

# Dear Friends and Colleagues -

As we journey through this long and busy term, we are very aware that the recent extreme hot weather has brought additional pressures for our school communities. Hot classrooms can make teaching and learning more challenging for everyone. Pupils may find it harder to concentrate, energy levels can dip, and staff may feel the strain of maintaining routines, expectations and care in uncomfortable conditions.

At times like this, the wellbeing of both adults and children must remain a priority. Please continue to encourage regular hydration throughout the day, ensure water is easily accessible, and build in sensible pauses where needed. Where possible, keeping classrooms ventilated, making use of shaded areas, and adapting outdoor activities during the hottest parts of the day can make a real difference. It is also important to remain alert to signs of tiredness, overheating or dehydration, and to respond with care and flexibility.

Even in these challenging conditions, we are reminded of the wonder of God's creation. The sunlight, warmth and long summer days speak to us of growth, life and beauty. As Psalm 19:1 reminds us:

***"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."***

Creation can lift our eyes beyond the busyness of the moment and remind us that we are held within God's loving and sustaining care.

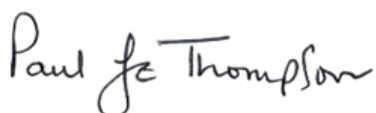
We are also reminded that warmth is not only found in the weather, but in our relationships with one another. During this demanding season of end-of-year assessments, sports days, report writing, transition work, summer fayres and many other commitments, small acts of kindness matter greatly. A word of encouragement, a shared smile, a thoughtful check-in with a colleague or pupil can all reflect the warmth of God's love within our school communities.

When the term feels long and strength feels low, we can take comfort from Isaiah 40:31:

***"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength."***

God does not promise that every day will be easy, but He does promise His presence, love and strength for the journey.

Thank you for all that you continue to give to your pupils, staff, families and communities. Please remember that you are not alone. The Lincoln DBE is here to support you whenever needed, and we hold you all in our thoughts and prayers as you continue to lead with courage, wisdom and compassion.



Canon Paul Thompson  
**Diocesan Director of Education**



# SEF Writing Workshop



The Diocesan  
Board of Education

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
9:30am-12:30am  
Edward King House,  
Minster Yard,  
Lincoln, LN2 1PU  
**Cost: £100**  
£155 (non SLA)



CALLED • ASPIRATIONAL • ROOTED • EMPOWERING

Join us for the SEF writing workshop. This is an opportunity for school leaders to take dedicated time away from the school site to work alongside the diocesan education team to draft or update their SIAMS SEF.

This workshop is designed as a practical session. Members of the education team will provide some introductory materials about SEF writing and be on hand to guide you. There will be opportunity to work with colleagues from other schools. Please note, we are not able to provide an exemplar SEF as each school needs to respond to its own context and vision.

By the end of this morning you will have had chance to explore all inspection questions and draft your document.

[BOOK HERE](#)

**Please come with access to any data, reports, monitoring that you may need to refer to as you engage in this practical session.**