

DBE Schools Bulletin

November 2021

Being deeply Christian and for the common good,
our schools will be communities which are:

LOVING
in relationships

AMBITIOUS
in aspirations

BOLD
in actions

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Time for Action

The start of this month sees the start of the COP26 conference, an annual event that brings governments around the world together to discuss and review how climate change is being managed domestically and internationally. It brings sharply into focus the need for everyone to play their part in taking responsibility for looking after our world and God's creation.

In February 2020, the Church of England's General Synod voted to set the ambitious target for all parts of the church, across parishes, cathedrals, diocesan and schools estates, to become carbon 'net zero' by 2030. The Diocese of Chester is working towards this goal and as part of this the DBE will be looking at how we can work alongside our schools in achieving this. To coincide with COP26, a new video resource has been sent to all church schools to help start a conversation about the small things we can do in our everyday lives to help protect the planet from environmental damage. A link to the video can be found on page 2.

Our children and young people are wonderful advocates for our environment and take seriously our collective responsibilities to care for the wonderful world that we live in and that God has entrusted to us. They are both innovative and passionate about taking practical steps to reduce carbon in their school environment and community, seeking to reduce and prevent the harm that is being done to our planet.

What actions or pledges are you planning to make as a school? A question that we will also be exploring as the DBE. Please do share how you are seeking to respond to this climate emergency and reducing your carbon footprint. We will look to feature some of these in our future bulletins.



***God intends ... our care of
Creation to reflect our love
for the Creator.***

John Stott

COP26 video resource for schools

This month COP26, the United National Climate Change Conference, takes place and as part of this the Diocese of Chester has produced a short video for use with schools. We hope that by sharing the video with your pupils and students, it opens up a conversation and inspires them to think about the small things we can do in our everyday lives to help protect the planet from environmental damage. The video is voiced by the Revd Peter Froggatt, Director of Outreach in the Diocese of Chester and features a number of people who each share some of the little things they are doing to protect Planet Earth. There are also a few suggestions of follow up activities if you would find these helpful.

Here's the link: [What are you doing for the planet? - YouTube](#)

We know that our schools are already doing great things to protect the environment and we would love to hear about them. If you have any feedback or would like to pledge or record some of the small things you and your pupils have committed to doing, please share your comment on the YouTube video. Thank you for your support and for playing your part in raising awareness of this important issue.

The DfE launched a pack of resources in the summer in readiness for the COP26 conference. Entitled 'Together for our planet' it provides a range of tools, resources and case studies for use with pupils. [SCHOOLS PACK: RESOURCES - Together For Our Planet \(ukcop26.org\)](#)

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**Headteacher & Senior Leaders
Conference 2021**

LEADING THE WAY
- DIGNITY & RESPECT IN CHURCH SCHOOLS -

Featuring keynote speakers:
Gee Walker & Chris Lubbe

THE PARK ROYAL HOTEL
[STRETTON WA4 4NS]

26 NOVEMBER 2021

Tickets cost **£150**
[additional tickets purchased at £100]

Book Your Place Now
on **Bookwhen**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester - Board of Education

Headteacher & Senior Leader Conference 2021

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our headteachers and senior leaders from across the Diocesan family of schools for our annual conference.

This year's conference will explore how as school leaders of church schools, we can lead the way in ensuring equality for all, championing inclusive practice that truly demonstrates and reflects the dignity and respect for every member of our school communities. Creating a loving, caring and safe environment and ethos in each of our schools, where every child has a sense of belonging and feels valued for who they are as a child of God. It will include a particular focus on tackling racial inequality.

There are still a few places available, with a reduced rate when purchasing two or more places.

To book your place click [here](#)

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is on 27 January, and there are lots of free resources online to help teachers lead assemblies, activities or lessons with students. New this year are lesson plans about the *Kindertransport* and a flexible set of worksheets called 'Days to remember', which give an introduction to different genocides through one day, one person and one artefact.

You can find all the school materials at www.hmd.org.uk/schools.

Marking HMD helps your students to learn about the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups, more recent genocides and contemporary issues. They will increase their knowledge, empathy and desire to take part in social action. This is especially important at a time when hate crime, extremist views, antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate are on the rise.

Contact the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Education Officer today for help and support and to get started: education@hmd.org.uk.



Anti-Bullying Week



Anti-Bullying Week takes place from 15th to 19th November, and this year's theme is 'one kind word'. Bullying can have long-lasting effects on children and young people's mental health, and the effects may be cyclical. Young people who have experienced bullying are more likely to experience mental health issues, and those who have mental health issues are more likely to be bullied.

While it's vital that the whole school community takes an active anti-bullying stance all year round, Anti-Bullying Week provides a good opportunity to emphasise

that stance to pupils, parents and carers and staff.

Mentally Healthy Schools have again produced a toolkit, in which they share anti-bullying resources for pupils including lesson plans and videos, as well as information for school staff to help review anti-bullying policies and procedures. Please do share this toolkit with any colleagues who may also find it useful.

[Click here](#) to download the toolkit

Virtual Ethos Conference



Virtual Ethos Conference on Monday 14th February 2022 - 9.15am-3pm

The fifth annual children's Ethos Group Conference in Cheshire West and Chester has again been organised and planned by leaders and children from St Oswald's, Mollington, Tarporley and Witton Church Walk CE Primary Schools with support from The Bishop Bluecoat CE High School.

The theme for the day this year is: **'Love'**

The event is **FREE**.

To make a booking or to find out more information please click on the link: [Flyer 2022.pdf](#)

A free place available on Mentor & Coaching course

Chester DBE has been offered one free place on Liverpool Hope's post graduate course for Advanced Mentoring and Coaching. This course responds to the need for those who mentor to have appropriate professional development that is evidence based and research informed, to support their practices in educational contexts.



Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Mentoring and Coaching

Duration: 12 months | Delivery: Online | Start date: January 2022



The course delivers a critical understanding of mentoring and coaching models, practices and skills required within educational contexts. There is also a focus on current research and policies and consideration of best practice. Students will be encouraged to critically consider the skills and qualities required for effective mentoring and coaching and explore the role of reflection.

For further details, click on the image above and if interested please contact:

jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org

Worship in a church school

What makes working in a church school so special? When answering this question many people cite the joy of collective worship, whether that be the whole community coming together with shared vision and goose bump inducing, heartfelt singing or the intimate setting of form / class-based worship that allows friendship and knowledge of the Christian faith to grow.



In many of our schools, collective worship is most definitely the heartbeat of the school that permeates through the day. As a diocese we value and greatly appreciate those who take on the responsibility of leading on this important aspect of our school lives and want to further our support of those who are making this happen.

So, we warmly invite you and your associated clergy to join our **Collective Worship in Church Schools Network**. Aiming to meet once a term, via Zoom, we will look to share resources, ideas, explore the implications of the [CEEO Guidance for CW](#) and work through big questions together as we seek to offer high quality worship in our schools. **There is no charge for this network.**

Meetings will last one hour, **9:30-10:30am** on the following dates:

Wednesday 1st December 2021

Tuesday 1st March 2022

Wednesday 8th June 2022

To book a place on the December network meeting please click [here](#). *All of the above Network meetings are available to book through [Bookwhen](#).*

Looking forward to seeing you there!

As we have engaged with the Growing Faith adventure, we realise too that our clergy would greatly value that time to be supported and support schools in this. Do share this information with those who support your school.

Also, we have made an addition to our training programme this year to include a session specifically for **Clergy working with Church Schools** on the **9th February at 1:30pm via Zoom**. If interested, please contact sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org

CPD Programme 2021-22

Our 2021-22 programme reflects the needs of our schools and offers a range of courses for leaders at all levels. The [programme booklet](#) provides a list of courses under the sub-headings of school and leadership roles. Each course title has a hyperlink that will take you directly to the booking page, where you can find out more information about the course and book a place. The [calendar view](#) provides an overview of the programme, both can be found below:

[CPD Programme 2021-22 – Booklet](#)

[CPD Programme 2021-22 - Calendar Overview](#)

Responding to your feedback, the programme will feature a range of on-line and face to face sessions, with some of the details still to be confirmed due to the current situation.

***please note that face to face training may revert to online if necessary due to restrictions**

November/ December 2021 Courses

DATE	COURSE	STATUS
08/11/21	Preparing for SIAMS-An Inspector's Eye View & SIAMS SEF Starter	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
09/11/21, 16/11/21	Stepping into Headship- Part 1 Practical Application (9 Nov) -Part 2 Interview Techniques (16 Nov)	ON-LINE
17/11/21	Deputies & Assistant Headteachers' Briefing & Networking (In Person Session)	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
23/11/2021	Religious Education & the SIAMS Evaluation Schedule	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
24/11/2021	Early Careers Teacher Support - 2 Year Programme	WITTON CHURCH WALK C OF E PRIMARY
25/11/2021	RQT Development Programme 2021-22 ***4 Full Days ***	VARIOUS LOCATIONS
26/11/2021	Headteacher & Senior Leaders Annual Conference – 'Leading the Way- Dignity & Respect in Church Schools	THE PARK ROYAL, STRETTON
30/11/2021	Vision Ambassadors- A Pupil Conference	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
01/12/2021	Identity, Diversity & Difference within Religious World Views	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
01/12/2021	Collective Worship in Church Schools Network Meeting	ON-LINE
7/12/2021	World Faiths 'Hinduism'	ON-LINE, TWILIGHT
9/12/2021	Mental Health Champions *** Repeat Course***	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESBURY
14/12/2021	Chairs' Clinic & Networking Group	ON-LINE

RE Subject Leaders Cluster Groups Autumn Term 2021



Launched by the Diocese in 2019, our primary RE subject leader cluster groups give RE leaders from church schools the opportunity to network, share good ideas and ensure sustained good practice in RE across our Diocese. Don't miss out. Details of the remaining meetings this term can be found below:

Name of cluster Group	Group Leaders	Date & Time of Meeting
PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MEETINGS WILL BE <u>ONLINE</u> UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE		
Cheshire East South	Fiona Pulle (Brereton CE) Liz Taylor (Wybunbury Delves CE)	Thursday November 11th 4pm
Cheshire East North & Cheshire West & Chester North (Northwich)	Carys Clark (St Johns the Evangelist, Macc.) Paula Perry (Lower Peover CE)	Tuesday 9th November 2021 4pm
Cheshire West & Chester South (Chester & Ellesmere Port)	Rachel Inns (Hoole CE) Vicky Sewell (Christchurch Ellesmere Port)	Monday November 15th 4:30pm

If you are interested, please contact your RE Group Leader or charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org for more information / to register for the meeting.

Contact details for members of the DBE team to enable schools to contact officers by phone or e-mail.

chris.penn@chester.anglican.org	Director of Education	07540 722667
sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org	Deputy Director of Education	07540 722668
mark.whitehill@chester.anglican.org	School Effectiveness Officer	07540 722669
jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org	Christian Character & CPD Officer	07581 245812
simon.geddes@chester.anglican.org	Buildings & Finance Officer	07564 901986
sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org	School Assets Administrator	07549 109589
charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org	Director's PA & Administrator	07549 109578
sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org	Governance & Administrator	07549 109590

CLUSTER GROUP	DATE	TIME
2021-22 DATES		
Nantwich/Congleton HTS	Monday 8 th November Monday 14 th March Thursday 16 th June	1.30pm -3.30pm 1.30pm -3.30pm 10am -12pm
Northwich HTs	Monday 31 January Thursday 26 May	1.30pm -3.30pm
Rural Chester HTs	Monday 24 January Monday 20 June	1.30pm -3.30pm
Trafford HTs	Thursday 4 th November Thursday 17 th March Thursday 23 rd June	10am -12pm
Warrington/Halton HTs	Tuesday 8 th February Monday 16 th May	10am -12pm 10am -12pm 1.30pm -3.30pm
Macclesfield HTs	Tuesday 18 th January Tuesday 17 th May	1.30pm -3.30pm
Stockport/Tameside HTs	Thursday 27 th January Tuesday 24 th May	10am -12pm
Chester HTs	Thursday 3 March Wednesday 22 June	10am -12pm
Wirral HTs	Friday 19 th November Friday 28 th January Friday 1 st April Friday 17 th June	

Does your school have any news to share from this month?

We are always keen to hear from our schools and aim to include all contributions received. We would particularly like to hear from you if your school has not previously been featured.

Please send a short article with a couple of photographs to
sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org

News from Schools

Bollington St John's C of E Primary School



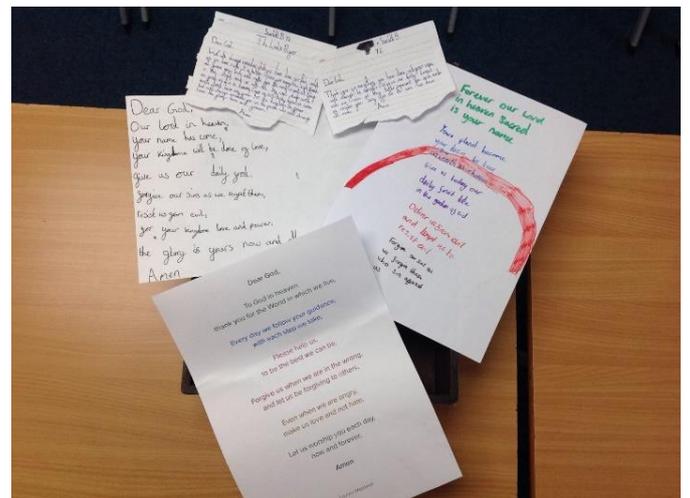
Bollington St John were delighted to welcome Revd Nancy, Beverley and Scruffy the puppet into school to welcome their new reception starters.

Having become their new Vicar in July, Revd Nancy has already led worship on the Christian Value of Respect. She attended their Harvest celebration and led prayers as well as officially welcoming these youngsters on the start of their St John's journey.

Lostock Gralam C of E Primary School

Pupils from Years Five and Six voluntarily gather together in faith to learn more about being a Christian, faith and what this means to them. The sessions present a modern look at Christianity in the Church today along with gaining an insight into people, events and why things are done in a particular way in the Church of England and their Parish.

They recently explored The Lord's Prayer, in both the traditional and modern formats. The children reflected on their understanding and then wrote personal prayers using this special prayer as an inspiration.



Lower Peover C of E Primary School



On Tuesday 12th October, everyone had the privilege of welcoming the new Bishop of Stockport to Lower Peover. He met with Year 6 students, who gave him a guided tour of the school and explained about the school values and Christian distinctiveness. Following this, the Bishop spoke to pupils about his role, and they asked him lots of questions. Finally, he joined in with a rendition of the school's favourite school hymn 'Here I am to Worship' by Tim Hughes, of course, he was blown away by the fabulous Lower Peover singing. What a wonderful afternoon everyone had. Thank you to Bishop Sam Corley for your visit.

Overleigh St Mary's C of E Primary School

The pupils at Overleigh recently put their plentiful harvest of apples to good use by pressing them into juice and making apple chutney to share with the local school community.



Pott Shrigley Church School



On Wednesday 13th October Year 5 and 6 children headed to Chester Cathedral for Pilgrim Day accompanied by Reverend David and Governor Alison Hamnett. The children had a fascinating day, the morning was spent creating a group artwork entitled 'Our World in Collage' which produced a fabulous piece of artwork now proudly displayed in school. After lunch the children visited three areas of the Cathedral with a view to thinking about the history, current use and future of the building and its place in Christian Faith. They were also asked to consider the idea of Pilgrimage as a journey of faith as well as a physical journey and some even dressed up

as Pilgrims.

Here's the children's view on the day:

Nia – I enjoyed learning how the pilgrims lived from dressing up like them to understanding their diet.

Toby – The organ was loud and impressive – particularly the low notes.

Tyler – I liked making the bracelets which symbolised Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication.

Oliver – I loved the organ especially when the organist played the Harry Potter theme tune – it was really impressive.

Saighton C of E Primary School



Saighton CE Primary pupils enjoyed a wonderful harvest service. As part of their preparations, they read *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. They also baked harvest rolls and the children brought items into school.

After a moving service with their families, the School Ambassadors helped to deliver bread around Saughton to some of the residents. They met with Deewater Grange staff to share a hamper of treats and delivered other food stuff between CATH (Chester Aid for the Homeless) and the British Red Cross refugee appeal. All in all, a very happy harvest!



Shocklach Oviatt C of E Primary School

This half term the children were once again mesmerised by Mac's worship about Harvest and the food bank. His guitar came out and both children and staff joined in enthusiastically with the singing and the actions! Some children were particularly moved by this worship. Ruben Jones in year 3 asked his parents if he could donate some food every week to the food bank. Ruben will join Mrs Gilbert in delivering our collection to Whitchurch foodbank.



Tilston Parochial C of E Primary School

Harvest Festival 2021 Celebrations



On Sunday 3rd October everyone joined the children from Shocklach Oviatt CE Primary School for the Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's Church, Tilston. The children enjoyed singing and being together after two long years apart.

Every child in school took part in the Harvest Service on Monday 4th October. It was the first time many children had visited St Mary's Church and the first service led by Reverend Tim and Reverend Norma; a very special time was had by all.

This year they supported The Whitchurch Foodbank and donated a wonderful array of Harvest gifts. Head Girl and Boy braved the torrential rain to deliver the gifts.

