



THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN
BOARD OF EDUCATION

'Working for children, young people, schools and parishes'

Doc 7

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF SALISBURY

Providing People Support

1. Invite suitable church members, (as well as the incumbent) to be available when schools visit the church, to give information, explain their Christian faith and answer questions.
2. Encourage all PCC members to be “ambassadors” for the schools.
3. Prayer:
 - Praying with governors/PCC members - for the school /church.
 - The church pray for the school in all their services. Have a look at Pray Like Hannah (produced by Gloucester diocese) and www.prayforschools.org for ideas.
 - Prayer Teams – with pupils, staff and governors/PCC members. Perhaps prayer through email or send a newsletter or prayer list from the school. Send prayers up in a bundle. Let the church know how things have gone so they can see that prayers have been answered.
 - The school prays for PCC/church family.
4. Worship:
 - A staff, governor, PCC Eucharist.
 - Whole school Eucharist shared by all.
 - Shared special services/celebrations - church wardens often welcome guests at school worship, pupils/staff join in special Sunday services.
 - Pupils visit the church building regularly. Perhaps Key Stage worship in church once a week.
 - Joint Confirmation, Admission to Communion and Baptism once a year – pupils names added to church baptism plaque.
5. Supporting the headteacher / vicar relationship.



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Governor Support

1. Nominate one foundation governor to report regularly to the PCC and Benefice on local school issues.
2. Encourage the church to understand and value the role of school governor (whether foundation, parent or staff).
3. Liaise/consult with the school for suggestions for possible PCC nominated foundation governors.
4. Being a foundation governor alongside other governors.

Some Bridge-building Ideas

1. Invite the headteacher to speak at a PCC meeting on an educational issue.
2. Invite the headteacher, teacher or child to contribute an article for the Parish Magazine.
3. The PCC could celebrate Education Sunday in church – an opportunity for the whole community to renew promises as they do for headteacher commissioning
4. Invite different classes to take part in occasional all age services.
5. Encourage schools to invite PCC members to special school events.



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6. Encourage schools to hold special events in the church (e.g. Harvest, Christmas, Easter, end of summer term etc.) Could use Easter Experience or other similar resources
7. Encourage curriculum visits to the church, for RE, art, history, design, community studies etc.
8. Encourage the church congregation to be involved in taking collective worship – perhaps use 'Open the Book'
9. Ask the school secretary to put the PCC Secretary on the school mailing list.
10. Put school events on the church notice board.
11. Develop some home/school/church projects (e.g. parenting classes, family worship services, prayer meetings, Christmas, events, etc.)
12. Links with the Third World (Diocesan Sudan Link and – community cohesion!)
13. Pupils help to keep church tidy.
14. Pupils invited by PCC to have a joint input on making the church more child friendly.
15. School magazine adds an article to the parish paper.
16. PCC present leavers a Bible or a 'It's Your Move' from Scripture Union.

Practical suggestions for governors

1. Display some children's work from the school in church, especially at festivals.
2. Include local schools regularly in prayers.
3. The PCC could purchase suitable books or resources for the school.
4. The PCC could present Bibles to all school leavers.
5. The church could offer to provide suitable adults to:
 - hear children read.
 - run a lunch-time club or holiday club during an Inset day.
 - accompany school trips
 - make costumes for plays
 - become mentors in secondary schools
 - any other creative idea!
 - sponsor a "school chaplain" arrangement with the school.



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7. The PCC could sponsor a local training event for local schools on collective worship (and invite the Diocesan Education Adviser to lead it)
8. The PCC could invite a newly appointed headteacher to a commissioning service at the local church.
9. The PCC could make the church available to schools and list possible activities (e.g. church "trail", explanation of stained glass windows, child friendly leaflet introducing the church, Let the Children Come Event etc).
10. Provide a Christian symbol/artefact for the school hall or entrance area.
11. Write encouraging "thank you" or "well-done" letters to the staff and children after successful events.
12. Subsidise school trips to Cathedral Services and/or visits.
13. Set up a PCC fund to help needy families who can't always afford school trips.
14. Encourage PCCs to consider contributing towards the 10% costs for VA building projects.
15. The church could offer a Welcome Service to all pupils and families who are new in the Autumn term.
16. Pupils given a talent from the PCC - £10. They use this to raise money for the church.

The Board of Education

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