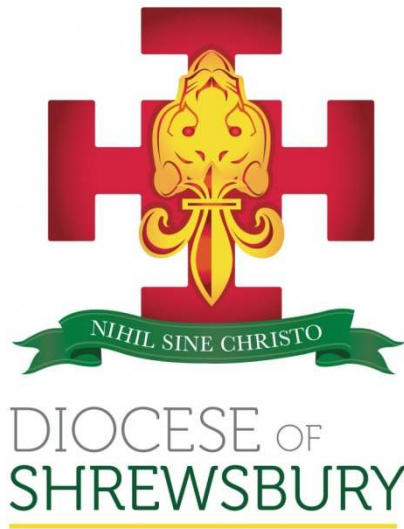




Diocese of Shrewsbury

Department of Education



Newsletter

Autumn Term 2022 No.1



Dear Colleagues

1. INTRODUCTION

I hope that you all managed to get some rest and relaxation with your family and loved ones this Summer, knowing that you will not have managed a total break given all that goes on related to schools during the summer break. I hope that for secondary schools the examinations results days went well and the young people in our schools and colleges gained the results they need for the next stage of their education and training.

As we start the new term, which promises to be as busy as ever, I hope that I get the opportunity to meet many of you the Celebration of Mass for the Start of Term or other Diocesan events.

2. CHANGES IN DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

Deputy Director of Schools

I am delighted to be able to inform you that Richards Woods, currently Headteacher at St Nicholas' Catholic High School, Hartford has been appointed as Deputy Director of Schools. Richard will take up post in January 2023 and will be a great addition to the team.

Director of Schools PA & Governance support

I am delighted to be able to inform you that Julie English has been appointed as my new PA and started work this week. Julie has over 17 years' experience of working in educational settings at both school and MAT level. She will also be responsible for Governance support, and she is currently working alongside both Sue Jenkinson and Sue Blackwell until the end of the month as part of a transition period.

Goodbye and Good Luck

If there have not been enough changes of personnel in the education department over the last few months, we see the departure of 'the two Sues' at the end of the month. I know that you would like me on your behalf to pay tribute to and thank them both for the pivotal work they have done, in Sue Blackwell's case of 34 years, and indeed they have been the 'glue' that has held the department together through significant periods of change. I know through speaking to school staff and governors over the last few months just how much you have valued the support they have given you and how both have always gone the extra mile to resolve your queries. On a personal note, I owe them both a great debt of gratitude for not only the professional support they have offered to me but also the care and attention they have shown for my own personal wellbeing. They will both be sorely missed but we wish them health and happiness in all they do in the future and ask that they keep us all in their prayers as we keep them in ours.

Schools' Officers - Primary

Carol Morgan will take responsibility for all primary schools in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Warrington

Rob Hughes, former Headteacher of St Mary of the Angels, will be the schools' officer for all primary schools in Wirral, Halton and Cheshire East.

Jackie Walker, Headteacher of St James', Hattersley, will be schools' officer for all schools in Manchester, Trafford, Stockport and parts of Cheshire West and Chester.

Sacha Humphries will be schools' officer for all primary schools in Tameside and parts of Cheshire West and Chester.

Schools' Officers – Secondary

For the Autumn Term there will be no changes to schools' officers for secondary schools, with Vicky Atherton and myself covering the same schools. Richard Woods will oversee all secondary schools, with the exception of St Nicholas, from January 2023

A full list of schools' officers by school can be found at the link below:

[Schools Officers 2022-23](#)

3. SUPPORT FOR CHAPLAINCY IN SCHOOLS

Following the retirement of Cath Duffy as Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, school chaplaincy will now be supported by the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team headed up by Sandy Fairley, Director of Youth Mission for the Diocese

4. CHANGES TO HEADTEACHERS

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the new Headteachers that have taken up post this term:

Mrs H Thorpe – St Mary of The Angels, Ellesmere Port

Mrs L Kelly – St Hugh's, Timperley

Mr T Wallace – Ss Peter and Paul, New Brighton

We are grateful to the following people who have taken on responsibility as Acting or Executive Heads.

Miss E Simmons – Acting Headteacher St Elizabeth's, Wythenshawe

Mrs E Taylor & Mr L Fishwick – Joint Acting Headteacher Blessed Thomas Holford, Altrincham

Mr J Mollard - Acting Headteacher – St Gregory's Bollington

I would also like to welcome to the Diocese Mr Mark Mountcastle, who takes up his position as CEO for the Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Multi Academy Trust.

May we remember these colleagues in our prayers as they take up their new roles.

5. UPDATE ON ACADEMIES

The Wythenshawe Catholic Multi Academy Trust has changed its name and with effect of the 1st September 2022 is now called Corpus Christi Catholic Academy Trust.

Over the coming weeks I will be working with representative Headteachers and Governors to provide an opportunity for all schools to submit a response to the Diocesan proposals in relation to the plans for all schools to become academies by 2030. I have also set up a mechanism for schools to submit questions in relation to the Diocesan plan and will post the question and response on the website as well as replying directly to the response.

[Submit a question in relation to academies](#)

I have compiled a list of FAQs in relation to academisation given that there are discussions going on at a number of levels, particularly in relation to LA MATs and the developments in neighbouring Dioceses.

[Academies FAQs](#)

[Glossary of Terms](#)

Other useful information about academies:

[Statutory Faith Protections for Schools with a Religious Character](#)

[Schools with a Religious Character – Browne Jacobson](#)

6. OFSTED

Ofsted has recently revised its handbook for September 2022 and the details can be found by following the link below:

[Changes to inspection handbooks for September 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Rachel Goodwin will present on the latest developments in relation to Inspection at the Headteacher Briefing on **Monday 26th September at 2.30 p.m.** In order to book a place please follow the link below

[Headteacher Briefing Monday 26th September 2022](#)

7. COASTING SCHOOLS REGULATION

The Coasting Schools Regulations 2022

The Regulations provide a new definition of the circumstances in a which a school is deemed to be coasting as follows:

- (a) the school has had two or more section 5 inspections;
- (b) at its most recent section 5 inspection it was awarded a grade of “requires improvement” for the quality of education provided at the school; and
- (c) in the section 5 inspection that took place before the inspection referred to in (b) above it was awarded a grade of “requires improvement”, “satisfactory” or “inadequate for the quality of education provided at the school.

There are specific rules relating to predecessor schools and these will need to be consulted in specific circumstances.

The Schools Causing Concern Guidance has been updated and a link to the guidance is below. The updated guidance comes into force on 1 September 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-causing-concern--2>

8. IMPLICATIONS OF RE DIRECTORY/CSI/PRAYER AND LITURGY DIRECTORY IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23

Please see link to information below.

[Implications of RE Directory/CSI Prayer and Liturgy Directory 2022-23](#)

9. GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

Our Annual Governors' Conference will take place on **Saturday November 12th** at Blessed Thomas Holford College, Altrincham.

The day will begin with Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark, followed by a presentation from Rachel Goodwin HMI, who will be able to provide the conference with an up-to-date picture of the work of Ofsted in our schools.

There will also be a selection of workshops, including information about the Diocesan academy plan. Further details will be circulated nearer the time and a booking form will be issued as soon as the workshops have been finalised.

We hope that some of the conference sessions will be recorded and available after the event.

10. CPDF

Our Programme of CPDF has now been finalised and CPDF booklet can be accessed by following the link below:

[CPDF Programme 2022-23](#)

Key Dates This Term

Welcome to the Diocese of Shrewsbury – Primary:

15th September (virtual session)

Welcome to the Diocese of Shrewsbury – Secondary:

3rd October (virtual session)

New RE Co-ordinators Induction (Primary):

23rd September – St John Henry Newman Parish Centre, Warrington

RE Co-ordinator Briefing (Primary):

6th December (virtual session)

RE Co-ordinator Hub Meetings (all virtual sessions):

29th September (am) - Manchester & Trafford

29th September (pm) - Cheshire West & Chester

3rd October (am) - Cheshire East

3rd October (pm) - Wirral

4th October (am) - Runcorn & Warrington

5th October (am) - Stockport & Tameside

5th October (pm) - Telford & Wrekin

Christ at the Centre – a course for Primary Practitioners:

27th September – Module 1, Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre, Ellesmere Port

8th November – Module 2, Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre, Ellesmere Port

Primary Curriculum Working Party:

21st September – St John Henry Newman Parish Centre, Warrington

Primary Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Forum:

14th October – Primary DADAH Launch Event– The Park Royal Hotel, Warrington

Secondary Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Forums:

3rd November – Catholic Life & Mission – Aquinas College, Stockport

8th November – Quality of Education – St James Catholic High School, Cheadle Hulme

15th November – Personal Development, Behaviour & Attitudes – Cardinal Newman Catholic High School, Latchford

Day of Spiritual Reflection:

17th November – The Park Royal Hotel, Warrington

Secondary RSE Lead Meeting:

30th November – St Paul's Catholic High, Wythenshawe

Secondary Heads of RE (SHORE):

12th October – Loreto Grammar School, Altrincham

KS5 Core RE SHORE:

9th November – Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, Altrincham

ECT Primary, Year 1:

13th October – Prayer and Liturgy (virtual session)

ECT Primary, Year 2:

22nd November – The Ways of Knowing (virtual session)

ECT Secondary:

16th November - (virtual session)

Secondary Chaplains (COAST):

30th September – Ellesmere Port Catholic High School

10th November – (virtual session)

Northwest Diocesan Hub – Core RE Meeting:

2nd November – (virtual session)

Annual Governors' Conference:

12th November – Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, Altrincham

Induction for New Governors - Autumn:

20th September – Evening (virtual session)

21st September – Afternoon (virtual session)

Governors' Briefings:

4th October – Evening (virtual session)

5th October – Afternoon (virtual session)

6th October – Evening (virtual session)

Headteacher Briefings:

26th September – (virtual session)

27th September – (virtual session)

New Headteacher Induction Programme:

28th and 29th of September – Residential session, The Park Royal Hotel, Warrington

10th November – (virtual session)

School Support Under the New CSI Framework:

30th September – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre, Ellesmere Port

All the above courses are bookable through the Diocesan website by following the link below:

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/courses/book-a-cpdf-course>

CCRS (Thursday sessions):

Old Testament module days 1 to 3 – 15th September 22nd September, & 29th September at St Anthony's Parish Centre, Wythenshawe

New Testament module days 1 to 3 – 11th November 18th November, & 25th November, at St Anthony's Parish Centre, Wythenshawe

Please book directly through ccrs@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

11. MASS TO CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Monday 19th September 2022 – St Peter's Catholic Church, Hazel Grove – 4.30. p.m.

Thursday 22nd September 2022 – Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Ellesmere Port – 4.30 p.m.

Refreshments will be available after Mass.

12. NORTHWEST CATHOLIC DIOCESES TRAINING PARTNERSHIP 2022-23

After a very successful relaunch of the leadership programmes, we will offer similar programmes again this year at a **reduced price of £500**.

The dates for the main programmes are:

| Northwest Catholic Dioceses Training Partnership 2022-2023 | |
|---|---|
| PROPOSED Dates for Catholic Leadership Programmes | |
| Catholic Headteacher Programme | 18 th October 2022 26-27 th January 2023 29 th June 2023 |
| Catholic Senior Leadership Programme | 9 th November 2022 16 th -17 th March 2023 15 th June 2023 |
| Catholic Middle Leadership Programme | 10 th November 2022 23 rd -24 th March 2023 14 th June 2023 |

For more information and to register for a place please click the links below:

[Catholic Headteacher Programme](#)

[Catholic Senior Leadership Programme](#)

[Catholic Middle Leadership Programme](#)

In addition to the above specific leadership programmes there is an *Aspiring to Senior Leadership Programme*, which is **free of charge** to those actively seeking a leadership role in a Catholic School. It consists of a virtual session on the application process followed by a face to face session which consists of a series of workshops as well as a mock interview with feedback.

We will circulate times and dates to schools in the next few weeks.

13. NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME

Please see below a link to the latest information regarding the National Schools Singing Programme:

[National-Schools-Singing-Programme](#)

14. CCRS

The Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies (CCRS) has for over a quarter of a century enabled those responsible for passing on our Catholic Christian Faith through education or catechesis to gain a deeper knowledge of that faith. This coming academic year we are returning to teaching in person on a Thursday morning, after a couple of years of having to meet online. From Thursday 15th September we will be offering CCRS classes at St Anthony's Parish Centre, Wythenshawe. Classes will take place between 8.45am-12.30pm, on three consecutive Thursdays per module. There will be two modules this term: Old Testament this month and New Testament in November. Practically, the course can be completed over two years, or a maximum of five years. It is divided into eight assessed modules. Doing CCRS does require time and application, but it will deepen your understanding. Why not give it a try? For more details visit:

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/ccrs> or email: ccrs@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

15. THANKS FROM CARITAS

Caritas Shrewsbury want to pass on a huge thank you to everyone who so generously and creatively supported the Lent Good Shepherd Appeal. Our relaunch of the appeal this year has led to more than £10,000 being donated which triples last year's total. This will be such an important source of support for children and families through the cost of living crisis. Do get in touch to find out how we can try and together support families that you know are struggling - 0151 652 1281; info@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk

Also, this term look out for details of the Caritas at Christmas appeal and for regular updates follow us on Twitter (@caritasdio) where we have a Caritas Schools Friends group to connect with one another.

16. SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM

Flame 2023

Tickets are now available for flame 2023 – Saturday 4th March 2022. To be held once again at Wembley Arena with a massive line up of guest speakers.

This year there are two ticket options:

£25 - Ticket only

£85 - Ticket and coach travel, (departure times to be confirmed)

Places are limited this year so please book quickly. If you are interested in booking tickets or would like any more information, please email: sophie.reed@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Please see link to flyer below:

[Flame-Flyer 2023](#)

World Youth Day 2023 – Lisbon

World Youth Day is the largest international gathering of young people in the Catholic church. It is held every 3 years and was established by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1985.

In 2023 the Diocese of Shrewsbury will travel with the other Diocese of England and Wales, to Lisbon, to take part in World Youth Day Lisbon. In Lisbon, we will be joined by young Catholics from around the world for a weeklong event with catechesis, prayer, reflection and ultimately mass and an encounter with the Pope.

Dates : 31st July- 5th of August 2023

Cost : £1200 – all inclusive, meals, travel, accommodation, and World Youth Day passes.

Age : 18 to 35

Please see link to flyer below:

[World-Youth-Day-Flyer](#)

Places are extremely limited and will be allocated on an application basis. If you would like more information, have any questions, or want an application form please email:

clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

17. REGISTER OF ECTs

As in previous years I would like to write to welcome any ECTs joining the Diocese this term. Could any schools with ECTs please click on the link below to advise us of their details so that they can be included in the welcome letters:

[Details of ECTs from September 2022](#)

We have also arranged two virtual sessions, one for Primary and one for Secondary for staff who are new to the Diocese. These are on Thursday 15th September (Primary 15.45 – 16.45) and Monday 3rd of October (Secondary 15.45 – 16.45).

Please use the links below to book a place:

[New to the Diocese Primary 2022](#)

[New to the Diocese Secondary 2022](#)

18. APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR LEADERS

I would like to remind Governors and Headteachers that the Diocesan Department of Education **MUST** be involved in Headship, Deputy Headship, Heads of RE and Chaplain appointments. In addition, if Assistant Head posts have a pastoral dimension or are responsible for Catholic ethos, then again, the Diocese must be involved. The *Bishops' Memorandum on the Appointment of Teachers* also extends Diocesan involvement to all temporary positions, including Executive Headships and Heads of School.

If schools are making temporary leadership arrangements, they must also have these approved by the relevant Diocesan officer.

When starting the recruitment process, we would ask that the Diocese is contacted **prior to any dates being set** in order to ensure that representation is available.

All documentation in relation to Senior Appointments is available via the CES website (www.catholiceducation.org.uk) and it is important that the latest versions are downloaded. All vacancies can be advertised on the Diocesan website.

19. ADMISSIONS

Thank you to everyone for your support and co-operation with regard to 2023-24 admissions policies. The majority of schools within the Diocese carried out the appropriate consultation. Schools are reminded that the admissions policy should be easily accessible on the school website.

In order to continue to monitor provision within our schools we are asking each school to submit a return indicating the number of pupils admitted by admission category. A template for submitting this information is provided at [Primary Admissions](#) or [Secondary Admissions](#) but it will need to be personalised to match your own admissions criteria. Completed forms should be returned to malgorzata.kowalska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org.

20. CES UPDATES

HSE Management of Asbestos in Schools

HSE announces school inspections to support asbestos management

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has announced it will undertake school inspections from September 2022. These inspections are aimed at ensuring asbestos is being managed effectively in schools, in line with their duties under Control of Asbestos Regulations to keep children, staff and the wider community safe from asbestos.

HSE's [announcement](#) sets out what they will be looking at and how schools should prepare for a possible inspection.

DfE has published the [asbestos management in schools guidance](#) for schools to help them understand and meet their responsibilities in managing asbestos safely, including having an asbestos management plan and register.

Living Wage Guidance

The CES have asked us to remind governors, as the employers, to be mindful of their guidance on the living wage, particularly as we are experiencing a *cost-of-living crisis*. I have included the guidance mindful of the increasing financial pressures on school budgets as a consequence of the current economic position.

<http://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/living-wage>

21. GUIDANCE ON BUILDING WORK

Please follow the link below to access the latest guidance on building works in schools

[Schools Property Guide August 2022](#)

[Academies Property Guide](#)

22. OUT OF HOURS CONTACT DETAILS

Very occasionally it is necessary to make contact with a school either out of hours or during the weekend or holiday period. I have previously asked if schools would be willing to provide an out of hours contact number to be used by the Diocese in exceptional circumstances. I am very grateful to the schools that have lodged an out of hours contact number, and if you are happy for the Diocese to have out of hours contact details then please submit them using the link below:

[Out of hours contact information](#)

23. EDUCATION SERVICE CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

Thank you to all those who have already paid their subscriptions to this year's Education Support Scheme (ESS) and we urge all schools to make use of the services provided by the Diocesan team. I have included an updated document [Support-To-Schools-September-2022](#), which I hope you will find a comprehensive summary of the support available to schools in addition to the training and formation opportunities offered through our CPDF programme.

It is the Bishop's expectation that all Diocesan schools will pay into the scheme in order to ensure that we can continue to support all schools, particularly in maintaining and developing the mission of Catholic education.

24. EDUCARE ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Everybody has a role to play in safeguarding within their community, and it is for this reason that the Catholic Church in England and Wales has worked with EduCare to provide an e-learning package to raise safeguarding awareness. **This free of charge online training** package is part of the Church's commitment to safeguarding. Below are the training modules that are currently available: -

- Child Protection
- Child Protection Refresher
- Child Protection in Education
- Child Exploitation & Online Safety
- Safeguarding Adults
- Safeguarding Adults Refresher
- Mental Capacity

To access the training simply e-mail cpva@DioceseOfShrewsbury.org with the following information:

- Name:
- E-mail address:
- Name of School:
- Your role: (e.g. Teacher, Support Staff Governor, Parent).

For more information click the link below:

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/ShrewsburyTowards-a-Culture-of-Safeguarding-C19.pdf>

With every good wish for the forthcoming term

Damian