

# **The Diocese of Ely Board of Education and Training**

## **The Children's Council Development Plan 2007**

### **ON-GOING TASKS**

#### **General Consultancy**

- tailor-made as required in response to requests from parishes, mission communities, deaneries and other diocesan officers

#### **Children and Communion**

- administration of submissions from parishes to begin to admit children to communion
- general consultation and support

#### **Resources**

- keeping abreast of the publication and availability of resources and advising churches on what is available and newly published.

#### **Liaising with the Youth Council**

- particularly over work with 10-13 year olds

#### **Monitoring Children's Work**

- develop a questionnaire to assess provision of children's work; analyse and act on results

#### **Communications and Website**

- update website regularly
- develop pages where people can share good ideas; make a Children's Ministers Page
- put resources lists on line
- develop and maintain e-mail list

#### **Liaising and Networking**

- with other members of the education and training team
- with other diocesan officers and staff and with the cathedral
- with the national children's officer
- with the south-east region advisers
- with ecumenical partners involved in work with children

#### **Setting up and running training courses and events**

- responding to obvious or stated needs with appropriate training opportunities

# PROJECTS

## A *Worship and the Nurture of Children*

*From the Church of England's National Children's Strategy*  
*IDENTIFY AND PROMOTE EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN AND*  
*RECOMMEND VALUABLE RESOURCES.*  
*REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF THE ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO HOLY COMMUNION AND*  
*RECOMMEND FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA.*

- 1) Doing Baptism well:
  - research – ask families about their experiences
  - resources – review and improve availability
  - designing and providing training – preparing candidates and their families; how to use the service
- 2) Worship:
  - All-age worship – eucharistic and non-eucharistic
  - Children's Corners
  - Liturgy boxes
  - Children and Communion
  - Praying with children
  - Ritual and Symbol
- 3) Providing for special needs children:
- 4) Ministry of children to adults:
- 5) Children and Families Weekend:

## B *Supporting Ministry with Children*

*From the Church of England's National Children's Strategy*  
*PROVIDING SUPPORT (INCLUDING FUNDING) FOR CHILDREN'S WORK*  
*ACROSS THE CHURCH.*  
*IDENTIFY GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYMENT OF PAID CHILDREN'S WORKERS.*

- 1) Provision of Godly Play equipment and training
  - advice about equipment
  - provision of training
  - identifying the place of Godly Play in the greater scheme of things

- 2) Creating dressing-up resources and appropriate toys
  - identifying that play and role play are important areas of consideration in spiritual development
- 3) Creating lists of resources for specific purposes
  - keeping up to date with developments in the provision of resources and providing information about this
- 4) Develop a new support group for employed children's workers in parishes

## **C Training for Ministry with Children**

*From the Church of England's National Children's Strategy  
 Identify key skills for training workers.  
 Make training and appropriate accreditation available for all.  
 Make a knowledge of children's ministry part of clergy and reader*

- 1) Children's Ministers Course
  - provide the children's ministers modules of the ALM training course each year
- 2) CORE
  - investigate the possibility of using CORE (the replacement for KALEIDOSCOPE) to provide training and determine the most appropriate way to do this. Deliver this training in the most appropriate ways.
- 3) Child Protection Training
  - liaise with the diocesan child protection adviser, Yvonne Quirk
  - advise on child protection policy and practice
  - deliver training in liaison with Yvonne when appropriate
- 4) Clergy and Readers – Initial training and CME
  - continue to liaise with those responsible for IME and CME to try to establish realistic regular provision

## **d) Children and Evangelism**

*From the Church of England's National Children's Strategy  
 Develop the role of children in outreach for example in holiday clubs.  
 Develop work with families and under fives.  
 Develop further the relationships between churches and schools.*

- 1) Child-Friendly Church Award Scheme
  - adapt the Liverpool scheme for the diocese; provide information and the opportunity to participate in Ely diocese

2) After School Clubs

- research current good practice in the diocese and assess how new groups can be set up

3) Fresh Expressions

- make contact with Dave Male and determine how partnership can evolve

4) Extended schooling

- make contact with some schools which already provide aspects of extended schooling and work with them to determine what is good practice, disseminate this to churches and support the development of provision

5) *Mission-shaped Children*

- develop a quick guide to the report and make presentations in appropriate places (might once have said deanery synods but rather think this is a waste of time in real life: perhaps Chapters?)

6) Making churches places of discovery

- develop a pack to help churches recognise the potential of their buildings to be places of discovery and suggestions in liaison with DAC