

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018

1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the RDBE Strategic Plan for 2018 is to state the overall triennial objectives and priorities of our organisation, alongside the specific targets for each area of our operation. This forms the framework for the delivery of our mission for education in the Diocese of Rochester.

The Diocesan Strategic Framework, 'Called Together', focuses on the importance of children and young people in the three key areas of; Growing Disciples through offering life enhancing encounters with Christ, sharing the good news to see more people find faith, harnessing the power of prayer to transform lives; Enriching our Communities through increasing Christian influence in schools across the Diocese, establishing a Christian presence for education in areas of population growth, working to strengthen parish links with schools and supporting chaplaincy initiatives; Resourcing Our Mission and Ministry through ensuring schools and parishes comply with statutory, legal and best practises, supporting and developing major projects to enhance the Christian presence in our communities and to assist with local mission plans to strengthen links between parishes and schools.

The objectives of the RDBE are intrinsically linked to the 'Called Together' mission of the diocese and the Church of England's Vision for Education which through a prayerful discernment have been written into operational targets and goals to guide the work of the whole team for the next twelve months. This document considers the diverse nature of our family of schools, from rural and urban settings, large and small schools, individual schools and multi academy trusts, the range of SIAMS and Ofsted gradings, the oversubscribed and under subscribed, those with strong parish links and those who are working to strengthen those links. The common link is our place within the Diocese of Rochester to further Christ's presence through providing an excellent education to the children in our care and to support the professionals and volunteers who lead, teach and govern the institutions who fulfil this important aspect of mission.

2. VISION

Our vision for education is deeply Christian and seeks to serve the common good.

3. MISSION

To support and encourage the work of schools, churches and parishes across the Diocese of Rochester in Christian distinctiveness through excellent education of children and young people.

4. CONTEXT

The Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 1991 confirms that for every Diocese there shall be a Diocesan Board of Education which shall have certain functions and will act as the recognised religious authority for Church of England schools within the Diocese. In Rochester the RDBE is a separate incorporated limited company and registered charity and was established in its present form on the 19 November 1895. The main Board is supported by an Executive Committee, a School Effectiveness Committee and a Finance and Resources Committee. The RDBE's principal activity is to maintain and extend education in and knowledge of the Christian religion in general and the faith and practice of the Church of England to all sections of the community within the Diocese of Rochester. The RDBE works closely with and seeks to support the Church of England schools within the Diocese which total eighty-nine and are spread across the four Local Authorities as follows:

	Secondary	Primary
London Borough of Bexley	1	6
London Borough of Bromley	2	9
Kent County Council	2	59
Medway Council	0	10