



# NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2023



Dear All,

We hope you all managed to find the time to rest and enjoy time with your family this summer.

Just a few words from us as we start the school year. The beginning of the new school year provides us with an opportunity to ask God's blessing on our school communities in the coming year. The following is a prayer you may like to share with all in your school community as the new term begins.

*Father,  
you call us together at the beginning of this new school year.  
We ask you to send your spirit upon us that,  
as the days and terms unfold,  
we may be always mindful of your presence  
and alert to opportunities to see and serve you in those around us.  
We pray that we may teach well by the example of our own lives,  
by our knowledge and love of learning,  
by our gentleness and care of the pupils entrusted to us.  
In all that we do and say,  
we pray that, in building up the community of our school,  
we may contribute to the betterment of society  
and to the Kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
for your greater glory.  
Amen.*



We look forward to working with you again this academic year and seeing you, in person or online, at our training sessions. A full list of the CPDF on offer this year is attached to this newsletter.

Please remember we are always here for you.

Take care and God Bless

Canon Mark, Helen, Jeremy, Dawn and Suzie

## TEACHING RESOURCES

As you are all aware, the Religious Education Directory (RED) will replace the current Directory in September 2025. Working in partnership with Clifton Diocese we will be introducing the RED in a managed way over the next two years. From this September we will be piloting the new RE curriculum a term at a time in EYFS and Year 3. Thank you to those of you who have agreed to be part of our Working Parties.

Schools will no longer be able to download resources from the Come & See website from 1st September 2023. RED and Come & See resources for all primary year groups are now available to download from the Plymouth Diocese website from the following:

<https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/teaching-resources/>

**To know You  
more clearly**

The Religious Education Directory  
for Catholic Schools, Academies and Colleges  
in England and Wales



# CPDF CALENDAR 2023/2024

To book a place on any of our CPDF courses outlined in the attached calendar please email [suzie.williams@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:suzie.williams@prcdtr.org.uk)

A reminder of upcoming training sessions, particularly relevant to teaching staff:

- **Early Career Teachers and those new to Catholic Education**

We will be running our 3 day course for those new to your school, especially those new to Catholic Education. The course centres around the three key areas of Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education, with a focus this year on the RED and Prayer and Liturgy. It is designed to ensure all feel welcome and are provided with opportunities to build their confidence over the three days to be able to share ideas, questions and enquiries. Two of the three days will be online and we ask that those signed up for the course complete it. The first session will take place online on the **19th September, 10.00am to 2.00pm**.

- **Adult Formation**

Adult formation is relevant to all those teaching in Catholic Schools to help them better understand basic Theology, Liturgy, CST and Mission. We are taking registrations for the 23/24 course now. It's not about becoming a Catholic, it's about understanding schools through a Catholic lens, and we would urge you to consider if you, or someone in your school would benefit from this free, six-day piece of CPDF. The first session will take place at St Boniface House on the 26th September 2023.

- **Teachers New to RE Leadership**

A two day course aimed at those new to leadership in Catholic schools. Support and advice around leadership roles, particularly for non-Catholics. The first session will take place at St Boniface House on the 1st November 2023.

## DIOCESAN WIDE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our first Diocesan wide Collective Worship with the theme of 'New Beginnings/Season of Creation' will take place online on **Monday 18th September** at 10.00am so please keep this date free in your diaries. We hope to see as many schools as possible participate.

If your school would like to take part directly with reading prayers etc, please do not hesitate to let us know. A zoom link will be sent out closer to the time.



Please note that new courses and sessions are highlighted in **blue**

Title	Aims/Objectives & Intentions	No of Sessions	Delegates	Online	Date/s
<b>'Wonderful are your works'</b>	Adult formation for all those teaching in Catholic Schools to help them better understand basic Theology, Liturgy, CST and Mission (please note this is about developing your understanding to work in a Catholic school. It is not an RCIA type course, but will be hugely beneficial and necessary for those in Catholic leadership roles, in addition to teachers of RE)	6	Any interested school staff, but particularly relevant for non-Catholics in leadership roles	No	26/09/2023  21/11/2023  16/01/2024  12/03/2024  23/04/2024  09/07/2024  10:00 – 15:30
<b>'Behold, I am doing a new thing'</b>	A support and awareness raising group for all those new to Diocesan schools. How do we support the Bishop's vision? What makes our schools special? What is a Catholic character? What support is available? How might your career develop?	3	Teachers new to the diocese and ECTs	Yes 2	19/09/2023  24/01/2024 (F2F)  24/04/2024  10:00 –
<b>'But the Lord directs his steps'</b>	Aimed at those new to leadership in Catholic schools. Support and advice around leadership roles, particularly for non-Catholics. How do you lead on Catholicity? What is worship and how should it be delivered? What is Catholic Life and Mission? How does RE differ to other curriculum areas? What are the 'must dos'? What QA timetable could be followed? How do you contribute to the DESF/ CSED? How do you construct an improvement plan around the school's Catholic nature? What will your role be in a CSI Inspection? What do you need to report to governors etc?	2	Teachers new to leadership in a Catholic School, RE leads, new RE and Catholic Life lead governors	Yes 1	01/11/2023 (F2F)  05/02/2024  10:00 – 14:30

Title	Aims/Objectives & Intentions	No of	Delegates	Online	Date/s
<b>‘The Son of Man did not come to be’</b>	Awareness raising and workshop based activities for <b>Secondary</b> Heads of RE to guide, coach and support each other with areas such as the RED, RE folders, assessment, curriculum development etc.	3	Heads of RE – Secondary	Yes	10/10/2023 29/01/2024 15/05/2024  10:00 – 12:30
<b>‘In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds’</b>	Awareness raising and workshop based activities for <b>Primary</b> RE leads to guide, coach and support each other with areas such as the RED, RE folders, assessment, curriculum development etc.	3	RE Leads – Primary	Yes	09/10/2023  11/03/2024  10/06/2024  10:00 – 14:30
<b>‘Explore’</b>	The Come and See sessions are being replaced with sessions that reflect the liturgical year rather than a given scheme. This will ensure that the sessions cover both the specific content in Come and See and address the RED curriculum branches for Year Three and Year Four.	6	All teachers of ‘Come and See’ primary programme of study. EYFS to Year 6.	Yes	12/09/2023 31/10/2023 09/01/2024 27/02/2024 16/04/2024 04/06/2024
<b>‘Rejoice always, pray without ceasing’</b>	Introduction to, and suggestions around utilisation of the new Prayer and Liturgy Directory.	2 (same training with two opportunities to attend)	Heads, RE Leads, RE & Catholic Life Lead Governors, Diocesan Inspectors and any other interested par-	Yes	Tbc
<b>‘Sowing the seeds on as much soil as possible’</b>	ICT in RE. How can we best use ICT to invigorate interest, cement learning and get children learning actively in RE.	1	All RE teachers	Yes	06/02/2024  15:30 – 16:30
<b>‘That we might be fellow helpers in the truth’</b>	To gain a clear understanding of the role of a Catholic representative on the LA’s SACRE and how this role can ensure that the Bishop’s vision is shared with other educational partners and collaborators. Please note this is <b>compulsory training</b> for any Catholic SACRE rep.	2	Diocesan SACRE reps or those interested in taking on the role	Yes	18/10/2023  13/03/2024  10:00 – 11:30
<b>‘Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you’</b>	Introduction to the new CSI framework with additional opportunities to work on (and gain advice around) construction of DSEFs.	2 (same training with two opportunities to attend)	Heads, Parish Priests, RE Leads, Chair of Governors, RE and Catholic Life Lead Governors	Yes	02/10/2023 10:00 – 12:00  10/10/2023 14:00 – 16:00

Title	Aims/Objectives & Intentions	No of	Delegates	Online	Date/s
<b>‘For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also’</b>	Literature in our Catholic settings. How can children’s literature be best used to help learning and Catholic life and Mission. Are there things to	1	Literacy leads, Heads of English, school Librarians, Literacy Assistants	Yes	17/11/2023  10:30- 12:30
<b>‘In the way they should go’</b>	RSE awareness. Refresher or introduction into how RSE is delivered within a Catholic setting (in line with any new government recommendations) to ensure we stay faithful to the Church’s teaching and the Bishop’s vision.	2 (same training with two opportunities to attend)	RSE Leads, RSE Lead Governors, Teachers of RSE	Yes	01/11/2023  15:00 – 16:30  09/11/2023  15:00 – 16:30
<b>‘Gideon’s Lamp’</b>	Governor Training. Acting as an introduction or refresher around all aspects of the role of a Governor in a diocesan school. There is an expectation that Governors will attend annual training to ensure they are up to date with ever changing aspects and responsibilities of school governorship. Training planning in collaboration with our colleagues at CAST.	3	Governors of diocesan schools	Yes	20/11/2023 18:00 – 20:00 Being a Governor in a Catholic School.  15/01/2024 10:30 – 12:30 The role of the RE and Catholic Life lead Governor.  14/05/2024 11:30 – 13:30 Prayer, Liturgy and GIFT in Catholic schools and how Governors can contribute.
<b>‘Stand firm in the faith’</b>	Awareness raising of the role of and need for foundation Governors in our schools.	1	Anyone interested in specifically becoming a Foundation Governor, appointed by the Bishop to conduct the role on his behalf.	Yes	12/12/2023  18:00 – 19:00

Title	Aims/Objectives & Intentions	No of Sessions	Delegates	Online	Date/s
<b>Reflection Days 2024</b>	Networking and awareness raising meetings with additional time for prayer and contemplation as a celebration of our schools and as a way of nourishing our souls.	3 (one for the three geographical regions of the diocese.	Heads and Deputies, RE Leads, Parish Priests, Chairs of Governors, Lead Governors for RE and Catholic Life, CAST leadership.	No	Cornwall & Plymouth 18/06/2024 Devon 26/06/2024 Dorset 04/07/2024
<b>‘Hearing the good news from a distant land if like a drink of cold water when you are thirsty and dry’</b>	Governors’ Briefings	6 (double delivery of three separate session)	School Governors	Yes	12/09/2023 11:00 – 11:30 or 13/09/2023 18:00 – 18:30  09/01/2024 11:00 – 11:30 or 10/01/2024 18:00 – 18:30  07/05/2024 11:00 – 11:30 or 08/05/2024 18:00 – 18:30
<b>‘Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God’</b>	Diocesan CSI Inspector Briefings	3	Diocesan sponsored CSI Inspectors only	Yes	12/10/2023 12:00 – 13:00  28/02/2024 12:00 – 13:00  01/05/2024 12:00 – 13:00
<b>‘We should study and show God that we understand</b>	RED Awareness sessions	1 (repeated)	Any teachers of RE who require a better understanding of the new RED	Yes	Tbc
<b>‘Source and Summit’</b>	Accessing the Mass, particularly to ensure the involvement and improving the understanding of non-Catholics	1  Will take the form of an online commentary Mass.	Any interested staff who wish to either improve their own understanding or improve the understanding of their students.	Yes	13/10/2023  12:00 – 13:00

Title	Aims/Objectives & Intentions	No of Sessions	Delegates	Online	Date/s
'O Lord teach me your paths'	Pedagogy for RE in Catholic schools. Suggestions on improving accessibility, engagement, assessment and progress. Particularly useful for schools where the DSEF has identified that RE provision is an area to develop.	1 CPDF session delivered on 4 occasions for maximum accessibility.	All teachers of RE in Catholic schools.	Yes	27/11/2023 28/11/2023 29/11/2023 30/11/2023  15:30 – 17:00

## LEAVERS' MASS DATES 2024

Dorset	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2024
Exeter	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024
Plymouth	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024

To book a place on any of the courses/sessions on offer this academic year please email Suzie

[suzie.williams@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:suzie.williams@prcdtr.org.uk);