

Diocese of Truro
Diocesan Board of Education



STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS

2025-2028

Version 1 - September 2025



FOREWORDS

Lee Moscato, Diocesan Director for Education



Welcome to this next phase of our strategy – our strategic commitments for the next three years.

When I first came into post, part of my work with the DBE was to set out our core aims; those big, ambitious, broad-brush areas we were going to commit to.

We arrived at our five strategic commitments that underpin this strategy and now, this

document sets out the next phase as we work to continue to make a difference across our diocese.

Our next phase of work sees us drill down into the five core areas really focusing on how we serve and work with schools, wider educational partners, churches, families and communities.

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

For me, this plan is about shining a light on, from and for those in and around our schools and their communities. It’s about how we, through, for and with God, serve others and enable all those who work and learn in our schools to flourish.

I am so grateful to everyone who has been part of this work so far and all those who will continue to work, as part of a powerful partnership with us, to make our vision for flourishing a lived reality.

Lee Moscato

Karen Bond, Chair, Diocesan Board of Education



Welcome to the Truro Diocesan Board (DBE) of Education’s Strategic Plan.

As Chair of the DBE, I am excited to see our initial plan progress as we enter into this next phase.

This plan reflects our commitment to education in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly by focusing on key perspectives that matter to us here in the DBE and across the Diocese of Truro as a whole.

It enables us to explore what each of the five ambitious strategic commitments look like through the lens of churches, education partners, families and communities. Through these lenses, we will consider how each of our work streams and aims can be shaped with, through, and for these key strategic partners in our shared mission.

I am excited, along with my fellow DBE members, to see this take shape and we look forward to contributing to this work across the Diocese of Truro.

Thank you to the Education Team who will deliver this, and to all those who will partner with them in these shared aims, bringing the Church of England’s Vision for Education to life in schools across our diocese.

Karen Bond

THE VISION UNDERPINNING THIS STRATEGIC PLAN

The Church of England's Vision for Education - Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good

The vision for the Church of England is not simply for church schools but, recognising the Church of England's involvement in education over many centuries, seeks to promote educational excellence everywhere, for everyone.

A core part of this DBE strategic plan is to ensure that our deeply rooted Christian foundation is further strengthened in and through our church schools and that a light is shone on and from them to all schools, churches and communities. It provides opportunities to explore our commitment, our mission as we work through, with and for others: churches, educational partners, families and communities. This plan is for all schools. It aims to ensure that in schools which are not rooted in an explicit Christian ethos, our vision for education can still be expressed and promoted as one of human flourishing that can inspire what all schools are and do.

The Vision, and the strategic commitments of our DBE embrace the spiritual, physical, intellectual, academic, emotional, moral and social flourishing of children and young people and their communities. The vision, and this strategic plan, has four basic elements which are at the core of the Church of England's Vision for Education permeating through it:

- **Wisdom:** educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills
- **Hope:** educating for hope and aspiration
- **Community:** educating for community and living well together
- **Dignity:** educating for dignity and respect

Within our strategic plan there is a focus on partnerships and how, through these, we can **improve educational, societal, spiritual and life affecting outcomes** for all children in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This underpins our strategic commitments for our Diocesan Board of Education and shapes how we work in a **deeply Christian manner, serving the common good** through meaningful, powerful partnerships.

**OUR AIM IS TO BE A SIGNIFICANT PARTNER IN IMPROVING OUTCOMES
FOR ALL CHILDREN IN CORNWALL AND THE ISLES OF SCILLY.**



Powerful Partnerships



To further build and strengthen partnerships in order to improve **educational, societal, spiritual and life affecting outcomes** for all children in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly



Through, for and with Churches



Joining the DoTS (Diocese of Truro Schools)



To enable meaningful **connections for and from church Schools** to support them in their mutual and faithful work as part of local, regional and national communities.



Community, Care, Connectedness



To **provide to the most vulnerable** in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly through enabling the right people, in the right place with the right purpose to support the **well-being, pastoral and spiritual needs** of those in and around our schools.



Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners



Worshipping Life of Schools and Communities



To create **worshipping communities** that are committed and equipped to develop the spiritual life of schools and the communities they serve.



Through, for and with Families and Communities



Creation Care



To support schools in our shared mission to care for **God's creation** and enable others to **cherish creation, cut carbon and speak up.**



The strategy of the DBE and the wider plans for our diocese

The work of the DBE is an integral part of the wider work of our diocese and here we set out how this is part of that wider mission.

At the top, overarching level, our diocese sets out plans for a fruitful and sustainable life and to be a diocese that reaches out to children, young people, and families. We will be a diocese that is good news for the most disadvantaged, and we will be a diocese that cherishes creation. Every deanery has discerned a plan for the fruitful and sustainable future to which God calls us as a diocese.

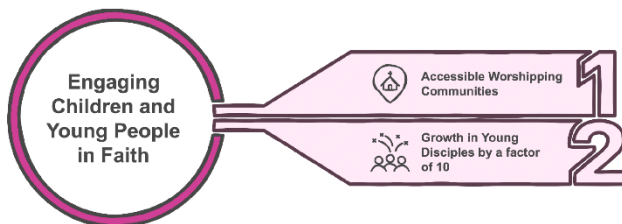
This vision has several strands shown below and you will see, in this plan for our Diocesan Board of Education how our work informs, complements and is supported by the wider plans for our diocese as a whole which are reflected locally through deanery plans.

A specific part of our work with children and young people is set out within Growing Younger.

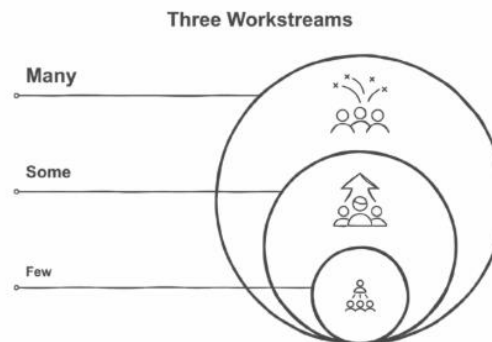
Our strategy, for our whole diocese, sets out two clear objectives, three levels at which we will deliver, support and resource and how these are underpinned by five foundations.



Two clear objectives:



At three levels:



Underpinned by Five foundations:



More details about our Growing Younger vision can be found [here](#) on the Diocese of Truro website.

And finally, at a directorate level, there is our plan, our strategic commitments for our work as the DBE. You will see, as you explore each of our five threads, how our work supports the wider diocesan strategy.

Powerful Partnerships

To further build and strengthen partnerships in order to improve **educational, societal, spiritual and life affecting outcomes** for all children in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners

- Delivery of the Flourishing Schools Programme: schools and trusts will be supported through high-quality training for leaders to live out the Vision for Education and mutually deliver the DBE Measure through leaders of:
 - Flourishing Schools
 - Recruitment and Induction
 - Governance
 - RE and Collective Worship
- Supporting schools and trusts to partner with local, regional and national partners including the National Society for Education, partner dioceses and diocesan MATs.
- School and trusts links made through Flourishing Schools programme huddles and partner quality assurance and support work
- Specific training focusing on inclusion provided to schools and trusts enabling schools to consider 'welcome' leading to belonging

Through, for and with Churches

- Supporting clergy and lay leaders to be actively involved in school life through networking and training: including work on leading worship, safeguarding, pastoral care
- Supporting churches, parishes and deaneries to forge links with schools in their locality through 'parish profile' documents enabling clear contacts and a clearer understanding of contextual needs, safeguarding and other organisations working in an area
- Opening links for 'across-MAT' approaches such as chaplaincy, worship and support
- Further develop opportunities for members of the education team and our partners to support training of those in and around churches
- Develop opportunities for sharing resources to enable churches and schools' work on a central website space

Through, for and with Families and Communities

- Support schools in engaging in the Parental Engagement Framework and continued associated training to enable schools to better connect with families
- Build on the success of Flourish pilots where worshipping spaces are providing ways for families to connect with others
- Support for families and students regarding strong attendance at school through the OneCornwall attendance partnership and facilitating an 'Inclusion Champion' for schools
- Support for families through training provided for schools in inclusion

Joining the DoTS (Diocese of Truro Schools)

To enable meaningful *connections for and from Church Schools* to support them in their mutual and faithful work as part of local, regional and national communities.

Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners

- Provide support to schools in areas of spirituality, worship, RE and vision and values - signposting to best practice within our family of schools
- Further develop opportunities for sharing best practice and providing resources to all schools across the diocese
- Provide pastoral support for school leaders through retreats, spiritual mentors and prayerful reflection.

Through, for and with Churches

- Support churches to develop the use of spaces in and around churches that are conducive to working with children, young people and families
- Integrate the church calendar and liturgical life in the rhythm of school life
- Equip clergy and lay leaders to engage in meaningful and informed ways with schools

Through, for and with Families and Communities

- Support the communication of diocesan plans, activities and events through newsletters, social media and community events
- Explore further opportunities for schools to be used as hubs for community engagement and support linked to the work of the diocese
- Encourage family participation in governance and school life

Community, Care and Connectedness

To **provide to the vulnerable and marginalised** in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly through equipping the right people, in the right place with the right purpose to support the **well-being, pastoral and spiritual needs** of those in and around our schools.

Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners

Strengthen relationships and build a sense of inclusion and belonging across groups through:

- Ensuring a shared, understood definition of inclusion in our schools and trusts
- Training provided to support and develop those working in and with schools and churches in areas such as:
- *Trauma Informed approaches* - *Kids Matter* - *Safeguarding* - *Pedagogical approaches* - *School-based worship* - *Mental Health Awareness*
- Arranging shared events where school leaders, church representatives and community enablers can join, share, collaborate and support
- Enabling opportunities for young people's voices to be heard using the Lundy Model of Participation
- Supporting schools as they and those they serve face bereavement

Through, for and with Churches

- Training provided to support and develop those working in and with schools and churches in areas such as:
- *Trauma Informed approaches* - *Kids Matter* - *Safeguarding* - *Pedagogical approaches* - *School-based worship* - *Mental Health Awareness*
- Arranging shared events where school leaders, church representatives and community enablers can join, share, collaborate and support
- Supporting links made between churches and schools where pastoral support can be provided.
- Stronger signposting from schools to the work of churches and church colleagues in their areas and enabling shared events and speaking into transition into and out of schools
- Working with Ministry Team to facilitate intergenerational connections in schools considering shared resources, spaces and people to help members of communities connect in, out and up.

Through, for and with Families and Communities

- Pupils and families in schools are supported through the expertise of skilled people working in areas such as:
- *Pastoral support* - *Leading worship in schools* - *Trauma Informed Schools* - *Chaplaincy*
- Family support programmes such as *KidzMatter* provided
- Partnerships with education and pastoral partners supported to facilitate workshops in church spaces
- Partnering with organisations to provide / signpost / facilitate support for families and communities

Worshipping Life of Schools and Communities

To create **worshipping communities** that are committed and equipped to develop the spiritual life of schools and the communities they serve.

Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners

- Resources created and shared with schools supporting worship
- Examples of best practice with ideas for others of 'how to' are shared with schools and churches
- Links with secondary and non-CofE schools are developed supporting pupils on their continued and independent journeys of faith building on work of Flourish pilots
- Worship and CPD offer continues to evolve to support all schools in ensuring a compliant and inspiring worship offer
- CPD offers provided through external organisations such as Prayer Spaces in Schools afforded to all schools
- Opportunities to develop student leadership in worship developed through services, training and connecting young people
- Guide to Prayer developed and launched supporting worship and prayer with infants to young adults

Through, for and with Churches

- Support the work of churches' worship with schools through continued, themed, resourcing to run workshops and visits
- Provide training and workshops for churches focusing on working with young people in schools
- Support for clergy for leading and facilitating worship in schools including resources and workshops for churches
- Develop the Growing Faith Learning Hub work building on the church-school use of Understanding Christianity (RE) resources
- Further sharing of resources with churches through the Education newsletter
- Support deaneries when planning and recruiting to roles with school and young people links

Through, for and with Families and Communities

- Support worship in the home through themed, intergenerational worship resources
- Signpost resources for schools to share with their families and communities to support worship and faith in the home
- Workshops and drop-ins for families facilitated by church and school links
- Enable further opportunities for children and young people to lead worship inviting families and peers to join

Creation Care

To support schools in our shared mission to care for **God's creation** and enable others to **cherish creation, cut carbon** and **speak up**.

Through, for and with Schools and Education Partners

- Practical support for schools provided through audits and reviews which inform local school-based strategy for sustainability and moving towards net-zero.
- Provide extra-curricular and worshipping support through Creation Care Officer for Schools
- Eco-Schools Award funded in partnership with DoT and Cornwall LA and celebrated through Celebration Service
- Offer for curriculum review from Creation Care Officer focusing on opportunities within the curriculum to embed this work
- Launch, and continue, an Eco-Conference for schools and trusts delivered with partner organisations
- Support for estates leads in schools and trusts regarding action planning in line with DfE requirements
- Collective worship resources developed and centrally available on website

Through, for and with Churches

- Workshop resources developed for churches with training materials for those leading these in churches
- Continued partnership working between school and church Creation Care Officers

Through, for and with Families and Communities

- 'Caring for God's Creation at Home' resources developed to provide to families and shared online, through social media and via school comms
- Increased opportunities for young people to lead worship in this area inviting and engaging wider family building on the Flourish pilots
- Develop opportunities for Creation Care workshops to be delivered in community spaces
- Celebrations of caring for creation in community spaces such as exhibitions
- Provide opportunities for the voices of young people to be heard and speak into our collaborative caring for creation