

GUILDFORD DIOCESE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

Composition of the sub-committee

Members are appointed by DBE using the following categories:

- 2 clergy members
- 2 headteachers of Church schools
- 1 foundation governor
- At least 2 DBE members

The committee can co-opt additional members providing there is always a majority of two DBE members.

The sub-committee should be chaired by a member of the DBE so they are able to report to the DBE at Board meetings.

DBE officers in attendance

- The Schools Officer with responsibility for Christian Distinctiveness (who will act as the Lead Officer for the committee and convene the meetings)
- SIAMS officer
- R.E. Advisor
- The DDE or Deputy DDE by invitation

Length of term

Members of the sub-committee will serve a three year term which aligns with the DBE election cycle.

The Christian Distinctiveness sub-committee will oversee the following aspects of the work of the Diocesan Board of Education

- Living out the National Society's Vision for flourishing in church schools
- Religious Education teaching in church schools *Standards and quality of teaching and learning in RE in church schools*
- Collective Worship in church schools
- Supporting and developing Christian leadership of church schools *Including both SLT and governors*
- Monitor the outcomes of SIAMS inspections and information from the resulting reports
- Implement the recommendations in the Annual SIAMS report
- Consider external reports relating to RE and Christian Distinctiveness and make recommendations to the DBE

The DBE delegates the following decisions to the sub-committee:

- Recommendations for actions to meet the general issues arising from the Annual SIAMS Report, and the SIAMS reports from schools in the diocese
- Responses to national and local consultations related to R.E., SMSC, PSHE and Collective Worship
- The content of the annual year 6 Leavers Services

The sub-committee will make the following recommendations to the Diocesan Board of Education:

- The Statutory Content of the Religious Education Guidelines for VA schools. This is currently the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2023-2028
- The content of model policies for Religious Education, Collective Worship and Relationship, Health and Sex Education in Church Schools.
- The content of the Guidelines for Collective Worship in Church Schools.
- Responses to DfE consultations on matters that fall within the area of Christian Distinctiveness

March 2025