

Newsletter – SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome back!

We trust you've had a restful summer holiday and the start of term is going well.

Creationtide

Creationtide, or the Season of Creation, takes place in the church calendar from 1 September to 4 October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.

Schools can also celebrate the season of creation, including harvest celebrations. Other activities could include renewing commitment to carbon reduction and courageous advocacy in the face of the climate crisis, including involvement in campaigns such as "[Let's Go Zero](#)".



Partnership Agreement

Sign up before 27 September to receive 10% discount.

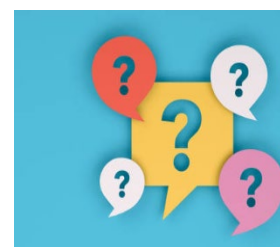
The vision of the Derby Diocesan Board of Education is to support our schools to [transform lives, grow faith and build community](#). None of our schools can achieve this on their own. We are a family of church schools and partnership is a fundamental principle of being a church school. This partnership takes many forms including relationship with other church schools, community schools, local clergy and church community and the wider diocese through the Board of Education.

The DBE receives no public money. It is reliant on income from investments and from the wider diocesan budget (ultimately from the voluntary giving of churchgoers). By signing up, your school is making an important contribution to our partnership. Each school is a valued part of the Diocese of Derby and so the DBE is committed to support each valued, family member. For more information and to sign up, see our website [HERE](#).

Annual Return 2024

Following feedback from last year, we have divided the annual return into 3 forms – to be completed by school office / clerk to governors / headteacher, chair and ex officio foundation governor.

Thank you to those schools who have already submitted their data; we would be grateful if you could complete and return the questionnaire by the end of October.





Admissions Policies – For all VA schools & Academies

Your Admissions Policy must be reviewed each year with a full consultation at least every 7 years. Please refer to the checklist that was recently emailed out to you & review the guidance documentation on our [website](#) which explains all that you need to know.

If your school is an academy in a MAT, please liaise with your central team to check arrangements.

Foundation Governor Nominations

Please ask your clerk to review the terms of office for your foundation governors. If there are any which are due to expire before spring 2025, you will need to prepare and submit nominations forms along with a reference from the incumbent.

Procedures and guidance are on our website [HERE](#).

Please note: The deadline for sending us your paperwork is **09 October**. The DBE Board only meet 3 times per year. If you miss this deadline, the next meeting isn't until mid-February.



Archbishops' Young Leaders Award

Looking for a programme that supports pupils to develop courageous advocacy, leadership and character and to serve their communities?



The Archbishops' Young Leaders Award (AYLA) is a fully resourced leadership and character education programme that could support your school in enabling pupils to flourish.

Find out more about the Archbishops' Young Leaders Award programme through their free online sessions this term for both primary and secondary schools. Sign up at www.abyyt.com/events.

Climate Ambassadors

Climate Ambassadors offers every education setting in England free access to volunteer support to develop and deliver impactful climate action plans. Put your interest and experience in sustainability and climate change to practical use, supporting education settings to reduce carbon emissions, tackle climate risks and inspire and inform the next generation



The scheme is recruiting volunteers to put their sustainability expertise to work. All volunteers will receive training on climate action plans and advice on applying their knowledge and skills in an educational setting. For further information see [HERE](#) or email the [East Midlands Regional Hub](#)

Guidance for schools

Do please continue to go to our website for guidance. We have updated it with lots of documents and information that you can download.

We recommend that all staff read the DBE General Guidance document [HERE](#).



Upcoming Briefings

Headteachers

10:00 Tuesday 24 September

10:30 Thursday 24 October

Governors (chairs, clerks, foundation governors)

19:00 Tuesday 24 September

19:00 Thursday 24 October

Collective Worship

16:00 Monday 07 October

If you would like details, please contact [Liz](#)



Supporting our Schools to TRANSFORM – GROW – BUILD

Showing **generous faith, courageous hope & life-giving love**, Derby DBE's actions will be to:

- affirm and strengthen our relationship with school leaders and governors,
- offer a high-quality training & development programme for school leaders, governors, clergy, RE & CW practitioners.

**Do remember to visit our [website](#) for lots of useful information and guidance.
Previous newsletters can be viewed [here](#).**

Key Dates for 2024/2025 Academic Year

Autumn Term

NEW HEADTEACHER / HEAD OF SCHOOL INDUCTION Confirm attendance with DBE office	17 September 25 September
CPD PROGRAMME Ensure staff & governors are booked onto relevant training. Details & booking links CPD programme	ASAP
MONTHLY BRIEFINGS Ensure dates in diary for headteacher, chair, clerk & foundation governors. See newsletter and CPD programme for dates	ASAP
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT Sign up via website HERE	
HEADTEACHER CONFERENCE Sign up via website HERE	
FOUNDATION GOVERNORS – CHECK TERM OF OFFICE (TOO) Start renewal process for TOO ending before 30 June – see website HERE (process can take up to 6 months)	ASAP
FOUNDATION GOVERNORS Deadline to submit application form & reference for TOO ending before 28 Feb	09 October
LAND & BUILDINGS COLLECTION RETURN for Academy Trusts More information HERE	
ANNUAL RETURN Governing body to complete & return to DBE	31 October
ADMISSIONS – CONSULTING (<i>VA schools & Academy Trusts</i>) Review policy for 2 years ahead & send draft to DBE. Guidance on website HERE	01 November
CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION Deadline for submission	22 November
ADMISSIONS – NOT CONSULTING (<i>VA schools & Academy Trusts</i>) Review policy for 2 years ahead & send draft to DBE. Guidance on website HERE	30 November
HEADTEACHER / HEAD OF SCHOOL / EXEC HEADTEACHER RECRUITMENT Start process if notice has been given. DBE must be involved. See guidance HERE	

For schools wishing to use our Admissions Appeals Service,
see overleaf for hearing dates and deadlines for submission of paperwork.

Any school considering capital works must obtain DBE and site trustees' consent.
In the first instance, contact Jason.aldridge@derby.anglican.org

Admission Appeal Hearings for Academic Year 2024-2025

APPEALS LODGED BETWEEN		SCHOOL CASE SENT TO DBE No later than	DBE SEND OUT PAPERS	HEARING
FRI 21-Jun	TUES 23-Jul	WED 31-Jul	WED 04-Sept	THURS 12-Sept
WED 04-Sep	FRI 20-Sep	FRI 27-Sep	TUES 01-Oct	TUES 08-Oct
MON 23-Sep	FRI 18-Oct	FRI 25-Oct	TUES 29-Oct	TUES 05-Nov
MON 21-Oct	FRI 15-Nov	FRI 22-Nov	TUES 26-Nov	TUES 03-Dec
MON 18-Nov	FRI 06-Dec	FRI 13-Dec	TUES 17-Dec	THU 09-Jan
MON 09-Dec	FRI 10-Jan	FRI 17-Jan	THU 23-Jan	TUES 04-Feb
MON 13-Jan	FRI 07-Feb	FRI 14-Feb	THU 20-Feb	THU 27-Feb
MON 10-Feb	FRI 07-Mar	FRI 14-Mar	THU 20-Mar	THU 27-Mar
MON 10-Mar	FRI 21-Mar	FRI 17-Apr	THU 24-Apr	THU 01-May
MON 24-Mar	FRI 25-Apr	FRI 02-May	THU 08-May	THU 15-May
MON 28-Apr	FRI 16-May	FRI 30-May	THU 05-Jun	THU 12-Jun
MON 19-May	FRI 13-Jun	FRI 20-Jun	THU 26-Jun	THU 03-Jul
MON 16-Jun	FRI 04-Jul	FRI 11-Jul	TUES 15-Jul	TUES 22-Jul
MON 07-Jul	TUES	FRI	TUES *-Sep	TUES *-Sept

School holiday dates:

Half Term 28 Oct-01 Nov / Christmas Holidays 23 December-03 January / Half Term 17-21 February / Easter Holidays 07-21 April / Half Term 27-31 May