious, be present and reimagine.  You can read more about it here: [The Difference Course | The Archbishop of Canterbury](https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/priorities/reconciliation/difference-course).  To sign up and access all the resources, please follow this link:  [Home - Difference: Make your faith count in a complex and divided world (rln.global)](https://difference.rln.global/).  A primary school version will be developed next year.

**This Week’s Picture News**

Picture News has shared a free resource, as [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fprimary-picture-news---5-feb-2024.ppt&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), re. 45-year-old Mar Galcerán from Spain who has become the country’s first elected parliamentarian with Down's syndrome.  It explores the question ‘What makes someone inspirational?’ and an accompanying film can be found here: [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=aeb0RgO9R7DGiqW2oWABfVS3pL0xn-ckBwh9XaqYeU5d1S1lHLbOs9SJdauC085K-Uuj9k1_QUO23xK-COFBtaW_puhTxJekjiX1FnicMUE_VGd1SujJ1MCzQQ33-UrW2WVO27nrC3j9-6w3JKPkhNyMm5msfNlUh-HdZkI3s36gjYgNYwrbXK8SEoeO6LYgmPKiPubIR5FltixukZrZLsXXZprrC1oPMy4LR04L4v2pCloQpdEezOz8B_b1aZvYt-GApssa16klVuIa2FLq5DnAxCtJbTu3dHeuB8bq7JTlQ50PtnEqxg3IYV8mh3HiukRo1gUQ6HV3puUNYzM3wYY7ZSj4-IpqGZNq2WUCYlZlWRRcATpQ5NoY4oIzbP1uFeAZ5lmgYbBHRYZn52QsmH3Yqdy1lIWDePRyT4p5nUSD4J2sS2xo4QY56b6gEFPFJz-ups_ijpFSQCTIitagl0LX0zLMeS6yJ0gIdEKKVQBD_ydUxgwEdHhQXx2vYlhbJP240yWtcKMfnA-Z7pAmyTUMk4spJMLru4a7aCXtHGN5MwZQyvKUHksErfILEpLP5iF2hkDJjXXnRIIU7URdLdlKeRhhNCd2ReXKXi4nxyHATmzgTy2SAbOnrVT--cjr05oZscvnXrEjOjojUpA7bQLdlWgDgUefIzo6I6qyEPOG4PfiKRNLK0tksos).  If you choose to build this into your collective worship, you might like to combine this with an exploration of the importance of using the talents and abilities God has given us, through considering the parable of the talents / bags of gold (Matthew 25:v14-30).

**Watch and Pray – Wisdom and Hope for Lent and Life**

Simon Atkinson & Elizabeth Howat, Heads of Curriculum & Inclusion & AYLA in the Church of England Education Office, have been in touch to introduce a new schools’ resource for Lent.

‘On the night he was betrayed, Jesus kneels in darkness in the Garden of Gethsemane.  Although he pleads with his disciples, “Stay here with me… Watch and pray,” they all fall asleep, leaving him alone in his time of great suffering.  This season of Lent, we invite your school to join us as we **Watch and Pray,** discovering what it means to wait, bringing wisdom and hope for Lent and life.

Our **free collective worship resource** draws on the wisdom of Black Spirituality and has been inspired and informed by the 2024 Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lent book, [Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for people of faith by Selina Stone](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=Y_cELK39sCOFXjpiMsRkCChWVnFN0jCS8u1kZmZSX4CASnSRgkJ17tWlw8fCIAvLlJljxEFDnHVWJan7IGsosCGDeNiP2Z4W7PPIAhAHB64pD1KSlhEWmXNWmlwgdOHreYmrdVw2dswL1bzeYcV0yFISmDYqAY9dUGq8h3Oh9SyX5VGGNss0qrgcHavEX4xFVzzD2L_Pg-sCGZmaIV08IiTttL9ikyGAQRVOjciHq2ljYDIRmxu6P6bMBwsLq2ukTnHI89cklTiV65_G-eHznVCzFQtaV23ZxSYPrg34erj2GEDyMQ6hic2tFRyoSCTQCcXfpGmtbVK-2GgxQSoMyd5KNaVUbwa_0oTgwbl5U_olM6KP7Y8J8K07vCsNCXWgtve70pyPNrLmOSQlu2tyCmCZoY-0sFOcKoIvUO1wn7TO5inDleb_Vj4UmONqC0t-Re7HwVtnQX1VlJThbmmRiSM6OiPXEd8jBIC6dGHdPq0jOjojbVhKrHCu7DdpCEkfYTnllQ) (SPCK).  A [daily reflections booklet for adults](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=XmaitJ-4EVHgWYUiPcL9hElD3QVzZzHEXK9FdRbj0PI0vZ2lTVChz0bhf50hHs2-QMIkfGYZyZ6XDq1bh5VieTI8TFP8JJXw2TPMvdJR1Z22S1kh9PPbODiEZrYpZvdIiXWNYUT_VKSeC2wNXmiVts6QJdYyZPAwzZd-7aJcw1RAHBZr4q-RDoINB-ybNsgExGuaqRligA-UOlcdyUQaDI-JFnXIvEkkausLzU-LWXnTxh_iHPl7M5ItiruUCYSM_J38rE2EmBlPOXBOVPHc8lhZAt49EKs9FRIXjvoKpYr8ATB2lQ7TAPBwM8uIPRtIKN380nT8Om9NCSZCGGOGGfuSrUxSSX54jySRCOXwkEaygH5GRiVcCC9N6OB_WekvdeUhm7TwuQwjOjojdyI-RKT2MIoEdOj_Izo6I4JgxGcjJ10wbubagi6yDkM) (CHP) exploring the same themes has been written by Carlton Turner.  There is also a daily challenge [booklet for children and families](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=uGmSQOvH9jwoGtSJ37fAAeQYdpYnQRbK-P65dHSEHH-zOtmz07bCpPuvHaUvyR7splCNe4CxLV8QrdBskUc1YqXolnl5JYt3KkxMlMfr6_AWXVo6UrW-oNtRC0cJdBGEmamJM4U3TF6uumqnB5Rm9vMdnNDnsa8eFShvxh188AIJN3lUowYX3a-dcsm_XGttAR6kdNnJYuSSj3lruXP4lZ5dfvQwjEyRlseKx7dlpuUeVrhK5Oz9hVvEGBJPfW7H4QuTmwcJ0XhjTC_zphjRKTQu-qc43PQ3D9ddAC3w5aaHAyydoFR3tPP-7cmzCb1yvu4qN73tdpJ7zbWtbuT3Cd_CuNy6gFvlMKLTgVBf8fne_GypXhX8EtTu8tIVoMUSczGumEQL9T8jOjojhFdlQWnOaoerapT3Izo6IwuNjNJcVgE-A0v3R3R-9eg) (CHP) which is closely linked to our resources.

**Resources each week include:**

* Liturgical Suggestions
* Bible passage activity
* Video Exploration
* Practical and prayerful actions
* Prayer**‍**‍
* Additional ideas for connecting home, church and school

Schools can pre-order here: [www.abyyt.com/lent](https://atpscan.global.hornetsecurity.com/index.php?atp_str=VAeZ8sT1osa95qdl7XQ8qDmaWr3twubgRIei5P91b0wcFe0JtVKUsr-iYRD2LaHCPtW9ltil__FXq7IpMdRIG4VZZR7AzxO99kFXhy-rg1SQNAsc4iqZNnfzOn5vhiPfO20ZP3Kht-4N1bQAlyI3DfadY14nX4dhYetcevdyt5m9Wzh__LRv7RiMlVBEkzcF3Wnl--sOHXbqrMs_6wCyEXePAXmcRgOopFxHuAfSZ_qjkW_n0rmJ-OzGHZdlswMmSA6dRu2YkNiDFHkatWqkpIRzHhqCIwmQhslq27TySNyajTB_5xvyKWDprQ8Sp4MtBecHZd5Fn7vmeS2vX-Fmrngm7_O2tGXV60Yv5SM6OiNH9zw5CaqDMJh_ijwjOjojeiOKqYCxFWfZjTVhpq-lFg).’

**Wellbeing Best Practice**

The Ethos Committee and the Church Council at Stanion Church of England Primary School have worked together to plan a well-being project that has culminated in the publication of ‘Stanion’s Book of Well-being.’ It’s inspirational! I hope you enjoy reading it and find it helpful for promoting wellbeing in your school community. A copy is [attached](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/well-being-project---stanion-ce-primary-school.pdf).

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**SPIRITUAL INPUT**

**Daily Hope**

If you are in need of some personal daily devotional input, may I recommend: [Daily Hope with Rick Warren - Devotional - Pastor Rick's Daily Hope](https://pastorrick.com/devotional/).  Rick and Kay Warren founded Saddbleback Church, America’s most influential church.  Pastor Rick is an innovative pastor, renowned author, and global influencer.  I’m sure you would find his daily biblical reflections encouraging and uplifting.  Here’s one recent thought for the day, which I trust you find helpful.

*Learn to Relax In Your Limitations*

“We have this treasure from God, but we are like clay jars that hold the treasure. This shows that the great power is from God, not from us.”

***2 Corinthians 4:7 (NCV)***

*You’re always going to get discouraged when you try to be a superhero and do more than is humanly possible. You need a more realistic view of yourself: You can’t fix everybody’s problems. You can’t be in more than one place at one time. You can’t do everything you want to do. You can’t spend money you don’t have.*

*You need to learn to relax in your limitations. Anytime you live outside of the limitations of your life, you’re going to get discouraged. It’s easier to fill your schedule than it is to fulfill your schedule. It’s always easier to get in than it is to get out. It’s easier to make a promise than to keep a promise. It’s always easier to get into debt than it is to get out of debt.*

*Often the first signs of overextending show up in your body. The apostle Paul says in 2 Corinthians 4:7, “We have this treasure from God, but we are like clay jars that hold the treasure. This shows that the great power is from God, not from us” (NCV). In other words, you need to know your limits. You need to recognize your warning signs when you’re overextended and realize you’re just the vessel and God is the power.*

*Our bodies are like clay jars - we’re all a little cracked because we’ve all been dropped here and there. But God often puts his greatest gifts in the weakest people, and that gives us the opportunity to point back to him and say, “That’s got to be God. That could have only happened through God’s power.”*

*Throughout history, God has used flawed instruments to put his glory on display. Nothing would get done if God only used perfect people - because there aren’t any!*

*You may think it’s best to hide your weaknesses, but God wants to use them in your life. But first, you’ve got to recognize and respect your limitations. Then, you trust in God’s power and not your own to accomplish his purpose for you.’*

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**VACANCIES**

**Religious Education Adviser Appointment**

The Diocesan Board of Education is delighted to be in a position to advertise for a Religious Education Adviser to develop and support the teaching of RE in Church Schools across the Diocese. This is a 0.8 – 32 hours / week post, with the option for a 0.4 x 2 job share or one 0.8 appointment, working closely with Jane Lewis, Assistant Diocesan Director of Education.  We would urge all headteachers to consider if there might be someone in their school who should be considering this role as their next career move.  The advert for the role is [attached](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fd3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net%2F61e5d3ec43e94%2Fcontent%2Fpages%2Fdocuments%2Fre-adviser-advert.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK).

**St Mary & St John CE VA Primary School Headteacher Recruitment**

After many years of exemplary service, Mrs Fiona Wilce has announced her retirement from the Headship of St Mary & St John CE VA Primary School.  The Governors of St Mary & St John are hoping to recruit an inspirational, ambitious, articulate and caring new Headteacher to lead the school as it continues on its journey towards excellence.  Further details are attached.

[St Mary & St John Headteacher Advert](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/st-mary---st-john-headteacher-advert.pdf)

[St Mary & St John Headteacher Application Form](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/st-mary---st-john-headteacher-application-form.pdf)

[St Mary & St John Headteacher Job Description](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/st-mary---st-john-headteacher-job-description.pdf)

[St Mary & St John Headteacher Person Specification](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61e5d3ec43e94/content/pages/documents/st-mary---st-john-headteacher-person-specification.pdf)