The hub funding has been split into two projects: each project will run for one full school year.

Each supporting organisation is part of the planning process for year one and the project is overseen by Laura Watson from the Diocese of Carlisle.

A priority for the project has been gauging pre-hub experiences to enable us to measure the impact after the 12 months and beyond.

Journeying Well Together

CARLISLE DIOCESE

Flourishing in a rural context

with Carlisle Cathedral – NISCU – Schools' Ventures

growing faith

Aims
To bring together year 5 children from small, rural schools to start their transition to secondary school, build relations and flourish together.
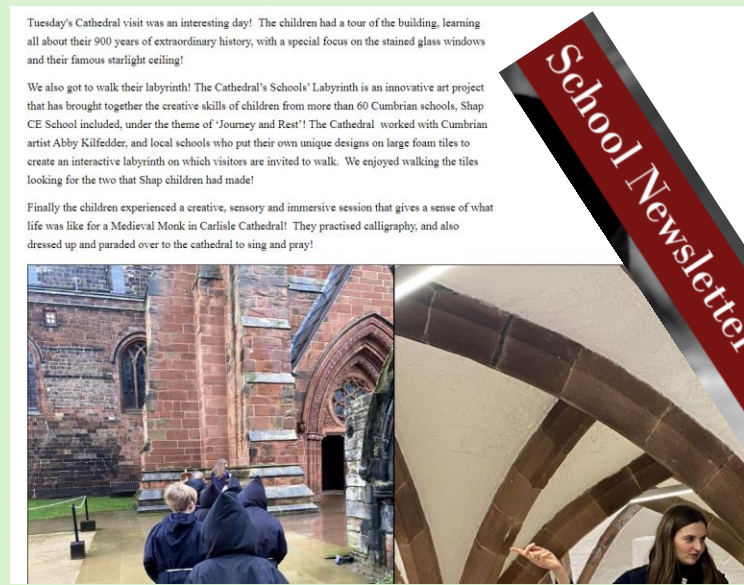
Actions
The year-long project will cover three phases: in-school lessons, a networking day and a two-day retreat.

Phase one – in-school lessons

The autumn term started with two lessons delivered in each of the six schools, led by NISCU, on the theme of journeying well together. The lessons focused on Moses and Paul and the journeys they took.

It was an opportunity to introduce the project, the aim of working with other local schools and talk about the plans for the year ahead.

'This is a great opportunity for our year five children to get a head-start in transitioning – it is very exciting.'
Headteacher

In-school lessons

Tuesday's Cathedral visit was an interesting day! The children had a tour of the building, learning all about their 900 years of extraordinary history, with a special focus on the stained glass windows and their famous starlight ceiling!

We also got to walk their labyrinth! The Cathedral's Schools' Labyrinth is an innovative art project that has brought together the creative skills of children from more than 60 Cumbrian schools, Shap CE School included, under the theme of 'Journey and Rest'! The Cathedral worked with Cumbrian artist Abby Kilfedder, and local schools who put their own unique designs on large foam tiles to create an interactive labyrinth on which visitors are invited to walk. We enjoyed walking the tiles looking for the two that Shap children had made!

Finally the children experienced a creative, sensory and immersive session that gives a sense of what life was like for a Medieval Monk in Carlisle Cathedral! They practised calligraphy, and also dressed up and paraded over to the cathedral to sing and pray!

School Newsletter 26.01.24

Phase two – networking day at Carlisle Cathedral

This was a lovely way to start the spring term, bringing all six schools together at Carlisle Cathedral along with church leaders and school governors.

The day, led by cathedral staff, used labyrinth artwork to talk about treading purposefully. The schools had the opportunity to talk about and follow in the footsteps of the monks from the cathedral's history as well as learn about the cathedral's rich and varied heritage.

'Today feels special as it isn't everyday you come to the cathedral.'
Y5 pupil

'The two-day retreat will be a fantastic opportunity to spend some quality time together.'
Church leader

Phase three – residential

A two-day retreat, supported by School Ventures, will see the schools, church leaders, governors and hub members come together to adventure outdoors and learn alongside each other in a fun and memorable way.

Next steps

To build on the momentum of the first two phases, and the relationships created, at the residential in the summer term.
Start to think ahead to the second year and how we can use the successes of year 1 to bring a new group of schools and partners together to grow and transition well.

growing **faith**

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