



---

## YORK DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

---

Amy Johnson Way  
Clifton Moor  
YORK YO30 4XT

Tel: 01904 699 511  
Fax: 01904 699 501  
e-mail: [admin@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:admin@yorkdiocese.org)  
Web Site: [www.dioceseofyork.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk)

**Andrew Smith**  
*Diocesan Director of Education*

April 2018

Dear Colleague

### **Diocesan Director of Education's Newsletter – Summer Term 2018**

Welcome back to the summer term and I trust you feel refreshed after the Easter break.

As usual I have tried to summarise some of the key pieces of information in this newsletter with more detail available through the weekly email or on the diocesan website.

#### ***Staffing Update***

As you will be aware, Katherine Humpleby leaves us at the end of April to take up a new and exciting role as the Secondary Improvement Lead for the Hope Learning Trust. I am sure you will wish to join with me in thanking Katherine for her commitment and hard work in supporting our schools with their Christian vision and development across the Diocese over the last five years. Katherine has been a fantastic School Development Adviser and we will miss her knowledge, enthusiasm and sense of fun. She will be a hard act to follow and we wish her every success in her new role.

I have written to all of Katherine's schools explaining the support we will be giving for the rest of the academic year under the Service Level Agreement, including who will be the point of contact. We are interviewing this week for Katherine's replacement along with Helen Wren's post which will become vacant at the end of the year when Helen retires. I will advise you in due course of the new appointments.

#### ***Service Level Agreement (SLA)***

I hope you have made good use of your Development Adviser visits this year as part of the SLA entitlement. Please do be in contact with your School Development Adviser if you are still to make use of your visit or visits for this year. Please also remember that the SLA provides for one visit in one year and two in the other depending on the school's needs unless you have bought into the enhanced package where there will be five visits over the two year period.

Unfortunately we are unable to facilitate all three visits in one year, so if you still have a visit outstanding from this year it really needs to be taken in this coming term or it will be lost.

In addition, if you are requiring more visits in order to help with more general school effectiveness matters, we can facilitate these but they are above the normal basic SLA package. Therefore I would encourage you to buy in at the enhanced level of the SLA to afford you the extra support

**A member of DBE Services serving schools in the dioceses of Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Liverpool,  
Manchester & York**

visits rather than buying them on an individual day basis. If this is something which is of interest, do talk to your individual adviser or ring Anita in the office.

### ***Annual Education Conference – Wednesday 20th June, York Racecourse***

“Vision into Action : Living life in all its fullness”

This year’s conference is the final conference in a series of three based around the Church of England’s Vision for Education.

Our keynote speakers are the Archbishop of York, Dame Alison Peacock, Jim Davis and Lat Blaylock. Each keynote will help us think how we can put the vision into action in four ways – through our **calling**; through being **committed to all**; through making effective **connections**; and through being **creative** in our curriculum.

Bookings are now being taken through Eventbrite in the usual way and I do hope that you and representatives from your school and parish will be able to join us. It promises to be a thought provoking day and an excellent chance to network and come together as a family of Church schools and academies.

Please complete your booking as soon as possible and by 30th May at the latest. If you require further information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Diocesan Education Office.

### ***DfE Updates***

1. Delivered by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), the DfE has announced that the Reception Baseline Assessment will be administered as a twenty-minute, teacher-recorded assessment of children’s communication, language, literacy and early mathematics skills. It will cover material that many children will already be familiar with and pupils will not have to prepare for it, either at home or in school. It will replace the statutory tests which pupils have faced at the end of Key Stage 1. Ahead of the assessment being rolled out to all schools by the end of 2020, the NFER will, subject to final contracts, work closely with teachers across the country to ensure the check is age-appropriate for reception year pupils. It will not be used to judge, label or track individual pupils.
2. The DfE has also confirmed that:
  - When the baseline is fully established, Key Stage 1 assessments will become non-statutory for first and infant schools and, at the same time, they will become non-statutory for all-through primaries;
  - From 2027, reception to Key Stage 2 progress measures will be published for all-through primary schools, but not for those with a different age range;
  - First and infant schools will continue not to have progress measures published. These schools will continue to be responsible for demonstrating the progress their pupils have made to Ofsted and those with an interest in school performance; and Middle and Junior schools will be in a similar position to First and Infant schools with responsibility for evidencing progress based on their own assessment information.
3. The DfE has already confirmed that it will:
  1. Improve the early years foundation stage profile, including revising the early learning goals to better prepare children for year 1 and reviewing the assessment

**A member of DBE Services serving schools in the dioceses of Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Liverpool, Manchester & York**

guidance and process to reduce teacher workload and allow teachers to use their professional judgments;

Remove some of the wider burdens on teachers, including making Key Stage 1 tests and assessments non-statutory from 2023 and remove the requirement for schools to submit teacher assessment data to the government for reading and maths at the end of Key Stage 2, as these subjects are already assessed through statutory tests, from 2018-19;

2. Introduce a multiplication tables check to aid children's fluency in mathematics from 2019-20.
4. The DfE has also issued updated versions of its policy statements on reducing teacher workload. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reducing-teachers-workload>

### ***Ofsted Updates***

1. Ofsted has updated "Ofsted inspections: myths"  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/further-education-and-skills-inspection-handbook/ofsted-inspections-myths>
2. Ofsted has issued an updated School inspection handbook and Ofsted's inspection handbook now says that schools rated 'good' will be re-inspected every 4 years instead of every 3 years. These schools will still be subject to short inspections.
3. The inspection frequency for schools graded 'requires improvement' has also changed. These schools will have their next section 5 inspection "usually within 30 months" of their inspection report being published. 'Requires improvement' schools may still receive section 8 monitoring inspections in this time.
4. Ofsted has issued its School inspection update: academic year 2017 to 2018. These updates are for inspectors and stakeholders contain information and guidance about Ofsted's inspection work in schools.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-update-academic-year-2017-to-2018>
5. As mentioned at our Spring term 'BoB' meetings, ASCL's commission on ethical leadership has set out the work of the commission during its first year, its plans for the continuance of its work, and launched a consultation on its draft Ethical Framework for Educational Leadership. <https://www.ascl.org.uk/index.cfm?originalUrl=policy/ascl-ethical-leadership-commission.html>
6. 'Mentally Healthy Schools' is a free website which features evidence-based practical resources to "improve awareness, knowledge and confidence in promoting and supporting pupils' mental health". <https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/>

With my best wishes for the summer term,

*Andrew*

Andrew Smith  
Diocesan Director of Education

**A member of DBE Services serving schools in the dioceses of Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Liverpool, Manchester & York**