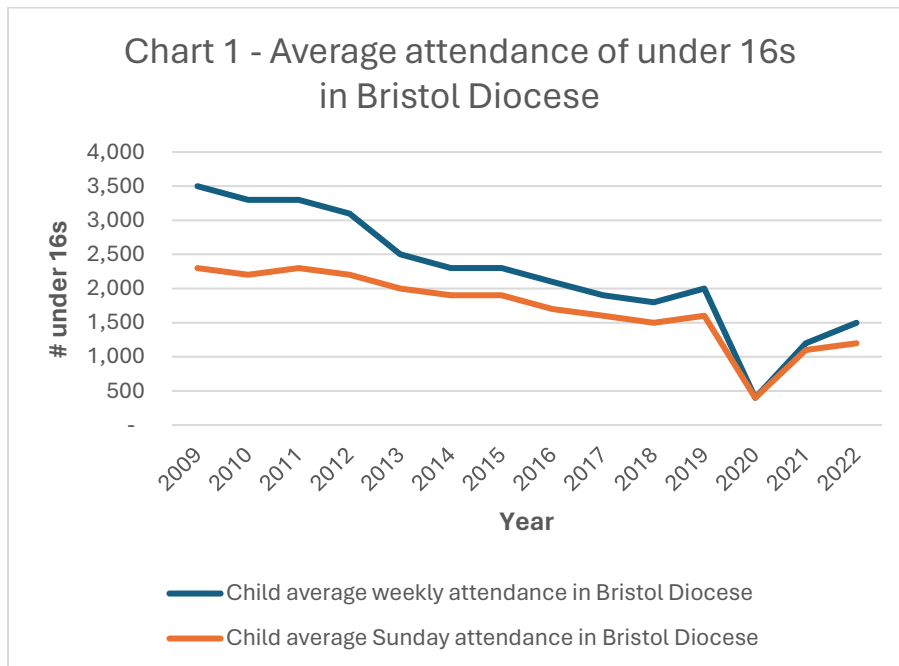


Table 1 - Sunday Attendance of under 16s in Bristol Diocese														
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total in Diocese	2,300	2,200	2,300	2,200	2,000	1,900	1,900	1,700	1,600	1,500	1,600	400	1,100	1,200
Average per church	10.8	10.4	10.8	10.4	9.4	9.0	9.0	8.0	7.5	7.1	7.5	1.9	5.2	5.7

Table 2 - Weekly Attendance of under 16s in Bristol Diocese														
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total in Diocese	3,500	3,300	3,300	3,100	2,500	2,300	2,300	2,100	1,900	1,800	2,000	400	1,200	1,500
Average per church	16.5	15.6	15.6	14.6	11.8	10.8	10.8	9.9	9.0	8.5	9.4	1.9	5.7	7.1



The National Church of England’s statistics for mission^a show an overall decrease in the number of under 16s engaging with churches of the Bristol diocese, both at Sunday services (Table 1) and weekly, which include Sunday services (Table 2). Whilst statistics show increase in attendance since the 2020 pandemic, they remain well below 2019 figures. These figures have been divided by the 212 CofE churches^b in the diocese to give an indication of how many under 16s there are per church.

Between 2009-2019 (i.e. pre-pandemic), there was a variance in weekly attendance of -1,500 under 16s, a reduction of 42.857%. Applying this figure to future years suggests only 40 young people will be left by 2089 (Table 3). Applying the same process to the years 2009-2022 (i.e post-pandemic) sees a weekly attendance variance of -2,000, and a reduction rate of 57.142%. Modelling using this figure suggests only 4 young people will be part of diocesan churches by 2113 (Table 4).

Table 3 - Modelling of future under 16's weekly attendance in the Diocese of Bristol using pre-Covid trends (Rate of reduction = 42.857%)									
	2009	2019	2029	2039	2049	2059	2069	2079	2089
Total under 16s	3500	2000	1143	653	373	213	122	70	40
Average of under 16s per church	16.5	9.4	5.4	3.1	1.8	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.2

Table 4 - Modelling of future under 16's weekly attendance in the Diocese of Bristol using post-Covid trends (Rate of reduction = 57.142%)									
	2009	2022	2035	2048	2061	2074	2087	2100	2113
Total under 16s	3500	1500	643	276	118	51	22	9	4
Average of under 16s per church	16.5	7.1	3.0	1.3	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0

Sources

- a) Church of England, 2023. *Statistics for Mission 2022*, London: C of E.
- b) Diocese of Bristol, 2024. *DAC*. [Online]
 Available at:
<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/DAC/#:~:text=Bristol%20Diocese%20has%20212%20church,as%20being%20of%20architectural%20significance.>
 [Accessed 24 May 2024].