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## GOING FOR GROWTH

### Transformation for children, young people and the Church

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1. In 2002 and 2003 General Synod endorsed the national strategies for young people and children.<sup>1</sup> Synod requested that the strategies be reviewed after 5 years and a report on their progress brought back to Synod.
2. The Board of Education began the review in 2008, through an extensive consultation of stakeholders, including diocesan Children's Work Advisors, Youth Officers and bishops. In addition Roundtable discussions were held in selected dioceses to seek the views of clergy and those working with children; in partnership with the Children's Society, the views of children and young people were sought using the 'My Church' postcards and synod members were invited to comment through fringe meetings.
3. A Reference Group chaired by Rt Revd Paul Butler, the Archbishops' Advocate for Children, met regularly to review the responses and offer comment.
4. An Interim Report was consulted upon in November 2008, including with the Archbishops' Council, and further work on the text carried out as a result.
5. The Board of Education approved the final report at its meeting in April 2009, with the Archbishops' Council endorsing it in September 2009.
6. *Going for Growth* now forms the basis of the Board of Education's policy in relation to children and young people.

Rt Revd John Saxbee, Bishop of Lincoln  
Chair Board of Education

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<sup>1</sup> *Good News for Young People*, 2002; *Sharing the Good News with Children*, 2003