**Overview**

The Church has long been a supporter of the right of people to work. Work is more than simply being able to earn money. It is about being able to support oneself, and one’s family. It is about finding a role and place within society, finding fulfilment and a sense of purpose and worth. It is also about people being paid a just wage and having adequate facilities to do the work they are tasked with, which is why the Church supports both the Living Wage and Fair Trade movements.

This section of the resources aims to introduce the children to the concept of having dignity in one’s work – what that means and how it should be maintained. It is important that the children understand being treated with dignity at one’s place of work should be a universal constant across all industries and sectors; there is no ‘minimum threshold’ of responsibility or wage that ‘entitles’ one to dignity at work.

**RE Lessons**

One fully-planned lesson is provided, per phase. These lessons are intended to be ‘plug-and-play’ and include a PowerPoint, lesson plan, and differentiated activities. Teachers are encouraged to use the lessons as they see fit and to adapt the lessons/activities to suit their class. Teachers may wish to split the LKS2 and UKS2 lessons in half, as a lot of information has been provided about the London Dock Strike.

Suggestions for cross-curricular links are provided, below:

**English**

* Write a letter to the local supermarket to ask them to provide more Fair Trade options
* **Drama** – write and perform:
  + A short play showing what life was like for a worker during the Industrial Revolution
  + An advert for Fair Trade products

**History**

* Research the Industrial Revolution, specifically the conditions in which workers were kept
* Write a diary entry from the perspective of a factory worker

**Geography**

* Research the origins of a Fair Trade product and produce a Fact File

**Art**

* Design posters to promote buying Fair Trade to display around the school

**Catholic Life and Mission**

Display Boards are a great way to show off of the children’s learning. Consider displaying work from all year groups in a joint display board in a communal area of the school. Use the graphics and colours that Caritas use for Dignity of Workers, provided in the PowerPoint.

**Pupil Leadership Groups**

The half-termly CST themes are a good opportunity to give the school’s Pupil Leadership Groups a direction in which to focus their efforts. Liturgy Leaders could be encouraged to lead the Praise and Worships sessions for the whole school or their classes. Liturgy Leaders could also be encouraged to find scripture that relates to Dignity of Workers or write a thematic prayer to be used during Assemblies.

Pupil Leadership Groups could research local strikes or Workers’ Movements and teach the whole school or their classes what they have learnt. Pupil Leadership Groups could also run a fundraiser for a local, related charity; write an explanatory insert for the school newsletter, or create and run a brief social action project in the local area.