

Dear Friends and Colleagues -

Over eight days, Lincoln Cathedral has yet again been filled with children as we gathered for our annual Church School Festival. It has been such a privilege to welcome around 93 schools and nearly 2,500 children and adults, as we celebrated our Year 6 pupils—and, in our infant schools, our Year 2 children—at this important moment in their Church school journey.

Our theme this year, “Together,” drawn from 1 Corinthians 12:12–26, has been at the heart of everything we’ve done. It reminds us that although we are all different, we belong to one body in Christ. Each child is unique, each school has its own character, but together we are part of something much bigger—our Church school family.



There has been so much to enjoy during the festival. The children have explored the beauty of the Cathedral through guided tours, supported so warmly by our wonderful tour guides. They spent time in the Education Centre with the Cathedral education team, discovering more about the Cathedral’s life and history. One particularly special activity was creating self-portraits—each one celebrating individuality, and together forming a display that reflects our shared belonging.

A real highlight, as always, was the iSingPOP workshop. Lisa brought such incredible energy and joy, and it was wonderful to see the children so fully engaged.

Through music and storytelling, they not only learned the songs but also explored the biblical message behind them. There was a real sense of excitement as they discovered what it means to be part of the body of Christ.

In the afternoon, we came together for a service of celebration and thanksgiving. The Cathedral was filled with singing as the children shared the songs they had learned, alongside prayers and a message from clergy. It was a lovely opportunity to pause and give thanks for their time in their Church schools. As ever, the service ended with the presentation of the candle and the procession of school banners—moments that continue to hold deep meaning and tradition.



The message of “Together” feels especially important. Across our Diocese, our schools may look different and serve different communities, but we share the same purpose: to enable every child and adult to flourish. We are stronger because of that diversity, and even stronger because we are working together.

As we move forward, may we hold on to that sense of belonging and connection. We are many parts, but one body—supporting one another, learning from one another, and continuing to walk together in faith for the flourishing of all.

Do check out our social media where we have shared school’s posts about the days as well as our own photos.

You can also see our Church School Festival Album on our [website](#).



Lynsey Norris
**Assistant
Diocesan Director
of Education**



Upcoming Courses & Events

Date	Time	Course		Book Here
23/06/2026	10:00 - 12:00	Bishop Visitor Training	Face to face	BOOK
24/06/2026	10:00 - 12:00	Bishop Visitor Training	Face to face	BOOK
25/06/2026	16:00-18:00	Monitoring and Evaluating the Spiritual Life of the School	Online	BOOK
10/07/2026	9:30-12:30	SEF writing Workshop	Face to face	BOOK