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### **Church School Partnership Award 1**

I am writing on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Education, to inform you of your success in gaining the Diocese's Church and School Partnership Award. This has been agreed by the Board's Executive Committee, and the Award will be presented during the school year. Very many congratulations on this achievement!

Schools have a major part to play in the mission of the Church of England and their success depends, in large part, on the quality of their relationship with their local churches. At best, a school will be integrated fully in the life of the local Church community and will be a visible expression of service by that Church in the wider parish community. The Church and School partnership Award is intended to recognize and affirm the high quality of this relationship that already exists in many parishes in the Diocese, and to encourage Church and School communities together to reflect on how best to maintain and develop it in their situation. I was delighted to read the report of our Diocesan Schools Adviser on the relationship between Trinity St Peter's, Holy Trinity and St Peter's Church and of the many examples of how this actually works in practice.

I am aware of the amount of work and prayer, by you and many others, that goes into sustaining this kind of successful relationship, for which I am grateful. Please would you pass on my congratulations and thanks to your governors and staff? I have written in the same way to Revds Anne Taylor and Mark Stanford and asked that these sentiments be shared with the PCCs and congregations.

A member of the Education Department will make contact with you shortly to arrange a suitable date and time for an Archdeacon to visit and formally present the Award.

With my blessings and prayers,

*David Thorpe*

Senior Diocesan Adviser for RE, Collective Worship and  
Christian Distinctiveness and SIAMS Manager

