

Churches used to be at the centre of the community, but it is often the local school that now fulfils this function as most families in the area have some link with it. Schools and colleges are also the places where children and young people are to be found for much of the week, whereas the number coming into our churches regularly has generally diminished.

Click on the video to hear Baptist Union General Secretary, **Jonathan Edwards**, encouraging churches to support their local school.  
{youtube}qWwTPikAa9I{/youtube}

The Baptist Union's Education Working Group has developed a number of resources to help churches to support their local school or college. The series of '**Church and School' Mission Files** offers guidance for good practice, helpful resources, and stories to inspire and encourage you. Use the links above to access these Mission Files.

### The Lighthouse Group

The Lighthouse Group (TLG) is a Christian charity that seeks to empower and equip the local church to transform the lives of young people who are struggling in education. TLG Education Centres are church-owned and run schools where secondary school children facing exclusion can come to continue their education. Early Intervention Centres are where church-based volunteer behaviour coaches go into local primary schools to mentor children struggling with behavioural, educational, social or emotion difficulties. TLG wants to see the local church become the first port of call for a young person in crisis.

## Church and School

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Contact [David Horsfall](#) on 01274 900 385 or visit [The Lighthouse Group](#) website for more information.

## Free Church Education Committee

This committee draws together representatives from the member denominations and from specific areas of education, such as higher and further education. For the latest newsletter from the FCEC, click here: [FCEC Newsletter](#)

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## Pre-School:

### [Church and School: Early Years](#)

During the early years children develop spiritually but they need opportunities to do so. This resource will help your church find opportunities to contribute to children's development and offer support to those who already provide it.

## Primary School:

### [Church and School: Celebrating Christmas and Easter](#)

Many churches around the country put on presentations at Christmas and Easter for local schools. This Mission File explores a programme devised by Slough Baptist Church for children in year 6 with their teachers.

### [Church and School: REInspired](#)

REInspired is a project based in East Reading which seeks to build partnerships between local churches and local schools. This Mission File tells the story of REInspired, its approach to working with primary schools, and offers some pointers as to how you could begin to build relationships with your local schools in this way.

### [Church and School: School Assemblies](#)

Help for churches in serving their local schools and communities by leading creative assemblies.

### [Church and School: Sharing our Christian Heritage](#)

This Mission File may inspire you to share something of your area's Christian heritage with young people in your local school. It includes stories of churches which have developed resources or even a whole programme for schools.

### [Church and School: Welcoming a School](#)

Helping you make the most of the opportunities afforded by school visits - includes photocopiable worksheets.

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### Secondary School:

#### [Church and School: Resources from Youth for Christ](#)

Some of the wealth of material available from Youth for Christ for use mostly in secondary schools.

### Further Education:

#### [Church and School: Breathe](#)

Breathe is a brilliant resource for spiritual development for 16-19 year olds, offering space for young people to engage with what Christians believe and to consider their own faith and beliefs.

#### [Church and School: Further Education](#)

Every church community is served by, and therefore potentially could serve, one or more colleges. Discover some ways in which your church could support its local FE or Sixth Form College.

#### [Church and School: Planning RE Days](#)

Every sixth former in school has an entitlement to RE as part of their studies, but few schools feel able to offer a suitable course of study. This Mission File offers guidance on how churches can partner their local school or sixth form college in putting on an RE day.

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### General:

#### [Church and School: Praying for Schools](#)

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts that God has given us to transform situations. This Mission File shares some ideas from Pray for Schools to help you support your school and make a real difference in the lives of those who work in and for them.

#### [Church and School: School Governors](#)

In every city, town and village school governing bodies are one of the key opportunities for Christians to serve God in their community. This Mission File offers information, tips and support for those who are serving as governors.

#### [Church and School: Teachers in Church](#)

It gives ideas to help you acknowledge, resource and challenge the teachers in your church.

