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# The Diocesan Board of Education

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

*'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will' Romans 12:2*

At the start of this new school year we are going to spend some time revisiting our vision, that was developed last year, through amongst other things, our thought for the weeks and this week's online worship. One of the reasons we spent time redeveloping our vision was because our last one had been written many years before. Things had moved on significantly within both the education world and in life more generally, not in the least due to Covid and the Black Lives Matter movement. It felt important to make sure our promise you to as schools was relevant and was lived out in the work we do.

*'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.'*

Whenever I am developing an online worship or writing something related to the vision it gives me time to pause and delve into it a bit deeper. The sermon at my church last week got me thinking about cultural norms and cultural conditioning. A good definition for cultural conditioning is:

*'a process through which we absorb and interpret the norms and the messaging from our environment and translate them into what we believe to be acceptable.'*

Throughout history we have seen this time and time again, and with the advent of social media (yes, I am definitely old enough to remember a time without it) and 24/7 up to date news and media I would not hesitate to say we see our children, young people and even ourselves being conditioned by what we see.



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The Bible verse from Romans is very clear that we should not conform to the pattern of the world, or to put it in my own words, not to go along with the status quo or be influenced by what we are bombarded with. So, if we are not to be conformed or culturally conditioned by the world around us what should we be conditioned by? For me this is where the link to our vision comes: we should be 'rooted in Christian hope and the love of God'. At times, Christian love and hope can feel counter cultural; being rooted in a faith and, for me, the Bible, can sometimes feel counter cultural. We live in a complex world with complex issues that can be difficult to navigate but I believe we should not shy away from them. By being rooted in hope and love when we need to be, we can be counter cultural and give the children and young people in our care the boldness and strength do the same when it is needed. So, let's not be transformed by the negative things of the world, or the horrors and violence that we have seen, let's be firmly rooted in biblical values, good friendship, good advice and the positives of the world.

This week we have our Autumn term online Secondary and Primary Collective Worship. The collective worship is based on the theme of 'Who do we care for?'. It links to our vision - that we C.A.R.E - but also the fact that over the summer we haven't seen everyone in our society cared for in the way that everyone deserves.

We'd love as many school communities to watch it as it is launched so that we are all watching it together; however, it will also be available afterwards so school can use it when it is convenient. You are welcome to share it with parents, governors, Bishop's Visitors, clergy and other members of your school community. If you use Facebook or X we'd love you to tag us showing your children and young people involved in the worship.

X - @LincolnDBE <https://twitter.com/lincolndbe>

Facebook – Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61554416956385>

Both worships are on Thursday 19th Sept and will be launched on our YouTube channel, please see the links below.

Secondary: 8:45am <https://youtu.be/SZKvBJwrtt0>

Infant and Primary: 2pm <https://youtu.be/2A9lrwkVIB8>

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We have also attached a Picture News Worship that discusses ‘How can communities help each other in times of difficult? Please see details below.

I pray you have a great week, this week and always please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can support you in any way.

*from* Lynsey Norris, Assistant Director of Education

## Picture News details—

**Story:** Over the summer, riots took place in England and Northern Ireland that caused a great deal of damage to cars and buildings. Communities in many towns organised clean-up efforts that united people from all faiths and races.

**Question:** How can communities help each other in times of difficulty?

**Virtual Picture News:** [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

It can be used as a class discussion or as an assembly resource.

## Upcoming LDBE Courses—

Date	Time	Course	
<a href="#">17/09/2024</a>	<a href="#">9:30-12:30</a>	<a href="#">SEF Writing Workshop</a>	<a href="#">face to face</a>
<a href="#">23/09/2024</a>	<a href="#">16:00-18:00</a>	<a href="#">Using your Data: How do you know your vision is having an impact? Preparing for in-</a>	<a href="#">online</a>
<a href="#">26/09/2024</a>	<a href="#">13:30-15:00</a>	<a href="#">RE Cluster</a>	<a href="#">online</a>
<a href="#">02/10/2024</a>	<a href="#">10:00-11:00</a>	<a href="#">Diocesan Headteacher Briefing</a>	<a href="#">online</a>
<a href="#">02/10/2024</a>	<a href="#">17:30-19:00</a>	<a href="#">Governor and Clerk to Governors Briefing</a>	<a href="#">online</a>

# SIAMS One Year On!

Thursday 17th  
October 2024  
10am-3:30pm

Suitable for  
Headteachers,  
Governors, Christian  
Distinctiveness &  
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## Books at Press

Please find attached to this email—Books at Press catalogues.

## Springs Dance Company

Creative and imaginative ways to boost children's engagement with RE and PSHE from Springs Dance Company!

*"It has been incredible! I really didn't know what to expect, but wow! The team have been amazing with the children and had every single child engaged and on board. Their calm, yet fun and inspiring tone has been amazing and the children have responded so well!"* Deputy Headteacher, Great Horwood Primary School.

Springs provides an exciting way for children to interact with the RE curriculum through physical movement and creativity.

We are now booking for Autumn 2024 – Spring 2025:

**A Christmas Story: Refugee** – Inspired by Anne Booth's Christmas story Refuge, these workshops will guide pupils on a journey of dance, drama and discussion. Children will uncover a relevant and meaningful telling of the first Christmas, through learning, creating and performing movement.

**The Nativity Project** – Want to try something different this Advent? Our Nativity brings to life the traditional, much-loved scenes of the Christmas story, then continues the story after the birth of Jesus, highlighting the importance of showing hospitality to others. Our professional dancers can create a unique performance with children, over the course of a longer project, for them to share with family and friends.

**The Easter Project** - These much-loved workshops provide a fresh and exciting way to explore the Easter story. The workshops can be delivered as a one-off day or a longer project and can culminate in an informal sharing or performance by the pupils.

Other popular workshops in the Autumn include ***You Are Special*** and ***The Good Samaritan***. Further details on all of our work for schools can be found at: <https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/join-in/>

To book and to find out more please email [touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk](mailto:touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk) or call 07775 628 442.

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## Scampton Church & RAF War Graves Heritage Centre

*Please find below, from Joe at the heritage centre—*

I hope you and your staff have had a well earned Summer break.

As you start the new academic year 24/25 I thought I would let you know about our free educational resources which specifically link to the National Curriculum KS2 year 6 topic of 'local history and wars of the 20th century'.

Working alongside Heritage Lincolnshire, The Commonwealth War Graves Commission and West Lindsey District Council we have created a unique and exciting opportunity for children to visit Scampton Church and RAF War Graves Heritage Centre to learn about local WW2 history, and remembrance. Learning experiences are designed to be fun, research based, and mainly interactive.

There are three lesson plans. The plans and resources can be downloaded free of charge, to be delivered by your staff in school, at <https://scamptonchurch.org/educational-project/>.

Additional topics covered are Geography (Locational knowledge, Geographic skills); Mathematics (Geometry – position and direction) Natural History and Science (looking at living things and their environment).

We are also able to offer a full day at Scampton for sessions to be delivered by our trained volunteers for a small charge to cover heating and lighting. We only deliver these sessions on one day per month. If you are interested in taking part in this unique opportunity please contact [shelley@scamptonchurch.org](mailto:shelley@scamptonchurch.org)

NB: All our volunteers hold current Advanced DBS Certificates.

With many thanks and every best wish

Joe

Joe Bartrop (project co-ordinator)

07870665245

<https://scamptonchurch.org/educational-project/>