

Dear Friends and Colleagues -



Today, we will somehow be heading into the third week of term. Although, when you actually count it up, most children will only have been back in school for six to seven days! I'm never quite sure how September manages to make a handful of school days feel considerably longer than that.

Hopefully, by now, some of the new-term routines are beginning to settle. Names are becoming familiar, timetables are starting to make sense and everyone is gradually remembering where they are supposed to be and when. The summer holidays probably already feel much further away than they were!

And yet, despite all the planning that goes into the start of an academic year, there is still so much ahead that none of us can know.

We make plans all the time in education. We have calendars full of dates, school development plans, priorities, targets and probably more than a few things already highlighted as important. We plan because it helps us to prepare for what is ahead. But, however carefully we plan, we can't possibly know everything this year will bring.

There will be wonderful days. Moments when a child achieves something they didn't think they could. Times when colleagues make us laugh. Celebrations, successes and those small, easily missed moments that remind us what a privilege it is to work with children and young people.

There will be difficult days too. Things we hadn't anticipated. Situations we can't immediately fix. Days when the carefully prepared plan goes completely out of the window.

Each Monday we are continuing to share a Bible verse across our social media as a word of hope for the week ahead (amongst sharing many other things, please do tag us in your posts so we can share). This Monday's verse is the same verse from Jeremiah, as it feels particularly appropriate as we look ahead to a school year in which so much is still unknown:

"For I know the plans I have for you..."



For me, the comfort in these words isn't a promise that everything will always go according to my plan – experience tells me fairly clearly that it won't! Instead, it is the reassurance that when I don't know what is coming next, God does.

And perhaps even more importantly, whatever comes next, I don't face it alone.

The verse speaks of “hope and a future”. Hope doesn't mean pretending that everything will be wonderful. It doesn't mean that there won't be challenges, disappointments or times when the way ahead isn't particularly clear. Hope is being able to look beyond where we are now and trust that today's situation isn't the whole story.

Maybe that's something worth holding onto as we head into week three.

None of us needs to have the whole term worked out, let alone the whole academic year. We can only take each day as it comes, doing the best we can for the children, families and colleagues around us. There will be good days and difficult days, exciting moments and challenging ones – and probably quite a lot of very ordinary Tuesdays in between.

Whatever lies ahead, for me there is great reassurance in believing that God already knows the road we will travel and, whatever we encounter along the way, he will be there with us every step. I hope week three is a good one for you and your school community.

Lynsey Norris

Assistant Diocesan Director of Education

LDBE Courses & Events

Date	Time	Course		Book Here
22/09/2026	16:00-18:00	Preparing for SIAMS inspection - Strategic Leadership and Theological Underpinning	online	MORE INFO & BOOKING
24/09/2026	16:00-17:30	Aspiring Leaders	online	MORE INFO & BOOKING
30/09/2026	13:30-15:00	RE Cluster	online	MORE INFO & BOOKING
29/09/2026	10:00-11:00	Headteacher Briefing	online	MORE INFO & BOOKING
29/09/2026	17:30-19:00	Governor and Clerks to Governor Briefing	online	MORE INFO & BOOKING

Consultation on the Proposal for a New Church Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) in the Diocese of Lincoln

Dear Colleague

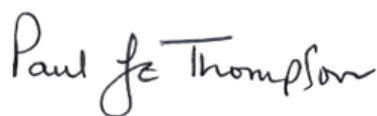
Please find attached to this email, a consultation document, inviting you to share your views on the five Expressions of Interest we have received for establishing a new church MAT in the Diocese of Lincoln.

As a valued and key stakeholder in church school education, your views are very important to the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education (LDBE).

For your views to be considered as part of the application process, please can you kindly complete and submit the Microsoft form via the link in the letter attached by Friday 2nd October 2026 (12 noon).

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes



Canon Paul Thompson
Diocesan Director of Education

Creative RE & Dance Workshops for Primary Schools

Springs Dance Company offers an active, creative way for pupils to engage with the RE curriculum through dance and drama. Bookings are now open for Autumn & Spring term:

- A Christmas Story: Refugee – Inspired by Anne Booth's book Refuge, pupils explore the first Christmas through dance, drama & discussion.
- The Nativity Project - Let Springs Dance Company co-create with your pupils a fresh, bespoke Nativity performance, incorporating your favourite songs and readings.
- The Easter Project – A dynamic look at the Easter story, available as a 1-day session or full project ending in a performance.

"They clearly enjoyed the session - with many asking when the dancers would be back!" - KS2 Teacher Matlock Bath Holy Trinity CofE.

Find out more & Book:

 springsdancecompany.org.uk/join-in/schools-workshops/

 touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk |  07775 628 442

NGA Webniar

NGA is hosting a webinar which governors may be interested in attending. This is also for directors in multi-academy trusts).

This takes place on 6 October 12.30 -13.15 and is free for NGA members

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Please see the links for more details and to book a place:

[Complaints in the age of AI: What governors and trustees need to know](#) | [National Governance Association](#)