



Diocesan Director's Update - January Newsletter 2017

13th January 2017

Dear Colleague

Welcome back and I hope the new term has started well for you and your staff.

Diocesan Schools Leadership Conference - Friday 10th March 2017

The highlight of our calendar this term is the Leadership Conference in March and I am delighted to be able to confirm our keynote speakers for this event:

1. Revd Canon Jim Walters - Chaplain and Senior Lecturer at the London School of Economic's Faith Centre - Jim was a member of the Church of England reference group for the new CofE vision for education and will be sharing how we can bring the vision to life for pupils and staff in a Church school context

2. Jim Davis & Larissa Pope - The Children's Society - Programme manager and co-author of The Children's Society's 'The Good Childhood Report' - we will be hearing about this important report might shape our focus for children and young people in our care

3. Paul Warwick - Contender Charlie

Paul is an experienced theatre director and actor who specialises in bringing the plays of Shakespeare to life, drawing on some of the plays as the inspiration for improving our leadership in the educational context. See more here: [Contender Charlie Website](#)

The conference delegate rate includes all refreshments and a sit-down lunch in the hotel restaurant which provides an excellent opportunity for networking with other colleagues from the wider family of Church schools in our diocese.

'Early-Bird' Booking for the conference is now open with delegate places available at a reduced price of £100 (ex vat) until Friday 10th February (half-term).

Places booked after this revert to the standard delegate fee of £150 (ex vat) per person. You can download a booking form at the bottom of this newsletter.

Heads & Chairs Briefings - 2nd & 3rd February 2017

The dates for next term's briefings are now confirmed as:

- Thursday 2nd February, 8.30am - Holiday Inn, Wrotham, Sevenoaks**
- Friday 3rd February, 1.30pm - Diocesan Offices, Rochester**

We will be joined by two guest speakers, Helen Jones, Regional Network Facilitator for the Church of England Foundation and Claire Boxall who will be explaining the new diocesan consultation 'Our Conversation. Our Future'.

Please contact Teresa Spearink at the Diocesan Offices to book a place.

Education Service & Garden Party - Wednesday 28th June 2017

This year, we will be changing the arrangements for this service and inviting all our Church schools to send a number of representatives from your staff to join us in the Cathedral and afterwards at the Garden Party.

We want the service to be a real recognition of the commitment of all our Church schools and their staff and will be asking schools to nominate individual staff and governors who have made an exceptional contribution to the Christian ethos of your Church school over this academic year for a special award presented by Bishop James. This could be a

significant project that a colleague has led or contributed to or an acknowledgement of the role or job of a member of your staff. You will receive a letter with more details on this shortly.

'Bringing the Vision Alive' - Church of England Education National Conference

This day conference takes place on Saturday 4th February between 10.30am and 3.30pm at Church House Westminster.

Dame Alison Peacock, the Chief Executive of the new Chartered College of Teaching will be one of the keynote speakers at the conference.

Virginia and myself will be attending on behalf of the diocese so if you would like to come with us as part of a representation from Rochester do let us know.

You can find more details in the flyer at the bottom of the newsletter and can book tickets by visiting the Eventbrite website: <http://tinyurl.com/hp3r3lr>

Understanding Christianity - Update on training

We are very pleased to report that every Church school and academy in the diocese has now signed up to the training sessions for Understanding Christianity.

The Day 1 training has now been completed and there is some preparation to undertake in school (please see the separate RE Newsletter for details) before returning for the Day 2 training and the RE Subject Leader follow up on the following dates:

ROCHESTER

Day 2: Monday 13 March

Plus RE support meetings at Rochester for subject leaders only

Thursday 23 February

Thursday 8 June

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Day 2: Thursday 16 March

Plus RE support meetings at Bennett Memorial for subject leaders only

Wednesday 22 February

Wednesday 7 June

ST BOTOLPH'S

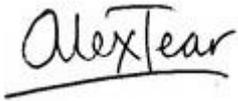
Day 2: Wednesday 29 March

Plus RE support meetings at Rochester or Tunbridge Wells for subject leaders only (see dates above)

Any queries or questions on the training, do contact Virginia Corbyn.

We look forward to seeing you at the Heads & Chairs briefings and the Leadership Conference on the 10th March.

With best wishes,



Alex Tear
Director of Education

[Diocesan Leadership Conference - Early Bird Booking form](#)

[Bringing the Vision Alive - National CofE Education Conference](#)

[Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good - Vision for education](#)



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Rochester Diocesan Board of Education
Diocesan Office
St Nicholas Church
Rochester, Medway ME1 1SL
United Kingdom

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