"Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope."
Maya Angelou
Virtual School Leaders' Conference 21

Welcome to our virtual conference

Dear Colleagues

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our conference. This year it may look and feel different to the events we have held previously at the Queen’s Hotel in Leeds, but our desire to bring our family of schools together and provide you with space for professional development and reflection remains unchanged.

Having listened to schools we have worked hard to produce a conference which meets your needs. A virtual conference means there are no travel costs and in most cases no supply costs. A virtual conference accessible to all with many sessions after school to allow you to provide access to your staff team, and recorded keynotes which means you can access them later if you miss a session. There is a stellar line up this year and as it’s virtual and across eight working days we have been able to compile a list of keynotes who are more relevant than ever. We also have a daily video thought for the day and links to some Cathedral worship for those who want to take a little time out.

I am proud of the work we’ve done to bring an array of keynotes to you including national leaders in education from the Church of England including our Chief Officer, Nigel Genders and the new Director of SIAMS, Dr Margaret James. We also have the regional director for Ofsted/HMI, Emma Ing and a number of education leaders, thinkers and innovators including Sharon Warnington, CEO of the National Black Governors Network, Tom Sherrington, author and blogger, Peter Hyman, founder of School 21 and Voice 21 and also the inclusion expert Daniel Sobell! And if you are looking for some inspiration then we are sure the Dean of Manchester Cathedral, Dr Rogers Govender will minister to you and we are thrilled to welcome the Rev Richard Coles too, known to many off the telly and radio (and 80s band The Communards if you can go back that far!).

I know we are all still trying to manage the challenges of the new academic year, the rise again of Covid in schools and the impacts that will have on us all. We do hope though that the virtual nature of our conference this year will mean you can drop in for an hour or so and be provoked by some amazing speakers.

Every blessing

[Signature]
# Conference Timetable

Our conference will be opened and closed by the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education
Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley

## Wednesday 13th October

**Thought for the Day**  
The Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds

<table>
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## Thursday 14th October

**Thought for the Day**  
The Ven Peter Townley - Archdeacon of Pontefract

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## Monday 18th October

**Thought for the Day**  
Beatrix Callow - Chaplain at Holy Trinity, Barnsley.

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## Tuesday 19th October

**Thought for the Day**  
The Revd Canon Angela Dick  
Incumbent, Sowerby Bridge

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## Wednesday 20th October

**Thought for the Day**  
Katherine-Alice Grasham, Disability Officer  
Children, Young People and Families Team

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<td>Sharon Warmington: Hope: Building diversity on governing boards</td>
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## Friday 22nd October

**Thought for the Day**  
Jonathan Wood - Chief Executive Officer  
Diocese of Leeds

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<td>12.30 pm - 1.45 pm</td>
<td>Dr Margaret James: Hopeful inspection</td>
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How to access our conference

Our conference is accessed through our learning platform ESP Online which is where you booked your course. You must have an account on ESP Online to access the sessions and you must have enrolled onto the course.

On the day of the keynote, log in to ESP Online and click on ‘My Dashboard’. Find Virtual School Leaders’ Conference and click on that. If you can’t find the Virtual School Leaders’ Conference link you may not have enrolled.

You should then find yourself in the course player, which has a menu of options for you to access. Please note that Zoom links and resources are only released on the day of the keynote, so please don’t panic if the sessions are not all accessible at the start.

To access the keynote webinars, click on the drop down list and select the one you want. You will then have access to a Zoom link which will take you to the webinar. Thought for the day videos and resources will all be accessed using the drop down menus, these are also released on the day of the keynote.

Please note that Zoom links and resources are only released on the day of the keynote so please don’t panic if the keynotes are not all there at the start.

As the week progresses the keynote links will be replaced by the recorded video content. So you can go back to the same place to access the recordings.

We will ensure recordings are available to you until December 18th.

If you want to have a test run to make sure you can access the course player, we have placed a test video under the keynotes section for you to try in advance.
Wednesday 13th October

Conference opening remarks:
Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education

Thought for the Day:
The Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds

10.30 - 11.30 am
Daniel Sobel:
Hope for all: What works (and what doesn't) in maximising inclusive practice

11.45 - 12.30 pm
Q&A Session for SEND / Pastoral Leads

Daniel Sobel is the Founder and Lead Consultant of Inclusion Expert. An internationally respected leader in inclusive education, he has advised the Department for Education, the European Union and governments abroad. He is the author of The Pupil Premium Handbook, The SEN Code of Practice Pack, Narrowing the Attainment Gap, Leading on Pastoral Care and The Inclusive Classroom. Daniel has a vision of a new era in Inclusion: beyond labels where we all share both a common humanity and a unique individuality.

Thursday 14th October

Thought for the Day:
The Ven Peter Townley - Archdeacon of Pontefract

5 - 6 pm
The Revd Richard Coles:
Let’s have a discussion about hope

With over two million listeners, the Reverend Richard Coles is the presenter of BBC Radio 4’s Saturday Live. He regularly appears as a celebrity panellist on shows such as Have I Got News For You and QI. In 2016 Richard reached the semi-finals of Celebrity Masterchef. Richard co-presents BBC One’s The Big Painting Challenge alongside Mariella Frostrup and took part in BBC’s Strictly Come Dancing. Richard writes regularly for newspapers and magazines.

He read Theology at King’s College London, and after ordination worked as a curate in Lincolnshire and subsequently at St Paul’s, Knightsbridge, in London. He is known for having been the multi-instrumentalist who partnered Jimmy Somerville in the 1980s band the Communards. Richard has just published his latest book, The Madness of Grief, a personal and reflective account of losing his partner, the Revd David Coles, just before Christmas in 2019.
Monday 18th October

Thought for the Day:
Beatrix Callow - Chaplain at Holy Trinity 3-16 Joint Church of England / Catholic school in Barnsley.

10.30 am - 11.30 am
Emma Ing HMI:
Hope: Looking to our children’s future

Emma Ing is the Regional Director of Ofsted’s North East, Yorkshire and Humber region and a member of Ofsted’s executive board. She is responsible for the delivery and quality of around 4750 inspections a year across four remits and for the regulation of early years and children's social care providers in the region.

At root an RE teacher, Emma worked in a range of comprehensive schools before becoming a curriculum adviser and later school improvement inspector in a London Borough. Emma joined Ofsted as Her Majesty’s Inspector in 2005 and inspected schools, independent schools, and local authorities before becoming a middle leader in 2009. Her first directorship in Ofsted was of the East Midlands a post she held from 2017-2019.

4 pm - 5 pm
Peter Hyman:
Hope: Educating the whole child, head, heart and hand.

Peter is the co-founder and the first headteacher of School 21, a pioneering 4 to 18 school that opened in Stratford, East London in 2012. The school has a growing reputation for developing oracy (speaking) skills having set up Voice 21, a charity working with more than 400 schools across the country. It has also developed sophisticated programmes for real world learning and wellbeing.

For nine years to 2003, Peter worked as a strategist and speechwriter to the British Prime Minister, Tony Blair. He left to become a teaching assistant in a challenging Islington school, before training as a history teacher and working his way up to become a headteacher. He is author of 1 out of 10, from Downing Street Vision to Classroom Reality.
Tuesday 19th October

Thought for the Day:
The Revd Canon Angela Dick - Incumbent, Sowerby Bridge

10.30 am - 11.30 am
The Very Revd Rogers Govender:
Hope doesn’t have to be cheesy!

For the past fifteen years the Very Revd Rogers M Govender has served as Dean of Manchester, where he has learnt much about how a city and diocese operates and the importance of networks and partnership working to achieve the purposes of God in mission, ministry and outreach to the community.

He is convinced that partnership working is crucial if we are to serve well and develop both Church and society for the common good.

He is married to Celia and has two children Jonathan (34) and Claire (29), he is a keen cook and enjoys walking and fishing, in addition to reading books of history, biographies, spirituality, theology, and leadership. He also enjoys travel and over the past few years has travelled to the US, Israel, Palestine, Finland, Barbados, Portugal and Australia.

4 pm - 5 pm
Tom Sherrington:
Reasons to be optimistic about the future of education

Tom Sherrington is a blogger, education consultant and author. He writes the popular blog teacherhead.com. His books include The Learning Rainforest, Great Teaching in Real Classrooms, Rosenshine's Principles and Walkthrus.

Tom has 30 years experience as a physics and maths teacher, and school leader that included 11 years as a headteacher. He is now in demand internationally to deliver CPD for teachers and leadership teams. He works with several schools and colleges providing consultancy support on curriculum, assessment and improving the quality of teaching. He is a regular keynote speaker and contributor to conferences and education festivals.
Wednesday 20th October

Thought for the Day:
Katherine-Alice Grasham, Disability Officer
Children, Young People and Families Team

11 am - 12 noon

Revd Nigel Genders:
Hope and aspiration, five years on from the Church of England’s Vision for Education

The Revd Nigel Genders is the Church of England’s Chief Education Officer and leads the work of the Church of England Education Office which serves the church’s ministry with children and young people in churches, schools, colleges and universities. The Church of England provides 4,700 schools educating over a million children and is committed to a vision for education which is deeply Christian, serving the common good. Nigel’s role in education has developed throughout 30 years of ordained ministry working in a variety of roles, including: vicar, school chaplain, governor of a university, chair of governors in primary and secondary school, Director of Education for Canterbury Diocese, Head of School Policy for the Church of England and he has been Chief Education Officer since 2014.

6 pm - 7.30 pm

Sharon Warmington:
Hope: Building diversity on governing boards

Sharon Warmington is a straight talking, no nonsense executive coach and strategic leadership consultant. She is a specialist in corporate and school governance. With a strong focus on gender and cultural diversity in non-profit, private and public boardrooms. Sharon uses her difference to make a difference.

Currently Sharon is CEO of the National Black Governors Network and she also holds various positions including; Director of Unstoppable Ltd, is a member of the DFEs National Advisory Group on Governance, sits on the Board of Education for the Birmingham Diocese and is a school governor. Sharon’s work includes supporting schools in diversifying their governing boards.
Friday 22nd October

Thought for the Day:
Jonathan Wood - Chief Executive Officer Diocese of Leeds

12.30 pm - 1.45 pm
Dr Margaret James:
Hopeful inspection

Margaret James is the new National Director of SIAMS. Margaret was the Director of Education for the Diocese of Worcester from 2016, having previously worked as a primary school teacher, local authority adviser and Church school leader, before becoming SIAMS Manager for the Dioceses of Gloucester and Worcester. Her career in Church school and inspection leadership spans almost 30 years, during which time she has also contributed to regional and national SIAMS training and quality assurance. In 2018, she was awarded a Doctorate in Education having conducted the only doctoral level research into SIAMS inspection.

Conference closing remarks:
Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education

Why not take a moment, here are some opportunities for worship during our fortnight of hope:

Daily
Ripon Cathedral
Join us for evensong or morning prayer
Use this link
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt1jF1zSES6ON0d1RJlt8sQ

Sunday 17th October
Bradford Cathedral
Join us for our Sunday Morning Eucharist
Service at 10.30 am
Use this link
https://youtu.be/0qWRHXuNogY