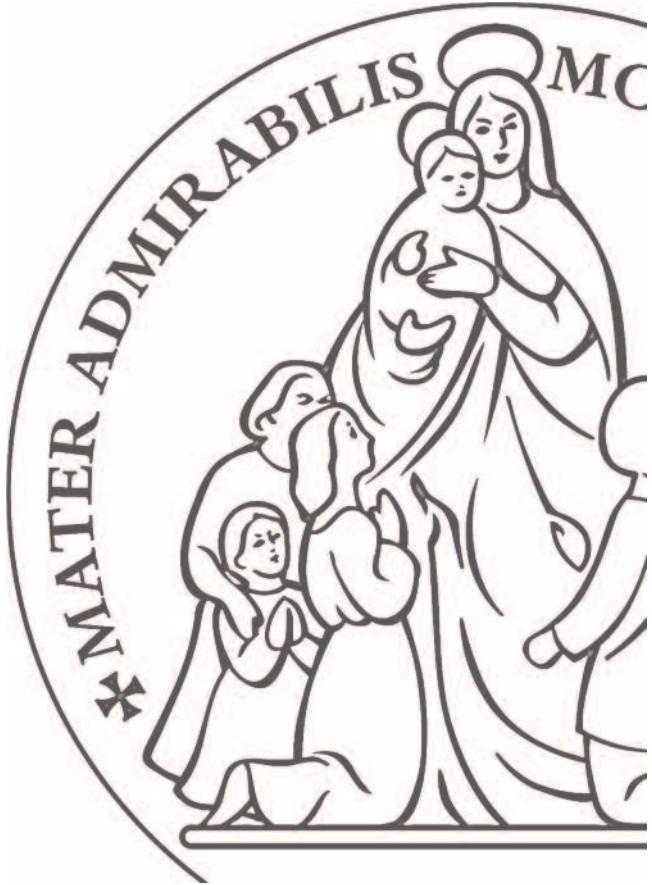




The 170th Annual Report of the Catholic Education Service



***'For where two or three
are gathered in my name, I
am there among them.'***

Matthew 18:20

(Liturgy from Education Sunday 2017)



Catholic Education Service
Supporting Catholic Education Since 1847

39 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1BX
020 7901 1900
www.catholiceducation.org.uk



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The CES Management Committee



Chairman

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



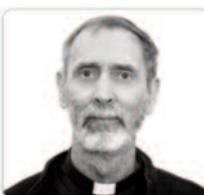
The Right Reverend Terrence Drainey
Bishop of Middlesbrough



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



The Right Reverend Marcus Stock
Bishop of Leeds



The Right Reverend Alan Williams SM
Bishop of Brentwood

The Very Reverend John Weatherill

Mrs Kate Griffin

Foreword



I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report of the Catholic Education Service for 2017. This report outlines the essential work that the CES has undertaken and highlights the importance of the CES in promoting the views of the Bishops to the Government and other national agencies, as well as supporting Catholic education in England and Wales.

2017 has been another busy year for Catholic education and we have seen some major successes including a symposium looking at the future of Catholic education, a finalised Certificate of Catholic Practice and the development of a national approach to school inspections.

2017 also hasn't been without its challenges. The Government's behaviour post the General Election has cast doubt on whether they will keep their manifesto commitment on the 50% cap. The fact that more than 18,000 Catholics wrote to the Education Secretary about this not only shows the hard work of the CES in organising this campaign but the depth of feeling our community has for its 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 McMahon 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 Draney, 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, Paul Barber, the Assistant Director (Public Affairs), Marie Southall, 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.

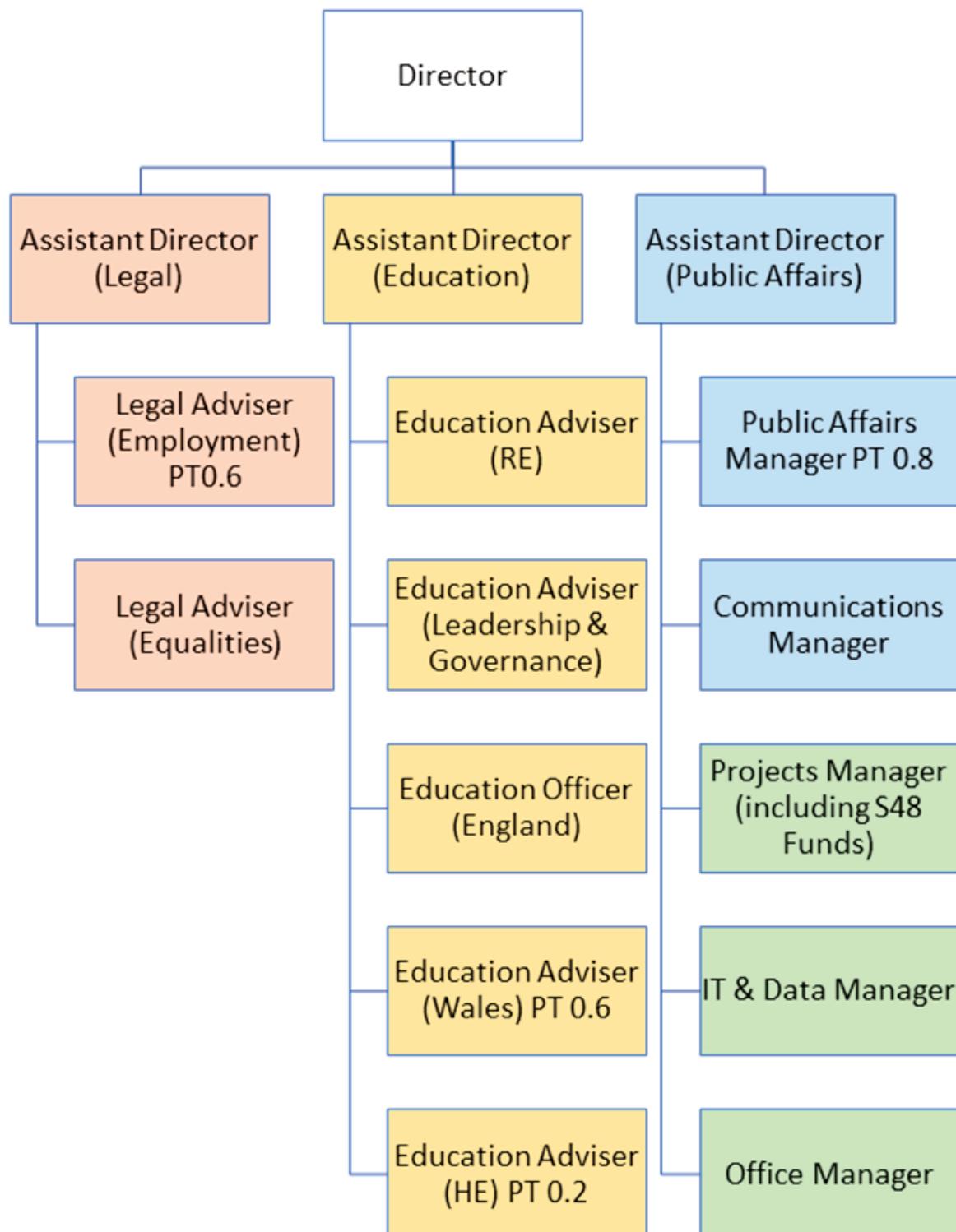


The logos of the Catholic Education Service demonstrating its 170 year history

Catholic Education Service Structure

The CES has adopted a new structure to create a senior leadership team which more accurately reflects the three work streams of the CES; Legal, Education and Public Affairs.

The new structure can be seen below.





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:

366 Secondary Schools

15 Sixth Form Colleges

48 All-through Schools

1,793 Primary Schools

16 Universities Colleges and HE Institutions

Catholic schools make up 10% of the total publicly-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 854,809 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 5.9% in maintained primary schools since 2012 compared to a national increase of 11.2%. In maintained secondary schools the pupil numbers have fallen by 2.7% since 2012 compared with a decrease of 0.4% nationally.

Phase	Maintained	Independent	Total
Primary	451,302	12,498	463,800
Secondary	328,474	9,510	337,984
Tertiary	28,597	0	28,597
All-through	6,505	17,941	24,446
Total	814,878	39,949	<u>854,827</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.

67%
of pupils in
Catholic
Schools* are
Catholic

*State Funded

40%
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

5 and 4%
points higher
than national
average at
KS2 and GCSE
respectively

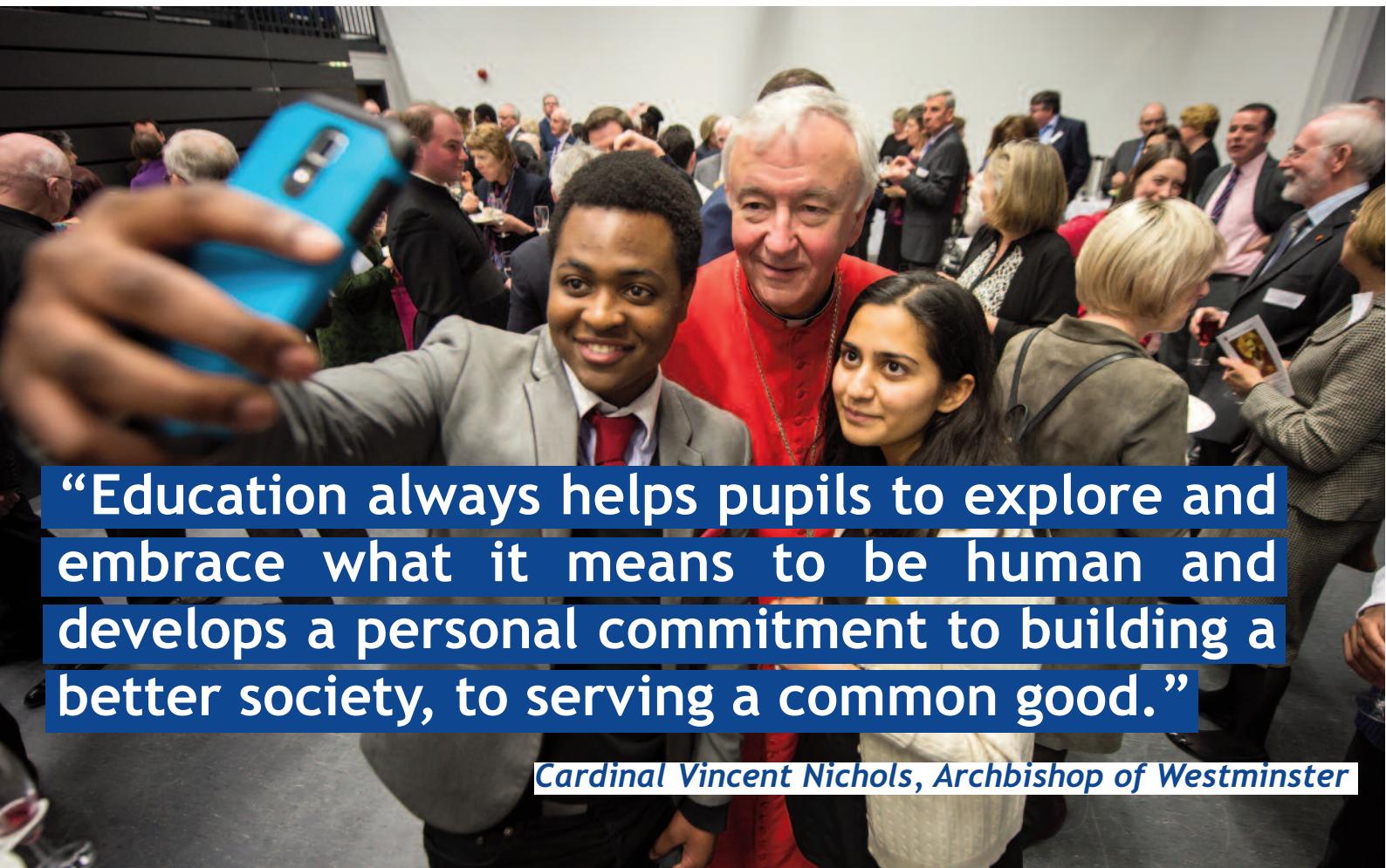
10%
of non-
Catholics in
Catholic
schools are
Muslim



“Through the work of the CES, I am confident we have a strong voice for Catholic education which is heard at the highest level.”

Fr Luiz Ruscillo, DSC, Diocese of Lancaster

Education Policy



“Education always helps pupils to explore and embrace what it means to be human and develops a personal commitment to building a better society, to serving a common good.”

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

After a wide-ranging symposium on the future of Catholic education, the CES formed a Leadership and Governance strategy based on regional hubs named *Formatio*.

The CES also established an Executive Leadership Course which 29 headteachers and executive head teachers have now completed.

Other successes include:

Leadership and Governance

The CES held a Symposium between bishops, diocesan schools' commissioners, financial secretaries and the Catholic universities to discuss the future of Catholic education. Following this a Leadership and Governance strategy based on regional hubs was devised and named *Formatio*.

The regional hubs brought together dioceses, Catholic Universities and Teaching Schools to help form future school leaders and governors. An audit on the roles and funding of DSCs has also been completed. Each diocese has taken part in this and a report on the finding is being produced.

The CES also identified the National Governors' Association as a suitable partner to work with to provide online induction training for all governors in Catholic schools.

Executive Leaders Course

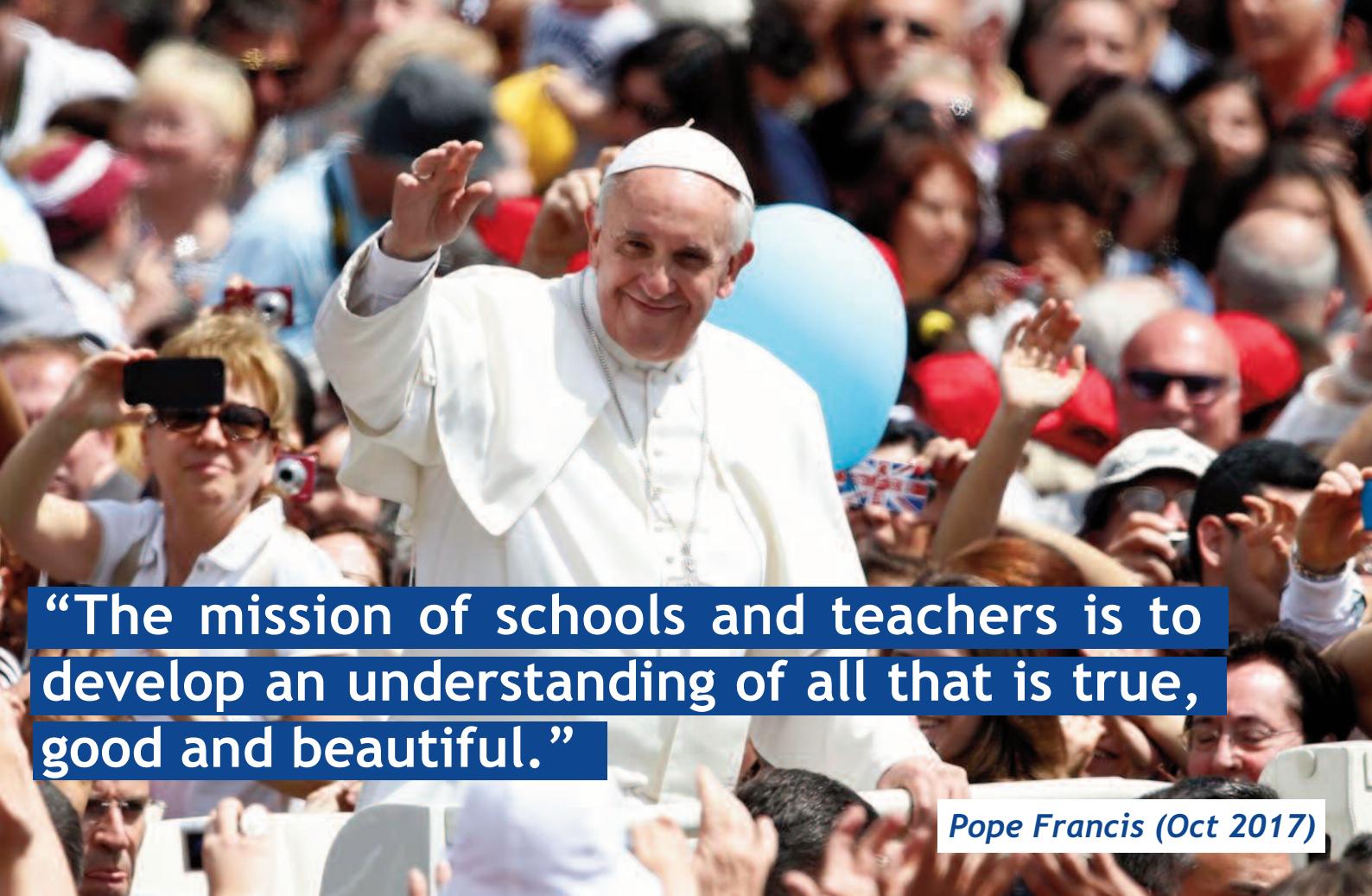
Twenty-nine serving head teachers and executive head teachers completed the Executive Catholic Head teachers' programme run jointly by CES and Ambition School Leadership. The CES worked in partnership with CISC to provide leadership training for serving and potential head teachers from across the sector.

Special Schools

The CES provided ongoing advice regarding possible academy conversion and exploring ways of providing for adequate, long term trusteeship of Catholic Special Schools.

Consultation responses

The CES responded to a number of consultations throughout the year including on the future of school funding.



“The mission of schools and teachers is to develop an understanding of all that is true, good and beautiful.”

Pope Francis (Oct 2017)

Religious Education



The CES developed a working group for a national inspection framework to harmonise statutory and canonical inspections across the dioceses.

The CES, in collaboration with other organisations trialled a new standards document for the Religious Education curriculum in Catholic schools.

Other successes include:

The Commission on Religious Education (CoRE)

The CES has worked closely with the Commission on Religious Education (CoRE) to ensure that any recommendations about the future of RE is compatible with Catholic schools. During the initial consultation period, the CES submitted both written and oral evidence to CoRE.

The Commission met with the CES to assure us that the Catholic Church's distinctive approach to RE would be taken into account in their final report.

Curriculum and Assessment

The CES began developing a national inspection framework for diocesan inspections in accordance with the CES strategic plan. The new framework is designed to promote a convergence of the inspection frameworks across different settings.

The new standards document was trialled and the joint CES/NBRIA working party met regularly to produce a single coherent curriculum and standards document for planned launch in September 2018. In parallel, work was undertaken on revising other aspects of the RECD particularly in light of the new requirements at GCSE

Inspection of Catholic Sixth Form Colleges

Catholic Sixth Form Colleges are now to be inspected like all other sorts of provider regarding provision of RE, Collective Worship and Catholic Ethos. The CES worked with the Association of Catholic Sixth Forms (ACVIC) to develop an inspection document which is appropriate to a Sixth Form context.

Examination reform

The RE adviser continued to work closely with exam boards, publishers, dioceses and the Catholic HEIs in securing that high quality resources and professional development are in place to support the implementation of the new GCSE.



“Catholic schools’ positive contribution to our education is of course exemplary and...make a significant contribution to building a strong and cohesive society.”

Prime Minister, Theresa May
December 2017

Public Affairs



After concerns that the Government was going to u-turn on the 50% Cap, the CES assisted the bishops with a write-in campaign which saw more than 18,000 Catholics contact the Government and their local MP, urging them to keep their promise.

For the fourth year in a row 100% of Catholic schools completed the Catholic schools census. The census remains the most accurate picture of Catholic education in the country.

Other successes include:

Parliamentary Meetings

The CES continued its engaging of MPs and Peers who are public supporters of Catholic schools.

The CES contacted all new MPs to encourage them to visit the Catholic schools in their constituency and support Catholic education. During the Political Party conferences the CES met with MPs and senior researchers to continue our ongoing engagement with parliamentarians.

50% cap and Free Schools

Following the General Election the CES became increasingly concerned that the Government was not going to keep its manifesto commitment to remove the 50% cap on Catholic admissions.

The CES made representations to the Special Adviser (SPAD) on faith at Number 10, Special Adviser (SPAD) on Education at Number 10, the Education Policy Adviser at Number 10 and wrote to the Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening to ensure that the Government continues to support the lifting of the cap.

The CES supported six bishops who wrote to all MPs who have constituencies in their dioceses to ask them to write to the Secretary of State in support of the removal of the cap. This has resulted in meetings and correspondence with SPADs in DfE and No. 10. Catholic MPs were also encouraged to write to the Secretary of State for Education. The CES escalated its work in this role when all the English bishops decided to encourage lay Catholics to write to the Secretary of State to urge her to keep the Government's promise. The CES supported this campaign and saw more than 18,000 Catholics write in.

Relationship and Sex Education

The Government introduced an amendment to the Children and Social Work Bill to introduce Statutory Relationship Education in primary schools and Statutory Relationship and Sex Education in secondary schools (including all academies). The Parental Right of Withdrawal was protected for Sex Education and schools' ability to teach in accordance with their faith has been protected. We worked closely with officials in the DfE who were impressed with the CES model curriculum and wish to use our sector as an example of best practice.

Made in God's Image

The CES' and St Mary's University's anti-homophobic bullying guidance was produced and distributed to dioceses and through them, to schools.

Foundation Governor Resources

The CES produced further resources for dioceses to encourage Catholics to sign up to become Foundation Governors. Additional resources focusing on the 'gatekeepers' who are parish priests and head teachers have also been produced.

Media Engagement

The CES continued to contribute articles to the education, Catholic and national press promoting Catholic education. Proactive coverage was secured in a variety of publications on a range of topics including, Relationship and Sex Education, Religious Education, admissions, and racial and ethnic diversity in Catholic schools. Regular meetings with key journalists were held which resulted in many supportive articles being written, particularly surrounding the 50% cap campaign.

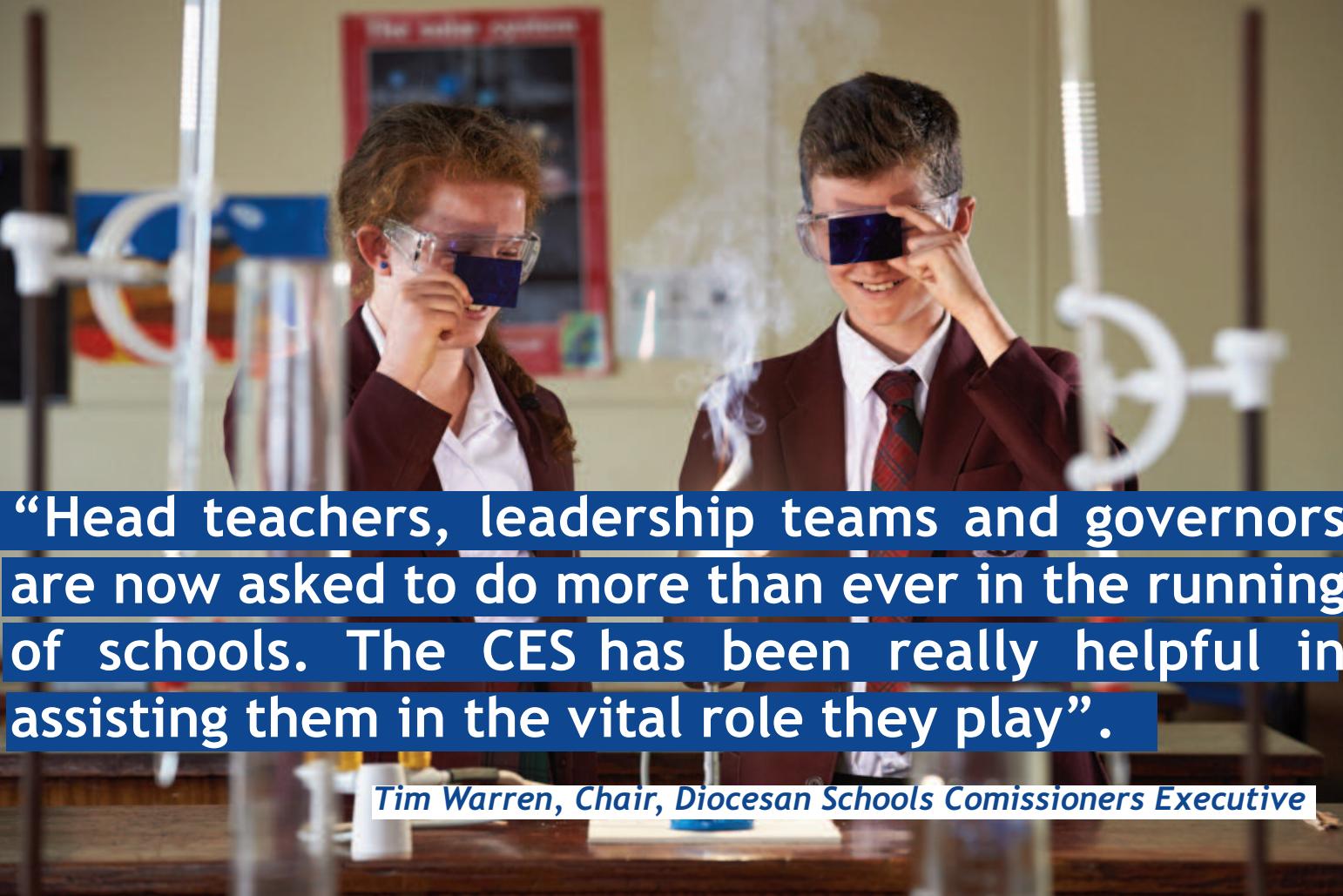
Census

All schools in England and Wales completed the census for the 4th year running and the Annual Census Digest was published in December.

It was agreed that 2018 census will have a minor change to the questions on pupil age, Catholicity and gender. We are also asking for totals of pupils above Year 14, of which there are apparently a few. This change has been made to mirror DfE census totals and also to cure a discrepancy between these totals and the totals for pupil ethnicity.

CES Website

Following a consultation with CES staff and dioceses, modifications were made to improve usability and the visual appeal of the site. The menu has been changed so that the most visited pages can be reached with a minimum of clicks. Images and slideshows are being replaced and improved. Corrections were made to fonts and text colours to ensure consistency.



“Head teachers, leadership teams and governors are now asked to do more than ever in the running of schools. The CES has been really helpful in assisting them in the vital role they play”.

Tim Warren, Chair, Diocesan Schools Commissioners Executive

Legal Support



The CES secured an agreement with the DfE and the Office of the Schools Adjudicator surrounding the definition for the Certificate of Catholic Practice.

The CES also produced a series best practice guidance for schools regarding the successful running of Academies and Multi-Academy Trusts.

Other successes include:

Admissions

Following the conclusion of the judicial review proceedings and the agreement with the Office of the Schools Adjudicator and the DfE on a new definition for the Certificate of Catholic Practice, the CES issued a suite of CES model admission documents, including a model admissions guidance, model admission policies and a model supplementary information form.

Academies

We produced best practice guidance on the tangible, practical examples of a successful Catholic MAT, including successful legal structures. We produced model diocesan protocols on the relationship between governing boards of schools / academies and their diocese. The CES also produced a new model scheme of delegation with accompanying model table of roles and responsibilities and model LGB constitution.

In 2017, the CES hosted a meeting with dioceses to consider how the changes to the educational landscape and the move towards a fully academised system will impact on religious order schools. We also provided support to a number of religious orders, not only in relation to academisation but also other aspects of the responsibilities of trusteeship.

A meeting with the trustees of religious orders that provide schools, and dioceses took place in July. The meeting was well attended and received positively by those in attendance. The consensus from the meeting was for regular meetings to take place. The CES is also convening a working group to plan future meetings and to assist in taking forward any agreed action points arising.

Accounting for church assets occupied by academies

The CES, together with colleagues from the Church of England Education Office, maintained continuous discussions with DfE and ESFA colleagues at the highest level regarding the treatment of Church assets in the Department's consolidated accounts for academies.

FFT Aspire

All English dioceses now have user access and all but one English diocese are using the software. We are now pursuing a similar contract for schools in Wales.

Governance

We produced three versions of a new code of conduct for governing bodies/boards and also produced similar ones for joint Catholic and CofE schools.

Model Employment Documents

We produced new model Senior Executive Leader contracts of employment for schools and academies together with an accompanying drafting note for job description/person specification for the role.

We finalised a new model business manager contract of employment for schools and academies together with the job description/person specification drafting note.



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 initial findings of the Teaching Excellence Framework were extremely positive for Catholic universities with all four obtaining either silver or gold standard.

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

Other successes include:

The CES continued to work closely with the Catholic Universities and the Cathedrals Group on our responses to Government consultations on higher education generally and teacher education more specifically.

The CES Higher Education Adviser remains a Council member at Liverpool Hope University and represented the CES at significant events at St Mary's University, Newman University and Leeds Trinity University. The CES continued its support of the working groups of Pro Vice-Chancellors and Deans of Education set up through the Cathedrals Group to encourage collaboration for mutual benefit.

The first outcomes of the Teaching Excellence Framework published by Government in early summer were controversial in that certain Russell Group Universities and a number of others across the country were graded as Bronze.

The outcomes for the Catholic Universities were positive with three being Silver and Liverpool Hope University achieving Gold. These outcomes are particularly significant in an increasingly competitive environment for student recruitment.

The CES also obtained written assurances from the Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation which will safeguard the provision of any new Ecclesiastical degrees.



“Over the course of the year, the CES provides invaluable advice on a wide range of topics.”

*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:

Partnership with the Welsh Government

The CES had meetings with the Welsh Government on a variety of issues. The CES met with the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams AM in October, with Lynne Neagle AM, Chair of the CYPE committee and with the Director of the Department for Education and Skills.

CES successes in Wales include the learner transport for VA schools, Clear WG statement to LAs on 85% funding for VA schools in Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme and clear WG statement on legislation and RE in the new curriculum for Wales, protecting the Bishops' rights.

Membership of external groups

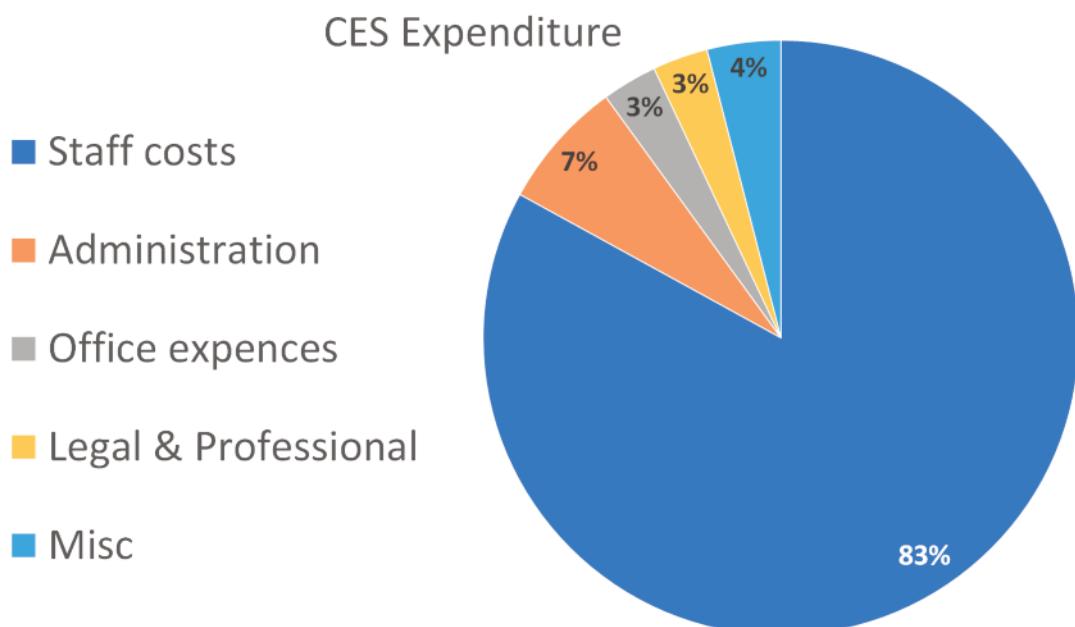
The CES participated in the Estyn Stakeholders Groups, Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) Stakeholders Group and Workforce Council meetings and our ongoing work with the Interfaith Council for Wales, Cytun Public Affairs Group and the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action continues.

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, with which we share Trustees, as part of the statutory accounts of the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW). 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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020 7901 1900
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