

Insert Your  
School Logo

Insert Your  
Church Logo

## School and Church Partnerships Audit Tool: Diocese of Guildford

Both the school and the parish church seek to serve the community in which they are located. The school community includes more than children and teachers; including households, extended family, support staff and premises staff who often live close to the school. The relationship between the school and the parish church can be a mutually beneficial for children and adults.

This audit tool offers an opportunity to review this joint working, celebrate successes and agree areas for development and maybe things to stop doing! This tool is for both church schools and non-church schools, we have made clear which actions apply only to church schools by shading the boxes.

We suggest that one person from the school and one person from the church look at this tool together, perhaps considering one or two sections at a time. This is for you to use and adapt to suit your local context.

Our Diocesan Vision for Education: *“Together, we will enhance the quality of education, developing the Christian character of our Church schools and academies, nurturing all children, young people and families so they can flourish”*

*Jesus said to them, “Throw your net out on the right side of the boat, and you will catch some.” So, they threw the net out and could not pull it back in, because they had caught so many fish. John 21:6*

Insert your school vision (church schools) or values (community schools) here

Insert your church vision here

<b>Nurturing the community</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Must/ Aspire</b>	<b>School type</b>	<b>Further information</b>
The head teacher and clergy are known by name in each other's community and made welcome when they visit	Ongoing	Must	All Schools	
The school pray for the church in collective worship routinely; also, at times of special needs and opportunities.	Regularly	Aspire	Church Schools	Patronal festival offers a good opportunity
The church community pray for the school in a main service routinely; also, at times of special needs and opportunities.	Regularly	Must	All schools	Start of each term Exam season Times of bereavement
The incumbent and head teacher meet at least once a term for a mutual sharing of hopes and concerns for the community.	Termly	Aspire	All schools	
The incumbent and headteacher contribute to one another appraisal or Ministry Development Review (MDR).	Annual for HT Biannual for clergy	Aspire Aspire	All schools	
The church and school engage in joint projects to bless the wider community	As opportunities arise	Aspire	All schools	e.g joint harvest collections, Remembrance events, environmental projects
There is a mutual sharing between school and church about best practice in enabling children and young people to flourish spiritually and in the Christian faith.	As required	Aspire	All schools spiritual flourishing In addition, in Church schools flourishing in the Christian faith.	
There is a mutual sharing between school and church about best practice in involving parents and households in spiritual flourishing.	Ongoing	Aspire	Church Schools	This may include joint projects.

The school and church regularly invite one another to take part in their community activities	As required	Aspire	All schools	eg run a stall at the fair, school choir to sing at a senior's tea etc
Clergy support the pastoral needs of the school community.	Ongoing	Must	All schools	Bereavement, illness, weddings
School and church jointly plan prayer spaces and pause days for pupils.	As required	Aspire	All schools	Could be held in school or church, invite parents and wider community after school.
<b>In the school building</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Must/ Aspire</b>	<b>School type</b>	<b>Further information</b>
Church staff and volunteers visit the school to lead collective worship / assemblies.	Regular	Must	Church schools	Such as Open the Book, Prayer Spaces and Godly Play It is good practice for the PCC to oversee this.
	As invited	Aspire	Non church schools	
Church staff and volunteers visit the school to support in RE lessons.	As invited	Aspire	All schools	There is diocesan advice on which units in the Surrey RE syllabus benefit from a church visitor.
New parent evening – vicar introduction and talk about role and work of school and church	Annually	Aspire	Church schools	
Meet the new pupils on induction day at the next phase of education.	Annually	Aspire	Church Schools	Clergy or church staff may be the familiar face when pupils move from infant to junior or secondary school

<b>In the church buildings</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Must/ Aspire</b>	<b>School type</b>	<b>Further information</b>
Host the school community in church for services and worship during the school day.	In a regular pattern	Strongly Aspire	All schools but more frequently for church schools	e.g harvest, remembrance, Christmas, Easter, Leavers, patronal festivals
Host an annual new child to school service (reception/year 3/year 7) in the church, or for younger children hold it in the school hall.	Annual September	Aspire	Church schools	May be appropriate for non-church schools
Host an annual leavers' service (Nursery, year 2/year 6/year 11 in the church, or for younger children hold it in the school hall.	Annual July	Aspire	Church schools	May be appropriate for non-church schools
Invite the school community to church services outside the school day.	As they occur	Aspire	All schools	E.g Commissioning a new Headteacher, Education Sunday, Messy Church, festivals
Actively welcome visits to church and churchyard for curriculum; art, history, RE, maths, creative writing	As required	Must for RE Aspire for other subjects	All Schools	There is diocesan advice on which units in the Surrey RE syllabus benefit from a church visit.
Put up displays of work done by school pupils in the church.	As agreed	Aspire	All Schools	Linked to festivals, RE, joint projects.
<b>Communications</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Must/ Aspire</b>	<b>School type</b>	<b>Further information</b>
Have a clear link to one another's website on their own.	Ongoing	Must	Church schools	
		Aspire	All schools	
Features about or by one another in newsletters, magazines.	Ongoing	Aspire	Church schools	Promote one another's events and services
Link to one another's social media	Ongoing	Aspire	Church schools	

<b>Governance</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Must/ Aspire</b>	<b>School type</b>	<b>Further information</b>
Clergy are ex-officio governors in maintained church schools	Ongoing	Must	Church Schools Not necessarily in a Multi Academy Trust (MAT)	The diocese has produced guidance.
Clergy and foundation governors visit the school while in session	At least half termly	Must	Church Schools Academies that are church schools where the foundation governor role exists	In Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) there will be a local governing committee or similar local body
Parochial Church Council (PCC) will provide foundation governors.	Ongoing	Must	Church schools only Academies that are church schools where the foundation governor role exists	In Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) the role of foundation governor may no longer exist.
Names of Foundation Governors are known to the congregation and Foundation Governors feel recognised and supported in their role by the parish.	Ongoing	Must	Maintained Church schools	In Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) the role of foundation governor may no longer exist.
PCC encourage church members to serve as community governors.	As required	Aspire	Non church schools	In Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) the role of community governors may be different.
A short celebration of the school church partnership is included with the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) documents and presentations.	Annual	Aspire	All schools	Could be provided by the school, governors or volunteers involved in the school.
Contribute to the parish profile or vacancy pack and interviews when a new incumbent or Headteacher are recruited	As required	Must	Church Schools	The diocese can offer support.
		Aspire	Community schools	

### Things to celebrate.

There may be more than three.

- 1
- 2
- 3

### Action Points

There should be no more than 3 action points.