

If one of you wants to be first, you must be the slave of the others like the Son of Man, who did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life to redeem many people."
Matthew 20vv27-28

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, source of all knowledge and truth, give to all who teach, the wisdom, compassion and grace to inspire those who learn to submit to your truth and your transforming power. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Declaration

Priest or Leader addresses the Headteacher

[NAME OF HEADTEACHER], you have been called by God to serve as Headteacher of [NAME OF SCHOOL]. You are entrusted with the nurture and guidance of a Church school and the care of its pupils. This is a solemn trust for which you will need the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit therefore I ask you.

Will you, in the name of Christ our Lord, faithfully serve the pupils and staff of [NAME OF SCHOOL]?

With God's Help, I will.

Will you offer those you serve a vision of life inspired by the grace of God shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus?

With God's help, I will.

Will you foster the Kingdom values of justice, equality and tolerance and model the Good News of Jesus Christ to everyone in your care?

With God's help, I will.

The Priest or Leader addresses the congregation.

Will you the Family of [NAME OF CHURCH] and support [NAME OF HEADTEACHER] in this ministry now and in the years to come?

With God's help, we will.

Prayer

The Headteacher may kneel. Silent prayer is kept. Others may be invited to join the Priest or Leader in offering prayer, with the Priest or Leader concluding with the commissioning prayer:

We praise and glorify you, most merciful Father because you sent your only Son Jesus Christ to take the form of a servant; to serve and not to be served and to teach us that they who would be great must be servants of all.

We thank you for [NAME OF HEADTEACHER] .

We praise you for

his/her commitment to education,

his/her obedience to your call on her life and his/her vision for our school.

Give him/her grace to fulfil this VOCATION.

Inspire him/her with faithfulness to serve,

readiness to teach,

and grant that always abounding in hope

and being rooted in love,

she/he may continue strong and steadfast

in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;

to whom be glory and honour, worship and praise, now and forever.

Amen

The Blessing

[NAME OF HEADTEACHER], receive this ministry as Headteacher of [NAME OF SCHOOL]

May the Lord bless you, and keep you: may the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn his countenance to you and grant you peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you, now and forevermore. **Amen**

The Headteacher stands.

Presentation of the Bible

[NAME OF HEADTEACHER] we offer you this book as a token our of love. It contains the Good News of God's love. Read it, for it tells how you and your school community can share in eternal life, through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

The Welcome

Brief words of welcome can be offered from the church, wardens, Chair of Governors and possibly from representatives of staff and children of the school.

Commissioning of
[NAME OF HEADTEACHER]
as Headteacher of
[NAME OF SCHOOL]
[DATE]



THE DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD