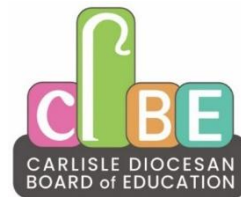


## Weekly Communication: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025



[www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education](http://www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education)

If someone has forwarded this communication to you and you would like to be added to the distribution list to receive one every week, please email: [charlotte.tudway@carlislediocese.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.tudway@carlislediocese.org.uk)

### Reflection:

Last week I talked about leaning on others when needed.

The Bible reminds us in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: if either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."



This scripture beautifully illustrates the inherent value of unity and mutual support. In times of need, when one person (or a whole team) is overwhelmed, then collective strength provides a vital lifeline. I have seen this in abundance across our family of schools this term, and especially this last week: in the shared tears, the comforting presence, the practical assistance, and the quiet understanding. The heavy load, when shared, becomes lighter, and hope can slowly be rekindled through the unwavering support of those who care and step up. We, the education team, see the shining lights that you are when others need you, and we are so grateful to be part of this wonderful community.

# NEW THIS WEEK!

Last chance to book for the Heads and Clergy breakfast, on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 8am with Charlotte as our visiting speaker.

The venue is Junction 36, meeting rooms (Damson Room).

We would love to see you there- remember you can't pour from an empty cup!

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EUYY>

## Termly Heads and Clergy Breakfast

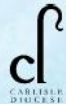
Come and join us for breakfast, mutual support and encouragement from others in your role in our diocese.

Wednesday July 9th  
8am-10am

only £15 per person  
at Junction 36 Meeting Rooms (Damson room)

**Speaker:** Charlotte Tudway, Director of Education  
**Booking Link:** [Link for Breakfast booking](#)

Contact for more information:  
[ruth.houston@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:ruth.houston@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)  
[head@stthomas.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@stthomas.cumbria.sch.uk)  
[bjones@stmarys-klcumbria.sch.uk](mailto:bjones@stmarys-klcumbria.sch.uk)



## **Anti Racist Summit – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

We've got ours. Have you got yours?

<https://antiracistcumbria.org/events/summit-2025/>



KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
MULTI AWARD WINNING  
POET & PLAYWRIGHT  
**LEMN SISSAY**

**HAVE YOU GOT  
YOUR TICKETS YET?**

**25 ANTI RACIST SUMMIT**  
**17TH OCTOBER 2025**

ANTI RACIST CUMBRIA **THEATRE BY THE LAKE**

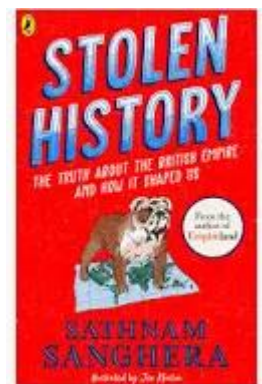
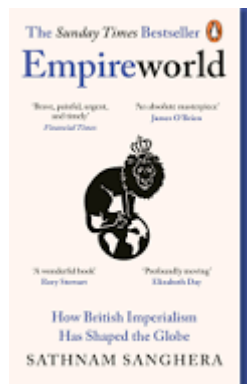
herdy CUMBRIA Westmorland & Furness Council AtkinsRéalis Lancaster University

### **Book Recommendations**

We had a browsing bookstall at the conference, so that you can see what members of the education team are currently reading. Here are this week's recommendations from Pete.

#### **Empireland, Empireworld & Stolen History – all by Sathnam Sanghera**

In 'Empireland' and 'Empireworld' Sathnam Sanghera exposes the enduring legacies of the British Empire. In 'Stolen History' he makes his extensive research accessible to children. Without judgement or oversimplification these books are vital for filling in the gaps many of us may feel we have in our knowledge and understanding of our own history.



## **Ever wanted to work for Anti Racist Cumbria?**

Now could be your chance! ARC are very excited to announce an opportunity to be our Anti Racist Education Lead (AREL).

In this role, you'll be supporting schools in the Westmorland & Furness Council area of Cumbria to embed anti-racist practice and enabling staff to better understand, deal with and prevent racism.



You'll work intensively with 20 schools, and provide the following to all schools in the area:

Guidance with ongoing issues

Monthly online drop-in surgeries for all schools and early years

Termly online training linked to the lesson plan resource and package for The Fell We Climb (an ARC resource)

Developing an education resource hub for schools to access

When needed, you will be engaged in the response to racist incidents in schools - working with the teachers and other stakeholders such as the police and council. Your role, supported by the ARC Team, will be supporting the child and family, whilst holding the school and stakeholders to account.

Do you have:

An in-depth understanding of anti-racism and how it can be embedded in educational settings?

Strong experience of safeguarding, health and safety, the national curriculum, the SEND code of practice, OFSTED and UK school processes?

Patience and flexibility?

Understanding of how to be resourced both emotionally and physically to do this work?\*

We encourage you to read the full job description and to look through the list of knowledge and qualities we are looking for. If you think you could be the perfect candidate, we need your application by the deadline of 6pm, Friday 18th July!

We anticipate that work with schools will commence after the October half term (2025/26 school year). This is a one year, fixed-term, full-time role funded by Westmorland & Furness Council.

\*Please note that we recognise anti-racism work takes a toll on the body and mind. You will have access to ARC's well-being, racial trauma and embodiment support to help you stay resourced.

## **Job Opportunity with the Good Shepherd Trust**

**Role: Head of Finance**



**Contract Type: Permanent | Full time, full year (37 hours / week)**

**Location: Church House, Penrith / Hybrid TBC**

**Salary: SCP 12 47-54: £52,248 - £60K dependent on experience**

Are you an experienced financial leader, who wants to make a difference?  
Want to be part of something special, an opportunity to shape strategy, drive improvement and make an impact?

### **About The Good Shepherd Trust**

The Good Shepherd Trust is a community of schools supported by a dedicated central team, united by a shared belief that every child should have access to an excellent education, regardless of background. We believe that education goes beyond academic achievement, and we're committed to helping every pupil reach their full potential and embrace life in all its fullness.

We're investing in our central team and this is one of our new roles with a fantastic opportunity to drive forward our people and culture agenda in a supportive and welcoming environment. Joining our collaborative central team, this is a great opportunity to feel part of a small but highly driven group of colleagues, dedicated to continual improvement and offering a support service for our school members that is second to none.

### **What we're looking for**

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our purpose-driven organisation, at a time of growth and strategic development.

We are looking for qualified and highly motivated Head of Finance, committed to the Good Shepherd Trust's purpose, vision and offer. Strong People Leadership skills are essential. Communication and collaboration skills are also essential to engage with stakeholders, while driving strategic initiatives to position the trust as a leader in financial management within the education sector.

You will play a pivotal role in the trust's growth plans and fostering a culture of financial sustainability and innovation. You'll also focus on ensuring robust operational excellence across the trust, building a solid financial foundation based on strong controls and compliance measures.



It's a special time to join as we align our priorities to deliver the Good Shepherd Trust's new vision and offer. You'll be supported by a welcoming, passionate and purpose-led team to help us create something special and make a real impact.

### Benefits

Competitive salary and pension package  
25 days annual leave (plus 8 bank/public holidays)  
Opportunity for hybrid working  
Free flu vaccinations and eye tests  
Wide ranging health and wellbeing benefits provided by Education Mutual  
2 paid days / year available to take for voluntary charitable work  
Central Penrith office location with easy access from the M6  
Professional development opportunities

### To apply

Complete an application form [HR - Job Application Form Trust 2025.docx](#) and return with a covering letter demonstrating your experience, knowledge and skills relevant to the role.

[deputyCEO@thegoodshepherdmat.co.uk](mailto:deputyCEO@thegoodshepherdmat.co.uk)

**Application deadline Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 12 noon**

**For an informal chat about the role, you can get in touch with Claire Render – Chief Executive or Rob Blake – Deputy on 01768 807770**

**Interviews are planned to take place in person at our Penrith office on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025.**

We're proud to be the Diocese of Carlisle's Multi Academy Trust.



### Welcome to NFU Education

As a small team of former teachers, we understand the challenges faced by the profession, so all our resources and initiatives have been designed with three main goals in mind:

- To save teachers time and reduce workload
- To spark learners' passion and enthusiasm for STEM subjects
- To convey important messages about food, farming, and nutrition through a cross-curricular, project-based approach

Browse our site to find high-quality primary STEM teaching resources and projects that are closely linked to the National Curriculum.

Follow the link to view the resources NFU provide - <https://education.nfuonline.com/>



# Are you an RE teacher with questions about Judaism?

A chance to ask anything you like...

**Open to primary and secondary teachers who teach Judaism**

Why don't all...  
What's the difference between...  
I don't understand which...



**Tuesday 14th July, 3.45-4.45pm**

**Any question answered**



BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF  
**BRITISH JEWS**  
ADVOCACY | DEMOCRACY | COMMUNITY

by Anna Silver,  
Education Officer

**Informal drop in Q & A session:**

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86011287321?pwd=aX6CT0SXbx9hreqIsF26AFK53p72Al.1>

Meeting ID: 860 1128 7321 Passcode: 676203

## **Training Schedule**

We have a variety of training sessions running each month. Most of the sessions are online and are cost-free if you are part of the partnership agreement.

Want to attend a session but can't? Please get in touch and we can arrange for it to be recorded for you.

You can find a copy of the training schedule [here](#). Booking is quick and easy just click the link and follow the on screen steps.

Any queries then email Anna – [anna.lea@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:anna.lea@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)



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# Governor Zone

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# Education Office Team

As always, if you have any questions about any of the information contained in this week's communication, need any help or support or want to arrange a visit, don't hesitate to get in touch



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Director of Education

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Deputy Director of Education

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Officer

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Mon, Wed, Thurs

# School Advisers



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Schools Adviser

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**Maggie Cole**

Schools Adviser

[maggie.cole@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:maggie.cole@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)



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Bennie  
Kara

## **Noor Inayat Khan**

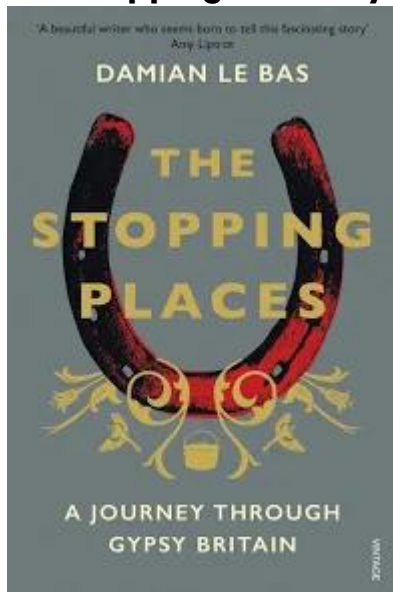
Please have a look at the attached article about Noor Inayat Khan by Bennie Kara, and register for Bennie's blog at [Subscribe to The Unlearning](#)

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## **Book Browsing**

We also had a browsing bookstall at the conference, so that you can see what members of the education team are currently reading. Here is this week's recommendation from Laura.

### **The Stopping Places by Damian Le Bas**



This book is a rich tapestry of history, culture, memoirs and storytelling. It is beautifully written and has broadened my understanding and appreciation of this community's heritage.

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## **Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme**

If your child has free school meals you can find and book free childrens' activities and events in the school holidays.



### **How to book**

You can search for activities and for booking information online:

#### **[Search and book an activity](#)**

Clubs and activities are run by established community groups, creative arts, sports, leisure, youth organisations and schools. We also have a range of providers who can offer activities for young people with additional needs.



Dent C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School  
Laning, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria. LA10 5QJ. Tel: 015396 25259  
Headteacher: Mr David Prescott

## **Teaching Head Vacancy**

### **Job Details**

**Salary:** Pts L6-L12 £56,316 – £65,286.  
**Contract type:** Teaching Head 0.6 FTE  
**NOR:** 28  
**Responsible to:** Governing Board  
**Responsible for:** All Staff  
**Interviews will be held on:** 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Dent Church of England Primary School is looking for a leader and colleague who will deliver high standards of academic and personal growth.

While we have many strengths, as seen in our Ofsted and SIAMS inspection reports, we know that we need to build on these solid foundations in order to continue to provide the best all-round education for our pupils.

The school focuses on the holistic development of each child, and we expect to treat everyone with fairness, respect and equality. Each pupil is encouraged to achieve their potential through a





supportive family-orientated atmosphere which combines strong learning outcomes with excellent pastoral support.

In particular, we are looking for a headteacher who will:

- Be an inspirational leader who has the management skills to deliver the school's ethos and vision.
- Inspire, motivate and nurture our children.
- Provide an enriched and high-quality, creative curriculum, which expects high standards and enables excellent outcomes for all pupils.
- Promote and enhance the well-being of the staff team, providing opportunities for all to learn and grow to their full potential.
- Further develop relationships with our families and the wider community to encourage their contribution to school life.
- Lead by example, actively modelling and embedding into all areas of school life the seven core Christian values of the school, which are: Wisdom, Trust, Service, Justice, Compassion, Endurance and Forgiveness.
- Be outward looking and work with other schools in the network to share best practice.

You may be looking at this opportunity as either your next headship or your first. Regardless of where you are in your leadership career, we will ensure you have access to support from the Governing Board, the Diocese and Westmorland & Furness Council to help you succeed as our new headteacher.

We can offer:

- A "Good" school as rated by Ofsted.
- Happy and enthusiastic children who thrive in a creative, caring and exciting learning environment.
- An ambitious, exciting curriculum that aims to give every pupil a lifelong love of learning and offers them enriching opportunities to discover their unique talents.
- Well-equipped school premises, multifunctional outdoor area and large playing field.
- Significant levels of support from both experienced staff and a committed Governing Board.
- A warm friendly school which has a tradition of treating everyone with kindness and respect.
- Strong financial support from community groups and widespread voluntary help from members of the community.
- The opportunity to work in the The Yorkshire Dales National Park, close to the Lake District.

If you have the experience, passion and drive to make a difference for our children and their families we would be delighted to hear from you.

The school is committed to the safeguarding of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be appointed on completion of an enhanced DBS check and receipt of professional references.

Application packs with further details can be obtained from the school office via [clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk)

Covering letter (to be no more than two sides of A4) and Application should be sent to [clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk). Closing date for applications is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 12noon.

Interviews will be held in school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025.

If you would like to arrange a visit, please telephone our school office on 015396 25259 mornings only or leave a message and we will call you back.

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## News from the Good Shepherd Trust



01768 807770

[goodshepherdtrust.uk](https://goodshepherdtrust.uk)

[enquiries@thegoodshepherdmat.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thegoodshepherdmat.co.uk)

19-24 Friargate, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7XR

### Claire Render Awarded MBE

We are thrilled to share the fantastic news that our CEO Claire Render, has been awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours for her outstanding services to education.

#### The official citation reads:

**"Chief Executive Officer, The Good Shepherd Multi Academy Trust, Cumbria. For services to Education."**



This is a remarkable and richly deserved recognition of Claire's commitment, leadership, and unwavering dedication to improving educational outcomes and supporting young people across the region. Her work continues to inspire and make a lasting difference in our schools and communities.

Claire took on the role of CEO just over six years ago, bringing with her more than 25 years of experience in education — including serving as Executive Headteacher at the Trust's Wreay C of E School. Under her leadership, the Trust has seen transformative progress in school improvement, the expansion and strengthening of central hub services, and the growth of future education leaders across our network.

We know many of you will want to join us in congratulating Claire on this incredible achievement.

#### Peter Ballard, Chair of the Good Shepherd Trust board, said:

**"This is wonderful news and reflects Claire's dedication to primary education, young people and local communities over years of service, many of them in Cumbria, and latterly in her role as CEO of the Good Shepherd Trust. I am sure you will join me, and the trust, in thanking Claire for all she has done and rejoicing that her service has been nationally recognised."**

Plans are already in the works to mark the occasion before the end of the summer term, with more details to follow.

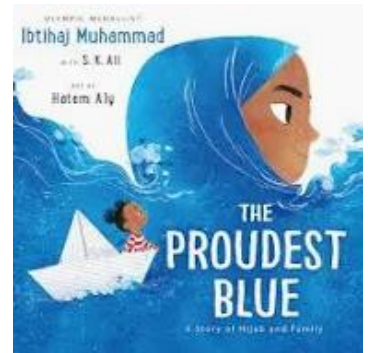
Once again, congratulations to Claire — we know you don't like the spotlight but we are immensely proud of you!

## **Browsing Bookstall**

We also had a browsing bookstall at the conference, so that you can see what members of the education team are currently reading. Here is this week's recommendation from Charlotte.

### **The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family**

"A powerful example of the painful 'othering' many of our Muslim sisters live with. A brilliant insight into the pride with which our hijabi sisters wear their headscarf. And, wonderful for Muslim pupils to see someone who looks like them represented in printed text. A great addition to any school library."



## **Diocesan Conference follow up from the Worship Band!**

If you enjoyed the worship songs we shared at the conference you might like to use some of them in your schools.

The Lord's Prayer – [The Lord's Prayer Journey – Faith in the North](#)

King of Me from Sparkle, Pop & Rampage by Rend Collective



Way Maker [Leeland – Way Maker \(Official Live Video\)](#)

Christ be with me [Christ be with me – Prayer of St. Patrick \(with Lyrics\)](#)

The Blessing [Elevation Worship – The Blessing \(Lyrics\) ft. Kari Jobe & Cody Carnes](#)



## **Free, multi-media Life Exhibition at Kendal Parish Church**

You are invited to bring your Year 5 and 6 pupils to the free, multi-media Life Exhibition to be hosted at Kendal Parish Church October 20th–24th 2025.

The Life exhibition is an exciting, multi-media experience designed for primary school children which complements the current non-statutory guidelines for Religious Education in the UK.

Using interactive tablets, graphic panels, quizzes, films, songs and a discussion café, Life helps children learn – in just over an hour – about the story of Jesus and his relevance today.

The exhibition, which is free thanks to the sponsorship of your local churches and Christian charity Counties, is aimed at Upper Key Stage 2 and incorporates aspects of the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

Since its launch in 2006, more than 150,000 children and adults have visited the exhibition with great feed-back from visitors including headteachers, teachers and pupils.

We'd love to welcome you pupils, you can book at an hour slot at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EZCS>

You might want to combine your visit with other activities in Kendal and if you book the 1–2pm slot we can offer you a free history tour of the church, brass rubbing session or introduction to church music and our 3 organs after your visit to the Life Exhibition. Please get in touch when you've booked and we can chat about what extra session you would like.

I have attached a leaflet that gives you more details about the exhibition and this link shows you a short video about the exhibition when it was in Barrow.

<https://youtu.be/CBJJJKvMCE0>

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## Who's behind the Life exhibition?

The Life exhibition is a project run by Christian charity Counties. Established in 1899, Counties aims to provide churches and schools with resources to make Christianity understandable and accessible in the 21st century. Resources include the popular GSUS Live mobile unit for secondary school children, puppet shows, holiday clubs and camps plus local speakers for assemblies.

For more information visit [countiesuk.org](http://countiesuk.org)



“Teachers of RE all over Britain need dynamic, authentic and exciting ways of enabling pupils to think hard about Christianity. The Life exhibition continues to deliver this for tens of thousands of pupils, connecting Christian communities with school communities.”

Lat. Blaylock, RE Adviser, RE Today Services Editor, RE Today magazine

### What next?

If you would like your school to visit the Life exhibition when it comes to your area please contact your local organiser who provided this pack.



Counties, 30 Haynes Road, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HD  
Counties is a Registered Charity No. 244278 and a Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No. 1041761  
[lifeexpo.co.uk](http://lifeexpo.co.uk)

Initial contact from  
local organiser  
to school  
(6 months prior)



Schools book to  
visit Life  
(3-6 months prior)



The Life exhibition



On-going contact  
with optional  
follow-up sessions  
at school

Bring your **RE**  
lessons alive with an  
exciting **free resource**  
for your school

An introduction to the Life exhibition –  
for schools



The Life exhibition  
The story of Jesus – kids style  
[lifeexpo.co.uk](http://lifeexpo.co.uk)

Or for more information  
on the Life exhibition call  
Kevin Baldwin, Life  
exhibition co-ordinator,  
on 07968 705623  
or email  
[lifeexpo@countiesuk.org](mailto:lifeexpo@countiesuk.org)

## Be part of the popular Life exhibition – coming to your area soon!



The Life exhibition is an exciting, multi-media experience designed for primary school children which complements the current non-statutory guidelines for Religious Education in the UK.

Using interactive tablets, graphic panels, quizzes, films, songs and a discussion café, Life helps children learn – in just over an hour – about the story of Jesus and his relevance today.

The exhibition, which is free thanks to the sponsorship of your local churches and Christian charity Counties, is aimed at Upper Key Stage 2 and incorporates aspects of the Locally Agreed Syllabus

Since its launch in 2006, more than 150,000 children and adults have visited the exhibition with great feed-back from visitors including headteachers, teachers and pupils

- Save time on planning RE lessons for Years 5 and 6 – the Life exhibition complements a key area of the syllabus.
- No setting up involved – the exhibition will be placed in a local venue off-site by church volunteers.
- Enhance the IT skills of pupils – children will get to use tablets and computer voting during their visit.
- Complement existing teaching within your school – the structured programme enables pupils to use listening, reading and speaking skills.
- Full support – a comprehensive Life Schools Pack will be given to you with lesson plans for before and after the visit, plus a local organiser can offer ongoing support and follow-up.
- Reliable – the exhibition has been developed by Christian charity Counties along with education specialists to encourage children to question, challenge and form their own opinions on the story of Jesus.

“Life is a fantastic experience for the children, thoroughly worthwhile.”  
Ann Griffin, headteacher of Whitchurch Primary School, Cardiff



## The Life exhibition – what does it look like?

The Life exhibition is split into 4 areas, each covering different themes about what Christians believe about Jesus.

“Brilliant workshop, children were absorbed in the activities. Really enjoyable and very informative. Feedback forms were fantastic. Thanks to all for a wonderful, well organised activity.”  
Yr 5 Teacher, St John's Primary School, Southampton



### Introduction

This area welcomes pupils and introduces the themes of the exhibition through a two minute DVD.



### Pods

Pupils are given tablets and headphones and encouraged to explore various coloured pods with graphic panels, quizzes and interaction with group leaders. Each pod reflects different aspects of the life of Jesus – his historic and prophetic roots, his teachings and his miracles.



### Life giver

Children watch a dramatic film covering the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.



### Cafe

An area to relax with a drink and for pupils to take part in an interactive quiz, whilst reflecting on their experience of visiting the Life exhibition.



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Governors



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## **National Governance Conference for Schools and Trusts**

[Book your place](#)

Events & networks

10/07/2025

9:45 – 18:00

Birmingham Conference & Events Centre, B5 4EW



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### **Improving school attendance**

#### **Understand the board's role in relation to developing an attendance policy, reviewing attendance data and improving outcomes for all pupils.**

Attending school is critically important for children's life chances, including their attainment, wellbeing, wider development and safeguarding.

Pupils who already face particular challenges, including pupils eligible for free school meals, pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and pupils with a social worker are also more likely to be absent from school; this widens [educational disadvantage](#).

We have worked with the DfE to produce our guide to improving school attendance which sets out governing board responsibilities and questions to ask in relation to:



- developing an effective attendance policy
- regularly reviewing attendance data
- ensuring staff receive the training they need to improve attendance

Click [here](#) to read the rest of the guidance

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**News from the NASCC** – The DfE are expected to update the *Academy Trust Handbook* and *Governance Guide* for 2025/2026 – keep an eye on the DfE website.

