



## **Diocesan Director's Update - Epiphany Newsletter 2016**

8th January 2016

Dear Colleague

Welcome back and a happy New Year to you and your staff, pupils and governors. I hope you managed to get a good break and feel refreshed for a new term.

### **Diocesan Schools Leadership Conference 2016 - 'The Development of Character'**

This year's conference will be focusing on the contribution of our Church schools and academies to the 'development of character' of children and young people and we are really pleased to be able to confirm two keynote speakers for Friday 4th March:

#### **Baroness Estelle Morris - former Secretary of State for Education**

Estelle Morris is a nationally renowned, former Secretary of State for Education and the current Chair of the Birmingham Education Partnership. She brings a wealth of expertise and experience from her work at national, regional and local levels to share with us at the conference. See Estelle's articles for The Guardian newspaper here:

<http://www.theguardian.com/profile/estellemorris>

#### **Ian Rose - Paralympic Medallist & Judo World Champion**

Ian Rose was the Torchbearer and Opening Ceremony performer for the London 2012 Paralympic Games and the winner of 2 Paralympic, 5 World Championship and 9 European Championship Medals, Ian is one of Great Britain's most successful Paralympic

Judoka. Ian brings his experience of world-class performance combined with fascinating anecdotes to share with us. See more information on Ian here: <https://ianrose.co.uk/>

**'Early-Bird' Booking for the conference is now open with delegate places available at a reduced price of £100 (ex VAT) until 25th January. You can download a conference booking form below.**

### **Heads & Chairs Briefings - 28th & 29th January 2016**

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

- **Thursday 28th January, 8.30am - Holiday Inn, Wrotham, Sevenoaks**
- **Friday 29th January, 1.30pm - Diocesan Offices, Rochester**

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

### **Service Level Agreement 2016/17 Consultation**

We will be conducting our annual consultation on the services and support we provide our Church schools through our Service Level Agreement (SLA) before we launch the new SLA in April. A link to the survey will be sent to all Church schools in the next few weeks. Please take time to complete the short online survey and let us know your views on what support and services we can provide next year.

### **R.E Support Group Meetings**

These meetings designed for RE Subject leaders take place every term across the diocese in a number of locations:

- **Wednesday 25th February (Tunbridge Wells)**
- **Thursday 26th February (Rochester)**
- **Friday 27th February (Bexley)**

### **Church Schools Celebration Days - 14/15/16/17th June 2016**

We are very pleased to be able to announce that we will be able to host a series of 'new style' celebration days in 2016 in Rochester Cathedral. A separate letter has gone to all schools involved in this year's Celebration Days.

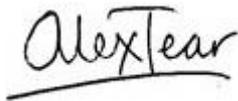
### **Foundation Governors Induction Training - 25th January 2016**

The next session for newly appointed Foundation Governors takes place on Monday 25th

January starting at 4.30pm at the Diocesan Offices in Rochester. This is a good opportunity for new governors to explore and understand their roles and responsibilities as a Foundation Governor. The session is free to attend but we ask that you book a place with Teresa Spearink.

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Best wishes,



Alex Tear  
Diocesan Director of Education

[Diocesan Schools Leadership Conference 2016 - Booking form](#)

[Diocesan Calendar of Events 2015/16](#)



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