

NORES

Office for Religious Education, Evangelisation, Catechesis and Schools

Supporting Catholic Education and Formation



WELCOME to the DIOCESE of NORTHAMPTON and her SCHOOLS

As you become part of the schools of our diocese we hope you find yourself at home and fulfilled in whatever capacity you serve. This leaflet offers some outline information about our diocese and its schools to help you situate yourself in the wider context of our diocese. Our diocese covers the local authority areas of Northamptonshire, Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, and Slough

There are 20,172 pupils in our schools, of whom 65% are baptised Roman Catholic.

We welcome families of other Christian denominations and other faiths who take up places that we can provide where possible, if they are committed to the vision of Catholic education that we offer. There are 1207 teaching staff in our schools, of whom 46% are Catholic.

As at April 2016 we have 44 schools – 41 are maintained, 3 are independent.

We have 1 infant school, 1 junior school, 32 primary schools, 1 lower school, 1 middle school deemed secondary, 6 secondary schools, 2 all age schools (3-19/6 months-16).

In Buckinghamshire and Slough the secondary provision is selective.

Our schools form seven area partnerships. In four partnerships the majority of schools have formed a Multi Academy Trust. The Trustee expects all schools to join their MAT in due course.

BEDFORD - St Francis of Assisi Multi Academy Trust (4 schools – 1 Lower, 1 Middle, 1 primary, 1 upper)

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - St Luke MAT, (4 primary schools in Corby and Kettering) + 2 primaries

LUTON AND DUNSTABLE - St Alban MAT, (1 Secondary + 2 primaries) +4 primaries

NORTHAMPTON TOWN - St Thomas of Canterbury MAT – (3 primaries, 1 secondary) +1 primary

(Academy order given on 6 January 2016 for 3 primaries and 1 secondary)

SLOUGH - St Peter Partnership – 4 primaries, 1 grammar, 1 high, 1 primary independent.

(MAT application by 3 primaries and 1 high)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - St John Fisher and St Thomas More Partnership – 1 all-through (3-19), 1 Infant, 1 Junior, 3 primaries, 1 primary independent.

MILTON KEYNES - St Paul Partnership – 5 primaries (2 in a federation), 1 secondary, 1 independent (6mths-19)

NORES is the vicariate of the diocese concerned with the provision and support of our schools, as well as adult religious education and formation in our parishes.

We are responsible for our schools to Bishop Peter Doyle, their Trustee, who has been Bishop of Northampton since 2005. We report to the Diocesan Trustees directly and through an Education Committee of the Trustees.

The Duns Scotus Trust is the formal agency for the Multi Academy Trusts of the diocese.

The Bonaventure Trust is a recognised sponsor should any school need that support.

Our office and Centre is in Luton. You can contact us there at :

33, Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 48JD T: 01582 723312 E: admin@nores.org.uk

What NORES offers

NORES as a whole

- communicates with schools and parishes through NORES NEWS and regular briefings
- represents the Trustee at all appointments for reserved posts of Head and Deputy Head Teacher, Religious Education, Chaplaincy and other senior posts
- organises and promotes diocesan events for education, especially the annual Education Week (October) and NORES Lecture
- organises annual conferences for Head and Deputy Head Teachers
- is responsible for the inspection of our schools as Catholic schools, and their Religious Education in accordance with canonical and civil law
- monitors and publishes inspection reports and supports the implementation of recommendations
- shares in responsibility for support for schools and academies as and when needed, and with Local Authorities and other external agencies.
- represents the diocese on the statutory committees (6 per authority) and other bodies as required by civil law
- works with other diocesan agencies in different ways, e.g. Finance Office NYMO, Liturgy Commission, Vocations Team, and liaises with other denominational and faith bodies in this area

Religious Education

- visits and supports staff teaching religious education at all phases
- organises meetings for Primary RE Coordinators and Secondary Heads of Department
- organises annual conferences
- represents the Trustee at all major appointments for religious education
- communicates national developments and initiatives
- liaises as members of the National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisers
- with the Liturgy Commission offers courses for liturgy with young people

Catechetics

- supports Catechists and their Council
- promotes local formation at Levels 1 and 2 for catechists
- offers deanery and diocesan meetings for training, support and networking

Adult Formation – offers the following courses on a regular basis, with many other occasional courses

- Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies
- Theology for Teachers
- MA in Pastoral Theology (with St Mary's University)
- liaises with the Association of Adult Religious Educators

Chaplaincy and Pastoral Support

- liaises with all chaplaincy staff in schools and tertiary education
- provides support and training for all chaplaincy staff
- offers opportunities for reflection and training to support staff in schools
- represents the Trustee at all chaplaincy appointments
- liaises with Association of Catholic Chaplains in Education
- promotes and develops programmes and systems of pastoral care, eg "Rainbows"

Schools and Academies

- represents the Trustee to Government, DfE, Local Authorities and the Regional Schools Commissioner for current and future provision, building projects, legal, statutory and finance issues
- liaises with the Trustee and Diocesan Finance Office for our schools and academies
- liaises with Local Authorities in areas of finance (LCVAP), buildings, admissions, HR issues (especially appointments, grievance and capability), and with the EFA for academies
- liaises with consultants and professionals in building projects, their planning and implementation
- appoints and supports Foundation Governors and Directors
- offers training to all governors and directors especially in the area of Catholic ethos and Catholic education generally
- works with the whole Service, our schools and academies, other dioceses and CES to provide training for future Catholic leaders for our schools
- liaises with CES and Diocesan Schools Commissioners as part of the whole provision of Catholic education in England and Wales.

Monsignor Kevin McGinnell, April 2016

Overall we have a very strong and positive group of schools in the diocese. We are also in an area of major population expansion which brings with it many challenges. Like all Catholic dioceses we also face particular issues:

- recruitment and retention of teachers, especially Catholic staff
- educational change : government initiatives, legislation and policy
- admissions / provision of transport for denominational schools
- S48 (denominational) inspection with S5 (Ofsted) and the consequences

As well as the work of our staff we offer

- residential conferences for Heads and Deputy Heads and Senior Leaders
- day courses are offered throughout the year for RE support, theology, chaplaincy, pastoral care, and liturgy
- professional courses – Theology for Teachers, Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies – are offered every year at NORES or in other venues
- Further professional development is offered in leadership locally and in conjunction with the other dioceses of the Eastern Province and NCSL

Foundation Governors and Foundation Directors and Academy Representatives are appointed to exercise the Bishop's mandate in the governance of our schools, and this is supervised through the Governors' Court which is part of our work. Guidance and training for governors is a constant provision.

The diocese is represented on all manner of LA and other local committees to ensure our voice is heard and our schools are included. Nationally officers serve on many groups for the development of religious education (National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisers – NBRIA), and the Conference of Diocesan Schools' Commissioners.

The NORES team comprises

Mgr Kevin McGinnell, VF - Episcopal Vicar for Education and Formation - mcginnell@nores.org.uk

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and FORMATION ADVISERS:

Stephen O'Brien – Secondary RE Adviser and Inspection - obrien@nores.org.uk

Anne Marie McIntosh - Primary RE Adviser - mcintosh@nores.org.uk

Alex Heath – Chaplaincy, Adult Faith Formation and Evangelisation - heath@nores.org.uk

SCHOOLS OFFICE

Director of School Development – Collette Curtis (from September 2016)

Schools' Officer – Debbie Main - main@nores.org.uk

ADMINISTRATION

Jackie McCarthy - admin@nores.org.uk

Caroline Anderson - mail@holyghostluton.com

Warren Edwards (CCRS Administrator) - edwards@nores.org.uk

We work with NYMO (Northampton Youth Ministry Office) whose office shares the same building as NORES. The Diocesan Liturgy Commission works through NORES to support worship and prayer across the diocese.

NOES
Supporting Catholic Education and Formation
**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
 in Northampton Diocese**

Within towns, schools are named north to south

- = Primary school
- = Secondary school
- = independent school

