



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

1 September 2015

Colin Powell, Director of Education  
Members of SDBE  
Headteachers  
Chairs of Governing Bodies  
University Chaplains  
Staff at SDBE

**Kingston Episcopal Area Office**

The Rt Revd Dr Richard Cheetham  
Bishop of Kingston

Kingston Episcopal Area Office  
620 Kingston Road  
Raynes Park  
London SW20 8DN

s 020 8545 2443  
f 020 8545 2441

e [bishop.richard@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:bishop.richard@southwark.anglican.org)

[www.southwark.anglican.org](http://www.southwark.anglican.org)

Dear all,

It has been my great privilege to serve as the Chair of Southwark Diocesan Board of Education since I first came to the Diocese in October 2002. The work of Education is central to the mission of the Church and plays an absolutely vital role in the communities we serve.

The recent years of change and turbulence in education have meant that it has been particularly important to hold fast to the deep ethos of Church of England education as it is expressed in the day-to-day life of our schools, chaplaincies and universities. These deep values have much to contribute to the wider understanding of Education in this country and guide enormous numbers of people who work incredibly hard for our schools, colleges and universities across the Diocese. I am hugely grateful to all of you for what you do and for your commitment to those we serve.

I believe that we have been greatly blessed by our Directors of Education over the time during which I have served and also by the extraordinary staff at Union Street who, despite their small numbers, serve the whole Diocese extremely well. I am very grateful to them, to our chaplains, to the staff and governing bodies of our schools and colleges, and for the support which many receive from their local churches.

I have decided that this is an appropriate time to move on as Chair of the Board of Education, partly for reasons of good governance - namely that no Chair should remain in office for an inordinate length of time - but partly also because the Board at the moment is extremely well led by Colin Powell and the staff at Union Street. The time has also come to reshape my ministry as I have recently taken on a number of additional responsibilities in the Diocese. I am sure that Bishop Jonathan Clark will find the role of Chair of the Board of Education stimulating and challenging but also full of enormous potential and opportunity.

With thanks to you all for all that you do, and every blessing for the future.

+ Richard

Rt Revd Dr Richard Cheetham  
Bishop of Kingston