

Christian Values in Education National Event: Information Sheet (Version 3 05-08-2022)

Title: Issues in Education Today

Date: Saturday 24, September 2022

Time: 10:30 (Registration) – 16:00 (Departure)

Venue: The King's Centre, Coppard Gardens, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2GZ

Introduction

We would extend a warm invitation to all those who have a concern and/or interest in the education of children and young people to join us at this year's CViE National Conference.

There is no charge for the Conference as we look to the Lord to supply all our needs through the kindness of those who are led, financially and/or giving freely of their time, to support the work of CViE.

In recent years we have tackled some very challenging topics at the conferences. Our aim has been both to inform and to encourage, as well as prompting careful thought on different aspects of the subjects covered. Through this we trust parents, teachers, governors, young people and children have been helped to respond to the difficult issues that confront them on a daily basis.

This year will be no different, and, if the Lord will, the Conference will focus on two important issues:

- "Issues Faced in Education Today"
- and "Worldviews in Education: Standing on Biblical Truth"

Issues Faced in Education Today

Although there have always been issues that have had to be faced in the education, there does seem to be a continued onslaught on what and how children and young people are taught.

The publication of the Schools Bill 2022 brought this to the fore as proposals have been put forward by government to centralise the control of education and impose restrictions on those who choose to home educate. This does raise questions around who is responsible for the education of children and young people. CViE firmly believe that this responsibility is a God-given to parents. Consequently, parents need to be aware of what is happening in the education of their children and to stand for the truths that they believe.

John Denning (Education Officer, Christian Institute) has agreed to address this subject and will be considering the spectrum of issues faced by Christian parents and those involved in education. John will also address the question "What difference can we, as Christians, make and the time the Lord has placed us on the earth?" Time will also be given to share how the Christian Institute has been able to support parents in the challenges

faced in educating their children. John will also be with us during the day if anyone wishes to speak to him outside of his presentation.

Worldviews in Education: Standing on Biblical Truth

The battle for the minds of children and young people is a real one. This has been highlighted by the way in which God dishonouring ideologies have infiltrated the thinking of governments (legislatures), entertainment, education and, in turn, society at large. Underlying this thinking is a humanistic/secular worldview that is predicated on the reasoning that there is no God, no absolute morality and mankind is in control of their own destiny and lives. This is in complete contrast to a Biblical worldview that is based on the infallible word of God and this, in turn, is the foundation of everything we say and do.

As Christians we need to be equipped to hold fast to a Biblical worldview, both in following the Lord and providing a framework through which children and young people can view the world. The need for this becomes more of an imperative as children and young people are exposed to a humanistic/secular worldview.

Sharon James (Social Policy Analyst for The Christian Institute) in her book, published this year, "The Lies We Are Told, the Truth We Must Hold - Worldviews and Their Consequences" addresses the dangerous untruths of the humanistic/secular worldview and the truth of the Biblical worldview. Sharon has agreed to share with us how the humanistic/secular worldview has emerged historically and influences the thinking of society and education. Sharon will also encourage us in the need to stand for biblical truth especially as the humanistic/secular worldview is increasingly influencing the education of children and young people.

Other Sessions

As usual, a range of separate workshops and sessions for the children and teenagers have been organised to provide a biblical understanding of issues they face. These workshops are optional, and it is understood that where there are sensitive topics parents may feel it not to be appropriate for their children to be present. Details of each session is given later in this document. Each of the workshops will have a member of the CViE committee present. The final session, the recreational activity, has been organised to allow the younger ones the opportunity to run off their energy rather than having to sit still listening to a speaker.

To help us with planning and organising these activities, we would be grateful if parents could email us on: enquiries@cvie.org.uk with details of the numbers and ages of the children.

This year we have altered the timings of the day slightly to allow more time for fellowship to hopefully encourage those attending to meet with others and discuss matters of concern. There will also be plenty of time to visit the bookstalls and resource stands.

Details of the programme and the content of the presentations and activities I found at the end of this document.

Registration

Although preregistration is not a requisite, we will need to keep a register those attending as part of fire precautions and helping with identifying numbers for the various activities.

Please note that registration will be available from 10:30 ready for commencing the Conference at 11:00. Tea and coffee will also be available on arrival.

Photography

CViE will be taking photos at The National Conference 2022. These images will be used by the CViE in the following ways:

- The Charity's printed publicity including reports of the Conference in Christian magazines and periodicals
- The Charity's website and online and social media publicity

The images will be stored securely and will not be kept for longer than they are needed for the purposes listed above.

If you would prefer for you or your child not to be photographed, please let us know by contacting us on enquiries@cvie.org.uk beforehand or on the day by informing us at the Reception desk.

Conference Volunteers

We do rely on volunteer support to ensure the smooth running of the day. As in previous years, we would make a plea for helpers to become involved with the creche, the children and young peoples' activities, and assisting with 'marshalling' and ensuring people are in the right place. If you are able to help, please email us on: enquiries@cvie.org.uk

COVID-19

Although the restrictions relating to COVID-19 have been relaxed, we do not know what the position will be in September 2022.

We appreciate that there are different views on COVID-19 however we would ask anyone with signs of the virus to consider whether it is safe to attend the Conference.

Please could individuals attending the Conference follow any directions, signposted in the venue, regarding infection prevention control.

Car Parking

Plenty of car parking is available at the venue.

Refreshments & Lunch

Hot and cold drinks will be available throughout the day. In addition to providing biscuits during refreshment times, fresh fruit will also be provided as an alternative. Those attending the event will need to bring their own lunch. There is seating available both within the building and outside.

The venue does have its own [catering outlet](#) where drinks and 'eats' can be purchased, The Saturday opening hours are 9.00am -2.00pm.

Crèche

A crèche will be provided, overseen by a qualified individual(s) and supported in this by responsible volunteers.

Resources and bookstalls

There will be a range of bookstalls and resource stands to browse. Bookstalls include: Christian Bookshop Ossett, Gospel Standard Trust Publications, Answers in Genesis and Day One Publications. Exhibitors include: Christian Institute, Christian Concern, Lovewise and Truth in Science. (Additional organisations will be added when their attendance is confirmed.)

Christian Values in Education will also have their publications and resources freely available.

In view of the additional space available at the venue, we are hoping to invite a range of Christian organisations involved in education to attend the conference to showcase their work and resources. We will be publishing details of those attending on the website.

Cultivate a reading habit

We are pleased, once more, to be able to run the popular 'Cultivate a Reading Habit' scheme.

The initiative works by making available a 'voucher' worth 10 pounds to all children and young people of school-age that can be used to buy a book(s) of their choice from the bookstalls at the event.

- Children and young people of school age (5 years - 18 years), attending the CViE National Conference 2022 on Saturday, 24 September 2022, will be given, subject to parental consent, a 'voucher' that can be exchanged for book(s) up to a value of £10 (or used in part payment for book(s) over this value) at the Ossett Bookshop or Gospel Standard Trust Publications or Answers in Genesis bookstalls.
- 'Vouchers' are to be used on the day of the National Conference 2019 and have no monetary value per se.
- If purchasing a book(s) costing less than £10 with the voucher, change will not be given.
- Where the 'vouchers' are used to contribute to the cost of a book over £10; the additional costs will need to be met by the individual.
- To help us to administer the scheme, each voucher will have a unique number and the bookseller will record on the voucher the title and price of the book(s) purchased. There will be the option to record the age range of the individual exchanging the voucher; this will help our understanding of the subject interests of these age groups and assist with the future planning and roll-out of the scheme.

This is the fourth year of this venture for CViE in promoting the reading of Christian books and CViE are grateful to the Lord in providing the funds for the 2022 scheme and trust the Lord will provide for future years.

Donations

No charge is made for the conference nor for any CViE events or resources. We rely on the Lord's provision, through the generosity of our supporters to continue our work and collections will be taken at the conference towards the ongoing work of the charity.

Collection boxes, for cheque and cash donations, will be situated in prominent places. This year we also hope to have facilities to take contactless card donations, both through a standard card reader and also through the Bopp payment app where you can make a donation using your mobile banking app by scanning a CViE specific QR code.

This year we would highlight two key areas of need to our supporters:

1. The conference venue, first used in 2021, proved to be ideal, with superb facilities and plenty of space for all the delegates and the various organisations who attended. Booking such an excellent venue does involve additional cost. However, we believe that, in the Lord's purposes, this is a worthwhile investment to provide a more conducive environment for those attending the conference.
2. Through 2021 and 2022 there has been a marked increase in the activities of CViE, with more research, regular communications, additional events, the setting up of special interest groups and an increase in our subscribers. Looking to the future, there are a number of other ideas we are exploring to enable us to equip and encourage our supporters further. Much of this is possible due to the appointment in 2021 of a part-time Business and Development Manager. The initial funding for this appointment was provided by the Providence Chapel Croydon Charity, however this comes to an end in 2023.

In addition, anyone wishing to help support the continuing work of CViE can also do so by visiting: <https://www.cvie.org.uk/donate> and we would encourage you to consider making a regular monthly donation which does help us to plan our activities.

Thank you for your support.

Further Information

Please visit our website: [Events - Christian Values in Education \(cvie.org.uk\)](https://www.cvie.org.uk/events)

or contact us on: enquiries@cvie.org.uk

Finally

We look forward to welcoming you at the CViE National Conference 2022.

Do pray:

- That the Lord will go before us in making the arrangements for the Conference,

- For the speakers and those involved in the activities that they will be given help and wisdom in their preparations.
- That above all, the Lord will use the Conference to encourage and strengthen those attending to standfast on the Word of God in the challenges faced in education today.

Tim Wills
Business and Development Manager

Programme and details of the sessions

CViE National Conference 2022

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CViE National Conference: Saturday 24 September 2022 – Programme				
1030	Arrival. Refreshments served (<i>Hot and Cold Drinks/Biscuits/Fruit</i>)			
1100	Welcome / Order of the day / Reading / Prayer /			
Age	5-8 Years	9 – 12 Years	13+ Years	Adults
1130 1230	Harmless Fun – Hidden Danger Rachel Alderman Sarah Kerley	World War II – The Lord appearing in time of need Dan Sayers	The Metaverse – Reality in a digital age James Skelton	Issues in Education Today John Denning (Education Officer, Christian Institute)
1230	Grace – to be said in each location			
1235	Lunch: Please bring own packed (not free) lunch] [Hot and cold drinks will be provided Opportunity to visit resources area			
1400 1415	Reconvene in Main Hall			
1415 1515	Recreational activity Joshua Hayden	Recreational activity Joshua Hayden	Worldviews in Education: Standing on Biblical Truth Sharon James (Social Policy Analyst, Christian Institute)	
1520	Summary of the day/Conclusions /Reading / Prayer			
1540	Hot and Cold Drinks / Exhibitors / Update of Lists			
1600	Departure			

Note the programme and details are correct as at: 05-08-2022.

To help the smooth running of the event then we would ask that each make every effort to be prompt ready for beginning of the sessions.

Details of the sessions and contributors

Title	Purpose	Age group	Speaker(s)Activity Leaders
Harmless Fun - Hidden Danger	This session will involve thinking about the need to Watch what we do? The presenters will draw on examples of activities, such as Halloween that look harmless yet often there are hidden dangers lurking within. The children will be encouraged to think about what the Bible teaches regarding watching what we do and how we do it and the need to be kept from hidden dangers.	5-8 Years	Rachel Alderman & Sarah Kerley (Both contributors have experience of informal and formal teaching and are respectively Members of Galeed Chapel Brighton and Swavesey Chapel, Cambs.
Recreational activity	An opportunity for the young ones to run off energy at the end of the event and prepare them for the journey home. (This supervised event will take place, weather permitting, in the public space adjacent to the venue)	5-8 Years	Joshua Hayden (Primary School Teacher and attends Hope Chapel, Redhill)
World War II: The Lord's appearing in a time of need (Psalm 50:15)	Although the events of World War II are covered in GCSE History, there is little recognition of the Hand of God overruling the historic events that took place at that time together with the seven days of National Prayer that were held in how the Lord heard the petitions of a nation at prayer. The session will also make reference to civilian and military leaders, many who feared the Lord, that were raised up in a narrow need in the fight for the deliverance from the tyranny of the Axis Powers in Japan. The talk will be tailored to the needs of the age group will be an opportunity to remind them of the sovereignty of God and the events of history both nationally and throughout the world	9-12 Years	Dan Sayers (Head Teacher and CViE Trustee, Member Bethel Chapel Luton)

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Recreational activity	An opportunity for the younger children to run off energy at the end of the event and prepare them for the journey home. (This supervised event will take place, weather permitting, in the public space adjacent to the venue)	9-12 Years	Joshua Hayden (Primary School Teacher and attends Hope Chapel, Redhill)
The Metaverse – Reality in a digital age	The metaverse and widespread use of virtual reality promise to be one of the next big technological developments. As with all technology, there are both fantastic opportunities and real dangers. In this session attendees will be encouraged to think through what these things are and the benefits they can bring whilst contrasting these with some of the pitfalls. The session will look at the importance of truth and consider what reality really is - we all have an online identity, but does it present an accurate picture, or are we hiding the real 'me' behind our avatar? The great positives of building strong and lasting friendships in the real world will be explored. Finally, the session will reflect on the fact that whilst we can try to retreat into a virtual world, ultimately from an eternal perspective reality will catch-up with us each.	13+ Years	James Skelton (CViE Trustee and Member Hope Chapel, Redhill)
Issues Faced in Education Today	In the session, John Denning will draw on his experience, both as a teacher and Education Officer, Christian Institute and considering the issues faced in education today by parents together with encouraging them to stand for those trees they believe	Parents/Adults	John Denning (Education Officer, Christian Institute)
Worldviews in Education: Standing on Biblical Truth	In this session, Sharon James will draw on her research relating to contracts between the humanistic/secular worldview and that of a true Biblical worldview and consider the practical implications of this for Christian parents and young people	Parents/Adults and 13+ age group	Sharon James (Social Policy Analyst, Christian Institute)