



## From *Paul Thompson*, Diocesan Director of Education –

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,  
when it is in your power to act.

28 Do not say to your neighbour,  
“Come back tomorrow and I’ll give it to you” —  
when you already have it with you. (Proverbs  
3:27-28)



**Dear Friends and Colleagues,**

When we think of the terrible situation in Ukraine, we cannot fail to be moved by the pain and suffering inflicted on the millions of people in that country. We pray that there will be an end to the war very soon and that families will be able to rebuild their lives in a safe and secure future.

It is in the darkest days that we can also see the light of people’s generosity shine most brightly. Amongst the news reports showing terror and destruction, we can find lots of heart-warming stories of kindness, love and care. People are giving what they have to help families in despair.

It is important to remember that being generous isn’t always about money. There are lots of practical ways to be generous. To help the people of Ukraine, we see neighbouring countries that have opened up their borders and people that have opened up their homes to provide warmth and shelter in their time of need. In this country, schools and charities have collected literally tons and tons of donated gifts, food, blankets, etc., to ship across to the families in need – and this is at a time when there is a cost of living crisis. We also hear of British van drivers voluntarily making a 13-hour trip through Europe to get the aid to the people as soon as possible.

Ed Blackbird, a van driver from Gateshead reported, 'We will be travelling for two days, crossing from Hull to Rotterdam and then straight into Ukraine. I don't want to go into Ukraine. I probably won't be allowed to go into Ukraine, but we need to get as close as we can to help these people with what we have in the factory.'

Being generous is a conscious decision from the heart to do something with what you have. Christians believe that God calls his people to be generous with what he has given to them. It is a sign of trust in God, that there will be enough for everyone, so we share what we have.

In the Bible, Jesus explains to his disciples the importance, not just of what we do and are seen to do, but the reason why we do something – what is in our mind and our heart when we choose to do something is as important as what we do.

**21** As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. **2** He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. **3** "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. **4** All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." (Luke 21: 1-4)

Jesus saw that the poor widow knew and loved God, and that she trusted God to meet her needs, in every area of her life. This meant she was free to be generous and give her two copper coins.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century poet, Khalil Gibran wrote,

*'It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.'*

In our church school family, we recognise that there are many practical examples of generosity. As a DBE team, we often talk about the professional and personal generosity we see in schools. We have school leaders being generous with their knowledge and time to mentor and coach less experienced staff. We witness great examples of peer-to-peer support. We have teachers who go the 'extra mile' to support all pupils and especially those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable in some way. We have hundreds of governors who give freely of their time to support school leaders. We see lots of courageous advocates leading social action work in the local communities. Thank you for all that you do.

If your school would like to share and celebrate practical examples of generosity, please send us an article for us to include in future bulletins.

Questions for reflection:

How are you generous to yourself?

How are you generous to each other in school?

How are you generous to your family and community?

How are you generous with your space, time and words?

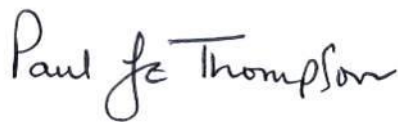


Prayer:

Loving Father, you have made us your people, richly provided us with good gifts and called us to live for you; may gratitude be in our hearts; may generosity be in our hands; may justice and righteousness guide our feet and may the life of your kingdom and the joy of heaven be found among us.

Amen

Best Wishes



Paul Thompson

## Important Updates and Messages

### Courses and Conferences

Leading with Optimism - Conference for head teachers, chairs of governors, senior leaders, clergy



The banner features the Diocese of Lincoln Board of Education logo on the left. The title 'LEADING WITH OPTIMISM' is centered at the top. Below the title are three circular portraits of the speakers: The Rt Revd Stephen Conway (Acting Bishop of Lincoln), Dr Margaret James (National Director of SIAMS), and Katrina Gueli (Ofsted Regional Director, East Midlands). The event details are listed on the right: 30TH MARCH 2022, 10 AM - 3:30PM, at Bishop Grosseteste University, Longdales Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3DY. A small inset image shows a person at a laptop in a presentation setting.

We are excited this year to be back in person for our annual Headteacher, Senior Leader, Chair of Governor and Clergy conference.

Joining us as our keynote speakers are:

- The Rt Revd Stephen Conway, Acting Bishop of Lincoln
- Dr Margaret James, National Director of SIAMS
- Katrina Gueli, Ofsted Regional Director, East Midlands

There will also be practical workshops on the day to support you in role as a leader.

Date: Wednesday 30th March 2022  
Venue: Bishop Grosseteste University  
Longdales Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3DY

Cost:  
School Staff: £175  
Governor: £135  
Clergy £75

To book use the link below –

<https://data.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/civCRM/event/info?id=5565&reset=1>

## Governance and Compliance Lead

Part Time (30 hours per week) and permanent

Salary: £37,500 pro rata (£30,000 for contracted hours)

Location: Edward King House, Minster Yard, Lincoln, LN2 1PU (working from home for part of the week can be negotiated)

Start date as soon as possible

**The Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education (LDBE) is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual to join our dedicated and talented team which inspires our family of church schools and academies across the Diocese of Lincoln. This is an exciting and challenging role, in the context of an organisation which places Christian vision and values at the centre of all that we do.**

The Diocese of Lincoln supports 141 church schools across a wide geographical area (infant, junior, primary and secondary) in the three Local Authorities of Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

For our next exciting phase of development, we are looking to appoint an experienced and innovative individual to become our new Governance and Compliance Lead

Our new Governance and Compliance Lead will already have a track record of working effectively in governance and compliance, with strong expertise and excellent knowledge of the primary or secondary governance models. Confidently engaging with a wide range of audiences and stakeholders, they'll also have a keen eye for detail and experience and understanding of the current educational landscape.

The successful candidate will share our vision for our family of schools, working together for the good of all pupils underpinned by Christian values.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Successful experience of working effectively with governors in schools and academies
- To have knowledge of statutory requirements in relation to key legislation related to education e.g. admissions, GDPR and governance
- The ability to inspire trust and confidence
- The ability to work inclusively within a Christian organisation

We can offer you:

- A supportive and dynamic team working within a Christian context
- The chance to support transformation for pupils and families across greater Lincolnshire
- Opportunities for continuous professional development
- Experience of working collaboratively with a range of talented school leaders and education partners

We are looking to appoint a suitably qualified candidate on a permanent, part time contract.

If you are interested in this opportunity to contribute to the development of Church School Education in a dynamic and forward-thinking diocese, please download the application pack and application form from the Diocesan Board of Education website at -

<https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/vacancies>

Should you wish to discuss this post further you are more than welcome to contact, Paul Thompson, Diocesan Director of Education, Tel 01522 504010 or email [paul.thompson@lincoln.anglican.org](mailto:paul.thompson@lincoln.anglican.org)

**Closing Date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 (no later than 9 a.m.)**

**Shortlisting: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

**Interview Date: Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

## Celebrating our Schools

Congratulations to John Harrison Church of England Primary in Barrow-upon-Humber, who we are delighted to see featured in the case studies materials which form part of the new National EYFS exemplification documents [Early years foundation stage: exemplification materials - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) . It is wonderful to see staff from our schools contributing to the wider school system and supporting the development of other practitioners.

**Schools!** – If you have any articles you would like included in the weekly DBE bulletin, to share good practice in our schools then please email [ellen.cross@lincoln.anglican.org](mailto:ellen.cross@lincoln.anglican.org)