



LDBS SCHOOLS BULLETIN

February 2016

Please pass this bulletin on to all members of the leadership team,
governors and Heads of RE / RE Co-ordinators

<http://schools.london.anglican.org/>

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Message from Inigo Woolf and Liz Wolverson

Some of you may have been following the progress of the Education & Adoption Bill which we are expecting will become an Act before Easter. The LDBS has been supporting the National Society in developing a Memorandum of Understanding which the Secretary of State will enter into. The purpose of the Memorandum is to safeguard the Christian distinctiveness of our schools and ensure that a diocesan solution can be proposed should any school be in danger of failing.

We hope you can relax over half-term.



LDBS News

Congratulations

Ofsted and SIAMS inspection Grades

We offer our congratulations to the following schools who were rated either 'Outstanding' or 'Good' in their recent OFSTED inspections.

- Greig City Academy, Haringey – Good (Ofsted)
- Hampstead Parochial, Camden – Good (Ofsted)

Character Education Discussion Paper

The Church of England has produced a [Discussion Paper on Character Education](#) which we are recommending to our schools. The document poses some questions which governing bodies and schools staff might find worth considering. A summary of the Discussion Paper is available in the Document section of this Bulletin.

Annual Retreat for Headteachers at Wychcroft

Wednesday 27th April to Friday 29th April 2016, inclusive (lunchtime to lunchtime)

The Annual Retreat has become a welcome oasis and breathing space for busy and pressurised Christian Headteachers in London schools (on both sides of the Thames). It is refreshing and relaxing (physically, mentally and spiritually).

For those who don't know the venue, Wychcroft, Southwark Diocese's Retreat, is a lovely, big old house, secreted away in a tranquil spot in Surrey near Bletchingley and Godstone. Wychcroft is easy to get to via the M25 (or A25) and the A22. Or by train to Redhill, and then a taxi from the station.

The cost of the Retreat is £160 for accommodation and full board. Places are limited to a first come first served basis. The booking form is available in the Document Section of this Bulletin.

School Census PLASC Forms

The time of year has come for all schools to submit their School Census PLASC Forms to the LDBS. Please send your January forms to Jack Cracknell by post to LDBS, London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU or by email to jack.cracknell@london.anglican.org.

School Subscriptions

LDBS Core School Support Service Subscriptions for 2016/17 will increase to £10.50 for the first 500 pupils and £6.48 for pupils thereafter. School Buildings Maintenance will remain unchanged at £27 per pupil per year.

Insurance for VA Schools

Schools are asked to inform the LDBS what insurance cover your VA school requires for 2016-17 by completing and returning the Insurance Return for Voluntary Aided schools. The Insurance Return can be found in the Document section of this Bulletin and is attached to the email with this Bulletin. All returns are required by Friday 4th March 2016.



Admissions

Twyford C of E Academies Trust

Apply to become a Volunteer School Appeals Panel Member

- Do you have excellent listening skills?
- Do you have the ability to put people at ease and make balanced decisions?
- Would you like to become involved in an important, impartial service provided to parents and schools?

Further information about School Admission Appeals Panels and how to volunteer is available from: Valerie Drake
email: clerks@twyford.ealing.sch.uk

The School Admissions (Appeal Arrangements (England) Regulations 2012 disqualify certain people from membership of an appeal panel. A person is disqualified if they are:

- A member of the local authority which is the admission authority or in whose area the school in question is located*
- A member or former member of the governing body of the school in question,*
- Employed by the local authority or governing body of the school in question, other than as a teacher or teaching assistant*
- Any person who has, or at any time has had, any connection with the authority, school or any person in sub-paragraph c)above, which might raise doubts about that person's ability to act impartially*
- Any person who has not attended training required by the admission authority arranging the appeal panel.*



Grow Education Partners

Website: www.grow-education.org



: @Grow_Education

Grow Training and Development Programme

The table below shows the training sessions provided in the Spring and Summer terms. You can select and register for any of these courses on the [Grow Website](http://www.grow-education.org) or by email to grow@london.anglican.org

Subject area	Course Title	Date(s)
Assessment	Introducing new assessment procedures	Thursday 25 th February 2016
Literacy	Systematic Synthetic Phonics: KS2	Wednesday 3 rd February 2016
	Developing Spoken Language; promoting thinking skills	Friday 4 th March 2016
	English: Poetry	Wednesday 20 th April 2016
	Guided Reading	Tuesday 26 th April 2016
Middle Leaders	Day 1	Wednesday 24 th February 2016
	Day 2	Thursday 10 th March 2016
	Day 3	Wednesday 23 rd March 2016
Science	The Role of the Science Leader	Tuesday 8 th March 2016



Governors & Governance

The Key for School Governors

The Key for School Governors is a national information service that provides governors with guidance, insight and instant answers to their questions on all aspects of governance. Members use the service and resources to stay up to date, gain confidence in their role, and quickly get to grips with important issues. The Key offers practical information from authoritative sources, checklists, sample documents, case studies and news about the sector.

To register governors should go to www.thekeysupport.com/gov click on 'Activate membership' and complete the short registration form. The Key does not take any payment details and there is no obligation to continue your membership of The Key for School Governors after your free membership period.

If you have any questions regarding our services, please email The Key at school.governors@thekeysupport.com or call 0800 060 7736.

Governors' Training Programme

The 2015-16 training programme has been constructed to reflect the key messages in government guidance. We will add sessions during the year, and would particularly draw your attention to the following sessions, all of which take place at London Diocesan House:

SPRING SCHEDULE

Wednesday 10 th February	1.30pm – 4pm	Resolving Complaints
Tuesday 1 st March	9am – 4pm	Safer Recruitment
Wednesday 2 nd March	10am – 4pm	Introduction to Being a Governor
Monday 7 th March	10am – 12pm	Monitoring Visits in Schools
Wednesday 18 th May	9am – 4pm	Safer Recruitment
Thursday 19 th May	10am – 12pm	Ofsted – the New Inspection Process
Monday 23 rd May	10am – 12.30pm	Chairs & Clerks Working Together
Tuesday 24 th May	10am – 4pm	Introduction to being a Governor
Wednesday 15 th June	10am – 12pm	Governors Roles & Responsibilities for Safeguarding
Tuesday 5 th July	10am – 12.30pm	Headteacher Appraisal – the Governors' Role

Further details and an application form can be found on the [LDBS website](#).



Teaching London

Website: www.ldbsscitt-teacher-training.org



: @LDBSSCITT

Want to get into teaching?

If you want to get into teaching, there are still places available on the School Direct PGCE for both Primary and Secondary teaching. Spaces are also available on the CORE PGCE for Early Years and Primary teaching.

Teaching London boasts 100% employment, excellent pastoral support and bespoke training. Candidates can find out more or apply on the [Teaching London Website](#).



RE & Collective Worship

Thematic Units of New RE Syllabus

The Thematic Units of the New RE Syllabus are now available on the [LDBS Website](#). These units are recommended to be used with upper Key Stage 2 pupils and we encourage RE leaders to trial these units in classes over the coming months. Training events on the new RE syllabus are below.

RE Training Events

The 2015/16 RE training events and meeting dates are held at London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU. To book a place on any of these events please email valentina.colussi@london.anglican.org

Places are limited to a first come first served basis.

	Date	Time	Subject
Event with Fiona Moss Charges apply	Wednesday 25 th May Only 5 places left!	9.30 – 12.30pm	RE Leaders Training on British Values and SMSC
	Wednesday 25 th May	1.30 – 4.00pm	NQTs Training on Teaching Christianity
RE Syllabus Training with Jayne Pavlou	Wednesday 27 th April	9.00 – 3pm	RE Syllabus Training
	Monday 16 th May	9.00 – 3pm	RE Syllabus Training
	Monday 23 rd May	9.00 – 3pm	RE Syllabus Training
RE Subject Leader Meeting	Monday 27 th June	1.30 – 4pm	RE Subject Leaders

Children's Society

This Lent, the Children's Society is calling on schools to support their mission to reach 1,000 more children at risk of sexual exploitation. Here are some ways that schools can get involved:

1. Enjoy pancakes this Shrove Tuesday by visiting childrenssociety.org.uk/pancakes for recipes, ideas and lots more.
2. [Using The Children's Society's simple learning resource](#) to help your staff recognise the signs of child sexual exploitation early on and know how to protect the children in your care.

Together, we aim to reach 1,000 children who are at risk of sexual exploitation and have a number of [resources for churches and schools](#) to use to help transform the lives of the most vulnerable young people this Lent.

If you would like any additional information contact Mo Baldwin, Head of Church Partnerships at schools@childrenssociety.org.uk for more details.



Resources

Westminster Abbey Education Programme

The Westminster Abbey Education Programme for Primary and Secondary schools is attached with this Bulletin. The Education Programmes contain event listings for 2015-16, information on workshops and guided tours, and a booking form.

Imperial College London and Twig World Partnership

[Twig World](#) and [Imperial College London](#) are delighted to announce the launch of a partnership to enhance STEM education around the world.

Imperial College London is one of the world's leading universities, focused on education and research in science, medicine, engineering and business, and translating its discoveries into benefits for society.

Reach Out is a professional development resource for teachers. Schools can request a free trial of [Reach Out CPD](#) – which has been adopted by more than 20% of all UK primary schools in its first year.

Christian Aid

Poster, Competition and Send My Friend to School

Christian Aid has launched three campaigns to engage and educate pupils around the country. A [Wonderful Worms poster pack](#) looks at how worms can help families in Bangladesh to improve their quality of life, the poster pack can be ordered from orders@christian-aid.org.

The 14th National [Divine Chocolate Poetry Competition](#) is now open and the free resources will teach pupils about the world of chocolate, cocoa farmers and Fairtrade. The closing date for the competition is 30th April 2016 and schools can win chocolate and book tokens.

Many children around the world are missing out on a valuable education because they have been displaced after conflict or natural disaster, the Send My Friend to School campaign addresses this pressing issue. A free teaching pack for 5-15 year olds is available on the [Send My Friend](#) website.



Buildings & Finance

Asbestos in schools: data collection

In March 2015, the Department for Education reviewed its policy on [Managing Asbestos in your school](#).

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) is asking all headteachers to answer a small number of straightforward questions on behalf of their school. Headteachers will receive immediate feedback and advice based on their responses. The online questionnaire can be found on the GOV.UK [website](#).

A good return from schools will increase the EFAs understanding of the current situation and will help to determine whether further action is required. The EFA hope to share school responses in April this year.



Reminders

Secondary Headteacher & Secondary Deputy/Assistant HT Meetings 2015/16

Secondary Headteacher meeting dates are listed below and are held at London Diocesan House. Secondary Deputy / Assistant Headteacher meetings are run jointly with Southwark Diocese, the venues are listed below.

Refreshments are available 30 minutes before the start of each meeting. To register for any of these meetings, to suggest agenda items and to join the mailing list please email kate.roskell@london.anglican.org.

Date	Time	Course title	Venue
4 th February	2.30–4.00pm	Deputy / Assistant Headteacher Meeting	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education, 48 Union Street, London, SE1 1TD.
9 th March	2.30–4.00pm	Secondary Headteacher Meeting	London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU
9 th June	10am–12pm	Secondary Headteacher Meeting	London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU
29 th June	2.30–4.00pm	Deputy / Assistant Headteacher Meeting	tbc

Secondary Subject Network Meetings 2015/16

The pilot sessions for music, drama, art, computing and MFL proved a valuable opportunity for colleagues to share good practice and find out others' approaches to secondary curriculum and qualification changes. All sessions are held at Southwark Diocesan Board of Education, 48 Union Street, London, SE1 1TD.

If you would like to attend one of the Secondary Subject Network meetings below please email kate.roskell@london.anglican.org to ensure that you are added to the contact list.

Subject	Date	Time
Music	Thursday 11 th February 2016	9.30 – 11.30am
Languages	Tuesday 23 rd February 2016	9.30 – 11.30am
Drama	Tuesday 23 rd February 2016	2 – 4pm
Art	Monday 29 th February 2016	2.30 – 4.30pm
Computing	TBC	TBC

LDBS Newsletter

We really enjoy hearing about our schools and their achievements, whether they are academic, sporting, musical or just entertaining. If any schools would like to send us pieces of work e.g. outstanding poems, newspaper cuttings, news items, a special card or poem that your children have made – these would be a great feature. The next issue of the Newsletter will include a feature on Summer events. Please post, e-mail or fax your news to: Mitch Gallacher at LDBS, Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU; E-mail: mitch.gallacher@london.anglican.org; Fax: 020 7932 1111. ***Please make sure you have parental permission for any photos.***



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Character Education Discussion Paper

https://churchofengland.org/media/2386307/fruits_of_the_spirit.pdf

The Church of England is involved in education because it cares about the spiritual, moral, intellectual and academic development of every child. Character Education is about who we want to be, what we want to do and what we want to teach/share with others. It is built through all the different experiences in which we have had to act or re-act and in circumstances which are constantly changing. Individuals can make the right choice even in difficult situations through using their prior knowledge.

The document poses some questions which governing bodies and schools staff might well find profitable to consider.

If you look at the decisions that are made on a daily basis in your school, what implicit assumptions are being made about what is important, about the human condition, about what is worth knowing?

What kind of person do you aspire to be? What kind of world do you aspire to create? How does this affect the way that you teach or lead your school?

Many schools use the National Society list of Christian values as a basis for Collective Worship and for drawing upon in writing their school mission statement. The additional list of desired outcomes regarding character within the document will provide a very helpful supplement. To help to understand this you can try to answer these questions from the consultation:

- *Does seeing human development as part of a wider narrative, rather than as merely a list of traits to be developed, make a difference to how we develop a pupil's character?*
- *How do we articulate the Church of England's view of character in a way that is inclusive and allows all to engage with this world view?*
- *What is the role of collective worship in developing young people's character and situating that development within a wider narrative?*

Learning is not a linear process and there is always the possibility of moments of grace and moments of being stuck. The Christian view is that God's grace will help us in our work; that perspective is shared with many other religions.

- *How can we leave room for God's grace, however understood, to be at work in the development of young people's characters?*
- *What are the repercussions of believing that "through Christ the broken can become whole" for how we understand and handle failure and forgiveness in schools?*
- *Are virtues universal or particular? Do the values we hold reflect a particular view of society not necessarily shared by everyone in our community? Can they be independent of any moral framework?*
- *Can we assume that there is some universal, objective set of values that any rational person will accept? Should we assume this?*
- *What would a commitment to "honest, loving, faithful, committed disagreement" look like in your school?*

Church of England schools are called to follow their Christian foundation but to be open to people who might not share their ideas. David Thomson, Bishop of Huntingdon, used the metaphor of "warm fires and open doors": everyone should feel the sense of identity and everyone is welcome.

Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury has said: "You need to know who your neighbour is if you're going to love them as Jesus said Christians must, and generally speaking they do. You need to know what shapes their lives if you're going to see how you can walk together. We also need to know and live out of the truth of our own

tradition, our own faith, if we want others to trust us and work with us to build mutual flourishing and a shared peace... Being passionate about our own faith is something that shapes church and faith-based schools across religious traditions in this country today.

We share our experience of trust and commitment with those who lead schools in other Christian denominations and in other faiths. If we are to step forward together as leaders in reconciliation, we need to give thanks for that passion and to set alongside it – this is where it really cuts in – an equally passionate hospitality. We need to welcome those who live by another faith – or no faith – as partners with whom we will build our communities.

Hospitality isn't about making someone welcome once and knowing that makes it their turn next time. True hospitality is generosity that is resourced in God's own generosity and it makes welcome and relationship possible across boundaries of faith or race or background, or even boundaries of ingratitude and hostility. That generous welcome is the authentically Christian way of life and we see it in our schools every single day as a point of complete routine in the hospitality that is shown to children and their families, to staff and to the wider community".

- *Is "warm fires and open doors" a helpful metaphor? What does this look like in your school?*
- *How might your school create space for open discussion with students, staff and parents of different faith backgrounds and views? What would need to be taken into account for this to be successful? Would these open discussions support the development of character, and if so how?*
- *How might your induction processes enable all members of the school community to understand your vision for education?*

Recently the DfE began to promote fundamental British Values in schools: democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The Church of England notes that these values are not uniquely British and the list is not exhaustive; they have added three further values:

- *loving your neighbour*
- *the importance of dissent*
- *a commitment to the common good*

The Church of England is concerned about the future use of the British Values, as an assessment tool.

- *How do you respond to the statement "character education may be about educating every child to be as equipped to be a prophet as to turn a profit"?*
- *Do you agree that "greater emphasis should be given to actively encouraging people to grapple with the big ethical issue of life" and if so, how can this be done in your school?*
- *What place does dissent have in education?*

This document is designed to give you a flavour of the consultation; please access the whole document and consider the other questions that are posed.

*HEADTEACHERS' ANNUAL RETREAT 2016
AT WYCHCROFT*

WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL UNTIL FRIDAY 29 APRIL
(LUNCHTIME TO LUNCHTIME)

BOOKING FORM AND INVOICE FOR PAYMENT

[Please use block capitals]

Surname.....Title.....

Christian Name.....

Name and Full Address of School.....

.....

.....

.....

Telephone.....Fax.....

Email:.....

Any special dietary requirements?.....

I wish to reserve a place on the 2016 Headteachers'
Retreat, and I enclose a cheque for £160 made payable to
Susan Robinson.

Signed.....Date.....

**RETURN TO: Mrs. Susan Robinson, 19 Silverdale Road,
Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 5AB.
[Tel. 01322 523870 Fax 01322 553866]**

INSURANCE RETURN FOR VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOLS 2016-17

Please return by Friday 4th March 2016

By post to Dee Thomas, LDBS, 36 Causton Street, London SW1P 4AU

Or fax to 020 7932 1111 Or email: dee.thomas@london.anglican.org

1. LDBS Buildings and Contents insurance:

- We wish to opt in the LDBS Block policy.
- We wish to opt out of the LDBS block policy and arrange covers through
..... and confirm our buildings are insured for £.....

2. Money cover:

- We wish to buy the money insurance.
- We do not wish to buy the money insurance.

2. LDBS Legal Expenses cover:

- We wish to opt in the LDBS Block policy.
- We wish to opt out of the LDBS block policy and confirm that Governing Body holds cover for a minimum of £50,000

3. LDBS Block policy for Employer and Public Liability covers

- We wish to opt in the LDBS Block policy.
- We wish to opt out of the LDBS block policy and confirm that Governing Body holds sufficient cover.

4. LDBS Accident and Travel Policy

- We wish to opt in the LDBS Block policy.
- We wish to opt out of the LDBS block policy.

5. LDBS Professional and Officials Indemnity

- We wish to opt in the LDBS Block policy.
- We wish to opt out of the LDBS block policy.

Name: Signature:

School Name and address:

Email for sending soft copies of policies: