
The Diocesan Board of Education



Dear Friends and Colleagues,



Yesterday, I had the privilege of attending the Racial Justice Evensong at Lincoln Cathedral, alongside pupils, staff, and families representing our school communities across the diocese. Reflecting this year's theme, 'A Coat of Many Colours,' pupils from Scunthorpe Church of England Primary School marked the start of the service by processing a beautiful woven artwork, which was placed in front of the altar. This weaving symbolized the school's rich and diverse tapestry—pupils, staff, and families from different cultures and traditions, intricately woven together into a fabric of belonging.

Inspired by Joseph's coat of many colours, the artwork powerfully represented the interconnectedness of cultures, backgrounds, and experiences within our church and school communities. Its vibrant colours, textures, and words served as a reminder of the growing diversity in our churches and schools—and the strength that comes from unity in Christ. The young people who led the service underscored the

importance of involving the next generation in conversations about racial justice and inclusion, inspiring hope for a more equitable future.

Rev. Pauline Cummins (Rector of the Waltham Group of Churches) invited the congregation to reflect on the ongoing call to strive for racial justice—not only in this country but around the world. She reminded us of these words from John 13:34-35:

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

³⁵ By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

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Racial Justice Sunday serves as an annual reminder of our collective responsibility to ensure that all people, regardless of race or background, feel valued and represented in the life of the Church. While this day provides a moment of reflection, it is through our daily work in schools and communities that we truly live out our commitment to justice and reconciliation.

The service concluded with a communal act of commitment to racial justice, led by the pupils. As you reflect this week, you may wish to renew your school's commitment and remember that racial justice is not just a moment—but a lifelong commitment to love, inclusion, and reconciliation.

“Dear people of God, we stand in the shadow of the prophets crying out for justice and peace. God calls us to be a people of reconciliation, serving a world in need. Courageous women and men have taken the risk of standing up and speaking out for the least and the lowest.

This work involves risking ourselves for the sake of God's love and moving beyond ourselves in order to seek and serve Christ and one another. We are all called to the work and ministry of racial justice and reconciliation.

Will you persevere in prayer and fellowship?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim the good news of reconciliation in both word and deed?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge and address the prejudices that keep you from loving all God's children?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you strive to see Christ in all persons, and value those with whom you disagree?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek to mend what is broken by human sin and greed?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you strive to speak words that liberate and heal and break the bonds of silence?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek the perfect love which casts out all fear?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you work toward dismantling the sin of abuse of power?

All With the help of God, I will.”

from June Richardson, **School Effectiveness Adviser**

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Upcoming LDBE Courses—

Date	Time	Course		Book Here
12/02/2025	10:00-16:00	New Church School Headteacher Induction	face to face	book
13/02/2025	13:30-15:30	Developing Knowledge in RE	online	book
26/02/2025	16:00-18:00	How is collective worship enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritu- ally?	online	book
27/02/2025	10:00-12:00	Teaching Christianity as a Global Faith	online	book
05/03/2025	16:00-18:00	Developing the Spiritual Life of the School	online	book

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GOVERNANCE: Get Information About Schools (GIAS)

Please can we remind all schools that GIAS should be kept up to date. All governance changes are required to be updated within 14 days.

This week a new role has been identified on GIAS. Schools and academies are now able to add the contact information for their governance professional. This could be the clerk to the board of trustees in a MAT or clerk to the governing board in a maintained school.

Adding this role acknowledges and promotes the central role of our highly regarded governance professionals and will also ensure they receive direct communication from the DfE.

The same privacy conditions apply as for headteachers in that the name will be visible on the schools/academy trust record but personal information will be protected in accordance with the GIAS privacy notice.

Further guidance can be found here [Get Information about Schools - GOV.UK](https://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk)

GIAS privacy notice is here <https://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/privacy>

WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

FULL TERM OF OFFICE: 4 YEARS (Part Time. Fixed Term)

START DATE: MARCH 2025

ROLE OVERVIEW

'Together we care, learn and thrive.'

Welton St Mary's are seeking to appoint a dedicated and committed Chair of Trustees to support, lead and drive their successful academy in the coming years.

If you would like to arrange an informal conversation with the Headteacher, please email

imogen.lemon@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk



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Archbishop of Yorks' Young Leaders Award—

*We have received the below, from
the above:*

Our new free collective worship material for Lent *Living Hope* is available now. With 6 weeks of collective worship material, *Living Hope* will take pupils on a journey through Lent reflecting on Jesus' ministry and his message of hope for all people. This flexible resource can be used in the classroom, or in a church setting and you can use and adapt the material as best fits your school context.



It has been designed to run from the **24th February 2025**, in the 6 weeks before the school Easter holidays. However, Lent starts on **Wednesday 5th March**. The resource is flexible and you may wish to do all 6 weeks condensed into 4 weeks, or choose only 4 themes to deliver.

You can find out more and sign up here: www.abyyt.com/lent

Best wishes

Elizabeth Howat

Head of Archbishops' Young Leaders Award

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