

Newsletter – MAY 2026

NATRE – Spirited Arts Competition

Join 100s of schools worldwide participating in the 2026 Spirited Arts competition! The competition provides pupils with the opportunity to express their thoughts about religion and worldviews through the arts.



There are 40 prizes to be won, plus certificates for every participating pupil.

Entries are welcome in many different media – art, poetry, photography, dance, music, drama, sculpture.

Find out more online [HERE](#).



GROWING A YOUNGER CHURCH CONFERENCE

Growing a Younger Church Conference

Saturday 06 June, 10:00 – 16:00 at St John's, Walton S42 7LT. Free parking
Tea, coffee and cakes provided! Bring a packed lunch.

Line-up includes “[Youthscape](#)” “[The Peak Centre](#)” “[Growing Hope](#)” and “[Hazelnut Community](#)”.
Book your place [HERE](#)



The Big Green Week – 06 to 14 June

The Great Big Green Week HQ provide free resource packs for schools (primary and secondary) full of activities and curriculum-linked ideas for pupils.

The Great Big Green Week takes place from 06 to 14 June 2026.
Download your free pack [HERE](#)

From whole-school celebrations, an assembly, lesson or eco-club session, your pupils will be part of two million people taking part during Great Big Green Week this year.

NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe

Have you heard of the NSPCC *Speak out Stay safe* programme?
The resources are free (links below).
The programme also links to the RSE curriculum.



Speak out Stay Safe - [Schools form | NSPCC Learning](#)

SEND - [Schools SEND form | NSPCC Learning](#)

Talk Pants including lesson plans for different age groups - [PANTS resources for schools and teachers | NSPCC Learning](#)

Secondary education service [Talk Relationships: resources to deliver sex and relationships education | NSPCC Learning](#) that supports teachers and leaders to confidently deliver effective and inclusive Sex and Relationships Education. **This also includes a primary to secondary transition lesson plan that can be used with Year 6 pupils.**

Free self-assessment tool to help schools audit current safeguarding & child protection arrangements. [Safeguarding and child protection self-assessment tool | NSPCC Learning](#)

School Based Nursery Provision

Any school or academy wishing to introduce a school-based nursery and/or SEND provision should refer to DfE guidance. They must also gain the consent of the DBE. Please see guidance [HERE](#).

If you have any queries, please contact [Jason Aldridge](#)



Upcoming Briefings

Headteachers

10:00 Tuesday 19 May

13:30 Tuesday 16 June

Governors (chairs, clerks, foundation governors)

19:00 Tuesday 19 May

19:00 Tuesday 16 June

Collective Worship

16:00 Monday 18 May

16:00 Tuesday 16 June



Briefings are envisaged as a tool for sharing best practice and creating links with other schools. There is no need to book in advance.

Training

See our [website](#) for full details of all the courses we offer.

Monitoring & Evaluating Life as a Church School

Monday 18 May 18:00-20:00 Online

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

Primary RE Development SUMMER TERM

Choose either Tuesday 23 June Derby City

or Wednesday 24 June AM Hartington or PM Chapel en le Frith

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

If you have questions about the training we offer, 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 2025/2026 Academic Year

Summer Term

<p>HEADTEACHER CONFERENCE Book a place HERE</p>	20 April
<p>BISHOP'S BADGE Nominations should be made via online form HERE.</p>	05 May
<p>CPD PROGRAMME Ensure staff & governors are booked onto relevant training. Details & booking links CPD programme</p>	ASAP
<p>MONTHLY BRIEFINGS Ensure dates in diary for headteacher, chair, clerk & foundation governors. See newsletter and CPD programme for dates</p>	ASAP
<p>FOUNDATION GOVERNORS – CHECK TERM OF OFFICE (TOO) Start renewal process for TOO ending before 31 October – see website HERE (process can take up to 6 months)</p>	ASAP
<p>FOUNDATION GOVERNORS Deadline to submit application form & reference for those with TOO ending before end October 2026</p>	16 July
<p>EXEC / HEADTEACHER / HEAD OF SCHOOL RECRUITMENT DBE must be involved. See guidance HERE</p>	

For schools wishing to use our Admissions Appeals Service, see last page 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 2025-2026

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

School holiday dates:

Half Term 27-31 October / Christmas Holidays 22 December-02 January / Half Term 16-20 February / Easter Holidays 30 Mar-10 April / Half Term 25-29 May

LOCAL RE GROUP MEETING

No charge, all welcome!

Wednesday 24th June 2026 4-5pm

We would love to invite you to our next RE local group meeting.

This is a FREE CPD opportunity for all RE/Collective Worship Coordinators and members of SLT, as well as anyone with an interest in Religious Education.

The focus of the meeting will be:

Getting to know one another and their school.

What is working well within RE in your school.

What areas do you feel you would like more support with in RE.

The meeting will be held at:

St. Andrew's C of E primary school

To book your place please email

debbie.g@st-Andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk





ASPIRATION
COLLABORATION
EXCELLENCE

COULD YOU HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION?

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are a recently established multi-academy trust, looking to strengthen our Board to support our ongoing development

We seek individuals with expertise in:

- Accountancy
- Business
- Law and Compliance
- Estates Management
- Other relevant professional backgrounds

LOCAL GOVERNING COMMITTEE (LGC)

Each school has its own LGC, drawn from the local community to provide governance and support

We are looking for governors with a passion for education and a desire to shape children's futures

**No prior governance experience is required –
full training and ongoing support provided**



**SCAN HERE FOR
MORE INFORMATION
& TO APPLY**

[https://acederbyshire.org.uk/
our-trust/#vacancies](https://acederbyshire.org.uk/our-trust/#vacancies)

BE A PART OF SOMETHING TRANSFORMATIONAL

Your time, insight and passion could help the future
of hundreds of young people



Kolkata School Link

Friends of CRS UK



Equipping women, children and families in India to discover a brighter future.



Do you want to develop a culture of global citizenship in your school?

Would your school community benefit from a developing a relationship with a school community in India?

The Friends of Cathedral Relief Service (CRS) is offering primary schools in the UK the opportunity to link with one of their schools in the slums in Kolkata.

CRS

is a faith based NGO in Kolkata which serves the poorest communities through health, education and women's empowerment projects.

CRS

schools are based in the slums and offer children basic education with the aim of enabling them to then access the formal education system.

CRS

is supported by the UK charity Friends of CRS which has been part of these school links for a number of years.

SIAMS and Kolkata links:

IQ1i: Does the school have any... links or partnerships?

IQ5: How does the school's theologically rooted Christian vision create an active culture of justice and responsibility?

This school link is based upon developing a relationship by both schools involved. The starting point is a visit to Kolkata by a member of staff (Head, class teacher and/or teaching assistant).

“For our village school the project has been fantastic. Our pupils see the Kolkata children as part of our school and show genuine care for them, not as ‘poor Indian’ children but as children who live in the world alongside them.”



Would you like to come?

Our next visit is planned for 15th-24th January 2027.

The cost will be £1700 covering flights, accommodation, food and travel in Kolkata.

The visit will include

- ◆ teaching time in the link school
- ◆ planning time with link teacher
- ◆ seeing the historical, religious and cultural sights of Kolkata

- ◆ visit CRS projects
- ◆ There will be one or two pre visit briefing days in the Autumn term where you can get to know the group who is going and have time to prepare activities.

A definite expression of interest by the end of June. So, if you would like an application form or simply want to know more please contact.:

alisonbrown3141@aol.co.uk

“Pupils enjoy learning about different cultures. They have a deep understanding of fairness and equality. They value differences between people and the opportunity to learn from them. Pupils benefit from extra opportunities to develop their confidence and character through charitable work, such as with a partner school in India.”

Ofsted report 2025

