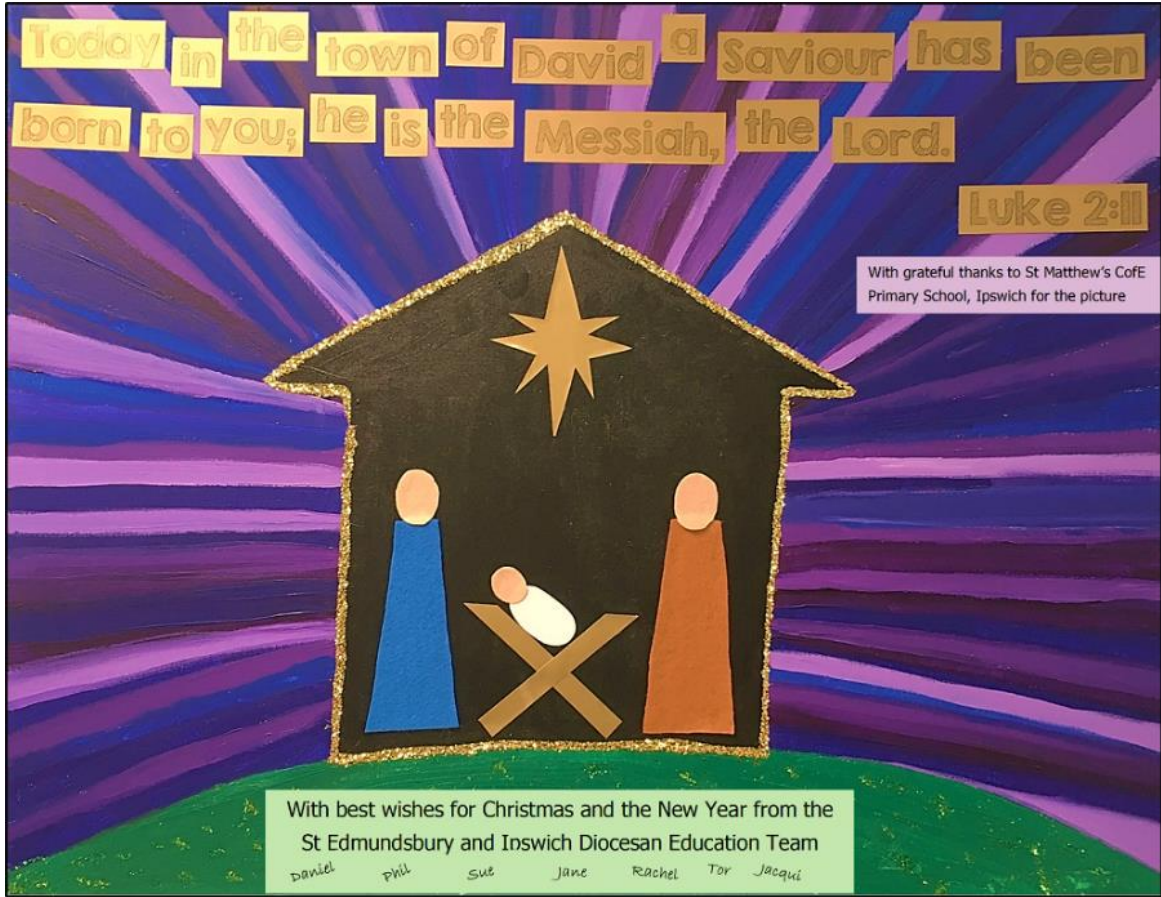




RE and CW News and Resources

From your Diocesan Schools' Advisers



We are now a term into our new project exploring how to develop definitions of spiritual development in our schools that have a meaningful impact on their communities. Our five case study schools have begun gathering ideas and opinions from their school communities and shaping analogies which sit well with their key Bible verses or theological underpinning of their vision and values. Looking ahead to spring term we will be shaping these more fully, sharing them and crafting activities, routines and rhythms that allow opportunities for spiritual development. Having a range of schools trialling the project has provided helpful and practical evidence on how this work can unfold successfully in different settings and help us roll it out more widely later in 2025.

Victoria Bush
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It has been lovely meeting so many of you as I visit schools around the Diocese. This newsletter has information about different resources but do let me if you need any help with anything RE or CW-related. There are some important dates on the next page, worth popping in your diaries for the new year.

Rachel Cutts
Rachel.Cutts@cofessuffolk.org





Dates for Diaries

Network Meetings

In the Spring term we will have two meetings, dates as follows:

- **Monday 24th Feb, 4pm for a 4:15pm start – Wetheringsett Primary School, IP14 5PJ**
- **Thursday 6th March, 4pm – online**

The in-person meeting will give us a chance to do some informal monitoring of RE work from the previous 1.5 terms (for those that wish to) and to hear some RE news. The online meeting will have a RE bulletin and some networking, much like our online meeting in November. Both are free to attend. Pick whichever meeting you'd prefer to join. More information to follow but do get the dates in your diary.

Big Spring Sing

We are looking forward to our Big Spring Sing on **Tuesday 1st April (10:30am)** at the Cathedral. During the service we will be singing and celebrating all the wonderful ways that children in our schools are learning about justice whilst raising both money and awareness for Christian Aid. Do contact me by **31st January** if you wish to join us. All schools are welcome.

Training

Do take a look at the training we offer. If there's anybody in your school that's new to teaching RE in Suffolk, then they might like to join the course on **Wednesday 29th Jan.**

<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/training-opportunities>

RE Subject Leader Update

Our annual RE Subject Leader Update will take place on **Wednesday 25th June.** More information here:

<https://d3hgqlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f214e41ab1e4/content/pages/documents/ann-re-sl-update-wednesday-25-june-2025.pdf>

RE News

Statement of Entitlement

For all Church Schools: The current Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England is from 2019. Please do continue to refer to this current version and ensure your RE is in line with this document.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-02/re-statement-of-entitlement-for-church-schools.pdf>

The Statement of Entitlement is in the process of being revised and will be implemented from September 2025. We will let you know as soon as we hear more and make you aware of any significant changes.

Emmanuel Project

You may have heard that we will be refreshing the Emmanuel Project. The LTPs linked to the Emmanuel Project may change, although we will know more once the updated Statement of Entitlement has been released.

The EYFS units for the Emmanuel Project will be re-written. We will be sticking with the same questions for the 6 EY units, with each unit continuing to have an encounter with another worldview - ensuring it continues to tie in with the Suffolk Syllabus. We will be looking at new and different ways of exploring these questions, so that different groups of learners in our classroom are able to access RE. Please do let us know if you'd like to be involved in the writing process! For KS1 and 2, the Big Questions will stay the same, but we will be updating links and resources in all units.

The refreshed Emmanuel Project will be available in June/July 2025, so you're ready to start teaching in September 2025.

Calling all School Worship Councils

Do you have a group of pupils who help lead to Worship in your school? We will be looking at doing something for these teams in the Summer term where we get them together and look at providing targets and suggestions for what they can do. More information to follow! If you haven't got a group in your school, perhaps look at getting one together? We can provide more help and support with this, if needed.



RE and CW Resources

Padlets: We have created a Padlet with **ALL** the Padlets on! Hopefully this will guide you to lots of resources that you need for both RE and CW. If you can't find something you need, do let us know - we're always happy to make or source things that would be useful! <https://cofesuffolk.padlet.org/jacquistudd1/padlet-of-all-padlets-szky1hy53cepbwr>

Facebook: Our Facebook page for the Emmanuel Project is available. Head to the Photos tab, then albums to see examples of work from the EP units. <https://www.facebook.com/EPSuffolkRE>

Handbooks: We have updated the RE Subject Leader Handbooks for both Community and Church schools. They are available here: <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/resources-and-information/religious-education/re-for-subject-leaders/>

Collective Worship: We are happy to help you with organising and planning your CW. Some schools are looking to organise a 3-yearly cycle, using 6 values they have chosen as a school but are aware they don't want to repeat stories too often within the 3 years. Do let us know if you need any help with this. In the meantime, the best place to find CW resources is here: <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/resources-and-information/collective-worship/collective-worship-planning/> or on the CW padlet: <https://cofesuffolk.padlet.org/jacquistudd1/collective-worship-xk8srwsjudrcu6r2>

FREE Webinars focused on different faiths and worldviews. Originally opened to just ECTs, they are now available for anyone who wishes to boost their knowledge. Highly recommended! More information and register here: <https://www.natre.org.uk/membership/early-careers-teachers/ect-free-monthly-webinar/>



The INSPIRE Prayer Space – available to use across the Diocese

What is a Prayer Space? A prayer space is an area that is transformed for a few days. The space offers students a range of creative activities that prompt and encourage personal reflection on contemporary issues. Our **INSPIRE Prayer Space** contains instructions, resources and equipment and can be assembled for use in any church or school.

How would it benefit my local school? Children and young people are innately curious about life. Taking a broadly Christian perspective as a starting point, prayer spaces give children an opportunity to practise skills of personal reflection. They allow pupils of all faiths and none to explore life questions, spirituality and faith in a safe, creative and interactive way. Prayer spaces give students the opportunity to find out what prayer might be like for Christians. They also make a valuable contribution to schools' statutory responsibility to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.

To date, the **INSPIRE Prayer Space** has been used mainly within Ipswich and we would now like to offer it for use across the diocese – all we ask is that someone would be able to collect and return it to/from Ipswich and that any consumable resources are replaced ready for the next user.

If you would like to find out more about what is available in the INSPIRE Prayer Space resource; to talk to us about how to use a prayer space in your context or arrange to borrow it, please contact Helen Smith at inspiring.ipswich@cofesuffolk.org

