Quarterly Update

Children, Schools and Young People Framework

Diocese of Canterbury  March 2018

- Director’s Message
- Archbishop’s Lecture
- Assets, Projects and Legal
- Novena 2018
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Rural and Small Schools

A significant majority of our diocesan church schools might be considered rural, or small, or both. Many are finding creative ways of sharing resources and costs, as well as combining skills and expertise for staff professional development and delivering day-to-day educational needs. There is a determination to do more than just survive, or be sustainable, but to thrive in the heart of the communities they serve.


I was particularly encouraged by its ‘theology of small’:

‘In the bible, God consistently raises up the small and places the outsider in the centre of the narrative of salvation... It is not simply that the small and humble are given equal weight as the great and mighty. The message is far stronger, God chooses the small, the little, the despised and the humble and reveals them to be more significant than the things that the world praises for being great and mighty.’ (page 29)

I encourage all senior leaders and governors to read the report and consider its implications. Later this year, the Board of Education will be updating its Rural and Small Schools Policy Statement; in the meantime, please get in touch if you would value guidance in responding to the report’s suggestions, or realising your school’s ambitions and options.

Changes to the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education and PSHE

The Church of England Education Office has recently published its response to the DfE consultation/call for evidence. A comment and link to the full report can be found here.

Wishing you all a very blessed Holy Week and Easter,
We have received an invitation from the Vice-Chancellor at Canterbury Christ Church University, Professor. Rama Thirunamachandran, to a public lecture by the Archbishop of Canterbury. He writes:

‘The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Chancellor of CCCU will be giving a public lecture in Canterbury on Wednesday 11 April at 6pm in Augustine House.

The title of the lecture is ‘Reimagining Britain: Foundation for Hope’. At this pivotal time in our nation’s history, Archbishop Justin will set out to identify the values that can help us to reimagine, and to enact, a more hopeful future for our country. Drawing on the Bible, Britain’s history and its Christian tradition, Archbishop Justin will explore how we can build on our past to offer hope for the future, suggesting practical ways to help achieve a cohesive, courageous and resilient society.’

How to get tickets

The event is free and open to the public. For bookings and more information about the lecture please visit: www.canterbury.ac.uk/publiclectures

The CSY team is continuing to support young people’s mental health as part of our theme this year ‘A place of Sanctuary’. Schools may be interested to read the recent publication from the Care Quality commission here.
Millions of children all over the world do not have access to education or lack the basic tools they need for learning. Sometimes large groups of children have to share exercise books, paper and even pencils and pens. 

Share a Pencil Day is an awareness and an education day. A fun and interactive way for schools, teachers and pupils to explore the reasons why millions of children globally are missing out on an education, and why that matters. FREE lesson plans, short films and classroom notes are available to participating schools, just sign up below to access all the materials you will need.

(Share a Pencil Day is not a fundraiser or charity day so no need to ask anyone for money or any parental engagement.)

Find out more at: https://www.hope.co.uk/share-a-pencil-day/

What is Lifesavers?
LifeSavers is a financial education programme for primary schools, helping children manage money wisely now and in the future.

They provide training and resources for teachers, offer support for school savings clubs, and encourage parental and wider community engagement. LifeSavers is a partnership between the Archbishop of Canterbury's Just Finance Foundation and Young Enterprise, with financial support from Virgin Money and Government.

https://lifesavers.co.uk/ - explore the website for more information and to access their resources and ideas for lessons and collective worship.

CPD session—coming soon
During Term 6, we will be providing a twilight training session on implementing the Lifesavers approach in your schools, including the resources available.

Details of the date, time and venue to follow.
Global Neighbours

Christian Aid has launched a new accreditation scheme for Schools, together with the Church of England’s Education Office, called Global Neighbours.

This new scheme is set to support, recognise and celebrate all that primary schools in England are doing to provide good global education.

Global Neighbours will consist of three levels—bronze, silver and gold.

To achieve accreditation, schools will demonstrate how they are fulfilling criteria relation to:

- Learning
- Spirituality and worship
- Pupil participation in active global citizenship
- Community engagement
- School leadership

For further information, download the Global Neighbours Handbook.

We need your displays!

We are currently displaying some wonderful examples of prayer stations from last year’s Cathedral Schools’ Days on our new boards here in Diocesan House. We are always on the lookout for new and innovative displays and ideas to showcase examples of Prayer Stations and pupils’ work in RE. If you have something you would like to have on show then please do contact us.
Locally Controlled Voluntary Aided Programme:
Where a project is going to cost more money than the school can afford (at least more than one year’s DFC), Voluntary Aided schools can apply for LCVAP funding. If LCVAP funding is likely to be required for a project, please contact me as early as possible. A lot of time, effort and some expense can go into preparing a bid and it is best to get some idea of the likelihood of success before starting the process.

To prepare a funding bid an LCVAP grant application form should be submitted to the Diocese with evidence to support it (condition and/or suitability surveys are essential). It will then be evaluated and any comments fed back to the school before it is submitted to the Local Authority’s funding group.
Please do send any information regarding all prospective or planned capital projects via email.

DfE Communications:
There have been a number of recent communications from DfE including Condition funding allocations: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/capital-allocations

The Building Safety Programme and Fire Safety Advice

Additionally I understand that a letter about responding to the Asbestos Management Assurance Process will shortly be going out to Responsible Bodies (VA schools, KCC and academies).

Please contact me if you have not received any of the above information.

RPA:
I have also been notified of a change to the academy conversion process around the RPA (Risk Protection Arrangements). Currently academies/MATs choose whether to opt into the RPA on conversion. This is about to change and the default position will be an automatic opt in unless the MAT/academy specifies that it wishes to opt out.

Good Estates Management:
The ESFA will be issuing a Good Estates Management (GEM) guide. This will provide advice and guidance on how to efficiently and effectively manage school sites. Look out for the GEM publication on GOV.UK later this spring.

GDPR Deadline 25 May 2018:
I am aware that there is some confusion around the topic of compliance with the new GDPR regime within schools. Many of the GDPR’s main concepts and principles are much the same as those in the current Data Protection Act, so if you are complying with the current law, most of your approach to compliance will remain valid under the GDPR and can be the starting point to build from. However, there are new elements and significant enhancements, so you will have to do some things for the first time and some things differently. KCC have issued some guidance for schools here.

“Information: Asbestos Management Assurance Process (AMAP)
The DfE have requested all responsible bodies to complete the AMAP to provide assurance that their schools are managing asbestos safely. Responsible bodies, for these purposes, are the main employer of staff at state-funded schools and academies (in VA schools this is the governing body). They have a duty under the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 to manage asbestos in their school buildings. All responsible bodies are to complete the AMAP and submit an assurance declaration for all their schools by midday, on Thursday 31 May 2018. The DfE will be sending an AMAP code to Voluntary Aided schools in April 2018. This will allow Voluntary Aided schools to provide information and for their governing boards to complete the AMAP responsible body assurance declaration.”
Immediately after Easter, we’re heading towards Novena! Novena is the period between Ascension Day and Pentecost, traditionally a time when Christians pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit, and Canterbury Diocese has many resources available to help you pray and celebrate together. Probably of most interest to schools is the Intergenerational Prayer Pack for Novena 2018 which you can find here. The pack contains nine days of prayer stations, activities and experiences that pick up on the themes of Novena and Thy Kingdom Come, an international wave of prayer using Canterbury Diocese materials! The pack is designed to be used at Home, at School or in Church- so maybe you could encourage everyone to use it in all three spheres, enabling all generations to pray and seek God together in this exciting period of time.

Wellbeing and Resilience Day

An interactive day providing insights and practical tools to help build resilience to better manage the demands and pressures of everyday life.

The day will cover what affects your resilience, how to identify when you are under pressure and then takes steps to alleviate that. Because everyone is different the workshop offers a range of practical tools to build resilience so that you can take away solutions that will work for you.

You will learn more about yourself, your way of being, what your strengths are in relation to resilience, how you may get in your own way and how to take the steps to improve your resilience and wellbeing.

Where: Venue TBC (Canterbury/Whitstable Area)
When: Saturday 12th May, 10am—4pm
Cost: £5 (a light lunch will be included)

Book your place here!
Kent is Delicious

COOKERY COMPETITION

Open to all primary school age children in Kent

In groups of up to four, create a breakfast dish using local, seasonal ingredients

Three lucky groups will be chosen to cook their dishes in the main Show Kitchen at the Kent County Show on Friday 6th July with prizes of:

1ST PRIZE £300
2 RUNNERS-UP PRIZES OF £100
(for cookery or gardening projects for your group)*

Closing date 25th May 2018

For full competition details and how to enter: www.canterburydiocese.org/kentisdelicious
@KentisDelicious

Sign up for more information and mini prizes at kentisdelicious@diocant.org

*Prizes given as gift vouchers
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