

## Jerusalem Trust Education Strategy

The Jerusalem Trust's priority areas in its Education category are:

- The development of Christian **curriculum resource materials** for schools in RE and other subjects.
- The **support, training and retention of Christian teachers** in all subjects and lay training.
- Projects which encourage **Christians in leadership** in schools.

The Trust currently commits **30% of its budget** to Christian Education, and in the last two years has approved funding of **£1,865,000 to 29 grants**.

To illustrate the range and strategic impact of the Trust's grants we have described below how they might be used in a typical community's schools and colleges. Our notional community has a Church of England primary school, an academy, a joint Catholic/Anglican secondary and a sixth form college all of which have staff who draw on Jerusalem grants. Several active churches in the area have volunteers who are involved with the schools.

Alongside the descriptions of how the Trust's support is enhancing Christian education in the community, the coloured boxes show the purpose and amounts of the grants the Trust has made in the period under review. The relevant text is in a matching colour.

At the secondary school, there is a new RE teacher who was **supported by a bursary** during her teacher training course. She is the only trained RE teacher in the school, but is supported by both **the mentoring of an experienced teacher** at a neighbouring school and a number of the **training events run by the Diocese**. She also takes advantage of the resources **available through REOnline**, using the online forum to get advice from experts, as well as more detailed teaching plans.

Bursaries for RE initial teacher training students - £80,000 in 2012 and £200,000 over two years from 2013.

Mentoring for newly qualified RE teachers by the members of the National Association of RE Teachers - £92,000 over three years from 2013.

National Society for Promoting RE - £250,000 in 2011 towards the Church School of the Future as outlined in the Chadwick Review (this grant runs throughout the paper and is always highlighted in pink).

REOnline - £40,000 over two years from 2012 to Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

Aware of the paucity of the school's RE resources, she has applied for **a small grant of £600**

Small grants scheme of £60,000 annually to allow schools to buy Christian resources with grants of up to £600.

Getting to Good in RE - a consultancy to reach 100 struggling schools - £60,000 over two years from 2014.

to improve her library of books on Christianity. As the school's RE was assessed as 'requiring improvement' at the last Ofsted inspection she is also benefitting from a consultant's support under the **Getting to Good in RE** scheme.

RE Council - £50,000 in 2012 towards the costs of a review of the teaching of RE in the National Curriculum.

Culham St Gabriel's Trust: 3forRE bursary scheme for practising teachers to take MAs – £40,000 over 2 years from 2013.

Her mentor has been teaching for four years and is looking at the next steps in her own professional development. She is a member of the National Association of RE Teachers, and has been involved in a number of their events, including submitting her

thoughts to the [RE Council's review](#). To enhance her career prospects she is taking an MA, and as her school is able to contribute a small amount of the funding, she has been awarded a [3forRE bursary](#).

The church schools have had a number of visits from the [Diocesan Schools Improvement officer](#), newly appointed under the [Church School of the Future scheme](#), whose job it is to work with the schools to ensure that the teaching is excellent across the curriculum.

Every week at both schools, local church leaders give an assembly and lead RE lessons on Christianity. Church volunteers have benefitted

Schoolswork.co.uk training for Christian schools workers - £38,810 over two years from 2010 (initial grant £65,000 over two years from 2009).

from [schoolswork.co.uk's training courses](#) on RE curriculums and gained confidence in working with adolescents, and have now become an established presence.

At the academy, RE has also been under scrutiny. While it is not required to follow the National Curriculum, it does need a coherent teaching plan. The academy has been helped

Supporting and improving the quality of RE teaching in new academies and teaching schools – to RE Today - £95,000 over 3 years in 2012

by a [consultancy from RE Today](#), where the RE teacher has been able to deepen her expertise in RE and strengthen the quality of her teaching.

One of the projects that the academy has been involved in is [Prayer Spaces in Schools](#), a week-long project where

Prayer Spaces in Schools – a one-off grant in 2012 of £24,540

one room is set aside so that the children can learn about prayer. This is integrated into the teaching across the academy and the teacher hopes that she will be able to book it again next year.

Both the academy and the joint churches comprehensive are supported by an initiative set up by the local churches in one of their church halls to support children at risk of exclusion. The local [Lighthouse Group](#) has provided a twelve week course which involves both basic skills and mentoring with the aim of integrating the children back into school and into mainstream teaching. As well as teaching, each child has a mentor, a trained volunteer

£105,000 over three years in 2013 to The Lighthouse Group to set up a new centre

from a local church who works alongside them and aims to become their 'significant adult'.

The Anglican primary and the joint church secondary school have been able to send senior staff on [Christian leadership courses](#) devised initially by the Diocese of Coventry. As a result, when there was a vacancy at the primary, the governors were able to recruit a head teacher who had gained leadership skills on the course.

Two grants, both over two years, to Coventry Diocese towards Christian leadership courses - £86,000 in 2009 and £34,000 in 2011

With the changes in education policy, the primary has had the benefit of [an adviser from the Diocese](#) who has been able to help with ensuring their teaching is excellent – they are now waiting for Ofsted with greater confidence than they had before. The only RE adviser in the area is from the diocese, so this also has an impact on the neighbouring secondaries. The diocese has set up [an after-school project](#) working with children whose disadvantaged circumstances mean they are not reaching their potential– this is part of the Archbishop of Canterbury’s initiative to tackle underachievement.

National Society for RE - £122,000 in 2013 towards the costs of seed funding projects aiming to tackle educational underachievement in children from deprived areas.

One of the components of Teaching about Christianity in RE project (£50,540 to Culham St Gabriel’s in 2011 and £48,500 to Oxford University in 2012).

Faces of Faith, a website produced by Transform Newham with the help of a grant of £25,000 over 2 years in 2011

REOnline - £26,500 in 2014 to produce materials for primary teachers.

The RE co-ordinator at the primary is awaiting [the National Society’s new curriculum](#), and has heard that there will be additional training for teachers. Meanwhile, she has been using a series of [video clips produced in Newham](#) in which children from a range of churches and cultures talk about their faith – the aim is to make Christianity relevant by allowing the children to learn from their peers. The co-ordinator is also making use of [REOnline’s section for primary RE](#).

Beyond specific RE lessons, the Anglican primary has been working to integrate its Christian ethos across all its teaching, and having looked at the [Transforming Learning](#) project, is now integrating Christian values throughout the school. The What If learning website and a training course for key staff, run by the diocese, have made a change to how the school brings its Christian foundation to life.

A scheme of small grants to allow dioceses to run Transforming Learning training courses - £30,000 in 2013

As well as having contributions from local church leaders, the primary school has been part of [REInspired](#), where, a year group at a time, the children are able to go to a local church and learn about Christianity through a series of activities. A number of the children are not from church families, so REInspired provides a link for them between churches and school. At the end of their primary school career, each child is given a bible from [Bibles for Children](#).

£50,000 over 2 years in 2013 to allow REInspired to disseminate its model of delivering collaborative church projects of Christian RE to primary schools

£10,000 over two years in 2012 towards the costs of giving out Bibles to children.

Each school's governing body has representatives drawn from the local area and, in the case of the church schools, from the churches. As the demands on governors grow, the need for training and support has increased. The governors at the primary school have had several [governing body training sessions](#) looking at their duty to ensure the Christian ethos of the school is maintained, and their role as critical friend to the head in improving the teaching across the curriculum.

Courses for governors of Church of England schools funded through a grant of £52,000 in 2013

As an [Oasis academy](#), the council members (Oasis equivalent of governors) have had training and support through the Life Formation courses.

Oasis Community Learning courses for academy council members, including developing Life Formation courses: £56,000 over two years in 2013

National Society for Promoting RE - £52,000 in 2013 towards the costs of developing courses for Church of England school governors.

Liverpool Hope University – courses for governors of schools with a Christian character: £15,000 in 2013 and £35,500 over two years in 2014

Both the primary school and the joint church school have benefited from governor training from the diocese through the [courses set up by the National Society](#), where in each diocese a member of staff has responsibility for recruitment and training of governors. Several of the governors of the joint Catholic/Church of England school have been on the [Liverpool Hope training courses](#).

For their assemblies, teachers draw on the [Spinnaker Trust's](#) online resources and visits from local church leaders.

Spinnaker Trust - £23,000 in 2014 towards the costs of pairing the Spinnaker Trust and Christian Resources into Schools' websites..

Some of these leaders serve on the governing body, and take courses run by [Schoolswork.co.uk](#) to develop their role supporting their local school.

Courses for church leaders, especially newly appointed clergy, on the options for working with schools; a grant of £35,500 in 2013 to Schoolswork.co.uk

All Faiths and None: to support work in FE colleges: £45,000 over two years in 2013

UK Pilgrimage of Trust, Taizé - £20,000 in 2013/14 towards the costs of producing DVDs to encourage school visits.

The Sixth Form College runs sessions on spirituality and faith led by a member of staff trained by [All Faiths and None](#). These sessions allow students to look at how their faith impacts on their everyday life. A group of young people from the college have recently taken part in [a pilgrimage to Taizé](#).

In the sixth form of the academy the reception area has an exhibition from [Dare2Engage – Rage, Despair, Hope](#)

Dare2Engage – a project aimed at Christian spirituality for post 16s: £73,500 over 3 years (a total of £205,200 since 2002)

exploring these emotions through the Book of Job. The academy also offers tutorial groups, run by Dare2Engage. The groups are looking forward to the newest set of resources, titled *Open*, which will look at eight themes (Meaning, Values, Purpose, Forgiveness, Death, Responsibility, Questions and Hypocrisy), each using a practical activity with an mp3 to introduce the subject, raising some open questions and introducing some relevant thinking and wisdom from Christianity.

Within the wider church there are a number of activities for the community to participate in; the Cathedral has a [touch screen guide](#) which allows visitors to understand the building in the context of the Christian faith; there is a [discipleship course for people](#) who have had little access to higher education run by the diocese; and at the local church a study group is looking at the Book of Job with a DVD from [Biblical Frameworks](#).

Christianity and Culture (University of York) - £177,305 over three years in 2010 towards four pilot projects in cathedrals, a DVD and an app for mobiles.

London Diocesan Fund - £60,000 in 2014 towards the salary costs of New Step.

Biblical Frameworks – £10,000 in 2013/14 towards developing resources on the Book of Job.

**We hope this illustrates the purpose and strategic value of the Jerusalem Trust's recent grants, showing how the Trust has addressed its priority areas in this category.**