



NEWSLETTER

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025 - 2026

NEWSLETTER 1

2 SEPTEMBER 2025

Message from the Director of Education

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well and that you have all had a relaxing summer with your friends and families. It has been great to have some decent weather too. As we begin our academic year, we keep in our prayers the children Annunciation Catholic School, Minneapolis, we pray for the school community and the children's families at this very difficult time.

This newsletter provides you with updates from the department and I encourage you to share this with the staff and governors in your schools and Catholic Education Trusts.

Firstly, I would like to provide you with some updates in relation to the department. We are currently advertising for the position of Education Operations Manager. This key role will provide strategic support to the department and provide the administration for Catholic School Inspection.

We are excited to welcome **Eimear Hurley** to our department as Choral Director. Please do read the article about her new appointment further on in this newsletter. We also welcome **Aleah Oyagbohun**, who will be joining the team this month. One of her main responsibilities will be the administration of the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies, she will also be supporting with leadership professional development administration.

At the end of July, we said farewell and thank you to **Eamonn Diffley**. We also said farewell to **Mike Bowman** and **Alex Woodmass**. Mike has diligently supported the leadership and recruitment work of the department, and we thank him for his dedication and commitment over the years. Alex was on a fixed term contract which came to an end in July. We thank him too for his work and commitment to the department, specifically to Catholic School Inspection. We pray that God will bless them all as they embark on new ventures in their lives.

Viv Fawcett, our Senior Administrator will now be providing the administrative support for all recruitments and **Rebecca Daglish** will continue to work within governance.

I would like to briefly highlight some of the articles in the newsletter. The first one is our appeal for foundation governors on Education Sunday which is Sunday 14 September. We are asking governors, teachers, headteachers and CET staff to support us by reading a very short appeal at the end of each Mass on this weekend. If you are able to support us, please can you contact rebecca.daglish@diocesehn.org.uk. Your support with this appeal is greatly valued.

Our annual Catholic Education Leaders and Clergy Conference is taking place on **Thursday 27 November** at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham. This is an invaluable opportunity for us to come together as One Diocesan Family. Bishop Stephen appreciates the opportunity to share this time with all Catholic headteachers and CET leaders. You will note that we have changed both the location and the format as a result of feedback. These changes make the conference more affordable for all leaders. We ask that you please make this conference a diary priority and look forward to being with you on this day. We are also extending a warm welcome to our diocesan clergy too.

Finally, **Blessed Carlo Acutis** will be canonised on **Sunday 7 September** with **Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**. We will be sending you a planned Celebration of the Word that you will be able to use with your children, either before or after this wonderful event.

I very much hope that this academic year is a successful one for our school communities. Please be assured of my prayers as you embark on a new year. Thank you for your dedication and commitment, please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of service to you.

May God bless you all in your ministries.

With every good wish,

Catherine



New School leaders

We are pleased to announce the following new Headteachers, Heads of School and Executive Headteachers who have taken up their new leadership posts. We keep them in our prayers as they embark upon this new stage in their careers. May God bless you and guide you all.

Executive Headteachers

Charlotte Chapman – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, North Shields
Andrea Goodwin (acting) – St Mary Magdalen, Seaham and St Benet's, Sunderland
Anthony McGeeney – St Joseph's and St Teresa's Catholic Primary Schools, Hartlepool
Lianne Peart (acting) – St John Bosco and English Martyrs' Catholic Primary Schools, Sunderland
Andy Rodgers – The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Hartlepool

Headteachers

Rachael Anderson – St Mary's Catholic Primary School, South Moor
Jill Cartwright (Acting) – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Murton
Nick Conway – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
Anthony Kennedy – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow
Suzanne Lewis-Dale – St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, Bedlington
Anthony Morris – St John Boste Catholic Primary School, Washington
Linzi Nelson – St John the Evangelist Catholic Primary School, Billingham
Joanne Nicholson – St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Norton
Amanda Palmer – Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Hartlepool
Paul Rogers – St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Langley Moor
Emma Shaughnessy – St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, South Shields
Julie Teer – St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, Ashington
Ciara Yeoman – St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Walker
Joanne Young – Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust

Head of School

Amanda Ball (acting) – St Mary Magdalen Catholic Primary School, Seaham
Rory Cook (acting) – St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Bedlington
Kirsty Dunn (acting) – St Robert of Newminster Catholic School, Washington
Emily Hudson (acting) – St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School, Consett
Ashley Pescod (acting) – English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
Lisa Rice (acting) – St Benet's RCVA Primary School, Sunderland
Philip Roddy (acting) – St John Bosco Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
Glenn Thompson – The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Hartlepool

Deputy Headteachers

Peter Bostock - St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Norton
Ciaran Butterworth - St John the Evangelist Catholic Primary School, Billingham
Lisa Chidlow - Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Whitley Bay
Christopher Corcoran - The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Hartlepool
Lisa Curran - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gateshead
Kate Dagleish - St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Stockton
Lucy Farrar - St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, Ashington
Dominique Harris (acting) - St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Alnwick
Marie Hunter (acting) - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Murton
Alison Johnson - St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, Wallsend
Stephanie Langford - Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Byermoor
Fern Lawton - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Washington
Ruth Leonard - St Bega's Catholic Primary School, Hartlepool
Natasha Maddison - St Columba's Catholic Primary School, Wallsend
Ashleigh Mason - Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School, Gateshead
Kirsty Murley - St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Consett
Graham Newcombe - Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Hartlepool
Nadia Pinnela Noble - St Agnes' Catholic Primary School, Crawcrook
James Race - Our Lady and St Bede Catholic Academy, Stockton
Joanne Robson - St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Houghton le Spring
Maxine Salmon - St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, Bedlington
Kate Stephenson - English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School, Newcastle
Sarah Taylor (acting) - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blaydon
Jenni Westwood - St Cuthbert's Catholic High School, Newcastle
Madeleine Wilbin - St Matthew's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow
Catherine Wilkinson - St Bede's Catholic Academy, Stockton

In our summer newsletter we did not thank **Claire Bryant**, who was headteacher of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in North Shields. We thank her for her contribution to Catholic education and send her every good wish for her future endeavours. May God bless her always.



Catholic Education Leaders & Clergy Conference 2025

The annual Catholic Leaders and Clergy Conference is being held on **Thursday 27 November 2025** and the Ramside Hall Hotel. We are delighted that the conference will include keynote speeches from Professor Bart McGettrick, Emeritus Professor and Dean Emeritus of the Faculty of Education at the University of Glasgow, Leora Cruddas, the Chief Executive of the Confederation of School Trusts and Paul Barber, Director of the Catholic Education Service. There will also be a commissioning Mass for all school leaders, celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright.

Please see the three options below to attend this event:

Day Delegate - £100 (includes lunch)

Day Delegate + evening meal - £125

Residential Delegate - £250

(includes lunch, evening meal & overnight stay with breakfast)

OUR FANTASTIC SPEAKERS

PROF. BART MCGETTRICK
is Emeritus Professor of Education and Dean Emeritus, of the Faculty of Education at the University of Glasgow.

LEORA CRUDDAS
is the founding Chief Executive of the Confederation of School Trusts

PAUL BARBER
is the Director of the Catholic Education Service

CATHOLIC EDUCATION LEADERS & CLERGY CONFERENCE 2025

Catholic Education Leaders and Clergy are invited to attend the Conference to meet together for professional development, reflection and Mass.

If you have any queries, please contact: education@diocesehn.org.uk

If you would like to book for dinner and/or residential, **booking would need to be by no later than Tuesday 30 September 2025.**

National Catholic Leadership Programme

The National Catholic Leadership Programme (NCLP) wave 4 will get underway in September 2025. We have 25 delegates enrolled on the course and we look forward to meeting them all for the first session on **25 September 2025.**



Teaching about Judaism

Invitation: Q&A Session – Teaching about Judaism –
Tuesday 9th September 2025 – 3:45 to 4:45 pm

Please see below and attached for details about the forthcoming September Q and A session on teaching about Judaism.

Led by Anna Silver, the education officer at the Board of Deputies, this will be an engaging and hugely informative hour long session. Its style is supportive and informal, so please encourage your schools to attend.

Anna also offers free online CPD for schools and charges expenses only for in-person INSET so please, also, share this with your schools. For information please contact:

Anna on: anna.silva@bod.org.uk

Are you an RE teacher with questions about Judaism?

A chance to ask anything you like...

Open to primary and secondary teachers who teach Judaism

Why don't all...

What's the difference between...

I don't understand which...



Tues 9th September, 3.45–4.45pm

Any question answered



by Anna Silver,
Education Officer

Monthly informal drop in session

(for monthly dates and zoom links email
anna.silver@bod.org.uk)

For Zoom link see attached text

The Zoom link (not on flyer):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81931712721?pwd=fjurpbHS5c7leMd8wsQKiBIXL7M8sg.1>

Meeting ID: 819 3171 2721

Passcode: 288739

Catholic School Inspection

We have a full schedule of CSI inspections this academic year. Inspections will begin week beginning 22 September 2025. If your school is in this year's inspection window, we would appreciate you sending your updated CSED to education@diocesehn.org.uk as soon as possible and no later than

Friday 26 September 2025.

We look forward to welcoming many of you to our CSI training for school leaders at The Durham Centre on

Friday 7 November 2025.



THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE INSPECTION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND ACADEMIES

DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle
DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

CSI Training for School Leaders

Providing guidance on preparing for the National Framework for Catholic School Inspections.

This session is for headteachers / heads of school, deputy headteachers and RE subject leaders.

Friday 7 November 2025
9.30am - 3.30pm

Refreshments served from 9.00am, Lunch provided
The Durham Centre, Belmont DH1 1TN

[Register Now](#) <https://diocesehncourses.org>

Education Sunday - Recruitment of Governors



On Education Sunday - **14 September 2025**, we are appealing for new Foundation Governors in all of our parishes. We are asking governors, headteachers, teachers, Catholic Education Trust staff and curial staff to support us with this by volunteering to read a short passage at the end of the Mass which they usually attend. If you are willing to help, we will email you the short passage that you read. The department has sent all clergy the poster to be displayed with a supporting letter explaining what needs to be done.

Please click on the link <https://forms.office.com/e/DFQqaBni8X?origin=IprLink>

Thank you for your continued support. We will be holding two meetings for discussion with future Foundation Governors on **Tuesday 7 October 2025** at St Cuthbert's House 1.30pm-2.30pm and **Monday 13 October 2025** at The Durham Centre 4pm-5pm.

Recruitment Advisors Meetings 2025 - 2026

There are three training sessions schedules for all recruitment advisor during the year. The dates and venues are as follows:

Autumn - Wednesday 10 September 2025, 1pm - 3:30pm at the Durham Centre, Belmont/Online

Spring - Wednesday 14 January 2026, 1pm - 3:30pm at the Durham Centre, Belmont/Online

Summer - Wednesday 22 April September 2026, 1pm - 3:30pm Online

The session on **10 September 2025** includes Keri Goddard, Senior Solicitor at the Catholic Education Service (CES), as a guest speaker.

Leadership Recruitments in Schools and CETs

The 2024–2025 academic year has seen a high volume of leadership recruitment activity.

The table opposite outlines the number of leadership appointments completed so far this year, with three additional recruitments still in progress and expected to conclude before the end of the academic year.

Total Number of Completed Leadership Recruitments 2024-25	
Chief Executive Officer	0
Deputy Chief Executive Officer	3
Executive Headteachers	3
Headteachers	13
Heads of School	4
Deputy Headteachers	28
Heads of RE	2
School Lay Chaplains	2
TOTAL	55

We would like to thank all diocesan recruitment advisers who have given their time and expertise to support these recruitments.

We greatly appreciate everything that they do to help the Diocese and Catholic Education Trusts maintain the highest standards in Catholic leadership recruitment.

Foundation Governor Training

Dear Governors,

Thank you for all of the work that you do in supporting the mission of our Catholic schools, we look forward to working alongside you in the year ahead.

We have a number of training opportunities available throughout the year for both experienced and new governors. These sessions are designed to support your development and ensure you feel well-equipped to contribute effectively to the governing body.

Upcoming Foundation Governor Training Dates:

New Foundation Governors welcome

16 September 2025

5pm-6pm on-line

Governor & Director Training – Admissions and Appeals

21 October 2025

2pm-3.30pm

6pm-7pm

Both on-line

New Foundation Governors welcome

20 January 2026

5pm-6pm on-line

Governor & Director Training –(RE & RSHE)

10 February 2026

2pm-3.30pm

6pm-7pm

Both on-line

Governor & Director Training –(CSI)

28 April 2026

2pm-3.30pm

6pm-7pm

Both on-line



Please let us know which sessions you would like to attend, and we will ensure you are registered by contacting Rebecca Daghish at rebecca.daghish@diocesehn.org.uk

Once again, thank you for your dedication and service. We look forward to working with you to make a positive impact on our school communities.

Mark 10 Mission

The Mark 10 Mission is back with brilliant new Celebrations of the word videos. Their first videos of the new year celebrate the canonisations of the two newest saints of the Church, Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. These videos share the Gospel for **Sunday 7 September**, the day that they will both be canonised in Rome.

By clicking the link above, you will find the videos as well as the Mission File, Mission Poster and a link to our planning grid.



An introduction to Catholic education

On **Friday 26 September**, we will be holding a training session for all those who are new to Catholic Education at the Copthorne Hotel, Newcastle. This is for all those who are new to Catholic Education from September 2025 and will be an opportunity for them to deepen their understanding of teaching in a Catholic school.

We will be looking at the context and background of Catholic education, the Catholic curriculum including the new Religious Education Directory, prayer and liturgy including the planning of the celebration of the word and the ethos and mission in a Catholic school.

If you have any members of staff who are new to Catholic Education, please book a place via our online booking system at www.diocesehncourses.org

Prayer and Liturgy Policy

This policy is now ready for you to implement and use in schools. [Prayer-and-Liturgy-Policy-2025.docx](#)

Schools will need to amend the policy to ensure that it fully reflects the practices of their school setting. Further information will be provided at the RE subject leaders days during the course of the year. Furthermore, work is being undertaken this year to add the content of this directory to the teaching of the new RED.

If you have any questions or require further guidance, please contact Michelle Ross, RE Adviser, at michelle.ross@diocesehn.org.uk.

Supporting Teaching and Learning of RE in the Classroom

This training is an opportunity for staff to develop their understanding of the Catholic faith to enable them to effectively support our children in the classroom and will take place over two sessions.

The first session will take place on **Friday 10 October** and will focus upon the Catholic faith, God the Father, God the Son, the Holy Spirit, Mary and the Saints as well as the Church and the liturgical year. The training will involve the use of Scripture and discussions to allow those attending to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith.

This training is open to all staff and places can be book via www.diocesehncourses.org

LiveSimply Award training

Siobhan Farnell, LiveSimply school's coordinator, will be hosting a free training session about the LiveSimply award on **Tuesday 16 September** 3.45pm-4.45pm for schools who are interested in beginning their LiveSimply journey this year.

Individual schools can register to attend the training via https://cafod.formstack.com/forms/ls_train_invite Once they have registered, they will receive a link to the Teams meeting.

The training will cover what the award is and the LiveSimply journey, as well as there being time within the session to cover any questions and answers.

New RE Subject Leaders

We will be holding a welcome day for all new Religious Education Subject Leaders on **Thursday 25 September** at the Copthorne Hotel, Newcastle. This is for all those who have taken up the role of RE Subject Leader in primary schools during this academic year or from September 2025. This is an opportunity for new leaders to meet with the Religious Education and Ethos Adviser, Michelle Ross, and to develop a deeper understanding of the role as well as meet with other new colleagues.

During the day we will be looking at Religious Education as a core subject, the role of the RE Subject Leader including the information about the new Religious Education Directory and Prayer and Liturgy Directory, Catholic School Inspection, how to complete the Catholic self-evaluation document. In addition to this we will be arranging for Michelle, to visit schools to provide support to those who are new in post.

Please book via our online booking system at www.diocesehncourses.org

Choral Director

Welcoming our new Choral Director New initiative to nurture singing in our diocesan schools

We are delighted to share that Eimear Hurley has been appointed as Choral Director for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This new role, generously funded by the National Schools Singing Programme, will help develop and enrich songs of praise across our diocesan family—starting in our schools.

As part of this exciting initiative, Eimear will work with children across the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust, helping to establish two new school choirs—one for girls and one for boys. In time, these choirs will become a regular and joyful part of our liturgical life at the Cathedral Church of St Mary, Newcastle.



School Lay Chaplains

Our annual Commissioning and Recommissioning Mass for Lay Chaplains will take place on **Thursday 18 September 2025** at Cathedral Church of St Mary's, Newcastle and we look forward to supporting you at this Mass as we celebrate your ministry in our schools.

If you kindly volunteered to organise a part of this, could you please ensure that music and prayers are sent to Michelle Ross (michelle.ross@diocesehn.org.uk) no later than **Wednesday 3 September 2025**.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all on **Monday 20 October** at St Cuthbert's Church, Durham, for a day of formation, prayer and pilgrimage. If you have not already done so, can you please book via our online booking system at www.diocesehncourses.org

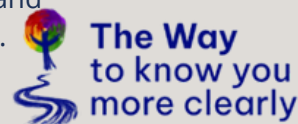
Religious Education Directory

We are delighted that we have now completed writing the resource and extend our thanks and appreciation to our lead writer, John Hardy, and the wonderful teachers who created the resource.

Thank you to all those who expressed an interest in taking part in the upcoming pilots. We are pleased to share that the following schools have been selected to take part in the year-long pilot, beginning in September 2025.

Single Class Pilot

St William's Catholic Primary School, Trimdon ~ Our Lady and St Thomas Catholic Primary School, Willington
St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Wallsend ~ St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Darlington
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Chester-Le-Street ~ St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Seaham
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School, Prudhoe ~ Our Lady and St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Newcastle
St Anne's RCVA Primary School, Sunderland ~ St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, Bishop Auckland
St Leonard's Catholic Primary School, Silksworth ~ St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School, Byker.



Whole School Pilot

St John Vianney's Catholic Primary School, Newcastle ~ St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Heaton
St Columba's Catholic Primary School, Wallsend ~ St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Ryhope
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow ~ St John Bosco Catholic Primary School Sunderland
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Academy, Billingham ~ St Chad's Catholic Primary School, Witton Park
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Stockton ~ St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Low Fell
St John Boste Catholic Primary School, Washington ~ Our Lady and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Leadgate
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Murton.

As part of our professional development offer, ahead of the introduction of the new curriculum, we are organising 20 twilight training sessions for all primary schools in our diocese. This will be an opportunity for all staff, teachers and teaching assistants, to be introduced to the directory in more depth and develop an understanding of the spiral curriculum.

The sessions will be delivered across the Diocese in the spring term 2026 and will be held in our secondary schools from 4:15pm to 6:00pm, this is so that all teaching staff who teach RE can come together to take part in the training. If for any reason, staff are unable to attend we ask that they attend an alternative session.

A google form has been sent to all primary headteachers, please if you have not already done so, please complete this by **Friday 5 September**.

Diocesan September 2025 data return

This informs the Diocesan Department for Education of each school's composition. Please find the links below to the proformas for the Annual Diocesan Return. Could the appropriate form please be completed for each school and return to: viv.fawcett@diocesehn.org.uk or education@diocesehn.org.uk by **Friday 10 October**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

[September Return Middle 2025.docx](#)

[September Return Primary First 2025.docx](#)

[September Return Secondary 2025.docx](#)

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS)

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies programme for 2025-2026 is now ready for enrolment. This year there will be a new approach to the delivery for each module. Most modules will be delivered face to face during the week.

The programme is superb in supporting all members of staff with their understanding of the Catholic faith, increasing their subject knowledge and therefore enhancing the teaching and learning opportunities for the children in our schools. This is specifically relevant with the introduction of the Religious Education Directory where the expectations for teacher subject knowledge have significantly increased.

It is also extremely useful for staff who are considering leadership opportunities in Catholic schools.

We are very grateful to the dedicated and committed tutors who generously give their time to deliver this important and invaluable professional development.

Mrs Aleah Oyagbohun will be the new administrative assistant supporting this programme.

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Tel 0191 2433313 or email: education@diocesehn.org.uk



Supporting Data Protection Compliance in Parish Communications

Following recent enquiries, we thought it would be helpful to provide guidance on the use of children's images in parish communications, particularly during events such as First Holy Communion.

While schools are the data controllers for pupil information within the school setting, parishes become the data controllers for any images captured and used in the context of church activities. This means parishes must obtain separate written parental consent for any identifiable images of children used in church communications (e.g. Facebook, parish websites, newsletters). Consent should specify how and where images will be used, and families must be able to withdraw consent at any time.

We encourage schools to work closely with parishes to ensure families are informed and that consent is appropriately managed for events involving both school and parish. This collaboration supports shared safeguarding and data protection responsibilities.

Parishes are welcome to contact the Data Protection Lead for guidance, template consent forms, or privacy notices to support this process.

Catherine Joyce can be contacted at data.protection@diocesehn.org.uk or on 0191 243 3317.



Faith in Action - Training Opportunity

Any schools wishing to take part in the Faith in Action Award from September 2025 and have not previously taken part, have new teachers in Year 6 or would simply like a refresher about what is involved in the award, can join a training session on **Thursday 18th September** 9.30am- 10.45am at St Hilda's Resource Centre for further details.

If you would like to book a place, please contact Nicole Salkeld at YMT nsalkeld@ymt.org

Religious Education Retraining Programme

The North-East Dioceses of Middlesbrough, Hexham and Newcastle, Nottingham, Hallam and Leeds are addressing the shortage of secondary religious education teachers with this exciting course. This is aimed at teachers who have been asked to teach religious education with limited subject knowledge. There are three elements to the training, Diocesan led knowledge and skills training, school led mentoring, planning and preparation support and University accredited module (30 Masters Credits) on researching and planning lessons. The accreditation is provided by Leeds Trinity University.

This is delivered by a team of experienced diocesan advisors, deputy headteachers, assistant headteachers and religious education subject leaders of outstanding schools from across the five dioceses as well as lecturers from Leeds Trinity University.

The commitment from schools needs to ensure that the teacher has a timetable of at least one Key Stage 3 class in the training year and the opportunity to team teach Key Stage 4. As well as being committed to providing an appointed mentor either in school or from the diocesan hub, attendance at 5 full days of training and 5 online sessions on subject specific content. Anyone undertaking the training will be required to create a portfolio of evidence and attend two Saturday morning online sessions delivered by Leeds Trinity University.

The training is scheduled to begin in **January 2026** and will take place over an 18-month period. If you would like to register or express an interest in this or for further information, please use the QR code or click this [link](#) .



Religious Education Training Programme

Recruiting now for the academic year 2025/26

The North East Dioceses of Middlesbrough, Hexham and Newcastle, Nottingham, Hallam and Leeds are addressing the shortage of secondary religious education teachers with this exciting course.

Who is it for?

- Secondary Teachers who have been asked to teach religious education with limited subject knowledge.

What does it involve?

- Diocesan led knowledge and skills training.
- School led mentoring, planning and preparation support.
- University accredited module (30 Masters Credits) on researching and planning lessons.

Who is it delivered by?

A team of experienced diocesan advisors, deputy headteachers, assistant headteachers and religious education subject leaders of outstanding schools from across the dioceses as well as lecturers from Leeds Trinity University.

What are the expectations?

A timetable of at least one Key Stage 3 class in the training year and the opportunity to team teach Key Stage 4.

- An appointed mentor either in school or from the diocesan hub.
- 5 full days of training.
- 5 online sessions on subject specific content.
- A portfolio of evidence.
- 2 Saturday morning online sessions delivered by Leeds Trinity University.

How long does it take?

The course takes place over a 12-18 month period

How do I find out more?

[To register your interest click here or scan](#)

"Teaching RE is not telling people what to believe. Teaching RE is about helping children and young people to engage with a deeper hunger for meaning and purpose in life. When you help people to step inside these bigger questions, it is a humbling thing of immense beauty."

David Wells

Heavenly Father, as we begin this new school year, we ask for Your divine presence, protection, and blessing over our students, teachers, administrators, and school staff.

Lord Jesus, we pray that you keep our children safe.

Holy Spirit, we ask for Your wisdom and understanding in every classroom. Anoint the minds of students with the ability to learn; give them sharp focus and creative thinking skills.

Father, we pray for our teachers. Fill them with divine patience, understanding, and compassion. Strengthen them physically and emotionally for their important task. Let Your love flow through them to impact young lives.

We pray for the parents and families represented in our schools. Give them wisdom as they support their children's education. Help them to create home environments of learning and growth.

Lord Jesus, let our schools be places where truth is taught, excellence is pursued, and character is developed. May Your light shine brightly through our students and staff, drawing others to know You.

We commit this school year to You, trusting in Your faithful care and guidance.

Amen.

