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Education Department Newsletter

15th June 2026

Joan McCarthy
Director of Education

Welcome to another week, and thank you for all that you continue to do in support of our schools, communities, and the young people in your care. Your dedication, commitment, and generosity make a real difference every day, and we are deeply grateful for all that you do.

In yesterday's Gospel (Matthew 9:36–10:8), we hear how Jesus looked upon the crowds with compassion and called His disciples to go out and serve others. This message feels particularly relevant to those working in education. Every day, you respond to the needs of children, young people, and colleagues with care, patience, and encouragement. Through your work, you help others to grow, flourish, and realise their potential. Thank you for the many ways in which you live out this mission through your service to our school communities.

We would also like to thank all of the Wave 1 schools that have met with us and representatives from the Trusts over the past few weeks. We have greatly valued these conversations and the opportunity to reflect together on our shared journey.

A gentle reminder to please let us know about any staff and governors who are retiring from Catholic education this year. We would be delighted to invite them to our Mass of Thanksgiving on 2nd July at the Cathedral, where we can recognise and celebrate their dedicated service. Please complete this [form](#).

We hope that those of you who attended our recent spirituality days at Stonyhurst found them rewarding, inspiring, and enriching.

Wishing you all a happy and positive week ahead.

Headteacher Cluster Meetings

Please note the summer term Headteacher Cluster Meetings are fast approaching and we look forward to seeing you there. Please book your place [here](#).

DATE	TIME	VENUE	LOCAL AUTHORITIES	BOOK HERE
Mon 22nd June	9.30-11.30am	St Margaret Clitherow Centre, L17 1AA	Liverpool	Book here
Mon 22nd June	1.30-3.30pm	The Engine Rooms, Warrington WA3 6YN	Warrington & Halton	Book here
Wed 24th June	9.30-11.30am	Mercure Hotel, Haydock WA11 9SG	Knowsley & St Helens	Book here
Wed 24th June	1.30-3.30pm	The Edge, Wigan WN3 5AB	Lancashire & Wigan	Book here
Fri 26th June	9.30-11.30am	Formby Hall Golf Resort & Spa L37 0AB	Sefton	Book here

Governors' Termly Meeting

Please book your place here:-

Wed 24 th June	Governors' termly meeting	6.30pm-8pm	Online - Teams	Governance	Book here
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School Business Manager & Bursars Termly Meeting

Please book your place here:-

Thurs 25 th June	School Business Manager & Bursars Meeting	9.30am-12pm	St Margaret Clitherow Centre	All schools and colleges	Book here
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Education Department Calendar 2025-26

Please find attached the latest version of our calendar of events, including booking links.

[Calendar 2025-26](#)

Michael Boland
Education Estates

Annual Assurance Document - Education Estates Strategy

The Archdiocese of Liverpool has requested that **all schools** (including academies, joint faith, independent, Religious Order schools and sixth form colleges that sit within the estate of the archdiocese) complete an **annual assurance review**. This has been developed to establish whether schools and academies are meeting their compliance obligations and are

ensuring that the site is safe and suitable for learning. This was identified as part of the launch of the Education Estates Strategy at briefings held in June 2025.

Please note that **governors are responsible** (and **Trust Boards** within MATs) for the maintenance and compliance of schools and should ensure that they have appropriate contracts, processes and procedures in place.

Completing this document will align with the requirements set out within the **Archdiocese of Liverpool Estates Strategy** and associated documents such as the **Archdiocesan Protocols** and the **Occupancy Document**.

The assurance document will be a **Microsoft Form** distributed on an annual basis. The Archdiocese of Liverpool will **arrange visits to schools** to evaluate the responses and to establish whether appropriate processes, procedures and provisions are in place. This will initially be conducted on a random selection basis. The link to the form is:

[Microsoft Form](#)

We would ask that the form is completed and returned by **31st October 2026** as this is the first time of asking. In future, we would expect the form to be submitted by the end of the academic year. Any schools that do not submit the forms by the due date will be contacted directly by the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

Ged Preston, Steve Coyle and Vikki Borlase

Secondary School Improvement Team



Upcoming meetings

Wed 17th June 2026

09:00 - 15:30 **New to SENDCo (Primary and Secondary colleagues) Session 3**

Venue: The Wrightington Hotel, Moss Ln, Wrightington, Wigan WN6 9PB

15:30 - 17:00 **Aspiring SENDCo Course (Primary and Secondary colleagues) Session 3**

Venue: Via Teams

Thu 18th June 2026

09:00 – 16:00 **Safeguarding Leads Conference**

Venue: The Wrightington Hotel, Moss Ln, Wrightington, Wigan WN6 9PB

[Please book here](#)

Mon 22nd June 2026

13:30 - 16:00 **Sociology and Government and Politics HoD meeting**

Venue: Carmel College, Prescot Rd, St Helens, WA10 3AG

[Please book here](#)

Tue 23rd June 2026

08:30 - 10:30 **Post 16 Leads Meeting**

Venue: Broughton Hall Catholic High School

[Please book here](#)

Wed 24th June 2026

09:00 - 11:30 **SENDCo Meeting**

Venue: St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, Rookery Ave, Ashton-in-Makerfield,
Wigan WN4 9PF

[Please book here](#)

Thu 25th June 2026

09:00 - 11.30 **Pastoral Leads meeting**

Venue: The Wrightington Hotel, Moss Ln, Wrightington, Wigan WN6 9PB

[Please book here](#)



New Literacy Leads meeting

25th June 2026

Our first Literacy Leads meeting will take place 1.30pm until 4.00pm on Thursday 25th June at
The Wrightington Hotel.

This session will cover:

A background to Literacy

Reading and Writing in Action

Communication, Language and Oracy

[Please use this link to confirm attendance](#)



Summer Term Conference: Booking reminder

Thu 2nd Jul 2026

09:00 - 16:00 **PSHE Leads Conference**

Venue: The Wrightington Hotel, Moss Ln, Wrightington, Wigan WN6 9PB

[Please book here](#)

The session will be led by Julie McCann. Her previous session in February was extremely well received, and we are confident that this workshop will provide valuable support as we prepare for the introduction of the revised DfE guidance on RSE in September. In addition, the PSHE Working Party will share a brief update on recent developments and the excellent work they have carried out to support schools.



COP 31 Mock Student Events 2026

Registration now open!

We are pleased to announce that the archdiocese have again partnered with Liverpool World Centre to run two mock COP 31 events for students. Each event is for a maximum of 16 schools, each sending a team of 8 students (This is aimed at pupils across KS3/4/5).

The cost of attending is £250 per school (The archdiocese is subsidising this event).

We have split the events based on locations of schools, so please check the links below to find the event your school is invited to attend. If you are unable to attend on the date allocated to your school, please get in touch and we will check capacity at the other event.

[9.30am until 2.30pm on 11th November 2026](#)
[at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Archdiocesan Office, Croxteth Dr, Liverpool L17 1AA](#)

[9.30am until 2.30pm on 18th November 2026](#)
[at Hope Academy, Ashton Rd, Newton-le-Willows WA12 0AQ](#)



Funded Training Opportunities for Staff in Liverpool Schools

[You can access resources and all free training here](#)

Secondary School Improvement Flyer

Dave Smith, Sandra Martin and Andrea Gerrard
Primary School Improvement Team

Important: Primary School Improvement Subscriptions 2026/27

We are asking schools which subscriptions they would like to continue with for 2026/27. Please use the form below to let us know your choices. The pricing for each service is included on the form:

National College

School Bus

Seesaw

FFT

SIP Service

Could you please complete the form by 26th June. Thank you!

If you have any questions, please email primaryimprovement@rcaol.org.uk

[Link](#)

SeeSaw - two subscription options available and SeeSaw info meeting

For schools currently using Seesaw, we are asking whether you would be interested in adding an AI element to your subscription (see link above). Please note that this is available at an additional cost. Further information is provided below to help support your decision. If you have any specific questions please contact Sangam: sangam@seesaw.me

Meeting 2nd July 11am - [sign up](#)

SeeSaw is going to host a meeting online on 2nd July at 11am to go through the AI features and answer any questions.

- [Seesaw AI Hub Overview](#)
- [Generate Auto-Graded Quizzes in Seconds with Seesaw AI](#)
 - [Convert a Resource Video](#)
 - [Generate from a Topic or Prompt](#)

AI Features	Seesaw Instruction & Insights	♦ Seesaw AI ♦
Generate quiz questions from a topic or prompt	✓	✓
Auto-graded Reading Fluency & Comprehension Assessments	✓	✓
Scaffolded Reading Support - Read-with-Me	✓	✓
AI literacy lessons		✓
Convert any resource into a multimodal activity		✓
Generate multimodal activities from a topic or prompt		✓
Translate any activity into 100+ languages		✓
Embed & generate interactive activities around YouTube Edu videos		✓
Generate newsletters, reminders and more with the AI Announcement Assistant		✓

Refugee Week (15-21 June)

Refugee Week offers an opportunity for schools to reflect on themes of dignity, solidarity and welcome. This year's theme, Courage, invites pupils to consider how small acts of kindness can make a difference.

- [Theme of Refugee Week](#)
- [National Literacy Trust](#)

Best Practice Network

30th June

9:15 - 11:30

St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Liverpool L17 1AA

[Booking link](#)

24th September

9:15 - 11:30

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Lydiate L31 2LB

[Booking link](#)

10th November

9:15 - 11:30

St Theresa's CPS, Cannon Street, Sutton Manor, St Helens WA9 4XU

[Booking link](#)

The Best Practice Network is a collaborative professional learning event designed to bring primary school leaders together to share effective practice, reflect on improvement journeys, and learn from one another in a supportive, non-judgemental environment.

The network prioritises high-quality practice and impact, rather than inspection or compliance, and is underpinned by professional trust, openness and meaningful local collaboration.

Each session showcases schools that are willing to share their improvement journeys honestly, including successes, challenges and key learning.

All presenting schools have recently been inspected under the new Ofsted framework and will be sharing their school improvement journey.

Deacon Paul Mannings

Secondary School RE Adviser

p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

When booking diocesan CPD events please see the calendar and brochure for details and links. Unless otherwise stated most courses take place here at the St Margaret Clitherow Centre, with any exceptions clearly noted.

The God Who Speaks

28th June: Feast of Saints Peter & Paul - www.godwhospeaks.uk/paul-and-the-letters/
Paul: The Man and the Mission - www.godwhospeaks.uk/paul-man-and-mission/
Paul: Great posters to use & share - www.godwhospeaks.uk/paul-the-posters/

Post GCSE and A Level Schools Visits

These will resume shortly by appointment with RE Leads. If you like, they can coincide with department meetings.

Faith in Action Moderation

This was completed last week, and it was a joy to view so much creative effort put into pupils' home, school and parish involvement. Most of our schools are members of Faith in Action. For those few who are not, please use the online link.

Rainbows/Spectrum Bereavement Care

Thanks to those schools that have already expressed an interest in online facilitator training. The same is also available for updating existing facilitators. Please get in touch.

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES CCRS

Forthcoming Sessions:

Year 1

Person of Jesus, 18th June, in-person at St Margaret Clitherow, and 25th June online. Both sessions begin at 6.30pm.

Year 2

Specialist 2 Final Session, Tuesday 16th June in-person at St Margaret Clitherow from 6.30pm.

Christian Morality: Final Session, Tuesday 23rd June, online from 6.30pm.

New Intake for September

Numbers are already very encouraging!

CCRS Contacts:

All academic, attendance, progress
issues: Dcn Paul Mannings
p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

Finance, registration and all
contact details renewals: Paul Crilly
p.crilly@rcaol.org.uk

News from Around the Archdiocese

Volunteer Your Teaching Talent

Are you a retired or part time qualified teacher? You could be part of the Cathedral's Education Service team!

Come and help hundreds of school children and young people to learn about this wonderful Cathedral.

"It's a joy to watch children be amazed by the sheer beauty of John Piper's lantern of light and colour and be able to bring the Cathedral to life for the generations of the future."

Contact us at

education@metcathedral.org.uk

Archdiocesan Parish Centre Management Company seeks first lay board members

The Archdiocesan Parish Centre Management Company (APCMC) is inviting expressions of interest from people who would like to help shape the future of parish centres across the

Archdiocese of Liverpool by becoming lay members of its board. Further details can be found [here](#).

To view current school vacancies, please click on the link below:-

Vacancies

If you would like to add a vacancy or a news article to the newsletter, please email j.ball@rcaol.org.uk

If your school would like a hard copy of the Catholic Pic Newsletter please contact communications@rcaol.org.uk

Catholic Pic Newsletter

Missed the last newsletter? Click on the link below to view it!

Education Department Newsletter W.C. 8/6/2026

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter. Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.



St Margaret Clitherow Centre

Liverpool Archdiocesan Office | Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA



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