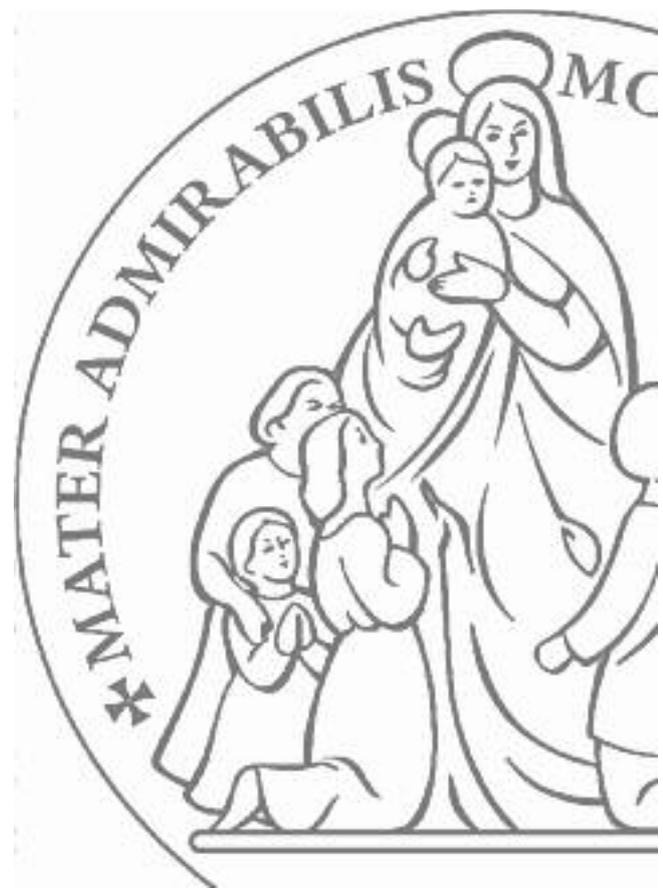




The 169th Annual Report of the Catholic Education Service





Catholic Education Service

Supporting Catholic Education Since 1847

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The CES Management Committee



Chairman
The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP KC*HS
Archbishop of Liverpool



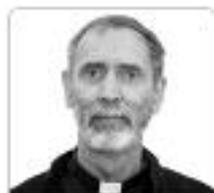
The Right Reverend Terrence Draine
Bishop of Middlesbrough



The Right Reverend David McGough
Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Birmingham



The Right Reverend Marcus Stock
Bishop of Leeds



Bishop Alan Williams
Bishop of Brentwood

Canon John Weatherill

Mrs Kate Griffin

Forward



I am delighted to introduce the Catholic Education Service's annual report for 2016. This report outlines the essential work that the CES has undertaken and highlights the importance of the CES in working to promote the views of the Bishops to the Government and other national agencies, as well as supporting Catholic education in England and Wales.

2016 has been a momentous year, but also a particularly successful one for Catholic education. We have seen the removal of the 50% on faith admissions as well as a ground breaking Memorandum of Understanding between the CES and the Department for Education, guaranteeing the future of Catholic schools.

My own personal thanks, as always, go to all those who support this work of the CES. I express my gratitude for your hard work and dedication in helping to ensure that Catholic education remains at the forefront of the Church's mission in the service of the common good.

As a separate ecclesiastical entity, we continue to produce our own annual report to remain accountable to the dioceses and our supporters for our use of resources.

We hope that you find this report useful and that you will continue to support our work and spread the good news about the success of Catholic education.

+ Malcolm Mc Mahon OP

The Most Rev Malcolm McMahon OP
Chairman of the Catholic Education Service

About the CES

The Catholic Education Service (CES) is the education agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

It works closely with the Bishops' Conference Department for Education and Formation and represents the Bishops' national education policy in relation to the 2236 Catholic schools, colleges and universities for which the Church is responsible across England and Wales.

The Catholic Education Service was founded by the Vicars-Apostolic of England and Wales in 1847 as the Catholic Poor-School Committee.

It is an agency of the Bishops' Conference and also a public juridic person in Canon Law governed in accordance with its Statutes, which are ultimately approved by the Bishops' Conference. Governance of the CES under the Statutes rests with the CES Management Committee, which consists of an episcopal Chairman, appointed by the Bishops of England and Wales, the episcopal members of the Bishops' Conference Department for Catholic Education and Formation, and up to three additional members appointed by the Chairman.

For the period of this report the membership of the Management Committee was:

**The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP,
Archbishop of Liverpool (Chairman)**

**The Right Reverend Terence Draine, Bishop of
Middlesbrough**

**The Right Reverend Marcus Stock, Bishop of
Leeds**

**The Right Reverend David McGough, Bishop of
Chunavia**

**The Right Reverend Alan Williams SM, Bishop of
Brentwood**

The Very Reverend Canon John Weatherill

Mrs Kate Griffin



The Director, Mr Paul Barber, the Deputy Director, Mr Gregory Pope, and the General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference, The Reverend Fr Christopher Thomas also attend meetings of the Management Committee.

The Trustees of the CES are the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW), who are also Trustees of the Bishops' Conference. The assets of the CES are held as a restricted fund within CaTEW for the work of the CES under its Statutes. Until March 2013, there was a separate charitable trust holding the assets of the CES: these functions have been transferred to CaTEW, with the CES continuing as a separate unincorporated association in English law, reflecting its separate legal personality in canon law.

The CES operates under its own Statutes, which were amended by the Bishops' Conference in 2013 to take account of these changes.

The CES negotiates with the Westminster and Welsh Governments and other national bodies in order to safeguard and promote Catholic education.

It also offers a Catholic contribution to the English and Welsh educational landscapes, seeking to ensure that the principles of Catholic Teaching are reflected in all aspects of national education policy. Our strategic plan 2015-2018 sets out the CES work for the three year period.



The logos of the Catholic Education Service demonstrating its 169 year history



Catholic Education in England and Wales

Schools

The Catholic community works in close partnership with central Government and with Local Authorities in its provision of education. This partnership is enshrined in a variety of administrative and financial arrangements.

State-supported Catholic schools, sixth-form colleges and universities are funded jointly by the State and the Church. Most are owned by Diocesan Trustees, with a smaller number owned by the Trustees of a religious order or congregation. The Diocesan Bishop (or Religious Superior) appoints the majority of governors. The governing bodies employ all staff and have responsibility for admissions and the curriculum.

In England and Wales the Church currently has:

369 Secondary Schools

15 Sixth Form Colleges

47 All-through Schools

1,799 Primary Schools

16 Universities Colleges and HE Institutions

Catholic schools make up 10% of the total publically-funded sector of England and Wales. Catholic schools are an integral part of the voluntary sector. This sector, which includes Anglican, Methodist and Jewish Schools as well as a few others, represents about one-third of State-funded provision in England and Wales. In the 22 dioceses, there are teams of officers who offer support to schools on legal, administrative and educational matters while the Catholic Education Service works at a national level to promote and safeguard the interests of Catholic education and those working in Catholic schools and Colleges.

Pupils

There are 852,321 pupils being educated in Catholic schools. This continues the upward trend which has been evident for a number of years. The number of Catholic pupils has been constantly more than 540,000 since 2012. Pupil numbers have risen by 6.7% in maintained primary schools since 2011 compared to a national increase of 11.5%. In maintained secondary schools the pupil numbers have fallen by 3.3% since 2011 compared with a decrease of 2.1% nationally.

| Phase | Maintained | Independent | Total |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Primary | 449,063 | 13,078 | 462,141 |
| Secondary | 328,092 | 9,820 | 337,912 |
| Tertiary | 28,191 | 0 | 28,191 |
| All-through | 6,471 | 17,606 | 24,077 |
| Total | 811,817 | 40,504 | <u>852,321</u> |

International

The CES is a member of the European Committee for Catholic Education (CEEC) and is represented at its regular General Assembly. The CEEC is the European regional secretariat of the International Office for Catholic Education (OIEC) of which the CES was a founder member in 1952.

The OIEC provides permanent representation at various international bodies such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO and promotes regional cooperation through its regional secretariats.

68%

**of pupils in
Catholic
Schools are
Catholic**

39%

**more pupils
from the
poorest
backgrounds
(compared to national
primary average)**

20%

**more pupils
from ethnic
minority
backgrounds
(compared to the
national average)**

51%

**of teachers
in Catholic
Schools are
Catholic**

83%

**of Catholic
Secondaries
are Ofsted
good or
outstanding**

20%

**of all black
pupils in
Eng. attend
a Catholic
school**

6%

**points higher
than national
average KS2
and GCSE
results**

10%

**of non-
Catholics in
Catholic
schools are
Muslim**



“The CES has been essential in providing crucial guidance in connection to our free school developments.”

*Flavio Vettese, Deputy Director,
Diocese of East Anglia*

Education Policy



“At the heart of a Catholic school - as is demonstrated in the great celebration of Holy Mass - lies the person of Jesus.”

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

The CES has produced essential new resources for Catholic school governors which are now published on our website. These forms, audits and guidance are the essential toolkit for all Catholic governing bodies.

The CES has also finalised a collection of resources including an innovative model curriculum on Catholic Relationship and Sex Education (RSE).

Other successes include:

Academies

The number of Catholic academies rose to 489 as of 31st December 2016. The CES worked with the Department for Education (DfE) and other bodies to develop best practice in the governance of multi-academy companies.

School Governance

As well as surveying dioceses on how they train governors, the CES looked into sourcing and training clerks. Existing resources on governing body codes of conduct have been collated to produce a model code of conduct. Resources to assist dioceses in the recruitment of Foundation Governors have also been produced.

Catholic and British Values

The CES produced guidance and background information for schools and colleges on 'British values' and how these relate to Catholic values. Both of these are some of the most popular and frequently downloaded content from the CES website. Classroom resources were produced for teachers to use in lessons on 'British values', drawing links between 'British values' and Catholic values.

Relationship and Sex Education

The new RSE resources have been developed by the CES using the expertise of teachers who deliver RSE and PSHE regularly in a Catholic context. The resources include guidance on writing a model RSE policy and model Catholic curriculum from early years to sixth form.

Regional School Commissioners

The CES has helped foster better relationships between the Regional Schools Commissioners (RSCs) and dioceses, including developing and delivering training at the RSC forum.

Special Schools

The CES established a Special Schools working group and the inaugural meeting took place in September. The group comprised of head teachers, diocesan officers, representatives from the CES and the clergy. It considered how we can articulate and celebrate the vision and work of Catholic special schools in the life and mission of the Church.

It also looked at how to secure the future for this sector in the face of challenges particularly facing religious order trustees the impact of the academies agenda on the available long-term options.

Independent Schools

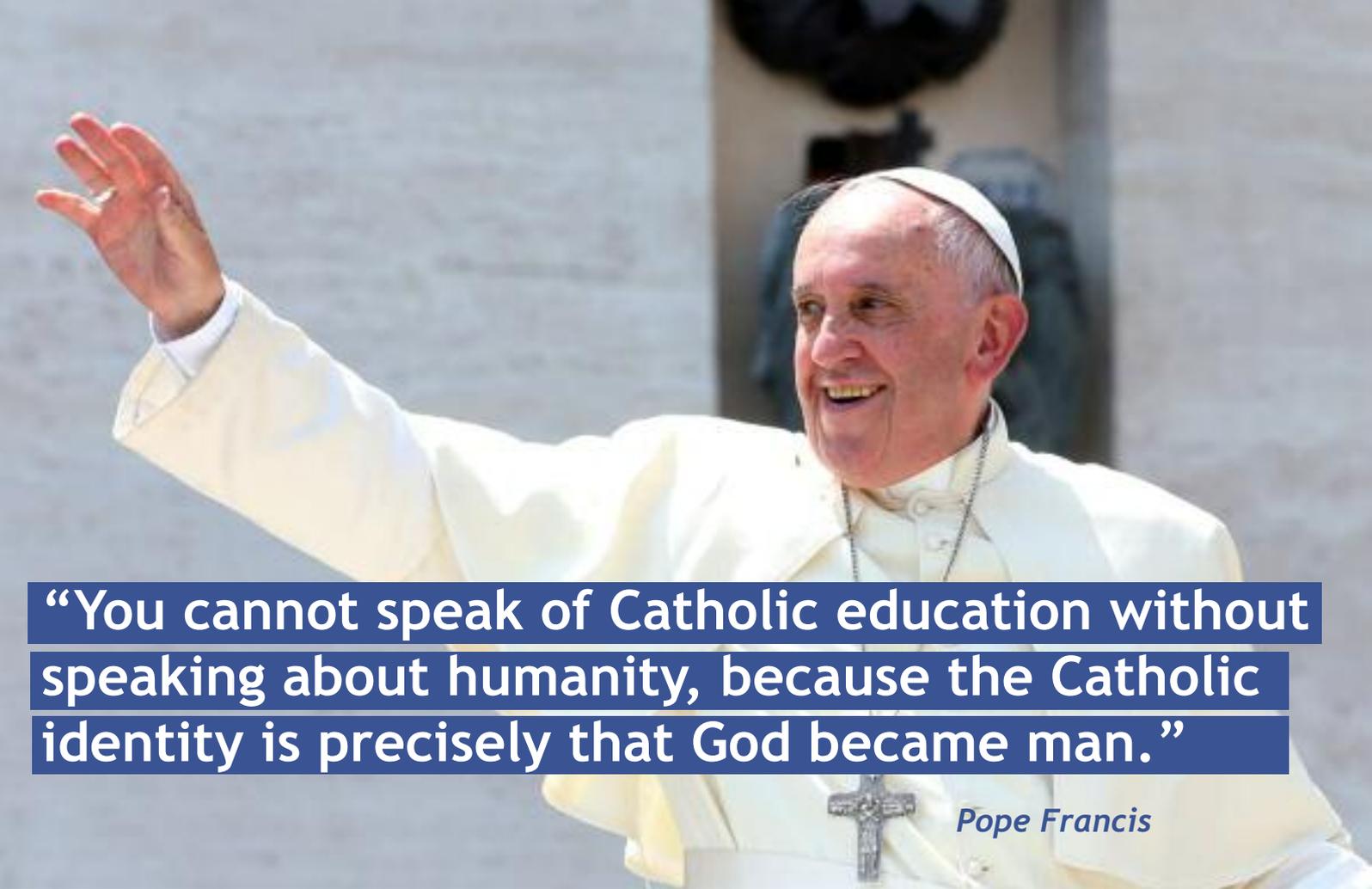
The CES continued to support Catholic Independent School through its relationship with the Catholic Independent Schools Conference (CISC) and Catholic Sixth Form Colleges through Association of Catholic Sixth Form Colleges (ACVIC).

EBACC Consultation

The CES prepared a response to a DfE consultation launched in November about its aim to have 90% of pupils studying EBacc subjects (Maths, English, Science, a Foreign Language and either History or Geography) by 2020. The CES conducted a survey of Catholic schools to assist with our response to this. We have also continued to make representations for the inclusion of RE in the EBacc.

Leadership

At the request of the dioceses the CES has increased its work on leadership and governance. In partnership with Future Leaders the CES has developed an Executive Headship Course which will run in 2017. The CES has also initiated the National Leadership Formation College which will provide training programmes for leaders in all Catholic schools.



“You cannot speak of Catholic education without speaking about humanity, because the Catholic identity is precisely that God became man.”

Pope Francis

Religious Education



The CES has made great strides with the Government ensuring that GCSE and A Level reforms are fit for purpose in Catholic Schools.

The CES has also successfully negotiated with Ofsted that the inspection of Catholic sixth form colleges will mirror those in Catholic schools. This means Bishops' right to inspect RE, collective worship and the Catholic life of the sixth form college is not undermined by Ofsted.

Other successes include:

GCSE Reform - England

The CES worked with AQA and Eduqas in preparing and delivering “Prepare to teach days”, CPD courses to support Catholic RE departments in teaching the new specifications. The CREDO group (the name given to the Catholic HEI group working in collaboration with CES and NBRIA) prepared a series of CPD days to support schools in delivering the new specifications. We have also been co-editors and authors of text books published by the Redemptorists to support each of the two accredited specifications.

GCSE Reform - Wales

The new Welsh GCSE will not begin until September 2017. The CES has worked with Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) to ensure that the content is comparable with the new English GCSE in Religious Studies in terms of its Catholic demand.

GCE Reform - A Level

All four exam boards now have accredited A-Level specifications for Religious Studies. Edexcel is the only board to offer a study of scripture at A Level but has disallowed combining this with a study of Christian theology. The CES appealed to them to reverse this decision and they have agreed to work with us, once their A-Level is accredited, to find ways avoid overlap in content and so remove the prohibition on this combination.

Engagement with the wider context of RE

The Religious Education Council has launched a commission into the purpose of RE and the legal settlement that governs its statutory position. The CES has worked closely with a number of experts to ensure that future recommendations are not incompatible with good Catholic RE.

“I want to remove the obstacles that stop more good faith schools.”

“Catholic schools are more ethnically diverse, more likely to take pupils from the poorest backgrounds and more likely to be rated good or outstanding by Ofsted.”



Prime Minister, Theresa May
September 2016

Public Affairs



“At a time of rapid and significant change in the world of education the CES has provided strong and unswerving support in the cause of Catholic education.”

Joe Hughes, Chair, Diocesan Schools Commissioners Executive

After a CES coordinated campaign which put pressure on Government officials, parliamentarians and Downing Street special advisers, the Prime Minister announced the removal of the 50% cap on faith-based admission for new Free Schools.

This announcement means that Catholic dioceses will be able to open new Catholic schools for the first time in six years.

Other successes include:

Promoting Catholic Education

In 2016, the CES promoted Catholic education and influenced national debates. We contributed to numerous enquires and research reports into the purpose and quality of RE. This has ensured that the unique Catholic understanding of RE is always present in wider RE discussions.

Engaging with Key Influencers

We have had regular meetings with Ministers, Shadow Ministers and party political think-tanks to influence party political policies on education. Ahead of the 2016 elections in Wales we also held meetings with all the major political parties to ensure that their Manifestos did not undermine Catholic education in Wales.

CES Census and Census Digest

The 2016 Census had a 100% return rate for the third consecutive year. For the first time the Census looked at the numbers of pupils from other religions in Catholic schools. Positive media coverage of the Census was achieved in both The Times and the BBC. The English and Welsh language versions of the respective digests are available on the CES website.

The accurate data enables us to demonstrate to Government and other bodies the diversity and inclusivity of Catholic schools. This data was particularly helpful in influencing the Casey Review, a Number 10 review into community cohesion in England. The Casey Review helpfully concluded that Catholic Schools contributed hugely to the creation of diverse and coherent local communities

Media and Communications

The CES promoted Catholic education in the media and secured positive coverage in the national as well as Catholic press. At the request of the Bishops, the CES has expanded its Catholic Teacher Voices programme. This has resulted in a range of expert Catholic teachers, leaders, Governments and Diocesan School Commissioners positively promoting Catholic education in the national media.

Media Training

The CES organised a series of media training events for DSCs. This have covered the basics of radio and TV interviews as well as how to handle journalists. The training was provided by an experienced BBC journalist.

The CES also produced a Crisis Communications Protocol for use in each diocese. It provides support, advice and a clear process for dioceses to follow in the event of a media crisis. The CES has worked with individual diocesan education commissions to tailor the protocol to their individual needs.

Education Sunday and Foundation Governor Recruitment Campaign

In September 2016, in conjunction with the new Education Sunday, a Foundation Governor recruitment campaign was launched to address the shortage of Foundation Governors across the country. 26,500 bookmarks and 18,600 postcards were sent to 10 dioceses who used them to run a parish level campaign. The feedback has been overall positive.

Research

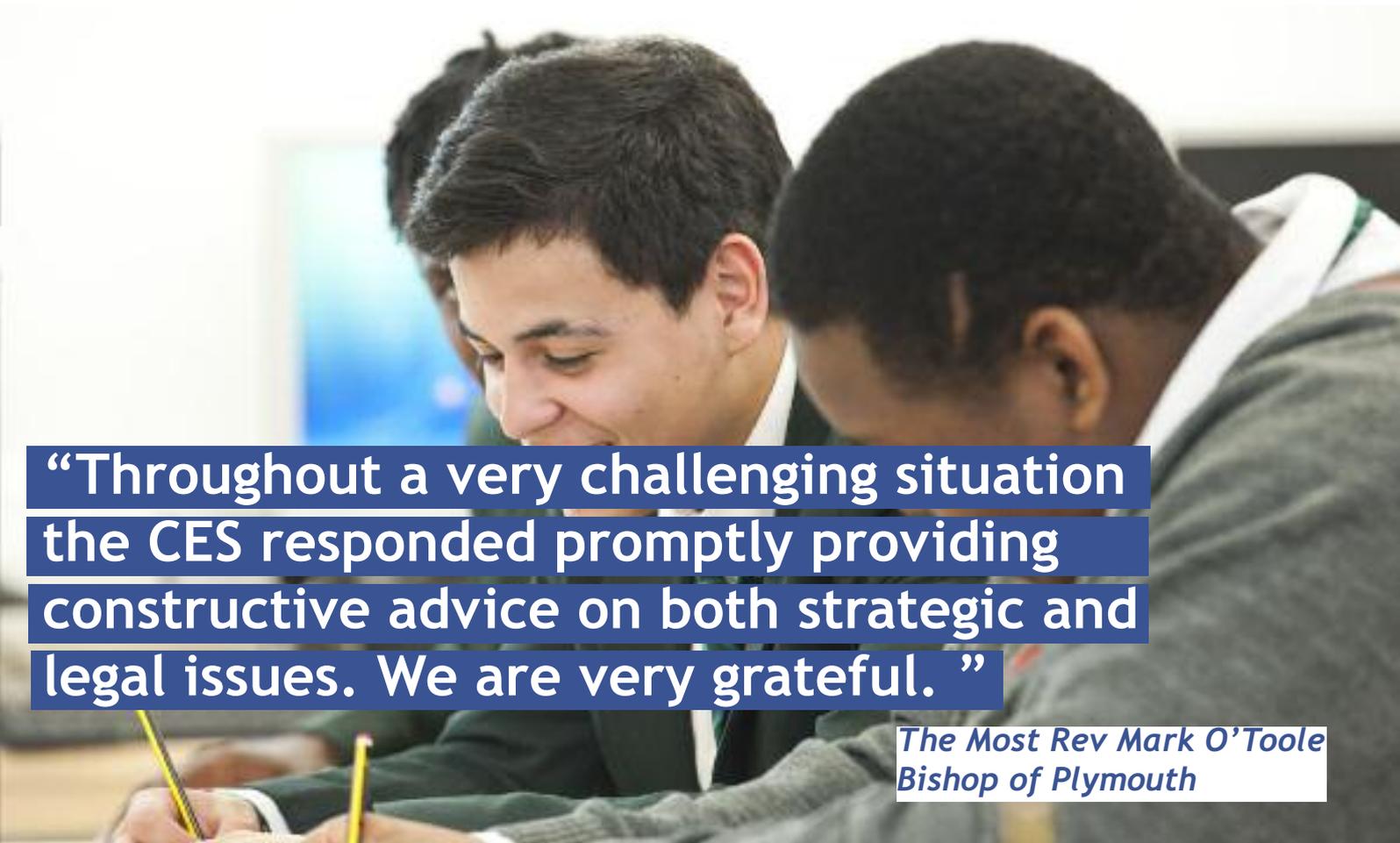
The CES commissioned St Mary's University to research how Catholic schools deal with homophobic bullying and has from this research produced guidance for Catholic schools. St Mary's University has also conducted research into the take-up of Free School Meals (FSM) in Catholic Schools in England and Wales. This will help to strengthen the CES's public argument that FSM data is not the best measure of deprivation in Catholic schools.



“In the course of an average year the CES provides advice and guidance on a whole range of issues to us as a diocese.”

*Joe Hughes, Diocesan Schools Commissioner
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle*

Legal Support



“Throughout a very challenging situation the CES responded promptly providing constructive advice on both strategic and legal issues. We are very grateful. ”

*The Most Rev Mark O’Toole
Bishop of Plymouth*

The CES finalised an historic Memorandum of Understanding between the CES and Department for Education. This sets out the basis of engagement between the Department for Education and the Catholic Church and includes legal safeguards for Catholic schools and academies.

Working with Diocesan School Commissioners, they also produced a landmark Certificate of Catholic Practice, safeguarding Catholic admissions for the future.

Other successes include:

Supporting Dioceses

The CES provided legal guidance and advice to dioceses throughout 2016 saving dioceses tens of thousands of pounds in legal costs. Training sessions were provided for new DSCs on the legal position of Catholic schools and all the relevant CES legal guidance, CES policies and CES employment contracts which the dioceses use in their schools to safeguard the Catholic character. All these model documents were reviewed in 2016 so that they were fit for purpose.

Governance in Catholic Sixth Form Colleges

The CES worked on a Code of Good Governance for use in Catholic sixth form colleges as the existing documents were not suitable for use in the Catholic sector.

Lay Chaplains

A working group was established to look at the possibility of creating a lay chaplain job description and possible recommendations on pay and conditions. The CES participated in a lay chaplains training day in September to look at the ways in which CES documents already provide for lay chaplains and to identify areas where we may be able to assist going forward.

Academies

The CES established a new academies working group open to all DSCs and relevant colleagues. The group considered the different academy trust models of different dioceses to determine which model worked best. This enabled CES to produce best practice guidance on the characteristics of a successful Catholic MAT, including successful legal structures, taking into account the findings and determinations of the working group. The CES has also met with some dioceses and specific religious orders and their schools to discuss the future of the particular schools.

Capital and Land

The CES has worked closely with the DfE about the pooling of LCVAP at a diocesan level rather than on the basis of local authority areas. The CES has also had discussions with the DfE about the production of updated guidance on Trustee land. A first draft of the guidance document has now been received from the DfE.

Accounting Treatment of Church Assets occupied by Academies

The CES worked with the Education Funding Agency (EFA) and a number of auditors. The EFA has appointed a firm of auditors to carry out an external and independent technical review. The CES and National Society met with the auditors who are undertaking the review. We anticipate a report to the EFA will be forthcoming soon. The CES and the National Society will consider next steps once the report from the review is available.

Legal Database

There is an ongoing project to accumulate all CES guidance, to monitor its accuracy and relevance, and to ensure it is updated where necessary. This project also extends to creating a database of all useful CES legal advices and external guidance documents so that they are housed centrally.



Higher Education



“The CES provides essential support and guidance to St Mary’s as we develop our academic offer and strengthen our Catholic mission.”

*Francis Campbell,
Vice Chancellor, St Mary’s University*

The CES plays an invaluable role in providing a voice to the 16 Catholic universities, colleges and higher education institutions in England and Wales.

The CES also plays a pivotal role in representing the four Catholic universities in the Cathedrals Group, a collective of the many Church-based universities in the country.

Other successes include:

Engagement with Universities and the Cathedrals Group

The CES worked closely with the Catholic universities and the Cathedrals Group on a number of issues. These include responding to the Government's consultations on higher education, membership of two recently established working groups (Deans of Education and Deans of Research) and leading collaborative research among theologians in support of A Level and GCSE RE reform.

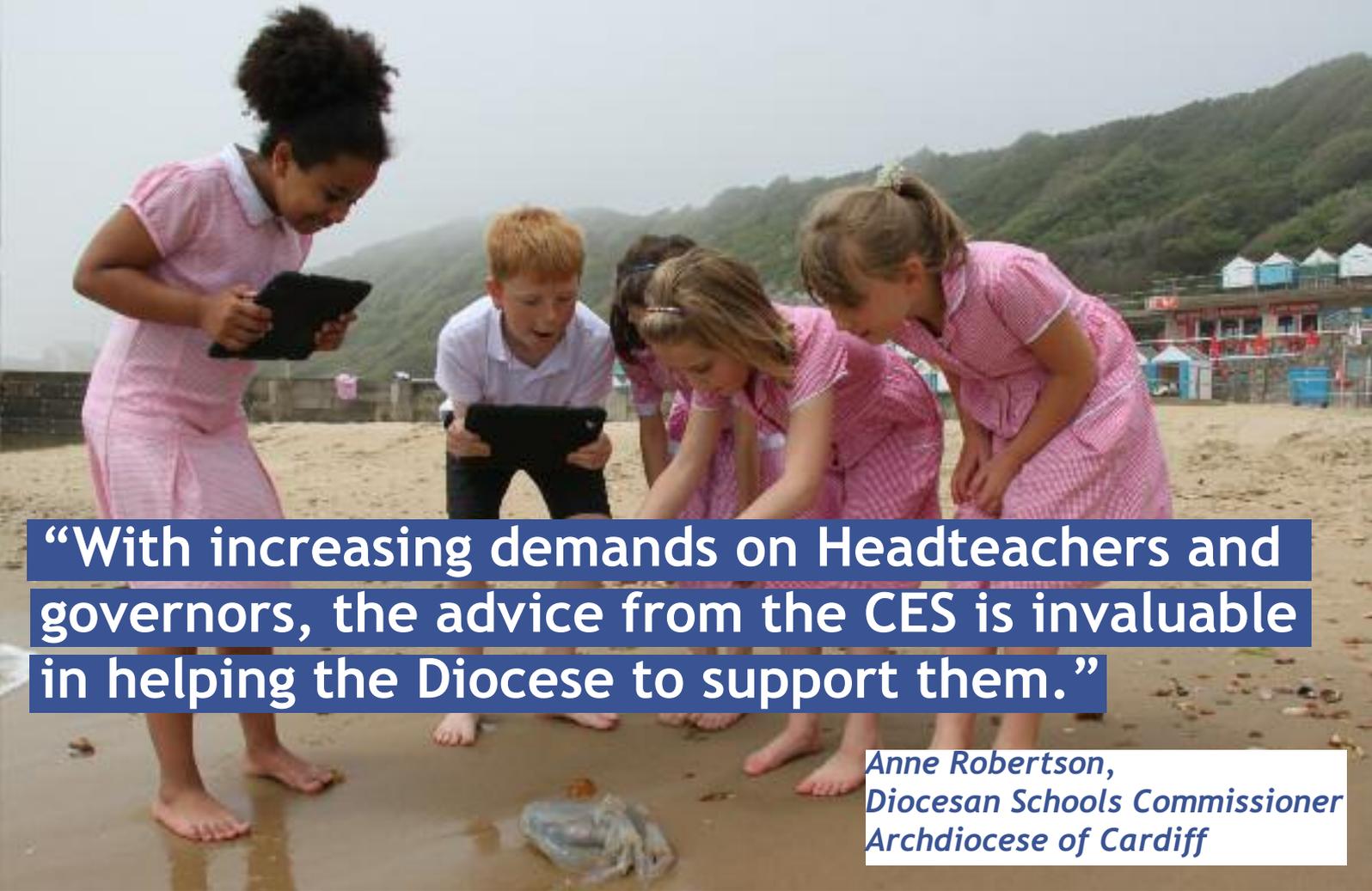
The CES has agreed to carry out an audit of the governing documents of the Cathedrals Group Universities with particular reference to the connections between the institutions and their founding Churches. This will build on the work on the constitutional structures of the Catholic universities.

Teaching Excellence Framework

The focus of the CES's Higher Education (HE) work has been on the new Teaching Excellence Framework. This framework focuses on improving the quality of the student experience and access to higher education. The CES remains concerned that the emphasis on market forces and the fast tracking of emerging private providers to university title could pose problems for Catholic universities as they compete to recruit students.

Representing Catholic Higher Education

The CES has given presentations on Catholic Higher Education and has continued its involvement in governance with representatives on the Councils of Liverpool Hope University and the Margaret Beaufort Institute.



“With increasing demands on Headteachers and governors, the advice from the CES is invaluable in helping the Diocese to support them.”

*Anne Robertson,
Diocesan Schools Commissioner
Archdiocese of Cardiff*

Wales



The CES represents the 88 Welsh Catholic schools to the devolved Government, Assembly and Civil Service.

It also represents the Church's schools in Wales to the country's inspectorate, ESTYN and other important groups.

Other successes include:

Building Relationships with Assembly Members

The CES provided a response to the most recent Children, Young People and Education (CYPE) committee consultation on future lines of enquiry in Wales. The CES has furthered relationships with members by attending key cross-party meetings focusing on children, faith and looked-after children.

Partnership with the Welsh Government

The CES had meetings with the Welsh Government on a variety of issues including the lack of funding for VA schools, planned changes to school governance and the proposed changes to the school organisation code.

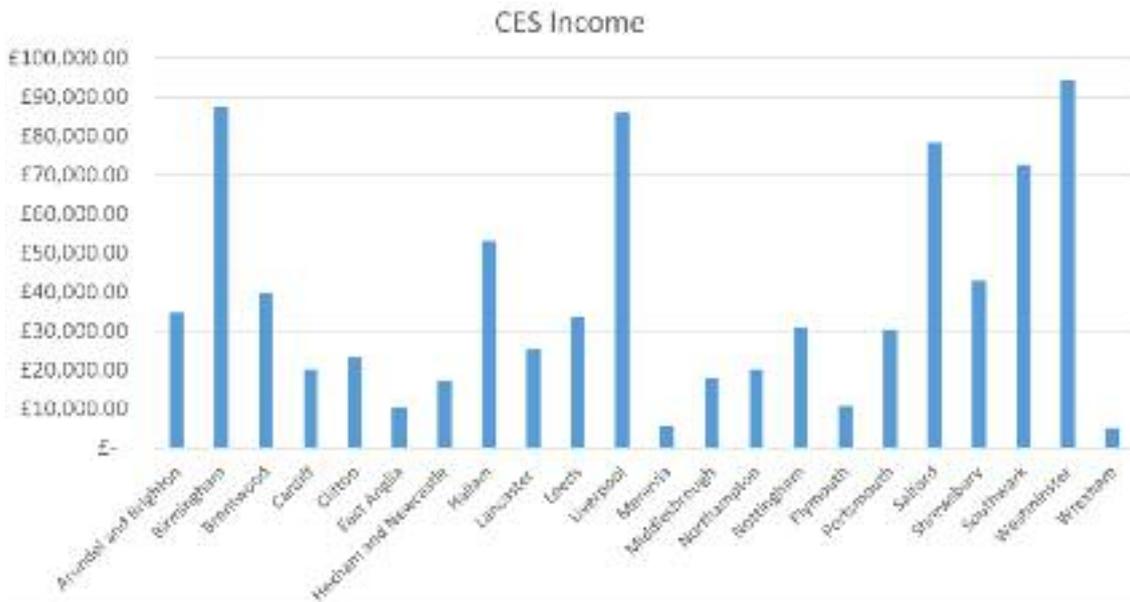
The CES also attended the Association of Directors of education in Wales (ADEW) national executive strategic meeting with Welsh Government officials. Agenda items included, the new curriculum in Wales, changes to the Additional Learning Needs Code, the devolution of national teachers' pay and its impact on Wales.

Membership of external groups

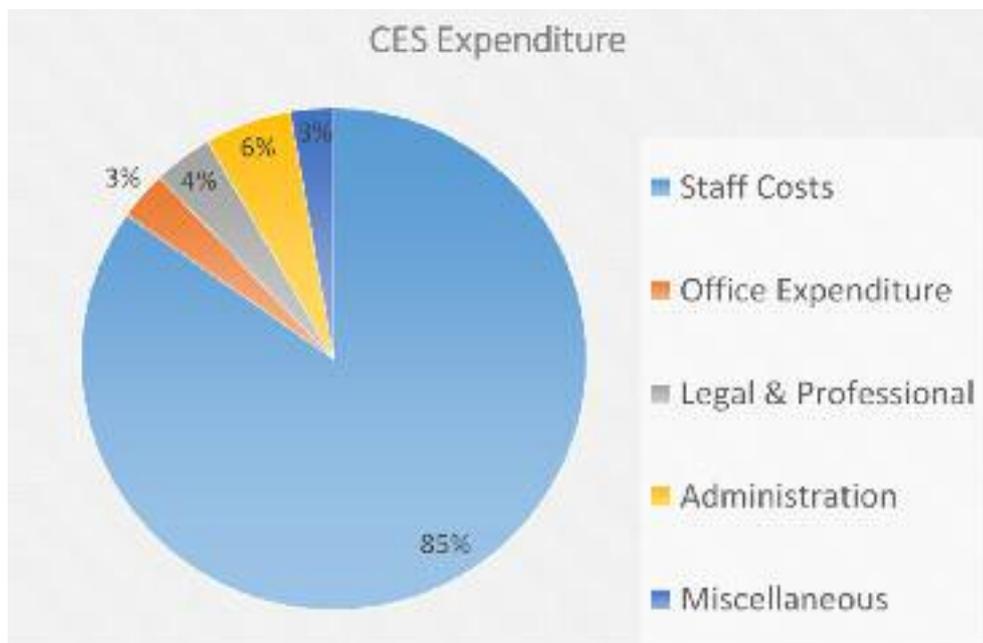
The CES participated in the Estyn Stakeholders Groups, Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) Stakeholders Group and Workforce Council meetings and our ongoing work with the Interfaith Council for Wales, Cytun Public Affairs Group and the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action continues.

Finance

The CES is funded by a Bishops' Conference approved annual levy on each diocese to support the work of their education agency. The CES levy is based on the number of pupils in Catholic schools in the diocese. The money collected from dioceses every year to fund the CES is supported by the CES annual collection which is taken throughout the country on Education Sunday: this collection was first established by the Bishops in 1848, and still results in some individual donations directly to the CES. Since 1849, a plenary indulgence has been available to all subscribers to the CES who fulfilled the usual conditions within the Octaves of the Feasts of the Sacred Heart, of St George, or St Edward the Confessor.



The full accounts for the CES are now consolidated with those of the Bishops' Conference as part of the statutory accounts of the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW) with which we share Trustees. The CES continues as a distinct organisation alongside the Bishops' Conference, and is committed to the highest levels of financial accountability and transparency, hence the publication of this separate summary of income and expenditure.





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