

Vision and Values



*Inspiring schools to demonstrate the love of
Christ as they educate for life in all its fullness*

February 2026

Our Diocese

Coventry Diocese includes the City of Coventry, the County of Warwickshire, and two parishes in Solihull Metropolitan Borough. Across the Diocese, there are 244 churches and 203 parishes organised into 124 benefices served by 177 licensed clergy. 76 Church of England Schools make up the Diocesan Board of Education's (DBE) family of schools, with approximately 18,600 children learning and worshipping together in school daily.



There are 6 CofE Majority Multi Academy Trusts containing a mix of CofE and community schools working collaboratively. Parishes are organised into 11 Deaneries enabling clergy, churches, chaplaincies and schools to partner in mission to their geographical areas. There is significant growth in housing with the result that new schools and churches are needed to serve these communities. The DBE is proactive in discussions with local planners and the Department for Education (DFE) to plant new schools and worshipping communities.



Bishop Sophie became our Bishop in 2025 and is fully committed to supporting a flourishing school system across the Diocese of Coventry. She has made it a priority to visit as many schools as possible on her deanery visits and to engage well with school and MAT leaders and their teams in her first year.



Children, young people and families will be at the heart of our refreshed diocesan vision which is under development at present, as we seek to 'Walk Forward Together' over the coming year.



The form of words under consideration for the refreshed vision is: ***Growing a Diocese: Reconciled to God, With each other, For the World.*** Our schools have a vital role to play in developing a community of reconcilers who work together to equip our children and young people for the world of today and tomorrow.



DBE Vision

'Inspiring schools to demonstrate the love of Christ as they educate for life in all its fullness.'

 	<p>"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot."</p> <p>"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."</p> <p>Matthew 5:13-16</p>
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The DBE embodies salt and light by:		We will see:	
 	Creating and sustaining collaborative school groupings .	Family All schools feel part of the DBE family. MATs and maintained schools collaborate to deliver high quality, value for money, distinctively Christian education.	Mission Staff articulate and embrace a vocation to educate and express a theology of education as mission.
	Supporting schools to live out a expansive Christian vision rooted in Wisdom, Hope, Dignity and Community.	Culture Schools develop a "way of being" rooted in their Christian vision, impacting curriculum, teaching and relationships.	Inclusion Schools value diversity, embrace difference, pursue inclusion and nurture aspiration.
	Developing parish partnerships to nurture spirituality, worship God, and journey in faith together.	Planting The school community is seen as part of the Church. Children, families, staff, clergy and parishioners encounter God in school.	Journeying The Parish, school staff, children and families develop their spirituality. They worship together and the faith of the school and parish grows.
	Training, equipping and sending out a generation of World Changers .	Kingdom Schools enrich the curriculum by asking big kingdom questions, encouraging children to imagine solutions and drive change.	Action Schools, in partnership with their parishes, develop courageous advocacy and leadership in children leading to local and global impact.

Statutory Role of the DBE

Reflecting the Diocesan Board of Education Measure 2021, the DBE....

EQUIPS schools to provide excellent Christian education which is:

- distinctive
- inclusive
- sustainable
- transformational

takes seriously its **RESPONSIBILITY** to ensure high quality:

- multi academy trusts
- school leadership
- governance
- curriculum designed around the principles of Wisdom, Hope, Dignity and Community



is committed to **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP** with:

- Governing bodies
- Parishes
- Clergy
- Local Authorities
- Department for Education
- Multi Academy Trusts

is the '**FOUNDATION BODY**' which

- holds **statutory responsibilities** to:
 - appoint foundation governors
 - inspect the Christian Distinctiveness of CofE schools
 - provide conditional consent for academy conversion
 - identify a sponsor for schools receiving an academy order
- provides **advice, guidance** and **consent** for:
 - appointment of school and MAT leaders
 - admission policies
 - land and buildings issues
 - school partnerships
 - new schools
 - alterations to schools

Our Hope for a Flourishing Schools System:

Deeply Christian,
Serving the
Common Good



The National Society for promoting education

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND EDUCATION OFFICE FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Underpinning Theology

As God's children we are all called to worship. Daily Collective Worship in schools and academies, invites 18,600 children and young people, parents and carers and the school staff team to draw near to God. As they reflect on their daily experiences of life and the world we hope that all will feel the presence of the Holy Spirit.



Our schools, with their Church of England foundation, rooted in Anglican faith and practice, are called to be distinctive and inclusive where those of the Christian faith, other faiths, and no faith are welcomed. We create opportunities for school communities to journey in faith together learning how to be World Changers who bring hope and justice locally and globally. We believe that Jesus demonstrated how to live this 'kingdom life' as he journeyed with his disciples teaching, healing and serving others. Church of England schools reflect the values which Jesus taught and nurture the spiritual qualities of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control in children and staff.

God in Jesus, displays his unconditional love for each person, valuing those rejected by society, welcoming children to come to Him, urging adults to be as children. We hold Christ at the centre of all we do, model His love, and enable others to do the same.

He called a little child to him and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18: 2-3



Church of England schools are part of the body of Christ partnering with their parishes and other schools across the diocese in the mission of God. This relatedness encourages us to work together, as family, providing mutual support and celebration. We welcome community schools into this extended family as part of our strong Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) with common objects and foundations.