



Project Board Members

Martyn Snow

Bishop of Leicester

Sponsoring Bishop



The Right Reverend Martyn Snow studied at Sheffield University and then trained for the ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He served his first curacy at Brinsworth with Catcliffe and Treeton in the diocese of Sheffield from 1995 to 1997. He worked for the Church Mission Society in Guinea, West Africa from 1998 to 2001.

From 2001 to 2010 he was vicar at Christ Church, Pitsmoor, in the diocese of Sheffield. From 2007 to 2010 he was also Area Dean of Ecclesfield. From 2010 to 2013 he was Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham.

He served as Bishop of Tewkesbury from 2013 to 2016. Since 2016, he has been the Bishop of Leicester. He became a member of the House of Lords (as a Lord Spiritual) on 6th October 2022.

Nick McKee

Director of Ministry, Ministry Development

Senior Responsible Officer



The Revd Canon Nicholas McKee is the Director for Ministry for the Church of England. Nick grew up on an outer estate in Northern Ireland and undertook an engineering degree before embarking on an international business career for ten years.

He left the world of business in 2005 to pursue a call to priestly ministry, followed by ten years of parish ministry in the Diocese of Manchester, including a period as an Area Dean. He moved to the Diocese of Blackburn in 2018 where he led the Diocesan 'Growing Leaders' team. He also led the formation of Emmanuel Theological College for the North West Bishops.

He has had been heavily involved with church schools since 2011 and was latterly Acting Diocesan Director of Education alongside his substantive role before being appointed to his current post in May 2023.

Debbie Clinton

Co-Director of Vision and Strategy

Member



Debbie Clinton is Co-Director of Vision and Strategy for the Church of England based in Church House, Westminster.

Debbie has held a series of strategic senior posts in the change management, marketing and customer development fields, most recently as the Director of Capital Vision at the Diocese of London and previously as a Director of Customer and Brand with Aviva working across their European businesses. Having grown up within the Church of Ireland, she currently worships at St Paul's Howell Hill in the Diocese of Guildford.

Emma Buchan

Co-Head of Churches and Networks Support Team

Vision and Strategy

Member

Emma Buchan is currently co-head of the Churches and Networks support team within the Vision and Strategy team based in Church House, Westminster. Emma's primary role is to focus on doubling the number of children and young people in the church of England by 2030 alongside working on Estates Evangelism.

Emma has delivered a series of strategic projects/interventions such as the global prayer movement Thy Kingdom Come (now in 176 countries around the world) and Daily Hope, a free phone line for the elderly delivering prayers and worship.

She left the oil industry in 2014 as she felt called to serve the church. Having grown up in her local Anglican church, she currently worships at St Andrew's in the Diocese of Chelmsford.

Lucy Davis

Dean of Women's Ministry and Vicar at St Andrew's Bedford, Diocese of St Albans

Member

Rev Lucy Davis started working life as a teacher in London comprehensive schools. Over the last 25 years has worked across the whole range of children and youth ministries in local churches, from toddler church to youth groups, both before and since ordination.

She has lead change in Parishes which has seen the number of children and young people attending and growing as disciples increase significantly. That change has included encouraging and enabling vocation to youth and children's ministry, for volunteers and paid workers.

In St Albans Diocese, Lucy has taught about inter-generational worship on the Lay Leaders of Worship scheme. She is also Dean of Women's Ministry.

Lucy has recently completed a project about 'Tweenagers and Faith' as part of the SLDP, focusing on helping young people to flourish as disciples across the transition from primary to secondary school.

Richard Jones

Head Teacher, St Christopher's Church of England High School, Accrington

Member

Canon Richard Jones is the headteacher of St Christopher's CE High School, Accrington, Lancashire. St Christopher's is a large and successful 11-18 comprehensive academy within Blackburn Diocese. The school takes the north-west lead for the Church of England's secondary school network.

Richard also serves on the executive committee of AASSH (Anglican Academy and Secondary School Heads), Blackburn Diocese Board of Education, and acts a facilitator on the Church of England's NPQ programmes.

Having worked in Church schools for over twenty years, in various positions of leadership, Richard feels 'Called, Committed and Connected' to educating young people to comprehend what it is to be fully alive.

Richard's hope is constantly tested as a season ticket holder at Preston North End.

June Knowles

Senior Project Manager, NCIs
Project Manager

Joining the NCIs in Jan 2022, June came with over 15 years' experience in Programme and Project Management, and Change Management within a local authority.

These range from redesign and procurement of social care services, user research, policy and practice review, business process mapping, implementation of new statutory legislation and partnership/relationship management. As well as supporting strategic improvement, savings, and efficiency programmes with cross council interdependencies.

June is passionate about social change and empowerment using human centred design and collaboration as default. June is Co-Chair of the NCIs Disability and Neurodiversity Network.



Ruth Lee

Growing Younger Disciples Lead
Member

Ruth is the Growing Younger Disciples Lead for the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham.

The Growing Younger Disciples programme aims to help churches and church schools reach a new generation, working with them to implement their own strategic plans for Growing Younger Disciples in the 0-18 age range. Rebuild, Wild and Free

Ruth and her husband Chris are the leaders of St John's with St Mary's Mansfield in the diocese.

Jitesh Patel

Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity Church Leicester, and
Assistant Director and Lecturer in Theology at St
Mellitus College East Midlands

Member



Over the past two decades Revd Dr Jitesh Patel has ministered in churches across the country and currently helps lead a church with the largest number of youth and children in its diocese. He brings with him the skills of a practical theologian, perspectives from a multifaith and multicultural background, and experience of developing CYPF ministers and volunteers in local parish settings. Jitesh has previously been a secondary school teacher and primary school governor, and with two young daughters of his own has a deeply vested interest and passion to see the church flourish in its ability to reach the youngest and future generations for Christ.

Andy Wolfe

Executive Director of Education for the Church of
England

Member



Andy Wolfe oversees the programmes, networks and research of the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership –working with thousands of school leaders across the UK, particularly through the Church of England's role as a large lead provider of NPQ programmes. He is committed to combining rich theological reflection with evidence-informed approaches to improving teaching, learning and leadership in schools.

He has authored many of the Church of England's educational leadership resources, including pioneering the 'Called, Connected, Committed' leadership framework (2020) and 'Flourishing Together: A Christian Vision for Students, Educators and Schools' (2021) and 'Our Hope for a Flourishing Schools System: Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good' (2023)

Andy also oversees the Church of England's 'Growing Faith' national work in relation to faith development in schools, churches and households, the Archbishops' Young Leaders Award, a range of national policy briefs, working closely with dioceses, MATs, universities and FE colleges across the country, including the development of large-scale apprenticeship programmes for hundreds of colleagues across the national Flourishing Trusts Network.

Project Team

Hulda Adao

Project Support Officer
Project Management Office



Hulda previously worked in the National Society for Education office as the NPQ Programmes Manager, responsible for overseeing the delivery of National Professional Qualifications nationally. This included managing the project plan, developing policies and processes and overall supporting the team through delivery.

Hulda has been a trustee for a public speaking charity called Speakers Trust since 2018, which aims to give young people the skills and tools to speak out and have their voice heard. Hulda's passion lies in all things social enterprise and has worked with several grassroots organisations in supporting their marketing efforts and outreach.

Carolyn Edwards

Ministry with Children and Young People Officer
Ministry Development



Dr Carolyn Edwards joins the national team from the Diocese of York where she has helped people develop their mission and ministry with children, young people and families in a host of creative ways through her role as Children and Youth Adviser.

She is the author of 'Slugs and Snails and Puppy Dogs' Tails: Helping Boys Connect with God' and co-editor of 'Re-thinking Children's Work in Churches'. Her doctoral research on 'children and holiness' has been foundational in the development of a current research project for the Growing Faith Foundation on faith in Early Years and she has previously delivered theological education for children's, youth and family workers at CYM and Cliff College.

Tom Clark

Churches and Networks Consultant
Vision and Strategy



Tom was previously the Head of Youth at Holy Trinity Brompton, having overseen Alpha Youth & Students globally, and before that he was an evangelist and youth worker in York.

Tom has a passion to see every young person come to know Jesus and share that faith with their mates. He's married to Charlotte, and they have a daughter called Lily and a son called Milo.

Katharine Otley

Project Communications & Engagement Officer
Project Management Office



Katharine previously worked for the National Trust as a Visitor Services Manager, responsible for managing the front of house, the education team and the 220 volunteers, as well as the marketing, PR and events for the property.

Following this Katharine worked for the Diocese of Exeter where she led a project focussing on welcome and contributed to the book, 'How Village Churches Thrive'. Katharine is passionate about breaking down the barriers that prevent people from engaging with church. As a result, she became the lead on the Devon Church Weddings project which aimed to increase the number of church weddings in Devon. She also curated a photographic exhibition which toured Devon churches, called This is My Story, that told people's faith stories and featured on Instagram.

Nicky Smith

Existing Ministers Workstream Lead
Project Management Office



Rev Nicky Smith, is the Director of Ministry Development in the Diocese of Carlisle. Nicky lives and works in the county of Cumbria in the Northwest of England. Her passion is to equip and encourage the church to have confidence in the person of Jesus and the hope He offers to the world.

Before ordination, Nicky worked as a nurse in the emergency department and in medical research. Since ordination, she has served in cities and urban estates, internationally working in Southeast Asia and now in the dispersed hills and valleys of the Lakes.

Nicky oversees the work within the Diocese with vocations, clergy wellbeing, lay training, CMD, initial ministry training, and curacies. Leading the ministry development team, supporting the work of the DDO, vocations lead, IME-2 coordinator, warden of readers, spirituality advisor, healing advisor and diocesan SSM lead.

In her spare time, Nicky loves fell running, wild swimming, reading fiction, and keeping up with her teenage children.

Key Partners

Pam Macnaughton

Senior Leadership Development Consultant
Ministry Development



For the last two years, Pam has been working with others across the NCIs in the Vision and Strategy team, focussing on the bold outcome to 'Double the number of children and active young disciples across the Church of England by 2030.' Her current role is to lead work on the Incumbency Development programme which seeks to enable incumbents to 'lead churches with flourishing ministry with children, young people and families (CYPF)'.

Previously, Pam has worked in Christian publishing, commissioning and editing magazines, websites and books resourcing CYPF ministry. She has worked in pioneer ministry: on the first National Fresh Expressions team, as an NSM Ordained Pioneer Minister herself, and as an Advisor in Pioneer Ministry in the Diocese of York. She has also been a Leadership Enabler with CPAS, training lay and ordained leaders across the country, and writing the Thrive book and accompanying resources for multi-parish benefices. ([Thrive Collection of Resources](#) | [CPAS - Making Mission Possible](#))

She is now licensed as part time Associate Minister in the Butterley group of churches in Derbyshire.

Lucy Moore

Head of Growing Faith Foundation
Education and Growing Faith



Lucy is Head of the Growing Faith Foundation for the Church of England, helping schools, churches and households to work together for the spiritual flourishing of all children and young people.

She is the founder of Messy Church and developed it through her work at BRF until early 2022. She worked as a secondary school teacher of languages and subsequently in many primary schools across the UK through the Barnabas in Schools RE programme, bringing the Bible to life through storytelling and drama.

She lives with her husband in the Peak District in a draughty vicarage and enjoys walking the dog and joining in village life.