



Church of England Central Education Trust



Transforming learning, transforming lives and transforming the church community



**Colin Hopkins**  
Director of Education  
Diocese of Lichfield

# Introduction

The Church of England Central Education Trust (CECET) is a unique and forward thinking strategic partnership which brings together the Dioceses of Birmingham and Lichfield and the University of Wolverhampton.

CECET's purposes are threefold:

- (i) to secure high standards so that all children and young people can achieve;
- (ii) to provide a strong framework for school improvement and the professional development of school staff and leaders; and
- (iii) to facilitate the systematic expansion of academies and other new educational structures and partnerships.

Our aim is that all church schools should be at least good schools where children can be offered the richness of experience that the Christian tradition supports.

## Our Core Values

- A**ccountable To our parishes, schools and the Diocese; and to the DfE and other partners.
- F**oundational Building all our plans, priorities and structures on Christ, the Sure Foundation.
- F**ormational Helping to grow the Church community, so that all can become leaders.
- I**ntentional Striving to be the best we can be; being confident of our calling in education.
- R**elational Working through partnership, openness to others and mutual support.
- M**issional Being outward looking to the communities we serve; proclaiming Jesus as Lord.
- S**ustainable Laying roots that will flourish; being mindful of our stewardship of resources.

## Our Mission Statement

**“ We believe:**

- All schools can improve to become good and outstanding.
- All pupils have the right to the best education that can be provided so that standards continually rise resulting in all children and young people achieving their best.
- All children and young people in our care have an entitlement to spiritual care and guidance. By continuing and developing the historical role of the church in education we will champion the ethos and values enabling children and young people clearly to identify themselves as children of God.
- All staff and governors should have access to support for their spiritual welfare.
- All staff have access to a well-planned and strong career progression route. This professional development will be tailored to meet the needs of the school and the individual teacher, resulting in a professional body of the highest quality.
- Presence, partnership and participation of schools and their leaders will bring about significant improvement and help to develop system leaders of the future.

**”**



# Educational Vision

Our vision is founded upon our uniqueness in promoting a distinctively Christian approach to education alongside a systematic approach to sustained and continual improvement of the outcomes for children and young people.

Within our strategy schools will themselves become an extension of school improvement supporting other individual schools, or groups of schools, within a family network. This strategy embraces senior leaders, governors and teachers.

Professional development is a key strand of CECET's future plans, and we will provide quality training and support to ensure teaching is never less than good. The implementation of a Professional Development Framework and Entitlement for all staff, in partnership with the University, will also include a 'Growing Church School Leaders for the Future' programme.

1. CECET will provide high quality continuous professional development for all staff, with the involvement of external partners and providers. Our commitment is to secure a stable and effective succession planning process using innovative styles and structures of leadership for church schools.
2. CECET recognises that leaders and staff are key agents of change and we will work collaboratively to secure the best possible outcomes for pupils, staff, parents and the community.
3. CECET will actively promote and support the development of thriving learning communities and will work relentlessly to enrich and enhance parental engagement, strengthening the role of school within the community and parish.



## Principles of our Approach

- A recognition that, while the Diocese is accountable for overall standards, it is **the school and its Governors who are accountable for the standards achieved by its pupils**;
- Recognition that **improvement comes first and foremost through high quality teaching** from committed and professional teachers whose skills and competence are recognised and respected and their professional development supported;
- Recognition that **the improvement process is a collaborative one**, requiring communication and co-operation within the school and between the school and its partners and the wider community that it serves;
- **Equity of access and equity of provision**, as well as a continuum of provision for diversity of need;
- Acceptance of **the importance of effective leadership** (Senior Leaders and Governors) – having a clear vision and high expectations for pupils as well as the skills to translate that vision and those expectations into reality;
- Recognition that **every school is capable of improvement**; that the school is best placed to identify particular areas for improvement; and that sustained improvement comes from within the school;
- Acceptance that **strong support from their governors is vital** in ensuring that schools can deliver sustained improvement;
- Recognition that there will at times be a need for an external view of progress; that (keeping pupils' needs at the centre of our focus) interventions may sometimes be required to ensure that **poor quality educational experiences are not allowed to continue**.

Every school a good school

“ This is an extremely exciting opportunity to work together to develop a range of accredited CPD opportunities which will enhance and develop both teachers' skills and experiences and also a career pathway to plan their future development. ”

**Sir Geoff Hampton**  
University of Wolverhampton



## CECET will:

1. Be the champion of our children, families and their communities;
2. Value and support all staff to succeed through quality professional development opportunities;
3. Facilitate creative and local solutions to secure rapid improvement in schools;
4. Support our schools on their journey to excellence through effective challenge and support;
5. Be committed to supporting schools with the greatest need so that they can succeed as well as others;
6. Act swiftly to challenge governors and Headteachers to improve their school's performance with integrity and transparency in the use of our intervention powers;
7. Celebrate the success of our schools;
8. Work closely with school leaders to extend the provision of school to school support at all levels.

“ The shared values and commitment of all CECET partners to ensure excellence in school provision reflects the long tradition of the Church of England as a provider of quality school places. ”

**Jackie Hughes**

Diocese of Birmingham Director of Education

## Partnerships

CECET will maximise the support of agreed partnerships, who will be available to provide a range of quality services to schools.



### Wolverhampton University

- Continued Professional Development
- Accredited Leadership Programmes



### Improve Education

- Termly seminars for English and mathematics
- Subject leaders and bespoke support for schools
- Development of Lead Teachers



### Education Central

- Teaching & learning programmes
- CPD programmes
- Provide subject networks
- Career progression frameworks



### The drb Group

- School improvement services
- Financial and other technical services



### C to G Training

- Support and training for Chairs of Governors and clerks
- Governor Reviews



### 'From Good to Outstanding'

- Training for groups or individual schools
- Focussing on all aspects of the quality of teaching



### Different Class

- Data and tracking systems



### LA ICT Service & Support

- Flexible technical support for ICT systems



### Holte School

- Leadership and middle leader development



### Britannia Teaching School Alliance

- Teaching and Learning Coaching

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