



## Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education Vision 2023

This is our commitment to our church schools and to church school education:

‘Believing we are **called** into fellowship with God who seeks the flourishing of all, we **aspire** to strengthen our school communities with wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

Through partnerships firmly **rooted** in Christian hope and in the love of God, we **empower** all in our Church school family to love one another with humility, justice and kindness.’

Called

Aspirational

Rooted

Empowering

C A R E

### Theological Underpinning of the Vision

The story of Moses and Burning Bush underpins our vision and its drivers: Called, Aspirational, Rooted and Empowering.

#### **Moses and the Burning Bush - Exodus 3:3-12**

*Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. **3** So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”*

***4** When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”*

*And Moses said, “Here I am.”*

***5** “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” **6** Then he said, “I am the God of your father, [a] the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.*

***7** The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. **8** So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. **9** And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. **10** So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”*

***11** But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”*

***12** And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”*



**Called** to a vocation - Moses notices the burning bush and responds to it. Moses has an encounter with a living God. God calls him by name and calls him for a community, asking him to go to Pharaoh to free the Jewish slaves. He asks, 'who am I?' and questions his own ability to do this task. In education today, the LDBE has a vocation. We are called to notice people's gifts, talents and achievements, as well as any underachievement and injustice. We are called to acknowledge all as made in the image of God and to honour them as such. We are called to support vulnerable groups and to enable all pupils and adults to flourish. We help develop skills, knowledge and confidence. We encourage our schools and their pupils to discover their vocation and make a difference to the world.

**Aspirational** - With God's support, Moses actively seeks to address injustice. In education, we actively seek to break down barriers for vulnerable pupils (disadvantaged, SEND and those in minority and marginalised groups). We are also aspirational for our school leaders, governors, teachers, teaching assistants, pupils, and all those involved in providing education in our schools. We want to nurture academic habits, skills, emotional intelligence, spirituality and creativity. We grow all of God's people according to their gifts and we are aspirational for all.

**Rooted** - Just as the bush is rooted in holy ground, our schools are rooted by a Christian foundation, through Christian hope and the love of God. The bush is rooted in a time and a place and provides a sense of belonging. In the same way, our schools are rooted in a particular time and place for their pupils, staff and the wider school community, and the work they do reflects this. They are all places of belonging and a valued part of our church school family. Our work is driven by our deep roots of faith, hope, love, family, partnerships and links with the church and community.

**Empowering** - Moses was empowered by God to undertake his challenging task and to be an agent of change. The LDBE empowers church school leaders and pupils to be agents of positive change so that church schools can serve the common good in deeply Christian ways. Like Moses, they aim to do this through humility, justice and kindness.





CALLED	
<b>Vision</b>	Believing we are <b>called</b> into fellowship with God who seeks the flourishing of all
<b>Theological / Biblical Links</b>	1 Corinthians 1:9 <i>God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.</i>
<b>Links to operational work of the LD BE</b>	Collective worship, spiritual development, Growing Faith, Time to Change Together, wellbeing, diversity, equity and inclusion, partnerships, support for SEND and vulnerable pupils and adults, school improvement, supporting sustainable schools, governance support.

ASPIRATIONAL	
<b>Vision</b>	We <b>aspire</b> to strengthen our school communities with wisdom, knowledge and understanding.
<b>Theological / Biblical Links</b>	Hebrews 10:24-25 <i>And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...</i>
<b>Links to operational work of the LD BE</b>	Collective worship, Growing Faith, Time to Change Together, support for SEND and vulnerable pupils and adults, school improvement, RE, SIAMS support, professional development, leadership development, administration support, legal support, communication, including website, grants, administering capital grants (VA schools), Headteacher recruitment, biblical literacy, Methodist links, values, vision support.



ROOTED	
<b>Vision</b>	Through partnerships firmly <b>rooted</b> in Christian hope and in the love of God
<b>Theological / Biblical Links</b>	Colossians 2:6-7 <i>So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.</i>
<b>Links to operational work of the LDBE</b>	DBE Measure, National C of E Office, educational partnerships (Ofsted, SIAMS, LA, MATS, Reconnecting Lincolnshire etc.), church partnerships (Diocese, Lightspace Ministries, iSingPOP, YLA, etc.), governors, other dioceses, christian distinctiveness, wellbeing/pastoral care, mat strategy, environmental sustainability, support for SEND and vulnerable pupils and adults, collective worship, spiritual development Growing Faith, diversity, equity and inclusion.

EMPOWERING	
<b>Vision</b>	We <b>empower</b> all in our Church school family to love one another with humility, justice and kindness.
<b>Theological / Biblical Links</b>	Micah 6:8 <i>He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.</i>
<b>Links to operational work of the LDBE</b>	Celebration, partnerships, leadership training, professional development, diversity, equity and inclusion, courageous advocacy, Time to Change Together, Growing Faith spiritual development, governance, wellbeing/pastoral care, environmental sustainability.