

Diocesan education directors are being offered a formal training programme for the first time in a new initiative drawing on lessons from training for headteachers.

The dedicated leadership development programme for Diocesan Directors of Education (DDEs) has been commissioned by the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership, working closely with the Association of Anglican Directors of Education (AADE).

The 18-month programme will be designed to support the formation and development of senior leaders in the full range of their roles. It will be rooted deeply in Christian theology and will support aspirant and newly-appointed Directors of Education as well as those with significant experience in post.

The Rev Nigel Genders, Chief Education Officer of the Church of England, said: "We are delighted that the Foundation has secured funding for this programme, and look forward to working in partnership with DDEs, supporting their vital work for the Church of England's mission of serving the common good."

With nearly a quarter of all primary aged children attending a Church school, and more than 200 secondary schools, the work of Diocesan education teams and their respective Boards of Education is critical in ensuring the Church is able to offer a vision of human flourishing for all which embraces the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social development of children and young people.

Championing the vision, which sets excellence and academic rigour within a wider framework, requires senior teams to work in partnership with schools, local churches, government agencies and Local Authorities.

The education leadership programme will therefore support Directors in leading across multiple organisations, negotiating, influencing and building consensus in order to bring about an improving education system.

It will also support senior leaders to reflect on their own leadership characteristics and develop their own leadership capacity in order to resource them to face the day-to-day challenges of the role.

The Foundation is inviting interested parties to submit an outline proposal, summarising their approach to developing and delivering the programme.

More information can be found [here](#).