

# Voices

Creating spaces for the stories, questions and leadership of children and young people



Growing Faith : Connections

## Connection and transformation happen when children and young people share their stories, ask their questions, and have ownership of the programme and vision.

We can support them with:

- **Shared curiosity** - Where are the spaces in our programmes and practices for children to speak, to tell their story to others, and to surprise us? How can we open ourselves to ways of learning about faith from children and young people?
- **Co-creation** - How can we support children, young people and their carers to create faith communities, experiences, and learning meaningful to them? How do we nurture young leaders?

For ideas, videos and the full report: [www.growingfaithconnections.org](http://www.growingfaithconnections.org)

# Relationships

A close-up photograph of several people's hands stacked together in a circle, symbolizing unity and connection. The hands are of various skin tones and are wearing different colored sleeves: a pink knitted sleeve, a brown textured sleeve, a blue and red speckled sleeve, a white sleeve with a blue velvet cuff, and a tan sleeve. One hand has a ring on the ring finger. The background is blurred, showing more people and what appears to be a church setting.

Prioritising time for relationships and intentionally building connections between home, school and church

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# Connection and transformation happen when children and young people have the opportunity to develop long-term, diverse, and intergenerational relationships, and strong connections between church, school and home.

We can support them by:

- **Building diverse communities** - Where do our young people currently engage deeply with different generations? What new opportunities can we find to bring different generations and demographics together?
- **Integrating church, school and home** - Where are the intersections of church, home and school already present in our context? How can we create multiple connections of people and resources between these three spheres?

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# Rhythms

Creatively integrating activities into regular and seasonal rhythms



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# Connection and transformation happen when children and young people engage with rhythms of faith through time, season, tradition and memory.

They do this through activities which are:

- **Practice-based** - What activities can we practise together regularly, which will draw children and young people deeper into their faith and the traditions of the church?
- **Seasonal** - How can we use our engagement with secular and church seasons to build connections between home, church and school? Can we find opportunities to work together, share resources and deepen practice?

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# Purpose

A woman with dark hair, wearing a yellow shirt, is smiling and holding a cardboard box. The box is labeled "DONATION" and contains a white teddy bear and a blue and white patterned blanket. In the background, there are other people in yellow shirts and several cardboard boxes on a table, suggesting a donation center or a community event.

Connecting activities with visible Kingdom purposes in the local community and wider world

Growing Faith : Connections

**Connection and transformation happen when children and young people have opportunities to 'do' faith - to learn and experience faith in practical and action-based ways.**

This happens by:

- **contributing to a purpose** - What actions would make a positive difference to our wider local community and world in which we live? How can we start or join in this work for God's Kingdom?
- **moving outside the walls of home, church or school buildings** - Where else in our local context could we gather, act or reflect? How can we connect with our wider community?

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