

INFORMATION FLYER

November 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the November 2021 Information Flyer. We hope you'll find the following items of interest to you and your school. Please circulate to all staff and particularly subject leaders.

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I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow — not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below — indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8 37-39)

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1. HT Forum - 17 November 2021

Please find attached agenda for the forthcoming HT Forum taking place via Zoom on *27 November* from 09.30 – 12.45

To book please visit: [HT Forum](#)

2. Advent resources



Advent Around the World – Free Resources

The Diocese of Bath and Wells has produced some lovely free resources to explore Advent with school children. It is a resource for young people that not only journeys through the account of the birth of Jesus found in Luke's gospel, but gives a global perspective too.

Each week of Advent will begin with a two-minute video presented by Sam and Emily from Movement, and featuring Send a Cow project workers in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia reading part of the Christmas story from the Good News translation of the Bible. Follow up session material and daily social media posts then unpack the theme of the week with ideas for listening, reading, sharing and acting as well as reflecting and praying as we journey through Advent together. There's also extra information and links giving a spotlight on the life changing work of Send a Cow in Africa based on each of the four themes: Hope, Joy, Peace & Love.

You can download the resource using the link below:

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/60638a2c87045/content/pages/documents/advent-around-the-world-youth-resource.pdf>

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The Send a Cow YouTube channel can be accessed using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/sendacow/videos>

Community Matters at Christmas

This resource is available from the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust .

Throughout Advent it explores different communities from the Christmas story, sees what they can teach us about community and how they can inspire us to make a difference this Christmas. Over four weeks, the resource celebrates how **community** can bring us **joy, acceptance, generosity** and **love**.

The resource includes videos of pupils talking about their communities, bible links, reflections and practical challenges and can be used in the classroom or in collective worship.

Schools can sign up here: www.abyyt.com/advent



3. National Research Conference – 23 November 2021

The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership is running its 2nd Annual Research Conference – 'Flourishing Together' online on the 23 November 2021.

We would encourage you to look at the attached programme for any areas of interest. Being online it is possible for you to pop in/ pop out to the relevant areas.

To book please visit here: <https://www.cefel.org.uk/flourishingtogether/>

4. Staff wellbeing – 2 December 2021



THE SCHOOL OF
CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

‘ESTABLISHING PEACE IN OURSELVES’

Thursday 2 December 2021

15.30 – 17.00 via Zoom

We would like to invite all teachers to join in an experiential workshop introducing meditation in the Christian tradition as a simple but radically effective path to greater peace, wellbeing, and community.

TO BOOK: [Staff wellbeing event](#)

5. COP26 partnership between schools and churches

COP 26 is now underway, and it would be lovely to hear about any projects that you have been involved in with your local church such as prayer walls as suggested in the September flyer. We have noticed that there are some impressive photographs appearing on some of your websites and we would appreciate sharing and celebrating these initiatives across the Diocese and local media.

Please email any pictures or weblinks to jon.moule@dioceseofnorwich.org

6. SIAMS update

SIAMS inspections resumed on 11 October 2021. All SIAMS information can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-inspections>. A list of our schools which are **likely to be inspected is attached**.

With the new national approach notification will come via a telephone call from the SIAMS central team with a confirmation email to the school and copied to the diocese and inspector.

All SIAMS inspectors have completed 4 sessions of update training, some key points from this training are shared below:

- Inspectors will not carry DBS certificates and should not be asked to present them on the day of inspection. They must wear their badge, which is proof they have undertaken a DBS check.
- A school is no longer expected or required to report on recommendations from the last inspection, it is recognised due to COVID-19 and the length of time between inspections that this is no longer relevant.

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- A school, to be judged good, must have a working definition of what spirituality means in their context. Inspectors have been directed to explore this on inspection.
- Meetings during the inspection day will no longer be 'with people' but about key themes e.g. rather than meeting the RE lead, a meeting about RE will be held. This allows the schools greater flexibility on who is included in the meetings held.
- Lines of Enquiry will be reduced from 7 to 5, with two focusing on Collective Worship and RE.
- The PIP (Pre-Inspection Plan) is shorter and will no longer contain the inspector's explanation around each line of enquiry. This will now be discussed in a telephone conversation about the PIP the day before inspection (replacing the PIP meeting that normally takes place at the start of the inspection day).
- Contracts that are issued by the inspector to the school for the inspection now must be signed and returned to the inspector before the inspection day, rather than collected from the school during the inspection.

7. Holocaust Memorial Day

Social Action is an important part of the SIAMS Schedule. Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is on 27th January, and we would like to signpost you to free resources online to support teachers. There are also lesson plans about the Kindertransport. You can find all the school materials at www.hmd.org.uk/schools.

You can also contact the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Education Officer directly for help and support. education@hmd.org.uk

8. RSE requirements

The new RSE requirements are a sensitive subject, and you might have to field objections even after the consultation period has ended in your school. Learn about the most common ones and how to handle them. The Key provides advice on schools dealing with ongoing objections to RSE being taught. They offer a handy step by step guide to dealing with parents who raise objections and offer ways to come to an appropriate outcome. The guide includes being clear on what a parent has a right to withdraw their child from in RSE, how to deal with objections informally in the first instance, how to deal with some of the sensitive topics such parents may feel the most emotive about in RSE and resources schools might use with parents to support better understanding of RSE.

The link to the guide is: [RSE: handling objections from parents | The Key for School Leaders \(thekeysupport.com\)](https://www.thekeysupport.com/)

9. Eucharist Guidance for Schools

Some schools within our diocese undertake regular Eucharistic services with their children. Many more are interested in how to do this. We have written [Guidance on Eucharist in Schools](#) in consultation with some head teachers and members of the clergy to help guide schools in this process. It has been written to help those who are preparing a celebration of the Eucharist at which a significant number of children will be present.

The guidance sets out:

- some general principles of best practice applicable when children are present at a Eucharist in significant numbers.
- specific guidelines which are related more specifically to the different ways to approach, consult, and undertake Eucharists in schools.

The guidance is not a requirement for your school or academy to undertake Eucharists. It is designed to provide ideas and a structure to those interested in holding a Eucharist in their school. We hope you find it useful.

10. Collective Worship – visual version of songs

The Revd Graham Kirk-Spriggs, Team Vicar - Sprowston and Norwich North Team Ministry has produced a visual play list of songs suitable for collective worship in schools.

These can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpMYyeZdGtpXkcMmNJJPhcuVqyee4omyk>

11. Bible Society RE Leads in School – Short Survey

The Bible Society has asked all RE leads to undertake a short survey to help them formulate ideas for new resources linked to RE, the Bible and schools.

If you have a spare 5 minutes, then please ask your RE lead to complete the survey using the link below:

<https://emea.focusvision.com/survey/selfserve/219a/211001#>

12. Norwich Cathedral

Norwich Cathedral: worship, learning and hospitality

Clare Williams encourages us to engage with the Schools & Family Learning Department

Norwich Cathedral offers a wealth of opportunities for visitors and volunteers alike. The Schools & Family Learning Department works with around 20,000 children and young people each year to introduce them to the Cathedral, to learn about its history and its importance for worship today.

For the first 450 years Norwich Cathedral was a Benedictine monastery and the ethos of this tradition continues in Cathedral life today through three key values: worship, learning and hospitality.

Worship has been central to the Cathedral's daily life since 1096. The very walls of the Cathedral are soaked with prayer and its size speaks of the magnificence and glory of God. However, this is also a place which is big enough to contain our doubts and uncertainties, our or difficult questions. This is an incredible opportunity for children and young people to explore worship and belief and to learn more about themselves through that experience, to engage with the deep questions of meaning. See more about our programmes for primary and secondary schools at www.cathedral.org.uk

The second Benedictine value is learning. The Schools and Family Learning department are looking to encourage others to join our team. On Tuesday 1 February 2022 we will be hosting an 'open morning' to come for a coffee and find out more about volunteering with us. We hope you may want to be part of this special centre for learning. Contact headofschools@cathedral.org.uk for more information.

When we say 'we look forward to welcoming you to Norwich Cathedral' we really mean it. Hospitality is one of our core values. You will be welcomed through the Hostry, the site of the original monastic Hostry which is also where our classroom is situated. I hope we may be able to welcome many of you to Norwich Cathedral very soon as volunteers, visitors or with school groups – there is so much on offer!

**Clare Williams – Head of Schools and Family Learning
Norwich Cathedral**



13. Training 2021-2022



Reminder of the training offer 2021-2022

The summary of all training courses can be viewed [here](#)