Mission in Schools & Church Schools

Tim Elbourne
Director of Education

Promoting life in all its fullness through Education across Essex and East London
God’s Mission ....in which the Church participates

• ‘It is not the Church of God that has a mission in the world, but the God of mission who has a Church in the world’.
  \(\text{Mission Shaped Church}\)

• ‘It is a Christian’s concern for the wholeness of the human being, for the quality of the common life, for the direction in which humanity goes, that turns us towards education.’
  \(\text{World Council of Churches}\)

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Talking Jesus
Perceptions of Jesus, Christians and evangelism in England

Research conducted by Barna Group on behalf of the Church of England, Evangelical Alliance and HOPE

calalliance

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Profile of English Adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry / Career Sector</th>
<th>all English adults</th>
<th>English practising Christians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retired/not employed</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific &amp; technical</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport &amp; storage (inc. post)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, recreation</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information &amp; communication</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation/food service</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; insurance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business admin &amp; support</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public admin &amp; defence</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor trades</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are schools for?

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What if maths created a community in which all could achieve?

What if music helped children to show respect?

What if students learnt about serving through studying transport?

What if learning about flowers led to wonder?

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Deeply Christian Serving the Common Good

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Educating for Hope, and Aspiration

- Jesus and the love he embodies are at the heart of our faith.
- Despite difficulty, disappointment, failure, suffering, tragedy trust and hope in Jesus inspires perseverance, patience, gratitude, openness to surprises, and celebration.
- Life enhancing encounter with Jesus Christ
- Importance of RE (e.g. *Understanding Christianity*) and Worship
- Hope in God’s future stimulates prophetic responses. Combining hope with aspirations for our society crucial to health of society and educational ecology.

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Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills

- Consistent with how God has shaped the world and ourselves
- Hope rooted in God’s wisdom
- Utterly relational
- Grounded in being created in God’s image and love
- “the most adequate framing concept for education... It offers healthily deep, broad and long-term context.”
- New voices “We want the wisdom of such engagements to nourish education in our schools.”

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Educating for Dignity and Respect

- Jesus paid special attention to the disadvantaged, excluded, despised and feared.

- Safeguarding; combating bullying; special needs and disabilities

- Blessing: each person blessed and a blessing

- Creativity: importance of creativity, critical thinking, inspiration, imagination and improvisation

- Joy: play and playfulness, wonder, amazement, fascination and delight

- Reconciling: dealing creatively with difference

- Glory: an “overflow of the divine life, holiness and love”.

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Educating for Community
and Living Well Together

- Centrality of relationships inspired by conviction that the love Jesus taught and lived is at the heart of reality.
- Hospitable communities embodying ethos of living well together
- Character education
- Church of England commitments to
  - Local, regional and national presence
  - Chaplaincies
  - Educational institutions
  - Working with others

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117 Lower Clapton Road Today

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Hackney in 1891;
St John’s Church in centre

Joshua Watson
1781-1855

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Headline Facts and Figures

- About 15 million people alive today went to one
- 4,500 (25%) of all primary and middle schools are CofE
- 220 (6%) secondary schools are CofE
- Church is the biggest sponsor of academies in England
- Over 500 independent schools declare themselves to be CofE
- CofE clergy dedicate a million hours every year to working in schools
- There are 22,500 Foundation Governors in Church schools recruited, trained and supported by dioceses.
- Each diocese has a Diocesan Board of Education supporting Church schools, which represents an annual investment of over £15 million.

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Two: The Stick of Rock Approach
Fully Belonging to Church

Living out a Christian Narrative

Rooted in Christ and Kingdom Values

Worship

Relationships