



About Us.



Introduction

The Diocese of Blackburn's Board of Education is responsible for supporting and developing church schools within the diocese. It plays a crucial role in maintaining and enhancing the Christian character of these schools while ensuring high-quality education. In addition to its primary focus on church schools, the Board of Education also extends its support to Children and Youth Ministry across the diocese and provides chaplaincy services in universities.

BDBE's Main Functions:

- Overseeing and supporting church schools in the diocese
- Promoting Christian values and distinctiveness in education
- Providing guidance on Religious Education (RE) curriculum
- Assisting with school governance and leadership
- Supporting school improvement initiatives
- Supporting Children and Youth Ministry across the diocese
- Providing chaplaincy services in universities

What difference can you make?

The Board of Education has the strategic oversight of all the diocesan work around children and young people. This includes parish work, schools work and work in universities. Any member of the board can help to shape policy and practice for the diocese relating to each of these areas.

Commitment required

Four meetings per year for 1-2 hours and three committee meetings per year for 1-2 hours. A mixture of face to face and zoom meetings.



For a director of the Board of Education, several key skills and areas of expertise would be valuable:

- **Understanding of RE curriculum:** A deep knowledge of religious education, particularly from a Christian perspective, is essential. This includes familiarity with current RE teaching methods and curriculum development.
- **Experience with collective worship:** Expertise in planning and implementing meaningful collective worship in schools, which is a crucial aspect of Christian distinctiveness.
- **Knowledge of Christian distinctiveness:** A thorough understanding of how to maintain and enhance the Christian character of schools while promoting inclusive education.
- **Children and youth work experience:** Familiarity with child development, safeguarding practices, and effective engagement strategies for young people.
- **Charity management skills:** Experience in running or overseeing charitable organisations, particularly in areas related to education.
- **Building and development expertise:** Knowledge of property management, development projects, and maintenance of school buildings.
- **Educational leadership:** Experience in school leadership or governance, with an understanding of educational policies and best practices.
- **Strategic planning:** Ability to develop and implement long-term strategies for school improvement and growth.
- **Stakeholder engagement:** Skills in working with various stakeholders, including school leaders, governors, parents, and local communities.
- **Financial management:** Understanding of budgeting and financial oversight, particularly in the context of educational institutions and charities.

A director with a combination of these skills would be well-equipped to contribute effectively to the Board of Education's mission of supporting and developing church schools while maintaining their Christian ethos and educational excellence.