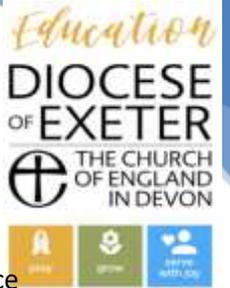


# EDUCATION NEWSLETTER FROM THE EDUCATION TEAM AT THE DIOCESE OF EXETER

*'To support, champion and challenge school communities to flourish together as an expression of God's love.'*



Dear Colleagues,

I trust you have had an enjoyable break and feel refreshed as we enter the summer term.

I know you will have lots on, yet am hopeful that this term will enable healing, repair and renewal.

We are confident that you and your teams will make wise decisions and, in amongst everything else, give time to relationships to enabling individuals to flourish together and to strengthen your communities. Please be kind to yourselves too – make time to stop and to breathe!

Our diocesan schools' community is here to support each other – together we have vast amounts of wisdom, knowledge, and skills. Please draw upon this experience and expertise as together we seek to ensure 'life in all its fullness' and to serve the people of Devon with joy.

Best wishes,

*Sue Lockwood*

Acting Diocesan Director of Education

*"If one part suffers, all suffer together; if one flourishes, all rejoice together."  
(1 Corinthians 12.26)*



**HRH The Duke of Edinburgh:** Accompanying this newsletter please find a collective worship resource linked to the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh so that you can mark his death and pray for the Royal family at this time. May Prince Philip rest in peace and rise in glory.

**Good news stories:** We know many of our church families engage positively with schools and have missed face to face contact over the last year. Some have asked for ideas and inspiration so that they can strengthen their work with schools and increase their understanding of what is important to our young people. If you have anything you can share, for example a joint church/school venture, environmental project or example of successful volunteering please do get in touch. Thank you.

**Ofsted and SIAMS:** As we know, Ofsted regular graded inspections will [resume in September](#) but monitoring visits will take place in the summer term. SIAMS will not be reintroduced until the Autumn term.



**Sharing the Story:** The Education Team, with the endorsement of Bishop Jackie, are launching an initiative 'Sharing the Story' which will link pupils in schools, volunteers from churches, and homes in supporting and developing the love and joy of reading. We are asking for volunteers from churches to come forward to help. Training is being provided through Ilsham English hub - please see the attached poster for details. More details will be shared at the leadership and governance forums on 11<sup>th</sup> May. When matched, schools will be responsible for their own safeguarding checks and local induction.

**Devon Right to Read:** To attend the launch event and confirm your place in this project, please book [here](#). This is a joint venture organised by Babcock, the Education Endowment Foundation and the diocese.



**Collective Worship Resources:** Some helpful Collective Worship video resources (Primary / Secondary) are available from the Church of England and can be accessed [here](#).

**Safeguarding:** Accompanying this newsletter mailing you will find attached a letter of assurance about the DBS checks undertaken for Diocese of Exeter staff who are working in schools. This should be stored with your Single Central Record.

**Government's [review into sexual abuse in schools](#):** The Government has asked Ofsted to undertake an immediate review of safeguarding policies. There are lots of resources to support you, including through your Local Authority. Browne Jackson also has updated advice on managing reports of [child-on-child assault](#). A dedicated number, 0800 136 663 (run by the NSPCC), is available to provide appropriate support and advice for children and adults who are victims of sexual abuse in schools.

Our **Programme of Networks and Training opportunities** is published on our [website](#). Training for the next period includes:

- Schools (VA) Condition Allocation Grant Funding – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 16:00 – 17:00
- Governor Induction (2 part) – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 10:00 – 11:30 **Please book on-line [here](#)**
- Open Surgery sessions - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 13:30 – 14:30
- SIAMS Hubs: Exeter & East, 4<sup>th</sup> May; Plymouth & West, 5<sup>th</sup> May; South Devon & Torbay, 12<sup>th</sup> May; North Devon, 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Leadership Forum – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 10:00 – 11:00 / Governance Forum – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 16:00 – 17:00
- Regular Friday 'wellbeing and spiritual refreshment' sessions – now open to all staff and governors

