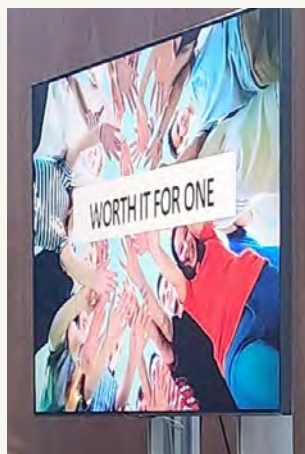


Children's Youth & Families Newsletter July 25

RECOGNISE



It was a privilege to attend the Recognise celebration at Lambeth Palace earlier this month.

As part of #Project30K, the day was to celebrate and thank CYF ministers from across The Church of England.

We were reminded that all we do, whether for many or for few, it is "worth it for the one".

Please take some time to watch **this short video**.

And please know what you do matters.
Thank you.

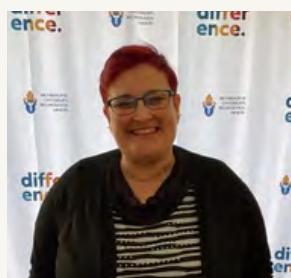


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Networking



Anglo-Catholic CYF Workers Network

Tuesday 23 September at 7.30pm on Zoom

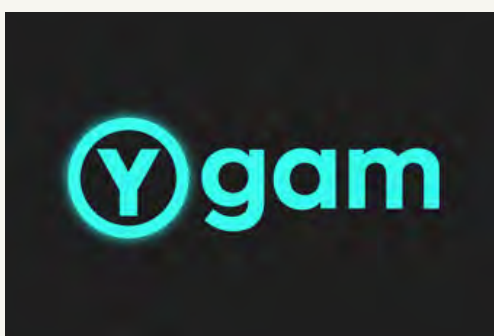
To register your place, email Clare
clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com

Date for your diary:

**In person conference,
7th - 9th November**

A national network for anyone - laity or clergy - involved in voluntary or paid positions, who are involved in ministry with young people.

Training




“**Ygam** offers FREE, City & Guilds assured workshops on gaming and gambling harms, specifically designed for **community and faith leaders** working with young people from marginalised communities. We recognise the vital role that community and faith organisations play in supporting and guiding youth, especially those who may be affected by gaming and gambling harms. Our workshops address issues such as stigma and shame and provide insights into the socio-cultural and religious contexts of gaming and gambling.

The training covers:

- 🎮 Gaming and Gambling Harms 🧠 Mental Health and Wellbeing
- 🌍 The Role of Religion and Culture 📺 Marketing and Sponsorship
- 🚩 Spotting Signs of Harm 🆘 Signposting Help and Support

How to take part:

 17 Join one of our upcoming 2.5 Hr online Teams sessions: Communities and Faith Leaders Programme

Training



An angry face with tears flowing, a grey cloud, a computer screen showing an error message. These are some of the things placed into the landscape of our feelings created during a recent OutoftheBox session in the grounds of Southwell Minster.

Over lunchtime after the morning service hospital chaplain, Monika Doering, and Kate Caroe shared an OutoftheBox story in the Palace Gardens with some OutoftheBox members and some of the children from Steel City Choristers. The story was called 'Being With', about a person who builds something they are proud of which then collapses, and how their friend tries to help them with their response. We wondered about how the story made us feel and what that might mean for us: what we liked and didn't like, what we felt drawn to and where we felt some resistance, and what the story reminded us of. We then tidied the story away and created a landscape that visualised how we feel when something important to us goes wrong. The storyteller held a space that was accepting, gentle, playful and respectful, and open to exploring people's responses without judgement.

OutoftheBox is a way of using stories and play to facilitate a search for wisdom and wellbeing for people of all ages. We help people rediscover the power of stories and play to open our imagination and awaken our soul. Our stories are simple and yet profound, drawing on wisdom from myths, legends, traditional tales, children's literature and various faith traditions. They are carefully scripted and told in a way that keeps them open to interpretation so that you can listen with your heart, and explore through playful dialogue what they might mean for you and your community.

The OutoftheBox process creates space for people to respond authentically whatever their personal beliefs or values, because it is through honest and open-hearted engagement that growth can come. In this way, OutoftheBox can be purely secular or deeply spiritual, or a mix of the two where no divide is seen. We trust each person to know what they need and to know what their work is to do. OutoftheBox is being used wherever people need to connect with themselves, each other, nature and perhaps something beyond our knowing (which some may call the Divine): in care homes, community centres, churches, hospitals, prisons, schools, therapeutic settings and workplaces.

The landscapes we created in the gardens at Southwell evolved through our exploration, which went through twists and turns and touched on all sorts of pertinent issues - sometimes directly, sometimes tangentially or in metaphor. By the end, the angry face had transformed into a smile, stars appeared as pinpricks of light in the sky, a donkey was there to carry some of the load, and a figure was resting and appreciating beauty. OutoftheBox was clearly helping people not just to express, but also to work through their thoughts and feelings and to explore new perspectives.

Training



TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE TO BOOK NOW!

OutoftheBox

Wisdom • Wonder • Wellbeing

Learn the art of OutoftheBox by joining one of our upcoming training courses.

Online: six evening sessions

- Wednesdays at 7pm GMT, starting 17th September

In person: two whole-day sessions

- Friday 3rd - Saturday 4th October 2025 at Downing Place URC, Cambridge
- Friday 7th - Saturday 8th November 2025 at Burnopfield Methodist Church, County Durham
- Wednesday 6th - Thursday 7th May 2026 at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, near Oxford

For more information and to book your place, visit:

outoftheboxstories.org.uk/book-now



Thursday 24 July 2025

7.30 – 9.00 pm

You can register for this event, discover more and check out the Messy Church blog [here](#).

Share YOUR Story

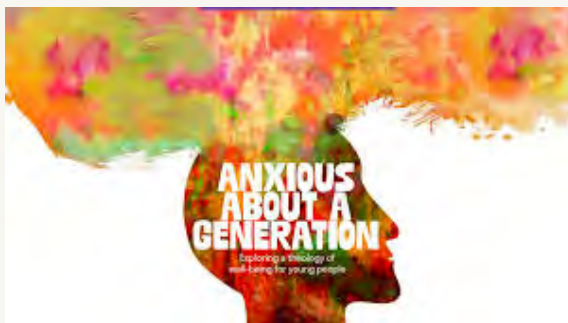
We would love to hear from you about what exciting projects you are working on and what God is doing across the Diocese.

It could be a new group, church service, family event, youth outreach, messy church, holiday club whatever it is we want to hear about it.

Send us a couple of 100 words and some photographs and we'll share it to celebrate, inspire and encourage each other.

micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org

Training



Catch up with the latest St Mellitus lecture:

Anxious About A Generation - A Lecture by Prof. Andrew Root

In this year's lecture Prof Andrew Root takes us on a journey of theological and cultural analysis to unpick the idol of exceptionalism in order that we might be equipped to help young people discover an identity not based on their own ability to stand out but in the creativity of the God who made them in His own image.

Drawing on the Psalms and the craft of poetry as an example of creative expression that lifts our gaze outward, rather than turning us further inward, Root demonstrates how such a theological understanding leads to creative practices that might embody a form of good news, and an antidote to anxiety, for young people today.



Scripture Union

Online **Schoolswork** Training

Wednesday 10th September

“Our schools training sessions include the following:

Session 1: Introduction

Session 2: Thinking strategically

Session 3: Collective Worship

Session 4: Explore opportunities (clubs, lessons, workshops)

Session 5: Resources in action

Session 6: Love your school

To access these free online training sessions, you will need to have signed up to receive Mission Support from Scripture Union.

Discover more about Mission Support and how, together, we can unlock the full potential of your outreach to children and young people.”

Resources - Devotions

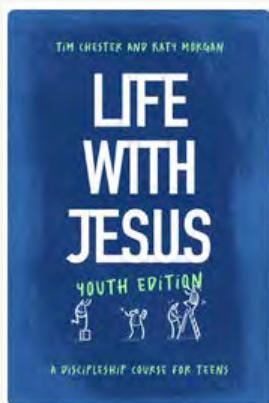
“Living Well:

6 weeks of activity ideas and prayer and reflection resources for families exploring the rhythm of Wonder.



“Summer is a great time to slow down, to be more present and to notice the beauty and wonder that surrounds us. In this resource you will find 6 weeks worth of free activity ideas and family prayer and devotion resources to enable families to have fun together over the summer holidays and enjoy the beauty of God's creation as they explore what it might look like to 'walk with wonder'.

It makes a great take-away resource to give out to families at your church groups - why not print them out as a pressie for each family - or send them the link!”



ISBN

9781802541380

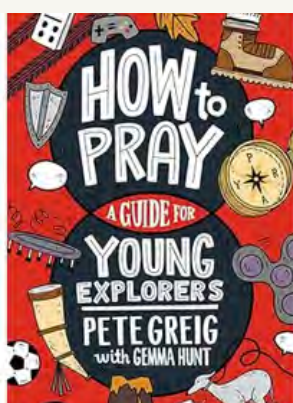
12 week
discipleship
course for teens
“What is it
actually like to
live with Jesus at
the centre of your
life?”



ISBN

9780281082209

“not only suggests
where healthy
boundaries might
lie, but invites
them to see faith
in Christ as the
most exciting,
purpose-finding
and potential-
releasing
adventure
imaginable.”



ISBN

9781529377507

“packed full of
real life stories,
teaching, fun
facts, activities
and inspiration to
get creative and
confident in
prayer.”



ISBN

9780281084234

“Seven core values
of the Christian
life – with God at
the centre –
exploring whether
this in fact is a
much more
fulfilling way to
live.”

Resources

Summer
ideas from
**Muddy
Church**



Summer
ideas from
**Sunhats &
Wellyboots**



Summer ideas from the
Church of England



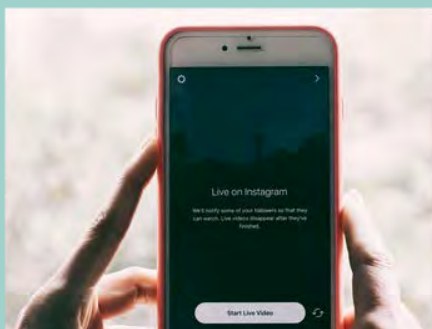
“We live in a messy, hurting, and divided world. For children growing up and working out who they are, it can be especially hard to know how to handle conflict, difference, fear of saying the wrong thing, and the ups and downs of friendships. Children and young people need the opportunity and support to build good relationships with themselves, their peers, and the world around them.

We are so excited to share with you that we have created a suite of Difference resources for use within primary schools (with children ages 3-12) that we’ll be launching this autumn!

These materials have been developed with education experts and school practitioners and piloted by primary schools around the world, including throughout the UK, Canada, and South Africa.”

Discover more about Difference for Primary Schools

Resources




Creating Safer Places Online - from YouthScape & thirtyone:eight

“This is a free **download** of the second version of our online safeguarding guidance document, developed in partnership with independent safeguarding charity thirtyone:eight.

The new edition includes a number of updates and revisions, including an expanded list of risks to consider, some notes on special considerations for looked-after children, and clearer guidance on how to approach different kinds of online youth work interactions safely.”


20 Page Guide for Parents/Carers

FREE!




**TRANSITION TO
MAINSTREAM
SECONDARY SCHOOL**
Supporting Autistic Young People

A Guide for Parents/Carers
by Jess Garner Founder/Director of GROVE



SCAN ME



COMMUNICATION WITH THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

As we move forward with supporting transition, sometimes it might be the best of you to have a particular member of your Learning Partnership to us. We have some very, some may need for a job title of 'Transition Lead' or such like.

GPP: Find out who is leading

Using the GPP should be central to your young person's transition and it is essential to know what their contact details are. Depending on the size of the school there may also be an Assistant Head or a Head of Department for their team. Get all of their contact details. Have secondary email addresses on their website but if you get cut off or email becomes not work.

If any staff involved in transition are leaving at the end of term and what plans are in place for managing this with regard your child.

Using the transition lead, Head of Year and the GPP only all communication during the transition.

With every day in your child's life is going to be. The future can be a really great prospect. Support your child as they will see their every day life from the responsibility of managing their personal experience at school guided by the Head of Year. If you do know who they are then it's worth of being there or not.

GPP: Don't assume your primary school has shared everything. The various reasons this might not happen so it's worth considering taking on this responsibility yourself.

