



Diocesan Board of Education



AGENDA 13 JANUARY

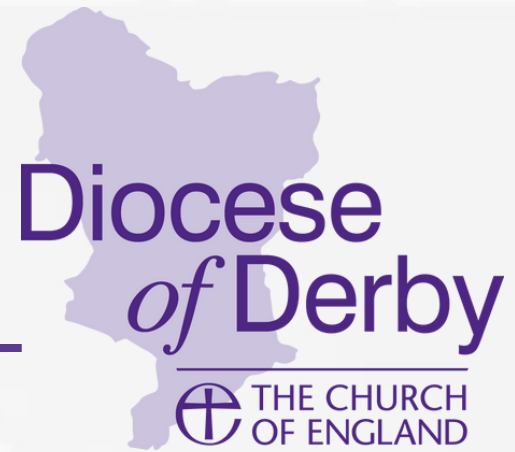
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Bishop Malcolm Retiring



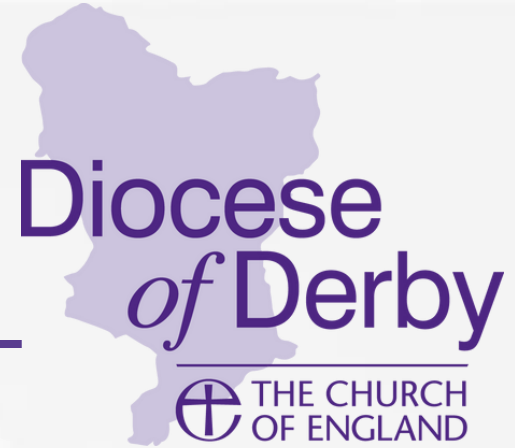
- Bishop Malcolm's final day in post will be Thursday, 30 April 2026.
- Bishop Malcolm was installed as the Suffragan Bishop of Repton on Sunday, 18 April 2021, following his consecration as bishop at Lambeth Palace on Wednesday, 14 April 2021. He was formerly Chief of Staff to Archbishop John Sentamu, the Archbishop of York, and was educated at Queen's College, Cambridge.
- On making the announcement, Bishop Malcolm said, "It remains a joy and a privilege to me to serve as Suffragan Bishop here in the Diocese of Derby, and I look forward to continuing to share in ministry with Bishop Libby and all my colleagues across the diocese until I retire at the end of April.
- The Rt Revd Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby, said, "I thank God for Bishop Malcolm and all he has brought to our Diocese. He is a generous, gentle and gracious colleague whose servant leadership has been transformative for me in my ministry and for our common life.
- So many have benefited from his encouragement and care across our parishes, in the Parish Support Team and in the Board of Education. We have been richly blessed that he responded faithfully to the call to serve his episcopal ministry among us.
- Malcolm's ministry spans decades, the breadth of the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion: we owe him a huge debt of gratitude."
- Full Story [HERE](#)

Bishop Malcolm Retiring



- If you would like to send a message that we can then collate please do to myself, Lindsey or the office email.
- If you would like to send a card, piece of children's art etc then please do to
- Liz Seymour. Church House, Full Street, Derby. DE1 3DR
- We will keep you informed of the service that the Diocese plan to mark his retirement.

New Archdeacon Appointed



The Rt Revd Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby, has appointed the Revd Emma Sykes as the next Archdeacon of East Derbyshire.

Emma is currently serving in the Diocese of Birmingham, where she has lived for nearly 30 years. She began her working life in the charity sector working with young people facing homelessness and other challenging issues. As a youth minister at St Michael's Church in Boldmere, she began to discern a call to ordained ministry. She trained at St John's College, Nottingham and, in 2008, was ordained at Birmingham Cathedral.

She served her curacy at St Martin in the Bull Ring and became Associate Rector there three years later. In 2014, she took a break from full-time ministry and took a 'portfolio' approach, taking on a variety of different roles as a self-supporting minister including being an assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands and a Bishop's Advisory Panel advisor. She also worked part time for CPAS as a Leadership Specialist with a focus on young vocations and facilitating training for Curates and Incumbents.

In May 2020, she followed God's call back to fulltime parish ministry, into her current role as Vicar of St Barnabas Erdington and Oversight Minister for the Erdington Area. Emma has been a member of General Synod since June 2024.

Link [here](#) to the news

CaRR – RE Focus

- Task group will finish at the end of March and provide recommendations. Dr Margaret James spoke about the implications for the CofE and our schools. There is a need to be cautious as this is a pivotal time. - Everyone is supportive of the work that if RE moves it secures high quality RE for all schools
- RE Content will have a lot of agreement from all involved
- Problem will be the legalities that safeguards the position of RE in church schools
- Once RE is in National Curriculum it will be under control of government (content, approach, pedagogy, theoretical underpinnings, philosophy)
- Cannot guarantee that a future government will want a critical, objective and pluralistic RE curriculum
- NSE will stand its ground for a critical, objective and pluralistic curriculum
- SACREs, with their different committee members representing faiths, no faiths, unions and council representatives, have that influence and that is how we ensure that the curriculum is one that we can support - influence and right of veto
- Legislative structure needs to ensure that right of influence and right to veto is held.

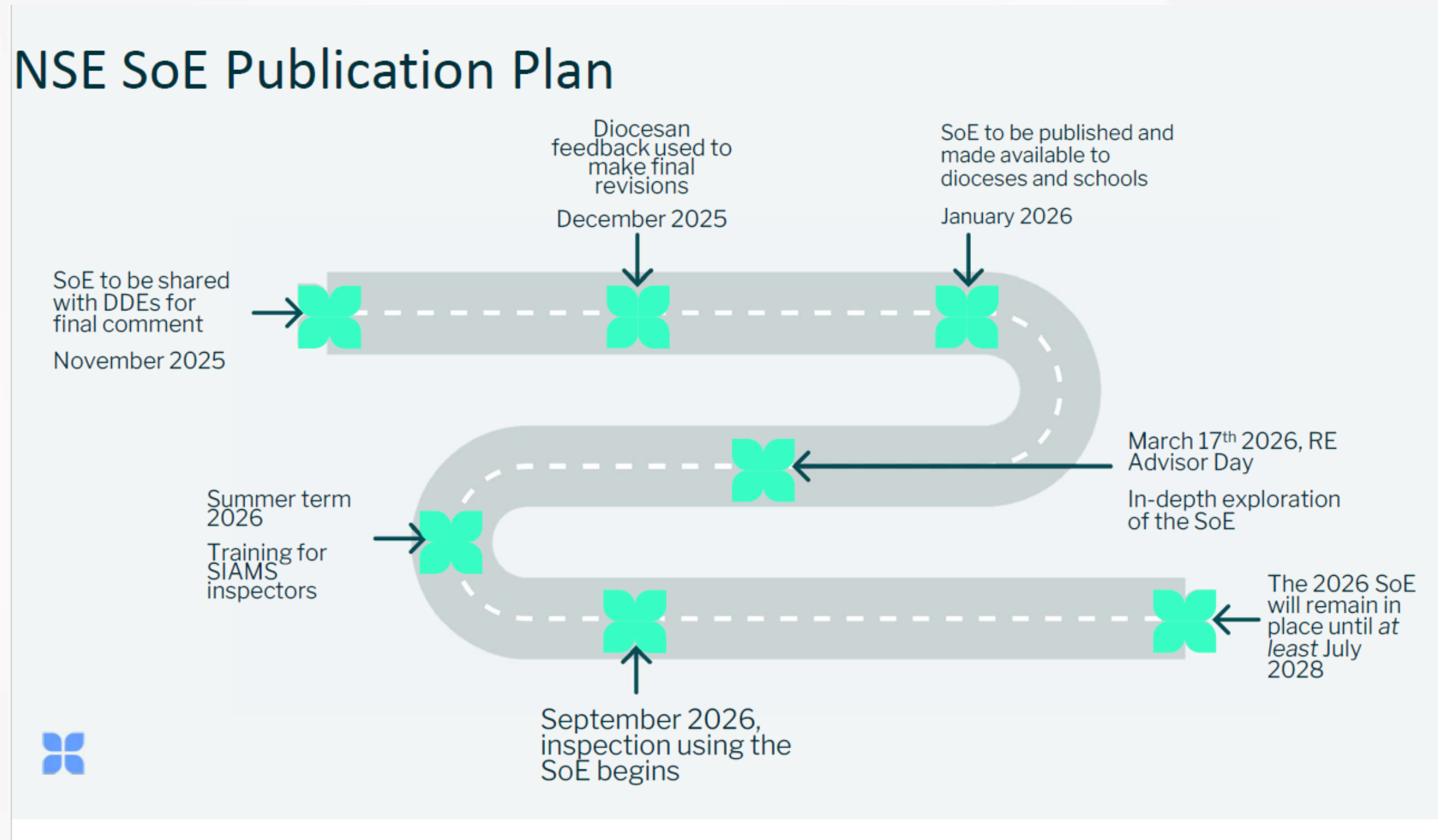
Withdrawal

- Due to ruling from Supreme Court (see BBC news report Religious education: [Supreme Court rules the Christian-focused RE taught in NI schools is unlawful - BBC News](#))
- Whilst the context within NI is quite different from that in English schools where RE is required to be critical, objective, and pluralistic, there are elements of the ruling that are likely to have a direct impact on collective worship and RE for us.
- In particular, National Society for Education (NSE) expect that challenges may arise in the case of requests for pupils to be withdrawn from either RE or collective worship. NSE have received advice that schools would be wise to ensure that the burden on parents and/or pupils when requesting withdrawal are minimal to non-existent. The ruling highlighted that the requirement for parents to have to explain, justify, or expand in any way on the reasons underpinning their request was too burdensome.
- The NSE are going to be updating their central guidance to that effect as a matter of priority and they would strongly advise that we do the same in terms of the advice that we provide for schools. Far from wishing to tell us what to do, they simply make this suggestion to help us to avoid any chance of ourselves and our schools' practice being subject to legal challenge and judicial review. They will be advising that, on receipt of a request for withdrawal, head teachers immediately grant it, without imposing any additional burden on either parents or pupils as part of the decision-making process.

Withdrawal

- It appears that the definition of 'burdensome' includes having to speak with a school leader.
- Please consider all existing and previous guidance sent to us by the NS/NSE on pupils' right to be withdrawn from either RE or collective worship rescinded, effective immediately.
- There will be further discussion and support that can be offered at national level.
- Feedback in May but please questions, concerns...do say now, drop in chat as we go through or send to me.

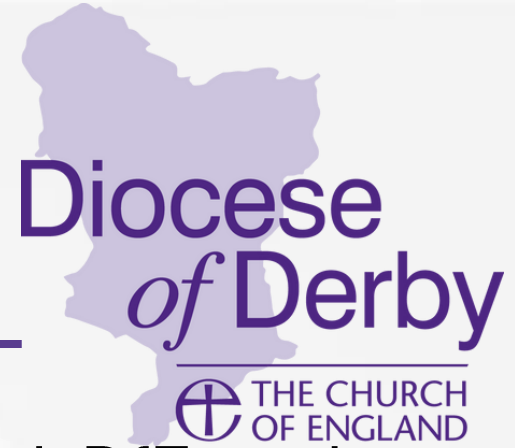
Statement of Entitlement 2026



Will be published tomorrow so will send through to heads, office, governors and RE Lead

Diocesan Board of Education

DFE Research for Online Service



- The Department for Education is developing an online service that aims to bring trusted DfE tools, guidance, and services together in one place to save schools time.
- As part of our work on this service, we are running user research to understand experiences interacting with the department, and to give us feedback on new designs. This feedback will help us to ensure that what we develop meets your needs.
- **We're looking to speak to school business managers, school leaders, and trust leaders whose role involves finance, funding, procurement, estates, completing statutory returns, or HR.**
- What does taking part involve?
- User research sessions will be held between December 2025 to February 2026, at a date and time convenient to you.
- You can choose what type of research you get involved in, whether it's completing a survey, or talking to us in an online session.
- Fill in this [form](#) to register your interest in taking part, or please pass this request on to anyone who may be interested.
- Contact dfe.connectuserresearch@education.gov.uk for more information.

Difference and CAGWF

Difference Training

- Monday 02 March Derby Church House, Full Street, DE1 3DR
- From 13:30 approx. 2 hours
- [Difference for Primary Schools – Difference](#)
- There is Difference for secondary schools so I will contact DCS.
- If you would like to take part in the Christianity As A Global World Faith training then we will be taking schools who have undertaken this course.
- Please book on here [HERE](#)

HEADS' CONFERENCE 2026



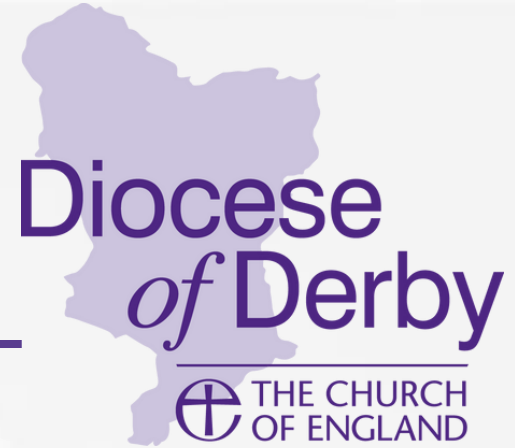
Headteachers' Conference – Thursday 18 June 2026 - The Hayes, Swanwick

Speakers include

- Dr Sarah Dunlop - Visual Knowledge – Doing Theology With Photographs
- Sarah observes that so much of what we know about our world comes through seeing. So why does the academy focus on texts? Sarah has pioneered visual ethnography as a research method for the study of religion and spirituality. She has published and taught widely in this field and other qualitative research methods.
- Author of *Doing Theology with Photographs*, she is keen to bring photographs and visual reflection into the classroom and explore ways that visual material expands our capacity for doing theology.
- Debbie Yeomans – RE Today

£75 for schools in the Partnership Agreement, £95 for other schools. Book [HERE](#)

BISHOP'S BADGE 2026



Thursday 25 June 10:30-12:30

Derby Cathedral

Who is this for?

Children who have demonstrated the Diocesan Values of Generous Faith; Courageous Hope or Life Giving Love

Please hold the date.

There will be a letter from Bishop Libby inviting you to nominate a child coming soon.

Resources Alison Brown



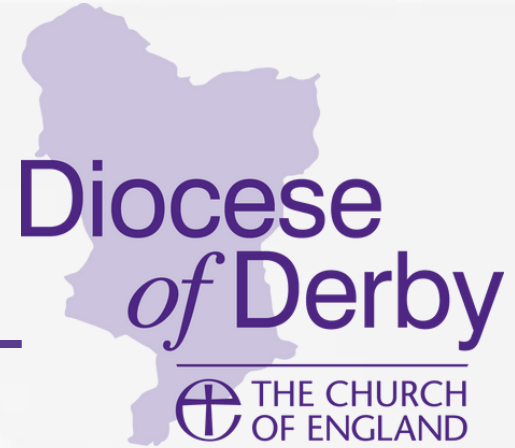
<https://www.cathedralreliefservice.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Once-City-Three-Lives-One-World-teaching-resource.pdf>

Video about the project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtfIVYJ-UV4>

Please could you share with your schools the resource that has been written to go with a film about three children living in Kolkata. It is called **One City, Three Lived, One World** and explores the reality of life for those children and reflects on what life in all its fullness means. The resource is aimed at key stage two but can be adapted up or down.

Spirited Arts Themes Announced

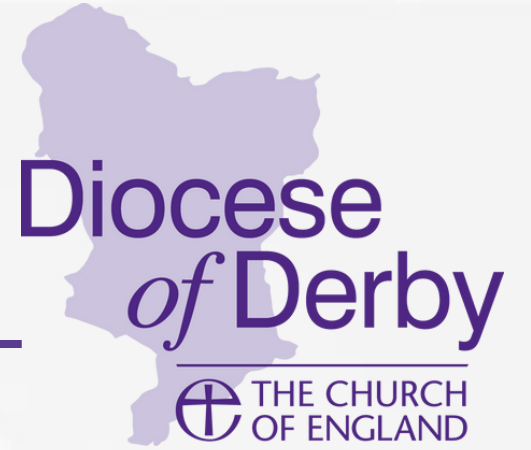


- Get creative through this cross-curricular competition!
- Join hundreds of schools worldwide participating in the 2026 Spirited Arts competition!
- We welcome entries in (almost!) any art form your pupils can think of, including:
 - Art (painting, drawing, sketching, etc)
 - Poetry
 - Photography
 - Dance
 - Music
 - Drama
 - Sculpture
- It's a fantastic way to engage teachers and students while boosting the profile of RE in your school. Some schools integrate the competition into RE lessons with a 'Spirited Arts' unit or a RE/arts week.
- This competition not only enables your pupils to articulate their thoughts and opinions about religion and worldviews through the arts, they will also get recognised for taking part in a national competition. Winning/highly commended artwork will be displayed on our online Spirited Arts Gallery.
- There will be a 40 prizes up for grabs plus certificates for all schools entering to give to their pupils.

Spirited Arts Themes Announced

- <https://natre.org.uk/spirited-arts-main-page/spirited-arts-2026/>
- Themes for 2026 are
- Faith in our future, Hope in our future
- Prayers for all that lives! Animals, Earth, God
- Open Bible
- Searching for God
- Sacred Spaces
- Children of God

Art Competition



- Next month I will be giving details of a competition for the 2027 Diocese of Derby Centenary.

The Big Legal Lesson

What is The Big Legal Lesson? <https://www.youngcitizens.org/programmes/the-big-legal-lesson/>

- We want every young person to learn about their rights and responsibilities, rule of law and the justice system as a part of a UK education. From primary school pupils to post-16 students, The Big Legal Lesson provides teachers with the tools they need to confidently introduce the law into their classrooms.
- Since 2020, thousands of schools have taken part, reaching over 300,000 young people. This makes it the largest public legal education campaign of its kind.
- Last year, 93% of teachers agreed that taking part in The Big Legal Lesson gave their class a better understanding of the rule of law and how it applies to their lives. 100% of teachers said they'd recommend it to a colleague.
- Working with pupils aged 5-11? [Download the free primary resource pack here.](#)
- Working with pupils aged 11-18? [Download the free secondary resource pack here.](#)

Peak Centre – Spirituality Retreats



Primary Retreat Days 2026

January/February/March

Please contact us to book.

For year 6 pupils at Derby Diocese Church of England Primary Schools

Our retreat days include activities, games, singing, prayer stations, worship, and exercise. The events of the day will cover several PHSE curriculum topics, including knowing yourself, teambuilding, relaxation, prayer, and respecting others. We can take one class of Year 6 pupils each day. Groups from small schools can be combined if needed to make up numbers & small schools occasionally send some Year 5 pupils (please ask us). We have been running these days for a few years now and they always receive excellent evaluations from pupils and teachers. The material covered can be followed up and further developed at your school – we provide teachers with a sheet of ideas for this. We aim to start at 0930 and finish at about 1415 – these timings can vary to suit your needs. There is no charge for the day, but you need to provide transport to the centre. Children will need to bring a packed lunch. Staff will need to accompany the children and supervise at lunchtime. Otherwise, they will be able to observe the day.

Spirituality Retreat Days at the Peak Centre Edale.

For a class of Year 6 pupils

A day with activities of knowing yourself, team building, relaxation, prayer and respecting others.

Highly recommend

Free – schools need to cover transport and bring pack lunches. School staff to accompany and supervise lunch.

Usual timings are 09:30-14:15 so most suitable for schools with not a large distance to cover

Follow up activities to do at school are also given



EDALE, S33 7ZA
Tel 01433670254 office@peakcentre.org.uk
peakcentre.org.uk



CPD Programme 2025-26



Understanding Christianity – Refresher Workshop

This is an in-person event for any schools already using the Understanding Christianity resource. It is a useful session for any teacher needing a refresher or an introduction.

Tuesday 24 March 2025 09:30-12:00 or 13:00 – 15:30

Venue: Church House, Full Street, Derby

Tuesday 30 June 2025 09:30 – 12:00 or 13:00-15:30

Venue: Glossop

Fee: PA £40 / Non PA £85

Booking Form [HERE](#)

If you require a new folder of resources – 9 units and the resource booklets for each key stage (frieze, frieze booklet, teacher's guide, UC information and website guide) please indicate this on the booking form. There will be an additional £75 charge.

Understanding Christianity Refresher INSET

We are now able to offer this as an INSET for your school. There is flexibility over how this could be delivered.

Please email Liz to discuss liz.seymour@derby.anglican.org

Fee: PA £100 / Non PA £200

CPD Programme 2025-26



Primary RE Development Training

This programme is useful for RE Subject Leads, teachers, support staff and any member of staff who will be teaching or helping to deliver RE. These are delivered in person by Debbie Yeomans RE Today. 3 dates / venues are offered for each session (the content is repeated so you only need attend 1)

Session 2 – Spring Term

Focus: Practical Examples of Ways of Knowing

Wednesday 04 March 2026 13:30-16:30 Chapel-en-le-Frith CE Primary School

Thursday 05 March 2026 09:00-12:00 Hartington Village Hall

Thursday 05 March 2026 13:30-16:30 Church House, Derby

Session 3 – Summer Term

Focus: Understanding Christianity as a Global Faith

Tuesday 23 June 2026 13:00-16:00 Church House, Derby

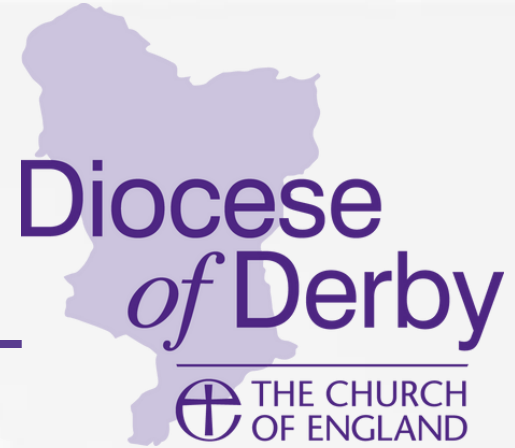
Wednesday 24 June 2026 09:00-12:00 Hartington Village Hall

Wednesday 24 June 2025 13:30 – 16:30 Chapel-en-le-Frith Primary School

Fee per session: PA £40 / Non PA £85

Booking form [HERE](#)

CPD Programme 2025-26



Updated SIAMS Framework Training

This training is useful to any member of staff or governor in your school. It is a 2-hour session and explains the whole of the new framework and what to expect in terms of the practicalities of a SIAMS inspection. It will look at the SEF and monitoring and evaluation, as well as giving you an opportunity to think about what your action points may be for each of the inspection questions.

This training is useful for anyone who wants to be able to get to know the new framework better or for anyone who is new to the SIAMS process.

Please note that all the sessions below are the same, different times have been offered to make it as accessible to as many people as possible. This will be recorded on Wed 22 October.

Tuesday 24 February 2026, 13:00 - 15:00 Online

Wednesday 06 May 2026, 18:00 -20:00 Online

Fee: PA £25 / Non PA £40

Booking form [HERE](#)

CPD Programme 2025-26



DBE Governor Two Part Training Programme

Sessions are held online 18:00 - 20:00

Part 1

Tuesday 14 April 2026

Part 2

Tuesday 13 January 2026 or Tuesday 16 June 2026 with Debbie Yeomans from RE Today

This programme is essential for any new governors and for those who have not accessed DBE training for a while and would benefit from refreshing their knowledge of what it means to be a governor of a church school. This course will give you the firm foundations you need to carry out your role effectively as well as networking and discussion time with other governors in the diocese.

This is for ANY governor of a church school not just foundation governors.

These sessions will be led by Liz Seymour, the Deputy Director for Education and Debbie Yeomans from RE Today

Through the programme you will explore:

What a church school is (and is not)

The importance of ethos and vision

RE in a church school

SIAMS

Collective Worship

Fee for both sessions: PA £125 / Non PA £250 (per school)

PA £25 / Non PA £40 (individual governor)

Booking Form [HERE](#)

CPD Programme 2025-26

Monitoring and Evaluating life as a Church School

You will explore diverse ways to monitor and evaluate and the roles of school leaders, pupils and governors. Both webinars will run from 18:00 - 20:00. This will be recorded.

The session is offered on 2 dates.
Monday 18 May 2026

Fee: PA £25 / Non PA £40
Booking form [HERE](#)

SIAMS List 2025-26



Bakewell CE Infant School
Bradley CE Primary School
Bradwell CE Primary School
Derby Cathedral School
Edale CE Primary School
Great Hucklow CE Primary School

Pilsley CE Primary School
St George's CE Primary School (Church
Greasley)
St Giles CE Primary School (Matlock)
Walton On Trent CE Primary and Nursery
School
William Gilbert Endowed CE Primary School

SIAMS Inspected in 2019 & 2020



2019

St Oswald's CE PS (19)
Barlow CE PS
Sale & Davys CE PS
Baslow St Anne's CE PS
Belper St John's CE PS
Castleton CE PS
Cromford CE PS
Derby St Chad's CE PS
Eyam CE PS
St Peter's CE Juniors, Fairfield
Fritchley CE PS
Kirk Langley CE PS
Netherseal St Peter's CE PS
Rosliston CE PS
St Weburgh's CE PS
Stoney Middleton CE PS
Taddington&Priestcliffe
Bishop's Pursglove CE PS Tideswell
Winster CE PS

2020

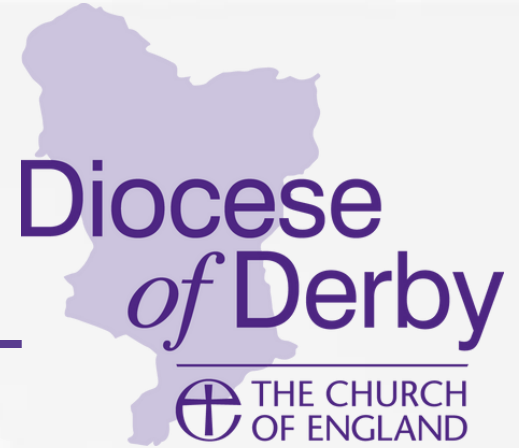
Brailsford CE PS
Church Broughton CE PS
Crich CE Infs
Darley Churchtown CE PS
Dinting CE PS
Killamarsh St Giles CE PS

Schools on these lists could be on the list for
206-27

SIAMS inspected in 2019 & 2020

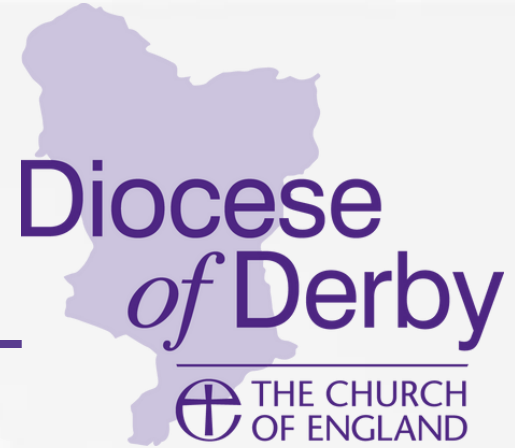
- Put your SEF together with a focus on impact
- Audit the school curriculum in light of the existing vision
- Explore spirituality with the staff – is there a shared understanding
- Explore justice and responsibility understanding with pupils
- Ensure all relevant staff and governors are attending DBE training associated with SIAMs.
- Ensure all staff and governors are familiar with current SIAMS framework
- Communicate with DBE regularly and share what you are doing
- Check the Statement of Entitlement for RE is being met and local and national RE developments are taken into consideration

SIAMS PREP



- Please do contact me if you would like a visit.
- I am happy to review SEFs, websites etc
- During visits I am happy to speak with pupils or staff.
- liz.Seymour@derby.anglican.org

SIAMS NETWORK TRAINING SPRING



SIAMS Networking Training

This networking allows staff to dive into aspects of the SIAMS Framework. There will be presentations from senior leaders, RE advisers and SIAMS inspectors, as well as the use of breakout rooms to enable you to network with other schools about how best to move forward in a particular area and discuss what it means to be a church school. These will be recorded.

Fee: PA £25 / Non PA £40 per session

BUNDLE FEE (all networking sessions): PA £100 / £200 Booking form [HERE](#)

Inspection question 1 networking – Theologically rooted Christian Vision

Monday 12 January 2026, 16:00-17:30, online

Inspection question 2 networking – How is the curriculum a reflection of the Christian Vision?

Thursday 12 February 2026, 16:00 -17:30, online

Inspection question 3 networking – Collective Worship and Spirituality

Tuesday 03 March 2026, 16:00 – 17:30, online

Inspection question 4 networking – Theologically rooted Christian vision and treating people well.

Tuesday 24 March 2026, 16:00-17:30, online

Inspection question 5 networking – Justice and responsibility

Thursday 30 April 2026, 16:00 – 17:30 online

Inspection question 6/7 networking – Religious Education with Debbie Yeomans from RE Today

Thursday 07 May 2026, 16:00-17:30, online

SIAMS NETWORK TRAINING SUMMER



SIAMS Networking Training

This networking allows staff to dive into aspects of the SIAMS Framework. There will be presentations from senior leaders, RE advisers and SIAMS inspectors, as well as the use of breakout rooms to enable you to network with other schools about how best to move forward in a particular area and discuss what it means to be a church school. These will be recorded.

Fee: PA £25 / Non PA £40 per session

BUNDLE FEE (all networking sessions): PA £100 / £200 Booking form [HERE](#)

Inspection question 6/7 networking – Religious Education with Debbie Yeomans from RE Today

Thursday 07 May 2026, 16:00-17:30, online

Inspection question 1 networking – Theologically rooted Christian Vision

Thursday 14 May 2026, 16:00-17:30, online

Inspection question 2 networking – How is the curriculum a reflection of the Christian Vision?

Tuesday 02 June 2026, 16:00 -17:30, online

Inspection question 3 networking – Collective Worship and Spirituality

Wednesday 10 June 2026, 16:00 – 17:30, online

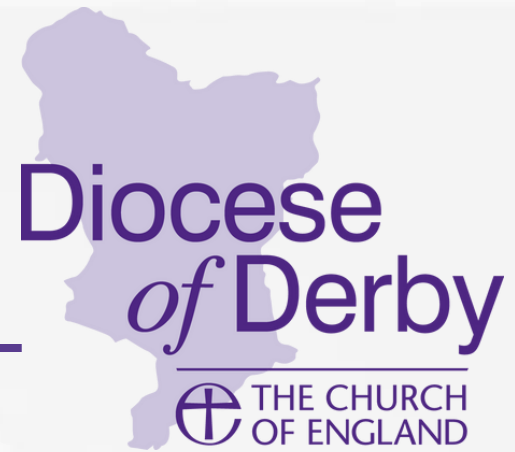
Inspection question 4 networking – Theologically rooted Christian vision and treating people well.

Wednesday 17 June 2026 16:00-17:30 online

Inspection question 5 networking – Justice and responsibility

Thursday 25 June 2026, 16:00 – 17:30 online

Lent 2026



Shrove Tuesday 17 February 2026

Ash Wednesday 18 February 2026 – Maundy Thursday 02 April 2026

Church of England Resources

Draw Near website link [here](#) £2.99 per single copy (not available yet but you can put your email in to be notified)

Draw Near is the official Church of England booklet for Lent 2026. This booklet encourages children, families, schools and church groups to build a habit of generosity with the help of 40acts (brought to you by Stewardship). Many people choose to “give something up” for Lent. Draw Near with 40acts invites you to turn that on its head: give things away, give time, give encouragement, and discover the joy of walking in generosity. As well as an act of generosity, each day also offers a simple Bible verse, reflection and prayer ideal for families, children, school and church groups to do together.

Passover 2026



<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/events/passover-virtual-broadcast-for-primary-schools-2/>

When

March 17, 2026

9.30 am - 10.00 am

This free live-streamed event is for Primary schools. Perfect for assemblies!

Join the Jewish Museum Learning and Engagement Team for an exciting free live-streamed event in celebration of the Jewish festival of Passover!

The broadcast will be hosted on Zoom, with the link being sent out just prior to the event.

Tune in for storytelling, object exploration, and activities.

ECO SCHOOLS – RSPB Bird Watch



- Big Schools Bird Watch 2025 - 6 Jan – 13 Feb – anytime between these dates
- Website link [here](#)
- Register and get your resources to download
- Upload your results

ECO SCHOOLS – Great Spring Clean



Website link Great British Spring Clean [here](#) School Clean [here](#)

13 March – 29 March 2026

Great Big School Clean – can register your pledge to be involved from February

Join the Great Big School Clean

We believe that teaching children and young people about litter is a crucial part of their environmental education journey and that every child has the right to live, play and learn in a clean and safe neighbourhood.

Last year, more than 265,000 pupils took part in the 2025 Great Big School Clean through their schools, and many other young people took part through events in their local communities.

Pledging for the Great Big School Clean 2026 will open on 13 February.

Eco Schools – Count your carbon



Count Your Carbon from Eco Schools

Every year in England, schools emit more than 10 million tonnes of carbon. What if we could do something to change that?

Link to information [HERE](#)

Updated for 2025-26 [HERE](#)

Eco Schools – Let's Go Zero



Let's Go Zero have experts who offer free advice [HERE](#)

Free Online training [HERE](#)

Some example online workshops coming up are

Healthier school dinners to please planet and pupils? - Not just pie in the sky!

Tuesday 2 December

3:45 PM – 4:45 PM

Energy - buildings & retrofit

Tuesday 20 January 2026

3:45 PM – 4:45 PM

More information coming soon

Future-proof your pupils!

Wednesday 4 February 2026

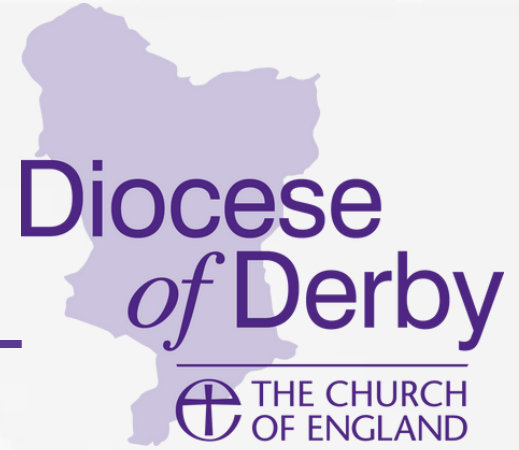
3:45 PM – 4:45 PM

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

- Website page with all the information about governance [HERE](#)
- This is for LA Maintained schools. Academies have a different process with their MAT.

Nominations for terms of office ending	Closing date for receipt of paperwork	Papers published to the Board for approval	DBE Meeting date
Up to the end of June 2026	04 March 2026	18 March 2026	25 March 2026
Up to the end of October 2026	16 June 2026	30 June 2026	07 July 2026

Diocese of Derby

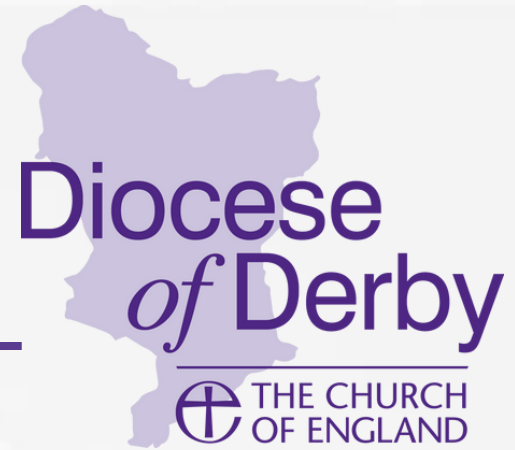


Link to their News update page and sign up for emails [HERE](#)

FUTURE BRIEFING DATES

- **Headteacher Briefings**
- Thursday 12 February 2026, 10:00 -11:00
- Monday 16 March 2026, 10:00 -11:00
- Tuesday 19 May 2026, 10:00 -11:00
- Tuesday 16 June 2026, 13:30 - 14:30
- Tuesday 21 July 2025, 13:30 -14:30

FUTURE BRIEFING DATES



- **Collective Worship Briefings 16:00-17:00**
- Tuesday 10 February 2026 – Justice and Responsibility and CW
- Tuesday 17 March 2026 – Spirituality and CW
- Monday 18 May 2026 – CW and SEND
- Tuesday 16 June 2025 – Creation tide and Harvest

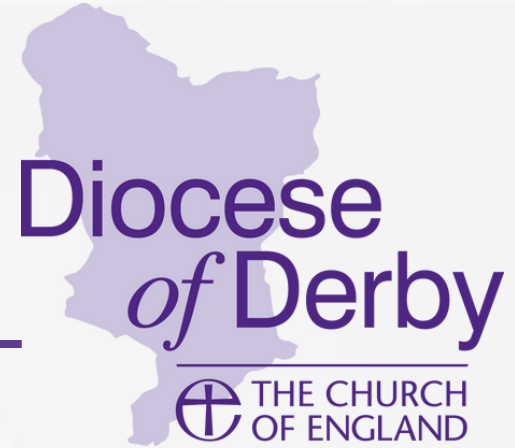
FUTURE BRIEFING DATES - GOV

These are from 19:00-20:00. I will be recording these as I deliver them.

2025-26 – The dates have been updated.

- Thursday 12 February 2026
- Monday 16 March 2026
- Tuesday 19 May 2026
- Monday 22 June 2026
- Tuesday 21 July 2026

Contact Details



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Diocesan Prayer



Vision Prayer

Gracious God,
in your mercy and for your glory,
renew us, reshape us, revive us –
with generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love –
that, in transformed lives through growing church and building
community,
we may see your Kingdom come and be good news for all.
Amen.



Transformed Lives | Growing Church | Building Community
THE KINGDOM OF GOD - GOOD NEWS FOR ALL

Diocesan Board of Education

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