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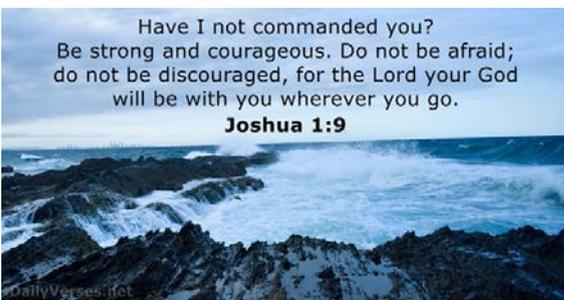
**A FUTURE
FULL OF HOPE**
CLIFTON DIOCESE

September 2019

Deepening prayer, enabling communion, strengthening mission

Remember as you journey through this next academic year:

'It's not going to be easy, but it is going to be worth it' and



- Catherine Hunt - Head, St Francis, Nailsea
- Liam Jordan - Interim Executive Head, St Dominic's, Inchbrook, Stroud
- Ben Horan - Principal, Prior Park College, Bath
- Graham Mayer - Principal, St Edwards Melchet Court
- Kathryn Moore- Interim Head - St Edmund's, Calne

NEW HEADSHIP APPOINTMENTS

Welcome to the following some of whom are new to the diocese, some of whom have changed schools and positions and others are returners:

- Sarah Ballentine - Head, St Bonaventures, Bristol
- Hilary Dunford - Interim, St Nicholas of Tolentine, Bristol
- Jocelyn Baker - Head, St Joseph's, Bristol
- Rita Mcloughlin - Interim Executive Head, Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswood
- Mark Hilliam - Head, St Augustine's of Canterbury, Downend
- Paul Bacon - Interim, St Mary's, Chippenham
- Deirdre Cromie - Interim, St Louis, Frome
- Sue Woods - Head, St Joseph's, Malmesbury

RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING

Can I remind you that our Schools Department will always place any advert, free of charge, on the vacancy section of our website, just send Jenny FitzGerald the details.

There is also a DFE teacher vacancies website (see link below). You must have an account to sign into this service.

teaching.vacancies@education.gov.uk

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Thank you to all schools for the continued support you provide to one other. Support has been in a variety of areas; mentoring for new leaders, sharing of expertise with teachers and subject leaders, governor support with investigations and complaints and governors sitting on additional governing bodies to build capacity.



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OFSTED has been active across the Diocese since the start of the academic year. There have been 16 inspections in total of which:

- 3 were monitoring visits following an inadequate judgment and all were judged to have been taking effective action;
- 4 have been Section 8 inspections, with 2 judged as maintaining their good and 2 with a holding letter
- 9 have been Section 5 inspections, 1 being judged as inadequate, 1 judged as requires improvement, 6 judged as good. No school received an outstanding judgment although some had outstanding features.

NEW OFSTED FRAMEWORK SEPTEMBER 2019

Word and The Catholic Education Service have created a 'free' resource to As you are aware there is a new framework that comes into operation this September so I would encourage all to be fully aware of its contents and the changes with a specific emphasis on the broad and balanced curriculum and less on internal data. The New framework is available at;

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/801429/Education_inspection_framework.pdf

Section 48 inspectors have also been busy throughout the year. There have been 8 inspections in total of which; 4 were judged to be outstanding and 4 good. 7 schools received monitoring visits to support their self-evaluation.

EDUCATION SUNDAY 8 September 2019

As part of this year's 'Education Sunday' initiative, The Wednesday help your primary school pupils and their families continue to 'form and flourish' – to reach their full potential

in Christ – through a special Family Time together.

EDUCATION SUNDAY
Form and flourish



A schools guidance booklet is available on the link below:

https://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/schools/education-sunday/item/download/64719_dc74ccf8249c8780a7c03a5bccfba3cf

I would encourage all schools to have a focus on this to celebrate the long commitment to education the Catholic church has had. It would be good to perhaps work with your parish(es) to showcase the work you do as a school. I have emailed all parish priests to draw their attention to the event.

CANONISATION OF BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

The ceremony will take place in St Peter's Square in Vatican City on 13 October, almost 130 years after he died. He will be the first English person born since the 17th century to be declared a saint by the Catholic church.



Schools have been asked to draw attention to this with their pupils and celebrate the event. The department will be providing some resources to support this which will be available on the department's website

To quote John Newman:

"A man would do nothing if he waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault."
So, remember we can only do our best.

OCTOBER 2019: EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH

Pope Francis has declared October 2019 to be an Extraordinary Month of Mission (EMM). This

special month of prayer and action calls us all to renew our missionary commitment. We are called to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all peoples.

The department will be focusing upon this at our Education Mass on October 22nd in the Cathedral at 7pm and a representative from Missio will be in attendance to celebrate and thank all our schools for the work they have done this year raising money for their organisation. Please endeavour to encourage a representative from your school to attend.

2020 THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: THE YEAR OF THE WORD

The Bishops of England and Wales have declared 2020 the Year of the Word. This will be an opportunity to celebrate, live and share God's Word. The diocese will be supporting its schools in engaging with this, through materials for assembly, to mark the feast of St Jerome on September 30th. Training for staff in understanding more about scripture, resources for RE and a major event will take place on the 19th- 20th March with Bishop Declan. Details will follow nearer the time.

SAFEGUARDING

The new school year means new guidance for schools and colleges from the Department for Education (DfE). The new guidance will take effect from the 2nd September 2019.

Key changes to be aware of:

a) Multi-agency working

new local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements should soon be (if not already) in place in your Local Authority. KCSIE 2018 and "Working Together: Transitional Guidance" 2018 gave notice that Local Safeguarding Children Boards and Serious Case Reviews were due to be replaced by a new system (to differ from area to area) involving the three key safeguarding partners – the local authority, the clinical commissioning

group, and the chief officer of police. **You need to ensure you are aware of these new arrangements and that your policies and procedures reflect them, as well as ensuring all staff know about them.**

- b) **Upskirting** is now a criminal offence. Schools and colleges should include information about upskirting in their relevant policies and ensure staff and students understand that such conduct is criminal and instances of it should be reported to the relevant authorities.
- c) **Serious violence** – this new section lists some of the warning signs that staff should be aware of, which indicate that a child may be at risk of, or involved in, serious violent crime. The guidance expects schools and colleges to be aware of the risks associated with serious violence (including involvement in criminal networks or gangs) and the measures in place to manage them. The guidance directs staff to the Home Office's Preventing youth violence and gang involvement and its Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults. Schools and colleges should update policies and training to ensure staff are able to spot indicators, which may signal a child's involvement with violent crime, and are aware of the Home Office guidance about how to respond appropriately.
- d) Schools and colleges should review their curricula (particularly in light of the new online safety guidance) to ensure it covers key safeguarding topics. Schools and colleges should review its IT monitoring/filtering systems to ensure they are adequate and meet requirements.
- e) Section 128 check for school governors – in addition to an enhanced DBS check, governors of maintained schools should also have a "Section 128" check, this can be done via the TRA's teachers' services web-page. Governors do not need a DBS barred list check unless they are engaged in a regulated activity (governance is not a regulated activity). Associate members of governing bodies need not have enhanced DBS checks.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR DBS CHECKS

In light of the fact that schools themselves undertake these, I need to emphasise that should a DBS request be returned indicating the paper copy needs to be seen, the chair of governors needs to contact either the Director of Schools or the Governance Officer, Bill McEntee, immediately before making contact with the person concerned or discussing it with anyone else. Further guidance on new procedures will be coming from Bill McEntee.

RELATIONSHIP & SEX EDUCATION

The new curriculum will be mandatory from September 2020. The department has revised its guidance which is available at <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Guidance-for-Teaching-Relationships-Sex-Education-in-Schools-Updated-June-2019.docx>

It is important that governors have oversight of this to ensure that the school is fulfilling what is required and avoid any issues. We would encourage all schools to adopt the new guidelines from September 2019

PUPIL DATA TRANSFER

This has been updated so please ensure whoever deals with this is made aware of the new document available on

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/821126/DfE_S2S_Guide_Schools_July_2019.pdf

DIOCESAN STRATEGY UPDATE

Documentation for schools wishing to submit a request for approval to form a Multi-Academy Trust has now been drawn up and is available at:

<https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/partnerships>

The Strategic Academy Board members will be

- The Bishop

- Lyn Murray, Chief Operating Officer of the diocese and Financial Adviser
- Michael Thompson, Educational Trustee and member of CCDEF
- Michelle Morgan, Educational Trustee and associate member of CCDEF
- Margaret Young - Legal Trustee
- Colleen Collett, Director for Schools and Colleges
- Paul Kehoe, Schools Project Officer
- Fr. Adrian Porter- Director of the Jesuit Institute. Adrian has been headmaster of St Aloysius College in Glasgow and Wimbledon College. He was a province consultor for seven years and is currently a trustee. He is the provincial's delegate for primary and secondary education.

The first meeting is set for 31st October 2019

Future dates 2020:

- 29th January
- 2nd April
- 4th June
- 18th August
- 20th October
- 26th November

For those seeking to form a MAT there is a [Trust Capacity grant](#) available. If considering applying for this, please make contact with me at the office so I can then put you in contact with the appropriate RSC link to support you.

A PRAYER FOR THE START OF A MEETING

Lord, before I go into this meeting, I still myself before you. For you are filled with beauty and light, and care deeply about me.
 Help me to listen, before speaking.
 Help me to fully understand these people, before making my case.
 Help me to value and appreciate the ones I am about to meet, before thinking of my own concerns and anxieties.
 May your light enfold me.
 May your spirit guide me.
 May your grace abound in me.

Finally – Have a good start to the year.