THE EDUCATION TEAM
DIOCESES OF DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE

2026-27 Academic Year Autumn Term Training and Events Schedule

Training and events highlighted in blue will generate an automatic calendar invitation. You just need to accept, or not, depending on your availability.

You can book onto training and events highlighted in yellow yourself. Please click on the row to access the booking form, and you will receive an invitation by email.

Title	Description	Date/time	Location	Cost	For	Speakers
New to a Church School?	Introduction session for any staff new to working in a Church School.	Tuesday 15th September 4:00pm – 5:15pm	Online	Free*	All staff new to a Church School	David Akers, Paul Rusby, Caroline Weir
Flourishing for All Briefing	Update for School leaders on latest developments concerning Flourishing for All.	Monday 28th September 3:45pm – 5:15pm	Online	Free*	School leaders, school Governors	David Akers, Caroline Weir
CEO Meeting	Key Updates Shared with CEOs from the Education Team.	Tuesday 29th September 2:30pm – 4:30pm	Church House, North Shields	Free*	CEOs	David Akers, Liane Atkin
Christianity as a Global World Faith Planning Day (2025/26 cohort)	Year 2 of the pilot training of the CGWF resources for RE leads from the 2025-26 cohort focused on the Incarnation units.	Tuesday 29th September 9:30am – 3:30pm	Church House, North Shields	***	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Introduction to Governance in a Church School	Training for new governors in a Church School to understand their responsibilities and expectations for the role.	Thursday 1st October 5:30pm – 6:30pm	Online	Free*	New Governors	Liane Atkin, Paul Rusby
New Headteacher Induction Day	A day learning about leading a CofE School, meeting key members of the Diocesan Team, and connecting with other Headteachers.	Friday 2nd October 9:00am – 2:30pm	Church House, North Shields	Free*	New Church School leaders	Diocesan Education Team
Autumn Term Diocesan RE Network	Termly updates and professional development for RE leads, to reflect and share good practice.	Monday 5th October 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Spirituality across the Curriculum	Training on integrating Spirituality into the whole of a school curriculum.	Thursday 8th October 1:00pm – 4:00pm	Church House, North Shields	£30+VAT	School leaders	Paul Rusby
Headteacher Autumn Term Update	Key updates from the Diocese.	Tuesday 13th October 9:30am – 10:30am	Online	Free*	Headteachers	Diocesan Education Team
Academy Strategy Paper Briefing	Briefing for all schools not in a Trust on updated guidance from the Diocesan Education Team.	Thursday 15th October 9:00am - 12:00pm	The Village Hotel, Newcastle	Free*	All school leaders	David Akers, Liane Atkin, DfE

*Free for Church schools with a Partnering Agreement with the Diocesan Education Team.
**Included in cost of Church School Leadership course (£550+VAT).
***Included in cost of Christianity as a Global World Faith 2025/26 Cohort (£50+VAT).

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Title	Description	Date/time	Location	Cost	For	Speakers
Church School Leadership Course	An orientation for the 2026/27 Church School Leadership cohort, exploring hopes for development and what to expect.	Thursday 15th October 9:00am – 12:00pm	Church House, North Shields	£550+VAT	Headteachers	Paul Rusby
RE Subject Leadership (1)	Part 1 of a new 3 session course introducing key aspects of RE subject leadership for new RE Leads and those who would like a refresher.	Tuesday 20th October 3:45pm – 5:15pm	Online	£50+VAT	RE Subject Leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Theologically Rooted School Vision at the Heart of School Culture	Training on how to develop a theologically rooted school vision and ensure it shapes and maintains a school's culture.	Thursday 22nd October 9:00am – 12:00pm	Cuthbert House, Durham	£30+VAT	School leaders	Paul Rusby
Governor & Ex-Officio Update	Legal and governance briefing and updates from the Diocese.	Thursday 22nd October 5:00pm – 6:00pm	Online	Free*	School Governors & Ex-Officios	David Akers, Liane Atkin
Autumn Term Collective Worship Network	Termly updates and professional development for Collective Worship leads (cross-phase). An opportunity to reflect and share good practice.	Wednesday 4th November 3:45pm - 5:00pm	Online	Free*	CW & school leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Autumn Term EYFS RE Network	A space for EYFS practitioners to develop in their teaching of RE in Early Years settings.	Monday 9th November 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE & EYFS practitioners	Amy Clarke
VA Schools SCA Funding Briefing	A novice's induction and expert's refresher to Schools Capital Allocation processes for VA church schools.	Tuesday 10th November 3:30pm – 4:15pm	Online	Free*	VA school Leaders, Governors, and Business Managers	David Akers, Andy Pestell, DBE Services
Autumn Term SEND Network Meeting	Termly Sessions in supporting schools in responding to the recent SEND changes.	Thursday 26th November 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	SENDCOs, Leaders, Link Governors, SEND teams	Ruth Glynn
Church School Leadership Course Day 2	A retreat day for members of the 2026/27 Church School Leadership cohort.	Tuesday 1st December All day	Shepherd's Dene Retreat House	**	Headteachers	Paul Rusby

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THE EDUCATION TEAM
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2026-27 Academic Year Spring Term Training and Events Schedule

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Title	Description	Date/time	Location	Cost	For	Speakers
Christianity as a Global World Faith Spring Planning Day (2025-26 cohort)	Year 2 of the pilot training of the CGWF resources for RE leads from the 2025-26 cohort focused on the Salvation and Creation units.	Wednesday 13th January 9:30am – 3:30pm	Church House, North Shields	***	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
OFSTED in CofE Schools Review	Reviewing the role and implementation of the new OSTED framework in our Church schools.	Thursday 21st January 9:00am – 12:00pm	In Person - TBC	Free*	Church school leaders	David Akers
Spring Term SEND Network	Termly Sessions in supporting schools in responding to the recent SEND changes.	Thursday 21st January 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	SENDCOs, school leaders, Governors, SEND teams	Ruth Glynn
Diocesan RE Spring Term Network	Termly updates and professional development for RE leads, to reflect and share good practice.	Tuesday 26th January 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Church School Leadership Course Day 3	Exploring School leadership in a Church school setting with former Headteacher Paul Rusby.	Thursday 28th January 9:00am – 12:00pm	Cuthbert House, Durham	**	Headteachers	Paul Rusby
CEO & Senior Leaders Team Retreat	A retreat day for Senior Church school leaders.	Friday 29th January 9:30am – 2:30pm	TBC	£75+VAT	Senior Church school leaders	David Akers
Spring Term Headteacher Update	Key updates from the Diocese.	Tuesday 2nd February 9:30am – 10:30am	Online	Free*	Headteachers	Diocesan Education Team
Governor & Ex-Officio Spring Term Update	Legal and governance briefing and updates from the Diocese.	Wednesday 3rd February 5:00pm – 6:00pm	Online	Free*	School Governors & Ex-Officios	David Akers, Liane Atkin
Spring Term Collective Worship Network	Termly updates and professional development for Collective Worship leads (cross-phase). An opportunity to reflect and share good practice.	Tuesday 9th February 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	CW & school leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke

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Title	Description	Date/time	Location	Cost	For	Speakers
Introduction to Governance in a Church School	Training for new governors in a Church School to understand their responsibilities and expectations for the role.	Thursday 11th February 5:30pm – 6:30pm	Online	Free*	New Governors	Liane Atkin, Paul Rusby
RE Subject Leadership (2)	Part 2 of a new 3 session course introducing key aspects of RE subject leadership for new RE Leads and those who would like a refresher.	Monday 1st March 3:45pm – 5:15pm	Online	£50+VAT	RE Subject Leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Leadership Course Day 4	Exploring School leadership in a Church school setting with former Headteacher Paul Rusby.	Thursday 11th March 9:00am – 12:00pm	Church House, North Shields	**	Headteachers	Paul Rusby
Developing Spirituality within Collective Worship	Exploring the role of Spirituality within Church school's Collective Worship.	Thursday 11th March 1:00pm – 4:00pm	Church House, North Shields	£30+VAT	School leaders	Paul Rusby
Flourishing for All - HBT Bullying Briefing	Briefing and discussion of the HBT Bullying content in the CofE Flourishing for All guidance.	Monday 15th March 4:00pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	School leaders, school Governors	David Akers, Caroline Weir
Spring Term EYFS RE Network	A space for EYFS practitioners to develop in their teaching of RE in Early Years settings.	Monday 22nd March 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE & EYFS practitioners	Amy Clarke

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2026-27 Academic Year Summer Term Training and Events Schedule

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Title	Description	Date/time	Location	Cost	For	Speakers
VA SCA Funding - A Successful Bid? What to Expect Now	Discussing the next steps for VA schools who have been awarded SCA funding for upcoming capital works.	Tuesday 13th April 3:30pm – 4:15pm	Online	Free*	VA school Leaders, Governors, and Business Managers	David Akers, Andy Pestell, DBE Services
Summer Term Diocesan RE Network	Termly updates and professional development for RE leads, to reflect and share good practice.	Wednesday 14th April 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
SIAMS Preparation	An overview of the SIAMS inspection process and how to prepare.	Thursday 15th April 9:00am – 12:00pm	Church House, North Shields	Free*	School leaders and governors	Paul Rusby
SIAMS Preparation	An overview of the SIAMS inspection process and how to prepare.	Friday 16th April 9:00am – 12:00pm	Cuthbert House, Durham	Free*	School leaders and governors	Paul Rusby
Summer Term Collective Worship Network	Termly updates and professional development for Collective Worship leads (cross-phase). An opportunity to reflect and share good practice.	Monday 26th April 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	CW & school leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Summer Term EYFS RE Network	A space for EYFS practitioners to develop in their teaching of RE in Early Years settings.	Tuesday 11th May 3:45pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	RE & EYFS practitioners	Amy Clarke
Summer Term Governor & Ex-Officio Update	Legal and governance briefing and updates from the Diocese.	Wednesday 19th May 5:00pm – 6:00pm	Online	Free*	School Governors & Ex-Officios	David Akers, Liane Atkin
Summer Term Headteacher Update	Key updates from the Diocese.	Thursday 20th May 9:30am – 10:30am	Online	Free*	Headteachers	Diocesan Education Team
CEO Meeting	Key Updates Shared with CEOs from the Education Team.	Tuesday 25th May 2:30pm – 4:30pm	Cuthbert House, Durham	Free*	CEOs	David Akers, Liane Atkin
Christianity as a Global World Faith Review & Reflection (2025-26 cohort)	Final session for Year 2 of the initial training for CGWF resources. The cohort will review, celebrate successes, and plan next steps.	Tuesday 25th May 3:45pm – 4:30pm	Online	***	RE Leads	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke

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School Leaders Spiritual Wellbeing Retreat Day	A retreat for school leaders to focus on spirituality and wellbeing.	Wednesday 9th June All day	Minsteracres Retreat House	£75+VAT	School leaders	David Akers Paul Rusby
Church School Leadership Course Day 5	Exploring School leadership in a Church school setting with former Headteacher Paul Rusby.	Friday 11th June All day	TBC	**	Headteachers	Paul Rusby
Introduction to Governance in a Church School	Training for new governors in a Church School to understand their responsibilities and expectations for the role.	Thursday 17th June 5:30pm – 6:30pm	Online	Free*	New Governors	Liane Atkin, Paul Rusby
RE Subject Leadership (3)	Part 3 of a new 3 session course introducing key aspects of RE subject leadership for new RE Leads and those who would like a refresher.	Monday 21st June 3:45pm – 5:15pm	Online	£50+VAT	RE Subject Leaders	Caroline Weir, Amy Clarke
Summer Term SEND Network	Termly Sessions in supporting schools in responding to the recent SEND changes.	Thursday 24th June 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Online	Free*	SENDCOs, school leaders, Link Governors, SEND teams	Ruth Glynn
New to Church School?	Review session for any staff new to working in a Church School this academic year.	Monday 5th July 1:30pm – 3:00pm	Online	Free*	All staff new to a Church School	David Akers, Paul Rusby, Caroline Weir

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