



YORK DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Andrew Smith
Diocesan Director of Education

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Dear Colleague

Diocesan Director of Education Newsletter – Autumn Term 2017

Welcome back to the new term and a very warm welcome to all colleagues who are new to headship or headship in a Church school within the Diocese. I do hope that you settle quickly into your new role with all the challenges and joys that lie ahead. Leading a Church school is an amazing privilege and the Christian values that your school embodies will make a significant and long lasting impact on the lives of children in your care. Your vision as a school leader will help shape the future for your school so that it continues to be a place which lives out the vision in John 10:10 where Jesus says, 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'

We are here as a Diocese to help and support you in whatever way we can so please don't hesitate to contact the diocesan team if you think we can help. Hopefully we can answer your query or point you in the direction of someone who can.

Service Level Agreement

Thank you for the excellent sign up to the Service Level Agreement (SLA) from the Diocese for the next two years. The endorsement this brings to our work, as well as the financial contribution to the working of the Diocese, is very much appreciated. The fact that nearly every school or academy has joined the SLA really helps to build the family of schools across the Diocese as well as enabling us to provide our core work free at the point of delivery in addition to the School Development Adviser visits you receive.

We have allocated the School Development Advisers over the summer and your adviser will be in touch shortly with a welcome email and arrangements for getting dates for visits in the diary.

Headteacher Induction and Mentoring Scheme

We are continuing with our Mentoring Scheme which was piloted last year. Thank you to all those involved in the pilot and for the feedback received. The scheme relies on the goodwill of headteachers and so a special thanks to those heads who act as a mentor for new colleagues. I do believe that this partnership working is a tangible expression of the diocesan family of schools working at its best.

The purpose of this scheme is to offer support to our headteachers who are in their first year of headship in a Church of England School. This includes all headteachers who are new to their

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post, both first time appointments and those who more established in headship. The well-being and professional development of headteachers across the Diocese is vitally important and we want to be able to support headteachers at this time of change. The amount of support provided by the diocesan mentor will vary according to personal situation and experience and so the scheme has been designed to meet individual needs. It is hoped that the relationship between mentor and mentee will offer informal, confidential, professional and pastoral support at specific times in the year or at times as needs arise.

Your School Development Adviser is the first point of contact for the scheme but Chelo Brooks is also available at the Diocese for any general queries.

Training for the Autumn Term

A reminder that our training programme is set out in our training booklet (copy on the website) but I have put a summary of the training coming up this term below.

Please see our website <http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/supporting-schools/events/> for further details for all our training events, which are published well in advance. Bookings for events (unless otherwise indicated) are to be made via Eventbrite; <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--york/family-and-education--events/diocese-of-york/?crt=regular&sort=best>

Wed 20 th September 1.30 - 3.30pm	SIAMS briefing Diocesan Office, York
Fri 29 th September 10.00am – 4.00pm	New Headteacher Induction and Mentor Headteacher Programme Bishopthorpe Palace, York Invites will be sent
Sat 7 th October 9.00am – 3.45pm	Understanding Ways of Living Conference York St John University, York Learn, Teach, Lead, RE North
Thurs 12 th October 10.00am – 4.00pm	Church School NQT Training Diocesan Office, York
Tues 14 th November Wed 15 th November Thurs 16 th November 9.30am – 4.00pm	Leadership Network Day - SIAMS Tickton Grange, Beverley Bishopthorpe Palace, York Wydale Hall, Scarborough
Tues 28 th November 7.00-9.00pm	Effective Governance in a CE school Diocesan Office, York Book via City of York Council

School Effectiveness Update

We are always conscious that you receive information from a range of sources. Here is a short synopsis of documents which have been recently published by DfE and Ofsted for information.

- The DfE has issued updated statutory guidance on local authorities' and Regional Schools Commissioners' responsibilities relating to schools and PRUs **causing concern**.
- The DfE has issued provisional 2017 **key stage 2 results** for pupils in schools in England at national, regional and local authority level. See

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2017-provisional>

- The DfE has issued updated technical guidance on **primary accountability** and school-level progress measures. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/primary-school-accountability>
- The DfE has issued updated statutory guidance setting out the arrangements for **the constitution of governing bodies** of all local-authority-maintained schools. The guidance has specifically been updated to cover the new power that means from 1 September 2017 maintained school governing bodies have the power to remove elected parent and staff governors in the same way as they can remove co-opted governors – that is, by majority decision of the governing body. Any person removed as an elected governor from the governing body during their term of office will be disqualified from serving or continuing to serve as a school governor for five years from the date of their removal – not just at the school they have been removed from, but any school. The statutory guidance emphasises that the power to remove an elected governor should only be used in exceptional circumstances.
- The DfE has issued a number of surveys and case studies with schools on activities to support pupils' **mental health and wellbeing**. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-mental-health-in-schools-and-colleges>
- The DfE has issued a number of surveys and case studies with schools on activities to support pupils' development of **character skills**. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/developing-character-skills-in-schools>
- **Ofsted** has issued the **School inspection update: academic year 2017 to 2018, special edition**. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-update-academic-year-2017-to-2018>
- EEF has produced a guide to **assessing-and-monitoring-pupil-progress**. See <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/resources/assessing-and-monitoring-pupil-progress/references/>
- Sir David Carter has highlighted some of the **best practice** that he has seen in good **multi-academy trusts**. See <https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/sir-david-carter-ten-things-best-multi-academy-trusts-do>

Finally I would like to thank the Education team as I begin my second year in post. The support that all members of the team give to schools is second to none and I am very grateful for all that they do on your behalf.

With my best wishes for the coming term,

Andrew

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