

Dear Colleagues

## Directors Reflection:

I Hope the term is going well so far , how are you feeling about the summer term ahead? Excited? Upbeat? Daunted? Anxious?...



Andy Wolfe from the National Education Team in the Church of England writes,

**'The education system stands or falls on the extent to which it is led by adults who are themselves, flourishing. 'Where there are few flourishing adults, there will be few flourishing children.'**

While children need to be educated by highly proficient evidence-informed professionals in every classroom and corridor, they need to be empowered to think, create, analyse, debate and challenge by adults who are themselves well rested, valued, supported, paid and championed by society.

Similarly, children are more likely to flourish if their voices are regularly heard, truly valued and acted upon, **not as employees of the future but as leaders in the present**. They are given agency – and as a result develop the capacity to shape, design, envision and lead their organisations, enhancing leadership teams and governance structures by their necessary presence, persuasive voice, and unfettered thinking.'



The Church of England, along with the Catholic Education Service and the Confederation of School Trusts launched a ground-breaking document in November 2024 called '[Flourishing Together: A collective vision for the education system](#)'.

The document calls leaders across our system to reimagine schools as places where every adult and child can truly flourish. It asks us to imagine a longer-term perspective and to think about our system through the eyes of a child already in the education system but leaving in 2040. **What could we only achieve if we took a long-term view?**

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*Nahum 1.7*

In an education context, flourishing means nurturing the holistic growth of every child and adult—academically, socially, and emotionally—within a supportive, inclusive community.

The Flourishing Together document builds on shared values of dignity, inclusion, and holistic development, drawing from the traditions of virtue ethics, Christian teaching, and the African concept of “ubuntu”— “I am because we are.” The report’s vision identifies ten “seeds” of flourishing, calling for shifts across various domains.

I commend it to you as this term’s reading for all school leaders – it’s not too thick! We must look long term to see the amazing difference we can – and do – make.



### **Bishop’s Awards**

As you will be aware from last terms newsletter, we were hoping to host a celebration event in the summer of exceptional practice happening in the schools in this diocese.

Unfortunately, the difficult decision has been made to postpone this event until next summer, to allow sufficient time for us to do the event, and more importantly you and your schools’ amazing achievements justice. Further details on this will be available in future newsletters. Make sure you save the date in your busy calendars.

For those that had made nominations for this year’s event, we thank you for taking the time to embrace the spirit of these awards. We will be in contact with you individually regarding your nomination.

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In the meantime if you'd like to nominate an individual, another school, or your own school, ahead of next summer's event please drop a paragraph explaining why you think the school/ individual should be nominated to [Education@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:Education@bristoldiocese.org)

### **National Society For Education Case Study**



Congratulations to Ashton Keynes Primary School and Church for being selected to showcase as a case study of Excellence in Ethos and Culture on the National SIAMS [case study library](#).

This is a celebration of their amazing work and ideas on how the schools vision helps the community 'shine'. Take a look at the Schools [video](#) and [Better Lives](#) initiative on the SIAMS website to share in its beauty.



### **VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Assembly Resource**

Picture News has produced a special assembly presentation, suitable for KS1 and KS2 that they are making available to all schools **free of charge**. Details of this resource can be [requested here](#).



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## **Prayer For Schools Event**

Encounter Christianity have partnered with Bristol Schools Connect and Together for Bristol to run this Prayer for Schools event!

[Join us](#) at St. Michael's Church for a special gathering to pray for our pupils, teachers, governors and parents in our schools across Bristol. Let's come together as a community to lift up our educational system in prayer whilst enjoying a selection of cakes and a cuppa.

This in-person event will be a powerful time of unity and support. We believe that prayer can make a difference in our schools, so come and be a part of this impactful event.



## **Free Carbon Literary Training for Schools from Let's Go Zero**



Climate charity campaign, Let's Go Zero, is offering free accredited online training to support school sustainability leads in becoming carbon literate.

From spring 2025, Let's Go Zero - the national campaign for all UK schools, colleges and nurseries to be zero carbon by 2030 - will offer training accredited by the Carbon Literacy Project to schools and multi-academy trusts, to help their headteachers and staff drive their sustainability planning, and gain the knowledge and confidence to steer their school's carbon reduction plans. [Find out more...](#)

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## Upcoming Training & Events:

### **A Full Day of Flourishing! All You Need to Know About SIAMS – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025**



This day offers the chance to engage on a deeper and more practical level with knowledge and ideas for the implementation of the new SIAMS framework. A great chance to connect with Church School colleagues and including some time to plan ideas and actions for your school and self-evaluation.



### **DBE Annual conference - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025**

Remember this is going to be **FREE** for all delegates this year, we are so excited to make this the case so that every school can be represented with their vicar, Chair of Governors and Headteacher – get booking asap so you don't lose the date!

### **Learn Teach Lead RE Conference**

Do look at the attached flyer to see details of this year's exciting Learn Teach Lead RE Area 2 Conference, taking place at St Michael's Church, Stoke Gifford on the 20<sup>th</sup> June. A great opportunity for impactful CPD for RE and curriculum leaders in your school or Trust.



### **Do you have a new RE leader in your Church School?**

If so, do book in for our new to RE leadership training and networking afternoon taking place on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2-4pm online. Book [HERE](#)

**Our complete training schedule for the 24/25 Academic year can be found [HERE](#)**

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## **Team Charity Day**

**Does your school have any niggling jobs that just never seem to get done? A garden refresh that needs some time? Assistance with School Activities? If so, then the Education Team maybe just the people you are looking for!**

We, as a team, are looking to offer our services and our time to the schools that we work closely with to 'give back' to the community and celebrate the Bristol Diocese values and Christian Ethos.



If your school would like to take advantage of a couple of hours additional help then please drop details of your task / request to [Education@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:Education@bristoldiocese.org) so the team can allocate time to assist with your worthy cause.

## **Job Opportunity**

Crudwell CofE Primary School are looking for a new Headteacher.

A friendly, inclusive and vibrant school with a vision to ensure that everyone has the 'roots to grow and wings to fly'.

If you are looking for an exciting opportunity to support challenge and inspire children in a excellent village school then further information about the role can be found [here](#)



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## **A Prayer for this term**

**Heavenly Father**

**Please pour out Your blessings upon our whole school community so that everyone grows in the knowledge of Your truth, love, wisdom and peace.**

**We pray for all children - help them to explore what they can achieve and give them confidence to play their part in shaping our world.**

**We pray for all those who work in schools. Care for them as they care for our children.**

**We pray for all governors of schools. Grant them wisdom and sound judgement, and help them to keep children's well-being at the heart of everything they do.**

**We ask this in Jesus' name.**

**Amen**

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