

From *Paul Thompson*,
Diocesan Director of Education

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. (Genesis 2:15)

Dear Colleagues

As the UN Climate Change Conference is well underway in Glasgow and is dominating the news, it brings into sharp focus what we do in our school communities to help reduce carbon emissions and care for God’s creation.



During the pandemic lockdown, the world saw a huge reduction in carbon emissions. The impact of the pandemic sent shockwaves through all walks of life – the economy, the health service, family life and education. From an education perspective, we experienced huge challenges such as ensuring pupils’ and staff health and wellbeing was being well-supported in a socially distanced environment. Through our resourcefulness and creativity, we also experienced many achievements such as overcoming barriers for distance learning and finding new ways of working.

It was during these times, we realised that new ways of working and living were having a positive impact on the planet. We were using our cars less; we were walking more in our local parks, we were going for bike rides, we were using the local shops more, we were spending more time in our gardens and we were printing less paper as we worked more remotely. Many of us found these changes in lifestyles and working practices were actually quite satisfying when we tried them.

Of course, the world cannot afford to stand still. We need the wheels of the world’s economy to turn and we need to keep our schools open. We all realise that there is nothing better than being in the class with pupils and coming together for collective worship.

However, we must not forget about and totally abandon the new and different ways we lived our lives during the height of the pandemic. We must not return to the default position of jumping in the car, photocopying lots of paper and turning the heating up whilst still wearing summer clothes. For the sake of God’s creation, we must do all we can to look after it.

You only have to turn on the news to know we are facing a global emergency. We find ourselves at a key moment in the story of humanity’s engagement with the earth and her creatures. The melting of polar ice sheets and mountain glaciers, a rapid decline in insect numbers and increasingly extreme weather patterns are just some of the symptoms of our negative effect on

the rest of God's creation. Action is urgent, and needs to happen at all levels, in all societies. Individuals, communities, businesses, schools, churches and nations must all be involved.

In Genesis 2:15, we can see the creation is God's, but we are given a key role to care for it.

The earth and creatures – indeed the whole cosmos - have beauty, dignity and meaning before human presence. To nurture the wonder of creation is part of our calling. Look up into the skies, walk in the fields, stand at the ocean's edge. Everything belongs, everything has beauty!

The Bible narrative says that God planted a garden in Eden and there he put the man whom he had formed. The garden is such an insightful model for our care of creation. At its best, a garden is both useful and beautiful, a source of sustenance and of inspiration. Our call is to be good gardeners, thoughtful, alert and diligent.

The earth provides beauty to inspire us and food to sustain us but its capacity to do so is under threat.

What can we do in schools to care for our world? In his speech at the Climate Conference on Friday, the Education Secretary, Nadhim Zahawi, said that 'education is one of our key weapons in the fight against climate change'. I am aware that schools across the diocese already do lots to address climate change. Important climate issues are woven throughout the curriculum; they will no doubt also be a focus in Collective Worship. Some schools have extra-curricular clubs and social action projects for pupils to engage in. Our distinctive Christian vision emphasises the need for this to be a priority in our school communities.


We wait to see how the series of measures announced by Mr Zahawi on Friday will support schools in this important work. As you will be aware, the government has plans which include introducing a Climate Leaders Award, a 'model Science curriculum' and energy pods to replace old gas boilers.

In February 2020, General Synod voted to set a target for the whole Church of England of achieving 'net-zero' carbon by 2030. A route map for how the Church can achieve this has been drafted to invite conversation and consultation. Our response to this will help shape the actions the Church of England will commit to take this decade.

This consultation is primarily aimed at national Church bodies, diocesan structures (including Diocesan Boards of Finance and Diocesan Boards of Education), and cathedrals. This is because it is about how the central and diocesan structures can plan for and support parishes and schools in achieving net zero by 2030, as well as tackling their own buildings, landholdings and work transport. However, the views of others are vital to achieving the overall goal. Responses from parishes, schools, and individuals are welcome. To find out more details about the Church of England's work on reducing carbon emissions and the consultation papers, please visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/net-zero-consultation>

Kind Regards

Paul



Schools! – If you have any articles you would like included in the weekly DBE bulletin, to share good practice in our schools (regarding climate change or anything you would like to share) then please email tracy.smith@lincoln.anglican.org

Courses and Services for 2021-22

Please information below for forthcoming courses:

Our website is a 'one stop shop' for more details and the place to book on these courses - our booking form may look a little different this year; however this should still be as easy to book as before. In addition to this, make sure you look out for emails sent each week highlighting upcoming courses.

Any questions please do get in touch - patricia.dixon@lincoln.anglican.org

To book your place on any of our courses, please click on the link below:

<https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/page/?title=Diary+of+Central+Events&pid=53>

Following the recent Governor Network Meeting and the briefing for Head teachers, we would like to confirm details of a new SIAMS course on 10th November 2021: Revised SIAMS and Excellence.

Revised SIAMS
and Excellence

Join Gillian Georgiou for a look at the revised SIAMS evaluation schedule in detail and how it relates to you and your school, as well as looking at what it means to be excellent.

Wednesday 10th November 2021
10am-12pm
Online
SLA Cost £60 per person
Non SLA £139 per person

Please click on the link below to book your place.

[https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1 &event=241](https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1&event=241)

Collective Worship Going Deeper – Session Four: Inspirational

This virtual event will take place between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on 16th November 2021.

Collective Worship

Going Deeper

New for 2021

Join us as we look at different elements of Collective Worship, to ensure it is truly Inclusive, Invitational and Inspirational

Book all 5 sessions (at a discounted price) or pick and choose the relevant sessions to you

Venue:
These sessions will be conducted virtually
Zoom details will be sent out prior each session
4pm-6pm

Cost: £240 for all 5 sessions or
£60 per session
(non SLA £550 for 5 £139 per session)
Book online at
www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/training-and-events

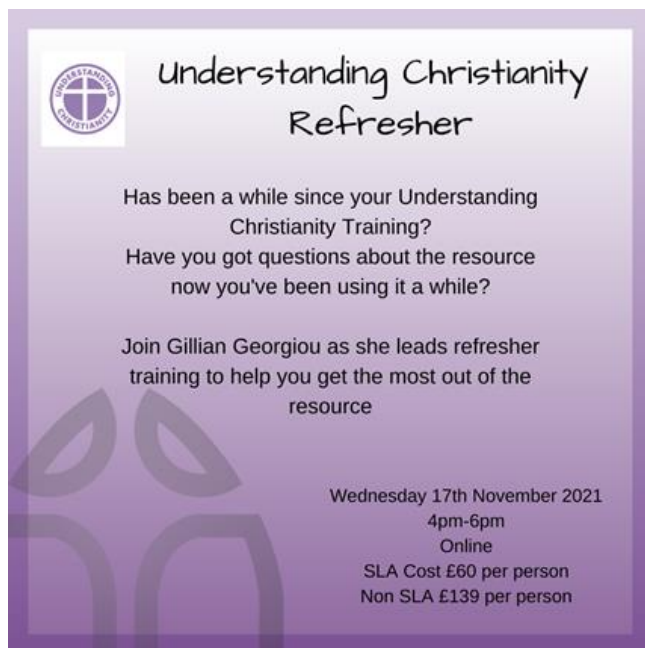


In this session we will look at how Collective Worship can be truly inspirational and how it can have a transformational effect on individuals and the school community.

In this session we will look at how Collective Worship can be truly inspirational. We will consider what that looks like during Collective Worship and how it can have a transformational effect on individuals and the school community. We will also look at how Collective Worship can motivate children and adults into action, thinking differently, and reflecting on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions.

Please click on the link below to book you place:

<https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7&pid=9&viewid=1&event=160>

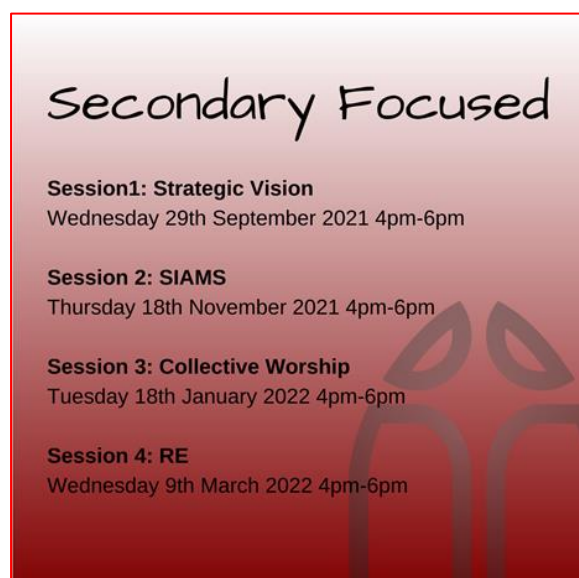


Understanding Christianity Refresher Session

This online event will take place between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on 17th November 2021.

If you would like to ask Gillian any questions, come along and join us. You can book your place by using the link below:

<https://www.lincolndioCESaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7&pid=9&viewid=1&event=178>



Secondary Focused - SIAMS

This event will take place virtually between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on 18th November 2021.

This session will introduce the Church of England Vision for Education, sitting it within the broader context of the Church's *Growing Faith* strategy. It will explore the current SIAMS Evaluation Schedule (taking into account the recent revisions), which forms the basis of the SIAMS inspection process.

Cost: **FREE** as part of SLA - Non SLA £139 per person
Book you place now by following this link:

<https://www.lincolndioceseeducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1&event=189>

Aspirational Governor Conference 29th June 2022

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with the Local Authority and are holding a joint Governor Conference on 29th June 2022 at Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln.

The conference will include inspirational speakers, including Emma Knights from the NGA, and practical workshops to equip governors in their role.

Take advantage of the early bird rate (£65) by clicking on the booking link to secure a place
<https://www.lincolndioceseeducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1&event=185>

SIAMS Updates

We have been notified of updates made to documents available on the [SIAMS Inspections webpage](#):

- **the Revised Evaluation Schedule** has been updated to include a honeycomb graphic on the features of Excellence (new page 20). This is not new information and does not include any new or additional requirements but is, simply, an alternative representation which some may find useful.
- **the SIAMS Information for Schools** document has been updated to include section 4.5 on Quality Assurance and Inspector training, and section 7 on the SIAMS Duty Desk for inspectors.

These updated documents are now available on the SIAMS Inspections webpage (see link above).

Save the Date!

30th March 2022 – Conference for head teachers, chairs of governors, senior leader, clergy.
In person event at Bishop Grosseteste University.

More details to follow.

Community Matters at Christmas from The Archbishop of York Youth Trust

A new free resource for Advent this year: '**Community Matters at Christmas**'.

The resource is available for pre-order now and will be released as a full resource on **Monday 1st November**.



Throughout Advent we will explore different communities from the Christmas story, see what they can teach us about community and how they can inspire us to make a difference this Christmas. Over four weeks, the resource celebrates how **community** can bring us **joy, acceptance, generosity** and **love**.

The resource includes videos of pupils talking about their communities, bible links, reflections and practical challenges and can be used in the classroom or in collective worship.

It would be great if you were able to share this with your schools. I've attached an image which can be used online too. Please edit/use as you feel appropriate/space allows.

Schools can pre-order or sign up here: www.abyyt.com/advent

Community Matters eBook

We have also recently released a new eBook that I thought you and your team might be interested in. **Community Matters: Helping Young People Lead with Character in a Post-Covid World** is a series of reflections from experts in the education sector, focussing on the increasing need for the prioritisation of character education.

Download the eBook for free: abyyt.com/projects/community-matters-ebook

If you were able to signpost to your schools about Advent that would be great. Also still thinking about speaking opportunities if there were any meetings you were holding where you think it would be appropriate to speak. I notice you have your conference scheduled for 30th March. Would we be able to come and have a stall at that? Let me know what you think.

Elizabeth Howat, Director of the Young Leaders Award

www.abyyt.com

07725 253554

P.S. [Community Matters](#) is our new set of free resources for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 which helps pupils to explore how they can play their part in creating positive change in their communities. Download for free [here](#).

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is on 27 January, and there are lots of free resources online to help teachers lead assemblies, activities or lessons with students. New this year are lesson plans about the *Kindertransport* and a flexible set of worksheets called 'Days to remember', which give an introduction to different genocides through one day, one person and one artefact.

You can find all the school materials at www.hmd.org.uk/schools.

Marking HMD helps your students to learn about the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups, more recent genocides and contemporary issues. They will increase their knowledge, empathy and desire to take part in social action. This is especially important at a time when hate crime, extremist views, antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate are on the rise.

Contact the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Education Officer today for help and support and to get started: education@hmd.org.uk.

Diocesan Service Level Agreement 2021-22

We were delighted many of our schools have chosen to join the Diocesan SLA for the new academic year. We have adapted our provision to suit the situation we find ourselves in. Due to this many more schools have benefitted from the breadth and diversity of our support and quality services, which remains a source of pride and absolute commitment for the whole team.

As well as discounted rates at all Diocesan courses conferences and events, and priority places at the annual Church Schools' Festival, all schools subscribing to the SLA will benefit from an annual adviser visit by a member of the Diocesan team to celebrate successes and provide guidance and support. The visit is followed up with a written report.

This annual SLA visit is free to schools in the SLA, however if chargeable the cost equates to more than £500.

If you would like to subscribe or require more information regarding the Diocesan Service Level Agreement, please contact tracy.smith@lincoln.anglican.org or see our website - <https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/sla>