



The 2017 AASSH Conference was held in Liverpool on October 11th - 13th. The theme of this year's event was 'Hope' and the conference culminated in a eucharist at Liverpool Cathedral, led by The Rt Rev Paul Bayes, Bishop of Liverpool. Music was performed throughout the service by the pupils of St Christopher's CE High School, Accrington. Below is a selection of images from the service.







Guests at this year's conference were treated to a range of presentations from experts in their fields. We have compiled a selection of resources from those presentations below, which are available for perusal and download at your convenience (click document title to view).

Dr Ann Casson - National Institution for Christian Education Research

['Lessons in Spiritual Development: Learning from Leading Christian Ethos Secondary Schools'](#)

Daisy Christodoulou - No More Marking's Director of Education

['Addressing Assessment Hopefully'](#)

Dr Stuart Kime - Evidence Based Education's Director of Education

['Addressing Assessment Hopefully'](#)

We can now announce the the 2018 AASSH Conference will be held on October 10th - 12th in Greenwich, London. To book your place early, download the booking form by clicking [HERE](#).

AASSH Conference 2016

The 2016 AASSH Conference was held in Coventry on September 21st - 23rd. The speakers included Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby and David Ford (Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University).

Below is an article that appeared in the press, regarding the Archbishop's keynote presentation to the conference:

Welby: Teach children how jihadis think

By John Bingham
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS EDITOR

CHILDREN should be taught to understand the mindset of jihadist terrorists to help them make sense of the world in which they are growing up, the Archbishop of Canterbury has signalled.

The Most Rev Justin Welby told an audience of headteachers that, for the first time in generations, it was becoming "essential" to grasp the logic of people



Justin Welby said jihadis' motivations were bound up in their religious views

driven by an obsessive religious belief that the end of the world is nigh.

He said that the current generation of teachers needed to confront the issue of religiously motivated violence in a way not seen since the Reformation.

Addressing the Anglican Academies and Secondary Heads Conference at Coventry Cathedral, he said that religious violence was at the top of the political agenda as a "powerful and, in-

deed, at times uncontrollable and destructive influence" here and around the world.

"No one before you in the last 10 years as secondary heads has had to face the kinds of issues with religiously motivated violence since the 17th century to this extent," he said.

"It has come back, and that means religious literacy is essential to building the kind of society that we need in the future, whether you believe in the faith of a particular group or of no particular group."

While many experts turn to economic or sociological theories to explain terrorism, it is, he said, essential to grasp terrorists' end-of-the-world obsession, which is rooted in their faith.

He said: "The heart of their theology - which is the heart of their propaganda, so this is the driving force - is an apocalyptic understanding of human history, not as a loose term but in its strictest technical terms: they believe that the world is about to end.

"It's very difficult to understand the things that impel people to some of the dreadful actions that we have seen over the last few years unless you have some sense of religious literacy."

To read the speech delivered at the 2016 conference by James Walters, on the subject of reconciling in Christ in a multi-faith age, please click [HERE](#).

To view Dr Hilary Cremin's Powerpoint Presentation on 'Peace, Reconciliation and Restorative Approaches in Schools', please click [HERE](#).