

Newsletter – SEPTEMBER 2026



Welcome back!

We trust you've had a restful summer holiday, and that 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 the end of September to receive 10% discount.

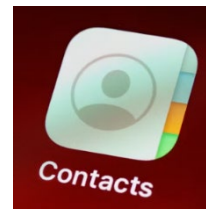
The vision of the Derby Diocesan Board of Education is to support our schools to [transform lives, grow faith and build community](#). None of our schools can achieve this on their own. We are a family of church schools and partnership is a fundamental principle of being a church school. This partnership 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](#).

Key Contacts

All schools will be emailed a request to complete a short online form [HERE](#) requesting confirmation of names of key staff and their contact details.

We would be grateful if you could complete the online form 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 & review the guidance documentation on our [website](#) which explains all that you need to know. **The deadline for sending us your 2028/2029 policy is 30 November. If you are consulting, the deadline is 01 November.**

If your school is an academy in a MAT, you should 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 the end of February 2027, 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 **15 October**. T



Dernier Publishing

Dernier Publishing have a primary school book bundle that help with Christian ethos and values. There are 12 books aimed at ages 6-11 ranging from animal stories to detective mysteries to historical fiction and more. You can learn more on their website [HERE](#).

The cost of the book bundle is £87.99 but you can get a 20% discount with the code *primaryschool20* at checkout.

Fairtrade Fortnight 21 September – 04 October

This annual event, organised by the Fairtrade Foundation, celebrates and promotes Fairtrade products and the farmers and workers who produce them. The 2026 campaign focuses on tea, with the theme "Do it Fair" with a core emphasis on For People, for Planet, and for Fair Pay.



To help you celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight at school, the Foundation have created [Fairtrade Fortnight school resources](#).

Black History Month 2026

The resource pack includes posters, audio stories, lesson plans, classroom activities and more, at a cost of £84.45 inclusive of P&P.

They also have a special classroom challenge to design a 40th anniversary flag for 2027. Find out more on the website [HERE](#)



Primary School RE & PSHE Workshops – Springs Dance Company offers active and inclusive dance workshops that help pupils explore RE and PSHE topics in a creative and engaging way. Sessions link directly to curriculum themes and are designed to fit easily within a normal school day. Find out more [HERE](#).

Workshop themes available:

A Christmas Story: Refugee – Inspired by Anne Booth's book *Refuge*, pupils explore the first Christmas through dance, drama & discussion.

The Nativity Project – Pupils co-create a fresh, bespoke Nativity performance, incorporating favourite songs and readings.

The Easter Project – A dynamic look at the Easter story, as a 1-day session or full project ending in a performance.

Training

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

RE Leads Briefing

Wed 30 September 15:45-16:45 Online FREE

Understanding Christianity – Refresher

Fri 16 October 09:30-12:30/13:00-16:00 Derby Church House

Fee: PA £50 / Non PA £100 Booking Form [HERE](#)

Primary RE Development Training

3 dates venues CHOOSE - Wed 21 Oct Derby Church House/Thurs 22 Oct Hartington/ Glossop

Fee: PA £50 / Non PA £100 Booking form [HERE](#)

SIAMS Networking

Thurs 24 September 13:30-15:00 Online

Fee: PA £40 / Non PA £80 Booking form [HERE](#)

Bundle: PA £125 / Non PA £250

If you have questions about the training we offer, contact [Liz](#)



Upcoming Briefings

Headteachers

10:00 Tuesday 29 September

13:30 Friday 23 October

Governors (chairs, clerks, foundation governors)

19:00 Tuesday 29 September

19:00 Wednesday 21 October

Collective Worship

16:00 Tuesday 13 October

16:00 Monday 09 November



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 2026/2027 Academic Year

Autumn Term

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	
LAND & BUILDINGS COLLECTION RETURN for Academy Trusts More information HERE	
KEY CONTACTS & EMAILS School office to complete online form HERE	31 October
ADMISSIONS: CONSULTING - <i>VA schools & Academies only</i> Review policy for 2 years ahead & send draft to DBE. Guidance on website HERE	01 November
FOUNDATION GOVERNORS Deadline to submit application form & reference for TOO ending before 28 Feb	15 October
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
CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION Deadline for submission	20 November
ADMISSIONS: NOT CONSULTING - <i>VA schools & Academies only</i> Review policy for 2 years ahead & send draft to DBE. Guidance on website HERE	30 November
EXEC / HEADTEACHER / HEAD OF SCHOOL 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 nina.hern@derby.anglican.org

Admission Appeal Hearings for Academic Year 2026-2027

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

School holiday dates:

Half Term 26-30 October / Christmas Holidays 21 December-01 January / Half Term 16-20 February / Easter Holidays 26 Mar-09 April / Half Term 31-04 Jun