



## Christians and Sheffield Schools

connecting ● encouraging ● resourcing

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Ministry Partner of  
**Scripture**  
union

### Christmas Term 2016

### **“Pray for the welfare of the city” Jeremiah 29:7**

Praying for the welfare of our city involves praying for the ‘next generation’ or ‘Gen Z’. It is estimated that 4% of 11-16 year olds are in our churches, so that means that 96% of that age bracket are not. If we are serious about reaching this generation, about encountering them, serving them and being salt and light to them it means praying for them and getting involved with them in our schools.

CaSS and CaSS trustees meet each month to pray for Sheffield schools. Do join us or use CaSS’ termly prayer guide (copies at [www.cass-su.org.uk](http://www.cass-su.org.uk)) to help you.

CaSS was very busy during the summer term, acting as an armour bearer – bringing resources and encouragement to those on the frontline in our city’s schools.



Here is just a flavour of some of the things CaSS has been up to –

CaSS has worked to encourage the development of church – school links by visiting/speaking at St Andrew’s URC, Landsdowne Chapel, Ecclesfield Deanery Synod Meeting in Southey Green, Trinity URC, All Saints Ecclesall and St. Thomas’ Crookes.



Groups discussing ‘Developing links between Schools & Churches’ in St Cecilia & St Bernard’s, Southey Green at the Ecclesfield Deanery Meeting, led by CaSS.

CaSS has planned activities, alongside Kinder Kalsi of the Church Army and Rev. Phil Goodacre, and helped resource Y6 transition events running in Springfield School and Parson Cross Schools.



CaSS has talked with PAIS about developing resources for use with Y12/Y13 and have met with CLC in order to facilitate resourcing of those teaching RE in schools.

We have talked 'Prayer Spaces in Schools' with a Headteacher in Deepcar and visited a prayer space at a school in Wath-on-Dearne, set up after some CaSS training. See [www.prayerspacesinschools.com](http://www.prayerspacesinschools.com)



CaSS has met with Rev. Mark Goodhand and a group of church leaders in the North of Sheffield at Firth Park Methodist Church to share ideas and resources - the aim is to work together to serve local schools in that area of the city.

CaSS has extended its knowledge/expertise by attending a Scripture Union course in Batley on using volunteers, a Chaplaincy Central course in Birmingham about school chaplaincy and tested out Sheffield's Golddigger Trust's wonderful 'Choose Your own Adventure' course. [www.golddiggertrust.co.uk](http://www.golddiggertrust.co.uk)

Emily and I have been very busy in the office working to make the resources section on the CaSS website ([www.cass-su.org.uk](http://www.cass-su.org.uk)) more helpful and informative. There are now 26 categories of resources with links to many excellent local and national organisations with lots of ideas, advice, tips and suggestions. We are aiming to improve it further in the autumn and hope it will become a 'go to place' for resources.

As soon as CaSS had written thank you letters to all the keynote speakers and workshop leaders who were involved in March's 'Joined Up Conference' we started planning the 2017 conference with Mike North (Sheffield Diocese) Rachel McCallam (Methodist District) Jonathan Buckley (YMCA White Rose) and new partner Richard Jumbe (PAIS). Keynote speakers and most of the workshop

slots are now booked and confirmed. It promises to be a fantastic event. Keep the date free – **Saturday 11 March at St Thomas' Philadelphia**, 6 Gilpin Street, Sheffield S6 3BL. We hope booking will go live in late September or by 1 October on [www.joinedupconference.com](http://www.joinedupconference.com)

In an attempt to improve our financial situation the trustees have sent a letter to around 180 churches appealing for £30 donation as a gift for CaSS' 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. We have had a few responses, which has been encouraging.

Fiona has become a trustee for Project Paddington and has enjoyed their school's writing and art competition, entitled 'Scared to Safe.' [www.projectpaddington.com](http://www.projectpaddington.com)



CaSS are delighted to see the launch of Sheffield's Joanne Gilchrist's God for Kids app to help children learn what God is like. See <http://godforkidsapp.com/>

CaSS highly recommends Scripture Union's 'Training in Schools Work' course to be held from Mon 19 – Wed 21 September at Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield. Non – residential options are available, contact Geoff Brown for information [GeoffB@scriptureunion.org.uk](mailto:GeoffB@scriptureunion.org.uk)

Apply at <http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/YourCommunity/Schools/Training-SchoolsWork/1803226.id>

CaSS has lots more exciting projects planned for next term .....

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