



# WITNESS

## to the word



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

Summer Term Issue 3

Dear Colleagues in Catholic Education

Every second Wednesday, the Education Service provides schools with a wide variety of materials, resources, advice and updates on all matters relating to our schools and colleges. The content of these bulletins are for Headteachers, Senior Leaders, Teaching Staff, Governors, Clergy and anyone who may benefit from them.

Please feel free to share.

## SUBJECT CONTENT IN THIS ISSUE

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*Thank you for all you are doing for your school community  
and for Catholic education!*

# Upcoming Training Opportunities

Day and Time	Course	Booking Link
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<p><b>Getting to know the new RED: Branch 5 (To the ends of the Earth)</b></p> <p>Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm</p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> Getting to know the new RED: Branch 5 (To the ends of the Earth) - Subject Knowledge for RECs</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support RECs to get to know the content of the new RED.</li> <li>• To provide subject knowledge input for RECs on Branch 5 (To the ends of the Earth) of the RED.</li> <li>• To empower RECs to support teachers in school.</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RECs</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Online</p>	<p>Click Here: <a href="#">Booking Link</a></p>
Tuesday 4th June	<p><b>Primary: Preparation for CSI Inspection and CSED</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> The aim of this course is to ensure primary schools are informed and prepared for impending national inspection.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CSI overview and updates.</li> <li>2. Preparing for inspection: structure and content of the two days.</li> <li>3. Purpose and structure of the CSED with supporting documents/collating evidence.</li> <li>4. Input from school which has recently been inspected.</li> <li>5. Time to work on CSED.</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> Senior Leaders and RECs; Schools due inspection in the next academic year.</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH</p>	<p>Click Here: <a href="#">Booking Link</a></p>

<p>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>RJED Update and Sharing Forum: Embedding Policies, Procedures and Approaches</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To provide diocese RJED updates and signpost to relevant resources and training and share good practice in regards to the diocesan Headteachers RJED pledges focusing on 'Embedding Policies, Procedures and Approaches'</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide diocese RJED updates and signpost to relevant resources and training.</li> <li>2. An opportunity for advisors to address any question or concerns regarding RJED.</li> <li>3. Time to share good practice in regards to 'Embedding Policies, Procedures and Approaches' and network with other RJED Coordinators.</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RJED Coordinators</p>	<p><b>Booking Link</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Secondary Chaplaincy Retreat</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To provide chaplains with opportunities to reflect, pray and be spiritually nourished.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chaplains will receive a relevant and well planned retreat day from an experienced retreat leader. This will support them in nurturing their faith community</li> <li>2. Time and space away from school to intentionally spend time with God.</li> <li>3. Encouragement and ideas about ways to support their own faith journey after the retreat</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> Chaplains and Liturgy Coordinators</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Waxwell Farm, Pinner</p>	<p><b>Click Here:</b> <a href="#">Booking Link</a></p>

<p>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>RSE Conference</b></p> <p><b>Time:</b> 9.30am to 3.30pm</p> <p><b>Conference Aim:</b> The aim of this conference is to provide RSE leads with relevant and useful training, and practical ideas so they can excel in their roles and have an opportunity support one another and network.</p> <p><b>Conference Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide Diocesan updates, share expectations and outline support, documents and resources available.</li> <li>• To provide relevant and useful training that will support RSE leads in leading RSE in a Catholic school context.</li> <li>• To provide opportunities to share good practice and network.</li> </ul> <p><b>Guest Speakers:</b> David Wells</p> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RSE leads in primary and secondary schools.</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, London, SW1P 1QJ.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Primary - Diocesan Moderation Day</b></p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Road Map and next steps</li> <li>• Year 1 overview of branches 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Theology notes</li> <li>• RE-cap of EYFS workshops &amp; content</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RECs</p> <p><i>Please bring your own lunch with you, there is also opportunity to purchase lunch nearby.</i></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH.</p>	


<p><b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b></p>	<p><b>Secondary: New Chaplains Induction</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To induct new chaplains regarding the national and Diocesan expectations for chaplaincy</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engaging explanation about the national and diocese expectation for chaplaincy</li> <li>2. Shared expertise from an establish and outstanding chaplain</li> <li>3. Practical ideas about how to plan and effectively organise chaplaincy in the context of a secondary school</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> New Chaplains and Liturgy Coordinators</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p><b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June</b></p>	<p><b>Cross Phase - Catholic Life and Mission Update and Sharing Forum</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To explain to those leading their school's Catholic Life and Mission diocesan and national updates and give them an opportunity to share good practice and network.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Relevant and useful updates regarding Catholic Life and Mission.</li> <li>2. An opportunity for advisors to address any question or concerns regarding Catholic Life and Mission.</li> <li>3. Time to share good practice and network with other.</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RECs, Primary and Liturgy Coordinator, Chaplains, Senior Teachers in Charge of Catholic Life and Mission.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>

<p>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Primary - Diocesan Moderation Day</b></p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Road Map and next steps</li> <li>• Year 1 overview of branches 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Theology notes</li> <li>• RE-cap of EYFS workshops &amp; content</li> </ul> <p><i>Please bring your own lunch with you, there is also opportunity to purchase lunch nearby.</i></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>RJED Online Session 5:</b></p> <p><b>WHAT CAN ECTS AND CLASSROOM TEACHERS DO?</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> The aim of this course is to ensure ECTs and classroom teachers are informed about issues concerning RJED and know how to champion and support RJED within their classrooms.</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide relevant and useful ECTs/classroom teachers training from an RJED expert.</li> <li>• To provide practical suggestions about how to monitor, support and develop RJED.</li> <li>• To provide an opportunity to ask questions to gain a great insight into the role of ECTs/classroom teachers in RJED.</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> ECTs and Classroom Teachers.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>

<p>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b>Primary - EYFS Planning Workshop for new RED</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To understand the content of the RED for EYFS and develop planning for Branches 1 to 6.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject knowledge for Branches to 6 and exploration of planning approaches.</li> <li>• Sharing of resources and strategies.</li> <li>• Practical planning time with colleagues for implementation in school.</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RECs and EYFS teachers who did not attend some or any of the previous workshops.</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> London Jesuit Centre 114 Mount Street London W1K 3AH</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Heads of RE Residential Conference</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b></p> <p>The aim of the conference is to provide Heads of RE with training, support and practical ideas so they can excel in their roles.</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heads of RE will receive relevant and useful training from experts that will support them in leading their schools RE Department.</li> <li>• Heads of RE will be informed about new initiatives, projects and resources that will enhance RE in their school.</li> <li>• Heads of RE will have an opportunity to network and share good practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Audience:</b> Heads of RE</p> <p><b>Course Leads:</b> Trisha Hedley &amp; Claire O'Neill</p> <p><b>Location:</b> High Leigh, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire EN11 8SG</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>

<p>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Primary - Diocesan Moderation Day</b></p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Road Map and next steps</li> <li>• Year 1 overview of branches 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Theology notes</li> <li>• RE-cap of EYFS workshops &amp; content</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> RECs</p> <p><i>Please bring your own lunch with you, there is also opportunity to purchase lunch nearby.</i></p> <p><b>Venue:</b></p> <p>Niland Conference Centre Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Bushey, Herts, WD23 4EE.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</p>	<p><b>Secondary: 2nd in Charge of RE Updates and Sharing Forum</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> To explain to teachers who are 2nd in charge of RE diocesan and national updates and give them an opportunity to share good practice and network</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Relevant and useful updates regarding RE</li> <li>2. An opportunity for advisors to address any question or concerns regarding RE</li> <li>3. Time to share good practice and network with other 2nd in charge of RE</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> in Charge of RE</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>



<p>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July</p>	<p><b>Headteachers Retreat</b></p>  <p><b>Retreat Aim:</b> To provide Headteachers with opportunities to reflect, pray and be spiritually nourished.</p> <p><b>Retreat Content:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Headteachers will receive a relevant and well planned retreat day from an experienced retreat leader. This will support them in leading their faith community.</li> <li>2. Time and space away from school to intentionally spend time with God.</li> <li>3. Encouragement and ideas about ways to support their faith journey after the retreat</li> </ol> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> Headteachers.</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Waxwell House, 125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, London, HA5 3EP</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
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## CCRS

Are you aspiring to Senior Leadership in a Catholic School?

Are you a teacher or teaching assistant, teaching RE, and need an introduction to theology to support your work? Are you a Governor in a Catholic School and want to develop your understanding of the Catholic Faith?

CCRS can help you to develop your knowledge of subjects covered in Religious Education and can also support your teaching in accordance with the RED. We are a supportive learning community for all participants.

New groups will commence in October 2024.

One group will run online, on a Monday, 4-6pm, for 5 x Mondays per module, followed by time to work on an assignment before starting the next module.

The other group will run online, on a Saturday, 9-12pm, for 3 x Saturdays per module, followed by time to work on an assignment before starting the next module.

Please get in touch by email if you are interested in joining either of the new groups in October, or if you would like to learn more about this certificated course.

Thank you to all the senior leaders who are supporting their staff to undertake this course.

Margaret Hanley, CCRS Co-ordinator, [ccrs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ccrs@rcdow.org.uk)

# Leadership and Governance Update

## Leadership

We will be finalising the details for our “Celebration of Service” on 4th July very soon. Please send in any more nominations before the end of this half term so that we can send the invitations out.

### Lifting the Faith Schools Cap

Since 2010 the 50 percent cap or 'rule' has prevented new Catholic free schools from opening, as the cap would have forced schools to turn away some Catholic pupils. The Catholic Church has welcomed the decision by the Education Secretary, Gillian Keegan, to lift the cap on new free schools in England. The decision is subject to a consultation on removing the cap, that closes on 20 June. To respond to the consultation please click [HERE](#)

### Touch World Cup

The Touch World Cup offers an amazing opportunity for your school to take part in the biggest Touch tournament the world has ever seen, absolutely FREE. From 16th - 19th July you could take part in a Q&A with some of England's elite players, enjoy a team coaching session, or even take part in the Opening Ceremony on 15th July. Click the buttons below for more information. Click [here](#) for more information

## Governors

Many of our governors have terms of office which end in August. Please take this opportunity to get ahead with any renewals you might need to make so that you have your governors in place for September.

Click Here: [Summer Term Governor CPD Programme](#)

Date/ Time	Online Courses	Booking
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	<p><b>Governors: CSI Inspection for Governors Online Course</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> The aim of this course is to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Schools Inspection framework and the role of governors within the inspection process.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of the Catholic Schools Inspection Framework.</li> <li>• Examining diocesan expectations in relation to Catholic life and Mission and Religious Education.</li> <li>• The role of a governor in the inspection process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> Chairs, RE Link and all other interested governors.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>

<p>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> &amp; Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Governors - New Chair of Governors Online Training Course (2 Sessions)</b></p> <p>Session 1 - Monday 10th June</p> <p>Session 2 - Wednesday 12th June</p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> The AIM of this course is to provide new Chairs of Governors (and others) in Catholic schools with the knowledge and expertise to manage this important role with confidence</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b> A reminder of the three core functions and six key features of effective governance of a Catholic school.</p> <p><b>The key responsibilities of the Chair of Governors in a Catholic school including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensuring effective functioning of the board and strategic focus</li> <li>- Setting expectations</li> </ul> <p><b>Providing leadership &amp; direction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working as an effective team</li> <li>- Key relationships including Headteacher, Diocese, Local Authority and Trust</li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Knowing how to drive improvement in your board so that your board can drive improvement in your school.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Being a Chair of a Catholic school in challenging times.</p> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> Newly appointed / Inexperienced Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Co-Chairs, Committee Chairs and those who aspire to become Chairs.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>
<p>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Governors Using CES Policies and Procedures Online Course</b></p> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> The aim of this course is to familiarise Governors with CES policies and procedures.</p> <p><b>Course Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To examine policies for Grievances, Sickness absence, Capability and Disciplinary.</li> <li>• To help familiarise Governors with the procedures and practical arrangements for these.</li> <li>• To identify different scenarios to which these may apply.</li> </ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> All governors, but particularly chairs.</p>	<p><b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p>

Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	<h3>Governors - Safeguarding Online Course</h3> <p><b>Course Aim:</b> Schools have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. This course will cover essential information you need in order to understand your responsibilities.</p> <p><b>Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Latest updates on Keeping Children Safe in Education.</li><li>• Examples of monitoring for Safeguarding governors.</li><li>• Updates on Ofsted.</li></ul> <p><b>Target Audience:</b> All governors, but especially those responsible for child protection and safeguarding.</p>	<b>Booking Link:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a>
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# RE and Catholic Life Resources

## Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time between Pentecost and Advent is the longest liturgical period in the Catholic Church. It begins the day after Pentecost, which celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit, and continues until the eve of the First Sunday of Advent, which marks the beginning of the liturgical year. The primary theme of this period is spiritual growth through reflection on the teachings and miracles of Jesus Christ as recounted in the Gospels.

During these weeks, the Church emphasises what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We are encouraged to reflect on how we can incorporate the teachings of Jesus into our daily lives, promoting a deeper commitment to living out the values of the Gospel. The readings and liturgies focus on various aspects of Jesus' ministry, including parables, healings, and interactions with his disciples and the broader community. This time is seen as an opportunity for spiritual growth, personal reflection, and community building, helping believers to strengthen their faith and prepare for the more intense liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. Through Ordinary Time, we are reminded of the continual presence of God in the ordinary and the call to witness to our faith in everyday circumstances.



### Pope Francis Prayer Intentions: May - For the Formation of Men and Women Religious and Seminarians

*Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.*



### Pope Francis Prayer Intentions: June – For Those Fleeing Their Own Countries

*Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may they find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries.*

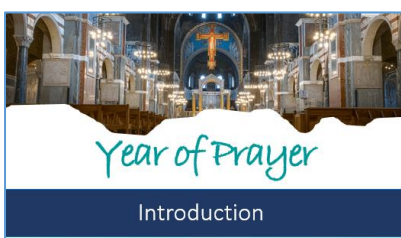
Prayer Intentions during Ordinary Time Day After Pentecost Until First Day of Advent (Based on the Liturgical Year)	Liturgical Colours
Deeper Understanding Between Christians and Jews	<b>GREEN</b>
Those Who Suffer Persecution Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
Those Who Suffer Oppression Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
Those Who Suffer Denial of Human Rights Especially on St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 <sup>nd</sup> June)	
Europe Especially on the feasts of St Benedict (11 July), St Bridget of Sweden (23 July), St Catherine of Siena (29 April)	
Human Life Especially on the day for Life (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in June)	

Liturgical Year	Sundays in May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- St Justin (1<sup>st</sup> June)</li> <li>- Charles Lwanga and Companions (3<sup>rd</sup> June)</li> <li>- St Boniface (5<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- St Norbert (6<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- St Barnabas (11<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- St Anthony of Padua (13<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- St Aloysius (21<sup>st</sup> June)</li> <li>- Ss John Fisher and Thomas More (22<sup>nd</sup> June)</li> <li>- St John the Baptist (24<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- St John Southworth (27<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- Ss Peter and Paul (29<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- Sacred Heart of Jesus (19 days after Pentecost)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most Holy Trinity</li> <li>(Trinity Sunday is the Week after Pentecost and the week before Corpus Christi)</li> <li>- Corpus Christi</li> <li>- Ordinary Time</li> </ul>

National and International Days	Other Religions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Global Day for Parents (1<sup>st</sup> June)</li> <li>- World Bicycle Day (3<sup>rd</sup> June)</li> <li>- World Environment Day (5<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- World Oceans Day (8<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- World Day Against Child Labour (12<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- Father's Day (16<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- World day to Combat Desertification and Drought (17<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>- World Refugee Day (20<sup>th</sup> June)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Martyrdom of Guru Arjan (Sikh 16th)</li> </ul>

Other religions/worldviews: For a brief overview of each of other faith festivals see [HERE](#).

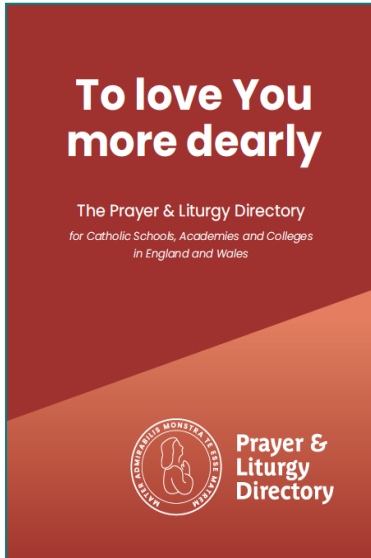
## The Year of Prayer - 2024



In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. There is a particular focus on the Lord's Prayer (Our Father) this year, and this presents us with a great opportunity to reinvigorate the centrality of prayer within our schools. We have produced primary and secondary resources to support schools with the Year of Prayer. These have been emailed to all schools.

For CAFOD Year of Prayer materials click [HERE](#)  
 For Jesuit Year of Prayer materials click [HERE](#)

## Prayer and Liturgy Directory Updates



The Prayer and Liturgy Directory was launched in October 2023. It is an important and informative document which aims to enhance the excellent practices that already exists for Prayer and Liturgy within our schools and across the diocese. Please click [HERE](#) for the Prayer and Liturgy Directory. It includes a **model policy (p69)** as well as **progression of prayers (p72)** at the back of this document.

To support our schools, the Education Service provided training on understanding the Prayer and Liturgy Directory on 4<sup>th</sup> December and further training on the 20<sup>th</sup> May to support schools with the implementing the Directory.

Resources from this day can be found on the Prayer and Liturgy Sharepoint Hub. Please contact Amanda Crowley [amandacrowley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:amandacrowley@rcdow.org.uk) if you need access to the hub.

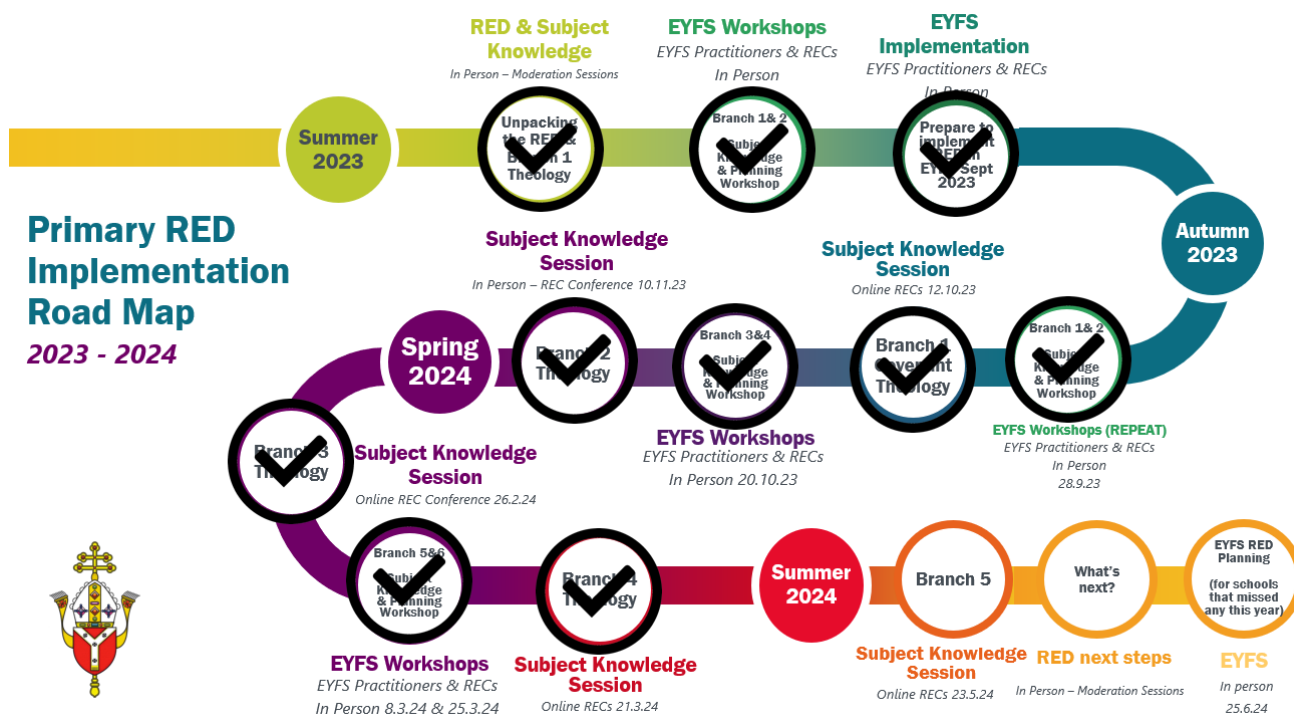
The resources provided included these three documents, with a fourth to follow next term:



Each document contains an Appendix with useful planning sheets. Please refer to, and use, these documents when planning Mass and Celebrations of the Word.



## Primary RED Implementation



This term there are several CPD sessions planned to support with preparation for the implementation of the RED:

Branch 5 – To the Ends of the Earth	Online	23.05.24	<a href="https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/23rd-may-primary-getting-to-know-to-the-new-red-branch-5-online-course/">https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/23rd-may-primary-getting-to-know-to-the-new-red-branch-5-online-course/</a>
Moderation & RED Update	In Person (Jesuit Centre)	13.06.24	<a href="https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/13th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/">https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/13th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/</a>
Moderation & RED Update	In Person (Jesuit Centre)	20.06.24	<a href="https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/20th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/">https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/20th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/</a>
Moderation & RED Update	In Person (Nilands Centre)	27.06.24	<a href="https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/27th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/">https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/27th-june-primary-diocesan-moderation-day/</a>
EYFS RED Planning Workshop (for schools who missed any or all of the previous sessions)	In Person	25.06.24	<a href="https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/25th-june-primary-eyfs-workshop-for-new-red/">https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/25th-june-primary-eyfs-workshop-for-new-red/</a>

## EYFS Materials

The EYFS materials for each branch are now on the DOWES Hub (sharepoint site). Primary Heads and RECs should already have received their invitation to access the site. If not, please can they contact [amandacrowley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:amandacrowley@rcdow.org.uk) to request a link.



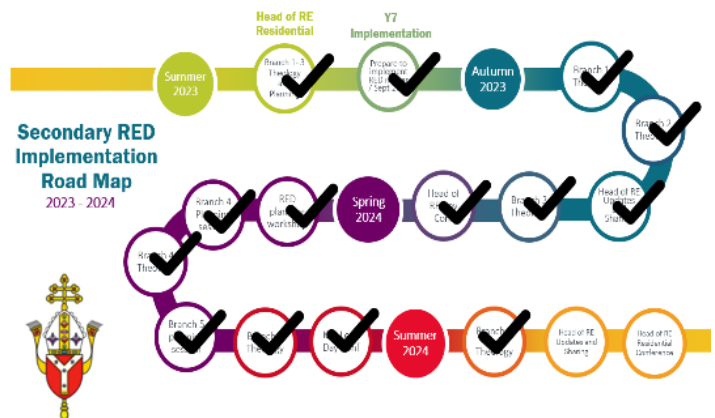
## Planning for RED Implementation

We are now planning the next steps on our implementation roadmap and would like your feedback and input. Both TenTen and Oxford University Press are currently working on published schemes, however, the suggested timelines for these are longer than hoped for. As a result, in 24/25 we are proposing to provide interim planning support in the form of workshops using the RED model curriculum for Year 1 building on the EYFS work this year. There would also be an option for repeat EYFS sessions.

## Secondary Religious Education

### Heads of RE conference

We are also taking bookings for the Summer Heads of RE conference that take place on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. The full programme will follow but we will focus on continuing to support schools with the implementation of the RED with a focus on year 8, opportunities to share good practice and time for prayer and reflection. So that your school can remain up to date and benefit from the opportunity to network, please ensure your Head of RE can attend, or if that is not possible, a suitable member of staff deputises. The booking link is [HERE](#).



### Pearson Religious Education ELC

In recent months, the CES has worked with Pearson as they developed the Edexcel Entry Level Certificate Religious Studies. We are now pleased to confirm that the qualification complies with the Bishops of England and Wales requirements.

You can access the specification [here](#).

The specification is an ELC, so it will not lead to a GCSE qualification but may offer an accessible qualification for some students, where deemed appropriate

For more details on how this might be used in your school please contact your adviser.

## The Jerusalem Trust's Small Grants to Schools Scheme

The Jerusalem Trust's Small Grants to Schools Scheme supports the teaching of Christianity within Religious Education. The scheme operates by providing schools with grants of up to £600 to purchase resources for use in RE lessons. The scheme is open to state funded schools in England and Wales, with 40% awarded to secondary schools and 60% to primary schools. Grant availability during the school term, for both sectors, is notified on the website Home page.

For more information please go onto the website [here](#).

## World Environment Day

*'The Earth is our environment  
to protect and our garden to tend to.'*

Pope Francis

### What is World Environment Day?

World Environment Day is a United Nations international day. It aims to bring together people across the world and put the spotlight on the key environmental issues of our times.

In 2024, World Environment Day is being hosted by Saudi Arabia, with a focus on land restoration, desertification and drought resilience. The day brings millions of people from across the globe, engaging them to protect and restore the Earth. It serves as a platform for inspiring positive change and celebrates environmental action to create a more sustainable world.

It is a day to reflect on our relationship with the environment and what we can do as individuals and school communities to protect and improve it.

### When is World Environment Day?

World Environment Day is on Wednesday 5th June 2024. Find out how you can get involved by visiting the official [World Environment Day website](#).

### World Environment Day at school

It's a day to learn about the environment, participate in conservation activities, and learn about ways to help in the future. To celebrate at school, you can commune with nature, create new environmental programs, use nature-centered lesson plans, and work on earth-centered activities.

### Ideas for schools

- Create a dedicated area within the school grounds where children can spend time in nature
- Plan a lesson outside to plant flowers and trees.
- Be plastic conscious in the classroom. Implement ways to reduce plastic in schools or at home. You could have a plastic free week/month at school.
- Design a waste-free lunch to teach about reducing food waste and the importance of sustainable eating habits.
- Pupils can take part in a debate argument for and against the use of plastic, then write their own discursive text.

### Other Resources

- Caring for our Earth (A prayer for children, CAFOD) [Here](#)
- Climate change assembly - From fuel poverty and climate charity, Centre for Sustainable Energy, takes about 30 minutes to deliver. It covers climate change, how it affects humans and animals and how young people can act. [HERE](#)



Happy World Environment Day!

## Laudato Si' Week (19-26<sup>th</sup> May)

"There are no lasting changes without cultural changes ... and there are no cultural changes without personal changes" (LD, 70)



Laudato Si' Week is taking place from the 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May and the theme for this year is Seeds of Hope. It is a reminder about the urgency of the Laudato Si' message and the need for both personal and local transformation amidst our ecological and climate crises.

The Church encourages us to gather in our school communities to contemplate and nurture seeds of hope for our "suffering planet" (LD 2).

Here are some resources you could use:

[CAFOD - Laudato Si for schools](#)

[FCJ - Celebrating Laudato Si Week 2024](#)

[CES - Laudato Si resources](#)

[CBCEW - Laudato Si Week Resources](#)

## World Children's Day (25-26<sup>th</sup> May)

"Like Jesus, we want to put children  
at the centre and care for them."

Pope Francis



In 2023, Pope Francis declared that the Catholic Church's first World Children's Day would take place on 25-26 May, 2024. The Pope calls on Catholics around the globe to celebrate this special day in their own communities. World Children's Day invites children from around the globe, including those of other faiths, to join together in friendship and prayer.

Mission Together is encouraging pupils to join with their global sisters and brothers and celebrate World Children's Day in their school. They have produced several resources to assist this which can be found [HERE](#)

Also find out more about World Children's Day by visiting the official website [HERE](#)

## Registration for Flame 2025

Booking is open for next year's Flame event, titled Unstoppable: Fan The Flame Of Hope, which will be held at the OVO Arena, Wembley, on 15 March 2025, and is being sponsored by the Catenians, Salesians of Don Bosco, and Cymfed. Discounts for early booking are available. [BOOK EARLY BIRD](#)

## World Children's Day

Pope Francis has declared that the Catholic Church's first World Children's Day will take place on 25-26 May, 2024. Mission Together is encouraging pupils to join with their global sisters and brothers and celebrate World Children's Day in school. We've produced several resources to assist, including: *World Children's Day Assembly*, *Celebration of the Word*, *activity ideas*, and *games*. [Download here.](#)



Early bird discount  
**EXTENDED** until  
**30th June 2024!**



**EMAIL**

[schools@risetheatre.co.uk](mailto:schools@risetheatre.co.uk)  
to reserve your date today!

# God's Planet

## PRIMARY SCHOOL AUTUMN TOUR 2024

“A really wonderful day of fun, laughter & engaging activities all conveying a really important message”

St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Coventry

“The impact was astounding!”

Our Lady of the Magnificat, Alcester

“The songs are still being sung in school 2 weeks later!”

St Augustine's Catholic Academy, Meir



After **multiple tours** around the country & performing to over **150 schools**, we are announcing the **final opportunity** in 2024/25 to book the spectacular **God's Planet Primary School Day!** Dates now available to book **October – November 2024**

VISIT:

[www.risetheatre.co.uk/godsplanet](http://www.risetheatre.co.uk/godsplanet)  
to view our [God's Planet trailer](#)

An exciting, interactive day of **performance & workshops** for the **whole school** exploring themes around the **environment, climate change, God's love** for each of us & how we can care for **God's AMAZING planet!**





## God's Planet Day Package includes

- Morning assembly from the RISE team introducing the day
- A classroom activity pack with step-by-step guides for teacher facilitated sessions
- Workshop for KS1 led by RISE Theatre learning songs & dramatic actions
- Workshop for KS2 led by RISE Theatre learning songs & dramatic actions
- Workshop for Reception class led by RISE Theatre learning songs & dramatic actions
- 1 hour afternoon interactive show for the whole school

"God's Planet gave our children a day full of fun and learning. The theme complemented our work on Catholic Social teaching and really brought the theme of 'stewardship' and caring for God's planet alive. The children had a great time!"  
Holy Family School, Witham

## COST AND BOOKING

**£600\***

when booking confirmed before **30th June!**  
(\*usually £650)

### For academy & cluster schools:

For consecutive bookings of 4 or more schools we can now offer a discounted price of  
**just £499 per school!**



Email

[schools@risetheatre.co.uk](mailto:schools@risetheatre.co.uk)  
to reserve your date today!

For venues over 250 miles from our base in Reading, we kindly request an additional contribution to our travel expenses of between £75-100, unless RISE Theatre receives bookings in other schools in your area on consecutive dates.

 **RISE**theatre

EMAIL: [schools@risetheatre.co.uk](mailto:schools@risetheatre.co.uk)  
to reserve your date today!



# OneLife Music

ONLINE PRAYER TIME  
AND RETREATS



## OPEN

Join Dan and Emily for these short times of prayer and song, celebrating various seasons of the church year:  
CREATION | ADVENT | LENT | MARY



## STREAMS

Join Dan, Emily and thousands of children across the country for a joyful time of singing and celebration!  
We stream together every term!



## RETREATS

These online retreats and resources are designed to celebrate faith in school! Experience the gift of retreating as a community of faith, through sharing, prayer, song, sign language, and more! All retreats are written, recorded and provided for you by OneLife Music.



## Summer taster of university: A Residential Summer School at Chester University.

Applications are still open for students for 'Taste of University', residential Summer School, where participants can experience university life for themselves at Chester university.

**When:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Where:** Exton Park Campus, Parkgate Road, Chester, CH1 4BJ

**Who:** Year 12 and First Year college students, aged 16-19

**How:** Apply via this link [here](#)

There is no cost attached to this event. Students can apply now and will have their place confirmed within a few weeks of application. We are encouraging students to apply as soon as possible.

### Who is Taste of University for?

It is designed specifically for those in Year 12, or studying the first year of a Level 3 qualification in college. They support students as they find out about the opportunities available at university, how to find and apply for them too.

Across three days and nights in accommodation, participants will meet current students and lecturers, explore campus life, and have the chance to ask expert advisers any questions they might have. Most importantly, they'll have a great time too.

### What happens at Taste of University?

Taste of University will give students the opportunity to find out everything they need to help with making decisions about their next steps. They will be able to:

- Experience the facilities and life on campus
- Explore support and extra-curricular opportunities
- Expand knowledge of UCAS applications, Student Finance, and Academic Skills
- Develop confidence and independence skills
- Meet current students, and ask questions

### Taste of University: What Students Need To Know

Taste of University will run on Exton Park Campus in Chester from 9-12<sup>th</sup> July 2024. All meals, accommodation and activities are free of charge, however [applying for a place is essential](#). All students in Year 12 are welcome to Taste of University. If the event is over-subscribed, priority will be given to students who are from groups currently under-represented at university under the following criteria:

- Are Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background
- Are Living in [Low Participation Neighbourhoods](#), particularly young, white males
- Have a disability or specific learning difference
- Have experience of local authority care

Please note: The University of Chester has a [Travel Bursary Scheme](#) which students may wish to use to attend Taste of University. Full details and eligibility criteria are available from the link provided.

# Racial Justice, Equality and Diversity Update



## RJED CPD

The online RJED CPD programme continues to run each half term, tailored to a different group of teachers within our school communities. Comments from the last session with Aisha Thomas included:

“Inspiring, thought provoking, awoke me to the importance of really understanding the impact of race.”

“Best talk I have ever been to about racial justice in schools.”

“I was hooked on every word, made me reconsider what I thought I knew.”

Our next session is **for all classroom teachers** and will take place online on the 24<sup>th</sup> June and focuses on unconscious bias and making classrooms anti-racist. Please do book using this link: [HERE](#)

## RJED Coordinators

Huge thank you to all the schools who have let us know who their RJED Coordinator is. If you have not yet please email [claireoneill@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:claireoneill@rcdow.org.uk) to let us know. Here is the next meetings:

- RJED Update and Sharing Forum 3/3 - Embedding Policies, Procedures and Approaches  
5<sup>th</sup> June 3.45-5pm Online

## Racial Justice Sunday (RJS)


The theme for RJS is: seeing one another in the life of the Church. This theme is relevant for the whole year and the bishops of England and Wales are encouraging all schools and parishes to celebrate the diversity of those who have led holy and exemplary lives. Our Catholic saints walked in this world as we do and were men and women of heroic virtue that can intercede for us to bring our prayers to the Lord. Here are some resources to support this:

See resources for primary and secondary schools: [HERE](#)

[The importance of racial justice and why we work for it -](#)

[Catholic Bishops' Conference  
www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)

See Saints of Colour resources [HERE](#)



### Saints of Colour

We celebrate the many saints of colour in the Catholic Church who have inspired the faithful in their devotions.



Racial Justice, Equality and Diversity:  
St Paul's Primary and Nursery School, Cheshunt  
*Practice in Schools*



**School Context:** Racial Justice, Equality and Diversity at St Paul's

As Catholics as part of a Catholic School, we believe that every human being is created equally in the image of God. As a school we recognise the essential requirement to oppose racism and seek racial equity in all aspects of our school's ethos, curriculum and practices.

In 2022, a parent working party as part of our school's Diversity Committee was formed of parents, the committee worked collaboratively on a number of key actions which fed into our action plan.

During 2023, each subject leader has reviewed their curriculum offer to consider the diversity and representation.

We have had a number of different whole school projects which we have included members of our community in, some of these can be seen below.

Whilst we are proud of the work achieved so far, we also recognise that this is an ongoing mission. Education is a tool for social justice and educating our children about race and racism will allow them to create a more just future for all.



**What have we done:**

**RJED Inset Day**

On the first day of Autumn term 2023 we spent an Inset day as a school staff thinking about how as Catholics we believe that every human being is created equally in the image of God. As a school we recognise the essential requirement to oppose racism and seek racial equity in all aspects of our school's ethos, curriculum and practices. We spent the day writing our RJED Pledge as a whole school staff and mapping out our RJED intentions.

**Valuable learning from this process:**

**Our RJED Pledge**

At St Paul's we will:

- **Work together** to ensure all differences are celebrated
- **Promote** and **support** racial justice, equality and diversity in aspects of our Catholic life.
- **Act responsibly** and foster an **inclusive** attitude whenever we see injustice, amplifying our voices.
- Continue to **inspire** the children to **embrace** racial justice, equality and diversity.

### EYFS Cultural Day - October 2023

On Thursday 19th October, we hosted a 'Cultural Day' for our EYFS children. It was an opportunity for our little ones to embrace and appreciate the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our EYFS family.

To make this day memorable and educational, we invited the children to dress in traditional clothing from their home country or simply wear the colours of their country's flag. This helped us showcase the beautiful diversity within our EYFS classes.

Throughout the day, we planned a variety of activities that will allowed the children to explore different aspects of various cultures.



Throughout the day, we planned a variety of activities that will allowed the children to explore different aspects of various cultures. Some of the activities include:

1. Chinese Writing: The children had the chance to learn and practice Chinese writing, discovering the beauty of Chinese characters.
2. Greek Dancing: The children got ready to move and groove as we introduce the kids to the lively world of Greek dancing.
3. Noodle and Chopsticks Play: We explored the culinary world by having fun with noodles and chopsticks.
4. Multilingual Story time: The children were immersed in a world of different languages as we read books in various languages.
5. French Song: They had a blast learning a fun French song that was both entertaining and educational.
6. English Tea Play: In the role-play area, the children got to experience the classic English tradition of tea time, complete with pretend English tea bags.

### Racial Justice Sunday 2024 - Whole School Assembly & Mission

Our Chaplaincy Team led on a whole school assembly marking Racial Justice Sunday 28th Jan 2024. All classes mission will be to complete a Racial Justice Activity and add a thumbprint signing up to making sure everyone feels included and



welcomed in our school and our community.

We will be taking part along in an RJED project with our local Catholic Schools to mark how important it is 'Seeing someone in the life of the Church'.

### RJED Enrichment Days

As part of our termly enrichment days, staff provided a variety of RJED activities for children to try and join in with. These ranged from trying new cultural and diverse food to parent led sessions and multi-cultural music and dance to making things and even a mix of different games!

### RJED within curriculum

We have been working hard to ensure that our curriculum is diverse in all subject areas, and have created a curriculum map across all subjects. Every class have planned at least two RJED wider curriculum tasks to carry out, embedding RJED as a fundamental part of our learning.

### RJED Mary project

During the month of Mary, we launched a RJED whole school art project celebrating diversity and the love for Mary across the world. We chose countries linked to our own cultures celebrated at our school and within our local community. For this project each class choose a different image of Mary from diverse cultures across the world and wrote the 'Hail Mary'


St Paul's Catholic Primary School

Racial Justice Week (RJED) January 2024  
Seeing one another in the life of the Church




What is Racial Justice?  
It is the fair treatment of everyone regardless of race so that everyone has equal opportunities. Racial justice promotes the best of our communities, each one in its own image and bears each person's unique and irreplaceable.

As God created (everyone) in his own image, in the image of God he created them. Make sure everyone is treated them. (Gen 1:26)

REFLECT




Lord,  
Please help us to understand  
The (RJED) is just one of the attributes of all,  
We are all equal and unique,  
We are all under the same God,  
We are all brothers and sisters.  
There is only one race, the human race, which lives in all and every  
part of us.  
We all have feelings and know how to love.  
Help us to love.  
Please help this people to read and the  
RJED which are suffering discrimination.  
God, thank you for creating every heart  
in the world and respecting each other.  
Amen.

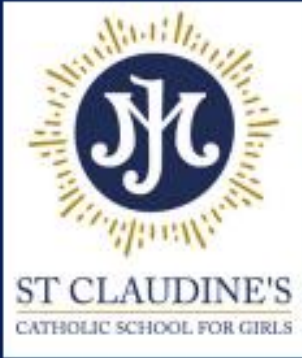


St Paul's Catholic Primary School have a planned RJED curriculum map across the whole school. Our resources and texts have been reviewed to include a range of multi-cultural and diverse teaching materials. Middle Subject Leaders have also looked at each subject creating and RJED subject overview, listing our pledge of a board and enriched Curriculum.





<p>prayer in that native language. Children showed cultural appreciation and shared in celebrating religious diversity and diverse representations of Mary from around the world.</p>	
<p><b>Our next steps:</b></p> <p>To develop links with other local Catholic Primary School to establish a shared RJED community project</p> <p>To develop a pupilled team of RJED leaders</p> <p>To continue to ensure that there are more opportunities for RJED to be within pupil and school worship assemblies</p>	<p><b>Useful links/resources:</b></p> <p><b>To find out more please visit our School Website;</b></p> <p><a href="https://stpauls-herts.secure-dbprimary.com/herts/primary/stpauls/site/pages/religiouseducation/rjed">https://stpauls-herts.secure-dbprimary.com/herts/primary/stpauls/site/pages/religiouseducation/rjed</a></p>



A Conference for Schools

# Reckoning with Race

Anti-racism in schools: *pain, perspectives, and possibilities*



Keynote speaker

**Jeffrey Boakye**



Keynote speaker:

**Annie Tagoe**



Keynote speaker:

**Jahnine Davis**



Early Bird Discount!  
First 50 tickets at £49

**Friday 5th July 2024**

**Venue: St. Claudine's Catholic School for Girls  
Crownhill Road, London NW10 4EP**

Cost: £75 (£50 concessions; £25 student) Tickets available via [Eventbrite](#)

For more information please contact  
[researchschool@stclaudines.co.uk](mailto:researchschool@stclaudines.co.uk)

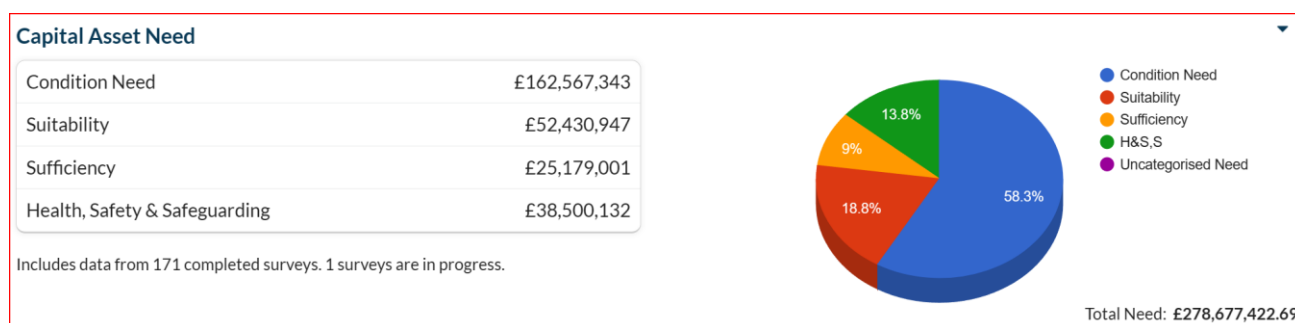
# RSE Update

## Cross Phase RSE conference

On February June 11<sup>th</sup> we are inviting all RSE leads to our cross phase RSE conference in Cathedral Hall. This is the first in-person training for RSE leads since 2019 and we are keen to get as many RSE leads together as possible to help to support them in their role and to have the opportunity to network with colleagues. We are delighted to have David Wells as our key note speaker on the Theology of Dignity and its importance in relationships. Please book your RSE lead onto the conference [HERE](#).

# Capital and PPP Update

## Statlog



We are pleased to note that a number of schools are successfully using the Project Manager tool in Statlog to manager minor projects at a local level. Please remember that all capital work undertaken at a Catholic School, however it is funded, must have the active approval of the Trustees. This approval is granted in through Statlog.

## Diocesan School Regeneration Programme

St Mary of the Angels, St Joseph’s Maida Vale, and St Anne’s Enfield: Diocesan Property and others are working with Hills and 1<sup>st</sup> Planner to develop a process for communicating our “Employers Requirements” to potential developers.

Nicholas Breakspear: The Board of DoWAT has resolved to proceed with the disposal of part of this site and create a new school for the staff and students of this Outstanding Catholic Academy. DoWAT is in the process of retaining legal counsel to ensure all legal matters are properly managed.

## VASCA

In recent weeks, we have invested circa £7M of VASCA. The majority of the funding has been assigned to the projects approved by the Capital Strategy Committee earlier this year. The remainder of the first tranche of allocations will be completed by half-term. If you receive an email from Statlog advising you of an allocation, please act as quickly as possible to confirm your interest and the availability of your 10% contribution.

# Caritas Update



## Diocese of Westminster 'Love in Action' Volunteering Awards 2024

The aim of these awards is to recognise the incredible work of volunteers across Westminster diocese, individuals and teams, in parishes, schools, community groups and charities, working in visible roles in social action projects, or behind the scenes, week in week out in. Each one is valuable, but perhaps you know someone who deserves a little extra recognition?

**This year we are inviting nominations in five categories:**

1. School Social Action
2. Parish Social Action
3. Young Volunteer of the Year
4. St Therese of Lisieux Award (*new "open" category*)
5. Ron Palmer Award for Lifetime Achievement



[Who will you choose? Click here for details and the nomination form.](#)

Need a little inspiration? A blog post with of all of last year's winners is here:

<https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/news/volunteers-win-awards-from-the-diocese-of-westminster/>

**The deadline for nominations is 30<sup>th</sup> June** and the awards ceremony will take place on 14th November at Westminster Cathedral Hall

For more information and the nomination form please visit the Caritas Westminster website [here](#) or contact Elke and Juliet at [cvs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cvs@rcdow.org.uk)



# SPEC Update



Now offering...  
**School Staff  
Retreats!**



Team-Building



Adoration and Reflection



Shared Meal

*...most importantly, a chance for your school staff to come together to have a Spiritual and Personal Encounter with Christ, focusing on their mission as staff of a Catholic School, to re-discover that God is with them every step of the way!*



[YOUTH.RCDOW.ORG.UK](http://YOUTH.RCDOW.ORG.UK)