

# CROSS+TEACH



## Love Our Schools 2-16 February, 2025





# What is Love Our Schools?

Love Our Schools is a Christian initiative that supports schools by building positive relationships, providing practical help, and encouraging prayer for the school community.

It seeks to serve and bless schools through acts of kindness, fostering connections between churches, schools, and local communities to enhance the well-being of students and staff.



**PRAY FOR SCHOOLS**

A Pray for Schools Initiative.  
[www.prayforschools.org/loveourschools/](http://www.prayforschools.org/loveourschools/)

Love ♥ ur Sch♥♥ls



# How can you get involved?

Join us in making a difference through **Love Our Schools!** This is a powerful opportunity for Christians and churches to bless their local schools through prayer, practical support, and building meaningful relationships. By showing the love of Christ in action, we can help strengthen and encourage students, staff, and the wider school community. Together, let's be a light in our schools.

This year **Love Our Schools** is running **2nd - 16th February.**

We have some ideas for practical support, prayers and partnership to get you started. You might also have some great ideas of your own.

It doesn't matter if you do something small or big, something every day of the fortnight or a one-off or if you do it on your own or in a group.

The first thing to do is make a commitment to get involved.



# Love Our Schools in partnership with **crosteach**.

The work of **crosteach** provides consistent Christian engagement in schools throughout the year. Through delivering high-quality, creative lessons and assemblies, **crosteach** serves schools by giving opportunities for pupils to explore the Christian faith in a thoughtful and relevant way. The vision of **Love Our Schools** aligns seamlessly with our work and so we are looking forward to getting involved in this year's **Love Our Schools** fortnight. By being a faithful presence in schools every day, **crosteach** helps churches, and the local Christian community, live out their calling to serve and love their local school communities.

One way you can love your local school communities is to join us in our mission.

By committing to a regular donation, you will help ensure there is a faithful Christian presence in local schools not just for a fortnight, but for many years to come.

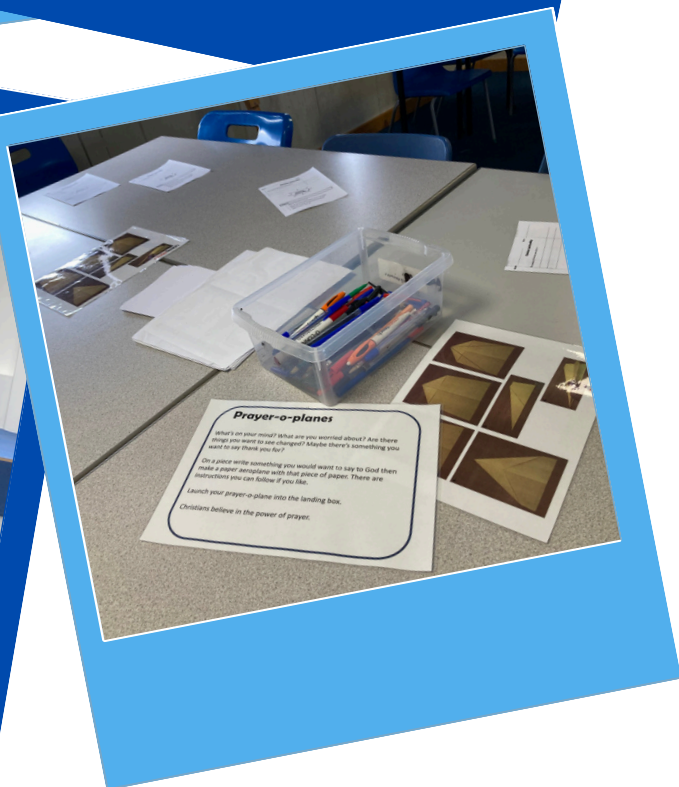
To donate, use the QR code or go to:  
<https://www.crosteach.com/support-us>





# Our Work

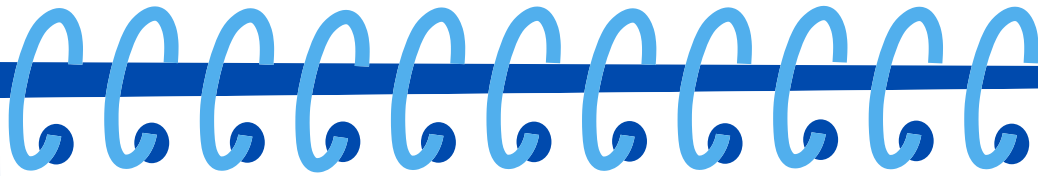
We teach in schools so that every pupil has the opportunity to develop spiritually by understanding, engaging with and responding to the Christian faith.



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# Love Our Schools Practically



- ★ Cakes! Especially at extrademading times like OFSTED inspections and parents' evenings.
- ★ Consider standing as a Governor or join the PTA
- ★ Volunteer to hear children read in the classroom.
- ★ Ask if there are practical jobs that need doing – sweeping snow, litter...
- ★ Offer to come and lead an assembly or contribute to RE lessons.
- ★ Write cards or notes of encouragement for teachers and staff.
- ★ Organise regular prayer meetings for students, staff, and specific school needs.

These are just some ideas to get you started. Feel free to come up with your own ideas or why not ask the school how you could best love them practically.

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# Love Our Schools Prayerfully



Subscribe with  
**PRAYERMATE**

Follow the  
**crossteach**  
PrayerMate feed.  
<http://praynow4.org/crossteach>

Join a prayer group  
near you -  
[www.prayforschools.org/  
get-involved/near-me/](http://www.prayforschools.org/get-involved/near-me/)

**PRAY FOR  
SCHOOLS**

Organise a **Love  
Our Schools**  
prayer meeting.  
See our guide to  
help you get  
started.

Love ♥ our Schools ♥♥

Invite a  
**crossteach**  
worker to a  
church service,  
prayer meeting  
or home  
group(s)



Make your  
church prayer  
meeting a **Love  
Our Schools**  
prayer meeting.

Request the  
**crossteach**  
**Love Our  
Schools** prayer  
plan.  
[admin@crossteach.com](mailto:admin@crossteach.com)

Follow our daily social  
media posts for prayer  
ideas during **Love Our  
Schools** fortnight



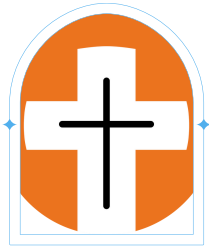
Instagram



# Telling Others

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matt 5:16



Crossteach

We would love to hear what you are up to - ideally with photos and/or video. Send your stories to [admin@crossteach.com](mailto:admin@crossteach.com)



School

Let the school know if they were included in your prayers/prayer meetings. Why not write a short article for the school to include in their newsletter?



Church

Others in your church would be greatly encouraged to hear about what you have been doing and the positive response you get from schools. You might even inspire them to get involved.

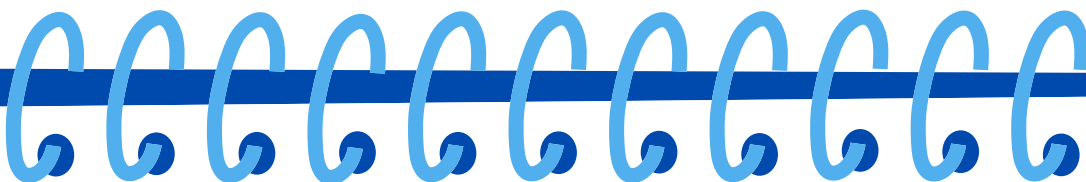


Social Media

Share your stories on social media for your followers. Please use [#loveourschools](#). We would also appreciate it if you could tag us, so we get to see and share your stories.



# Love Our Schools Practically - Getting Started



Who is on the team?

Which School(s) will you bless?

School	Key Contact(s)

Budget £.....

Ideas

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# Love Our Schools Practically – Even More Ideas



PRAY FOR SCHOOLS

- Write a thank you card to a local school to say connections you have (if any), you're thankful for their work and you're praying for them.

- Drop off some chocolates/fruit to a local school for the staff room with a note saying you live locally, are a Christian and a verse to point them to the Lord.

- Feed a teacher you know! They're often stretched for time, so give them some food or have them round and feed them!

- Involve your church/prayer group to put together a "care package" of small gifts to deliver to a secondary staff room, with a note to encourage and point them to the Lord's kindness

- Get some stationery for a teacher you know at school/church and a note to encourage them with what the Lord is like

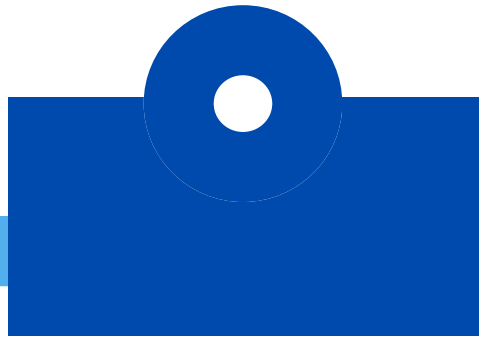
Love our Schools

- Find out the birthday of a teacher either at school or church. Save the date so you can give them a card and encourage them

- Organise a team from your church to redecorate a room in a local school, during the next school holidays.
- Could your church start an after school homework club to support children with their studies?



# Love Our Schools Prayerfully - Getting Started



Will this be a new prayer meeting or will you dedicate a church meeting to **Love Our School**?

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Confirm the venue, date and time.

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Will there be refreshments? What will be provided? Who will coordinate this?

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Send out invitations.

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Gather prayer requests - from schools, Christians who work in schools, children, parents, Christian school visitors

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Other prayer ideas - request **cross**teach prayer guide, go to pray4schools website and/or create some prayer ideas of your own.

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# Suggested Prayer Meeting A

## 1. Welcome and Opening (5 minutes)

- Greet attendees and briefly explain the purpose of the meeting: to pray for schools and demonstrate Christ's love.
- Read a Bible verse to set the tone, e.g., "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).
- Open with a short prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to guide the meeting.

## 2. Worship and Thanksgiving (10 minutes)

- Sing a worship song or two to focus hearts on God's love and faithfulness. If you do not have facilities for sung worship, you could read a Psalm - SUGGESTION: Psalm 27
  - This Psalm reminds us who we are coming to meet with in prayer.
  - This Psalm reminds us that in prayer, we are seeking God's face and we are dependent on him listening.
  - This Psalm reminds us to wait patiently for God to answer.
- Spend time thanking God for schools, teachers, students, and the opportunities to serve them.
- Encourage attendees to share brief praises for answered prayers or positive stories from schools.

## 3. Focused Areas of Prayer (40 minutes)

Divide this time into sections, each focusing on a specific area.

Introduce the topic and ask attendees to share any specific prayer requests, such as schools they have connections with.

You can then spend the rest of the time praying together for the topic (or if the group is large, split into small prayer groups and come back together at the end of the time).

### a. Pupils (10 minutes)

- Pray for students to thrive academically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Pray for vulnerable students, those facing challenges at home, or struggling with mental health.



# Suggested Prayer Meeting A

## b. Staff and Leadership (10 minutes)

- Pray for teachers, administrators, and school leaders to have wisdom, strength, and encouragement.
- Pray for Christian staff to be a light in their schools.

## c. Local Churches and Community Involvement (10 minutes)

- Pray for churches to actively support and bless schools.
- Ask for creative ways to serve schools practically and build positive relationships.

## d. Christian School Visitors (10 minutes)

- Pray for **crosteach** and other Christian school visitors.
- Pray that there would continue to be an open door and opportunities for children to learn about the Christian faith in schools.

## 4. Practical Next Steps and Close (5 minutes)

- Share practical ways to get involved with **Love Our Schools** (e.g., prayer walks, volunteering, or school partnerships).
- Encourage attendees to commit to regular prayer for schools and consider ways their church can contribute.
- Close with a prayer of blessing over all attendees and the schools represented.



# Suggested Prayer Meeting B

## 1. Welcome and Opening (5 minutes)

- Greet attendees and briefly explain the purpose of the meeting: to pray for schools and demonstrate Christ's love.
- Read a Bible verse to set the tone, e.g., "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).
- Open with a short prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to guide the meeting.

## 2. Worship and Thanksgiving (10 minutes)

- Sing a worship song or two to focus hearts on God's love and faithfulness. If you do not have facilities for sung worship, you could read a Psalm - SUGGESTION: Psalm 27
  - This Psalm reminds us who we are coming to meet with in prayer.
  - This Psalm reminds us that in prayer, we are seeking God's face and we are dependent on him listening.
  - This Psalm reminds us to wait patiently for God to answer.
- Spend time thanking God for schools, teachers, students, and the opportunities to serve them.
- Encourage attendees to share brief praises for answered prayers or positive stories from schools.

## 3. Prayer Stations (40 minutes)

Create some prayer stations and then give attendees this time to move around the stations as they wish. As they move around the prayer stations they will have opportunities to pray for many things school related.

## 4. Practical Next Steps and Close (5 minutes)

- Share practical ways to get involved with **Love Our Schools** (e.g., prayer walks, volunteering, or school partnerships).
- Encourage attendees to commit to regular prayer for schools and consider ways their church can contribute.
- Close with a prayer of blessing over all attendees and the schools represented.



# Suggested Prayer Meeting B

## Prayer Station Ideas

### 1. Students

- **Focus:** Pray for students' well-being, academic success, and spiritual growth.
- **Bible Verse:** "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)
- **Interactive Element:** Provide blank cards for attendees to write prayers for specific students or student groups.

### 2. Teachers

- **Focus:** Pray for wisdom, patience, and encouragement for teachers.
- **Bible Verse:** "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)
- **Interactive Element:** Place thank-you cards for attendees to write encouraging messages to local teachers.

### 3. School Leadership

- **Focus:** Pray for headteachers, principals, and governors to lead with integrity and wisdom.
- **Bible Verse:** "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault." (James 1:5)
- **Interactive Element:** Provide small figurines or photos representing leadership roles and ask attendees to hold one while praying.

### 4. Families

- **Focus:** Pray for families connected to the school—parents, guardians, and siblings.
- **Bible Verse:** "They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.'" (Acts 16:31)
- **Interactive Element:** Place a large paper tree where people can write prayers for families on paper leaves and attach them.



# Suggested Prayer Meeting B

## Prayer Station Ideas

### 5. Well-being and Mental Health

- **Focus:** Pray for the emotional and mental health of students and staff.
- **Bible Verse:** “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)
- **Interactive Element:** Provide a bowl of stones to symbolize burdens. Invite participants to place a stone in a “cross” bowl as they pray for healing and peace.

### 6. Local Churches and Volunteers

- **Focus:** Pray for churches to engage with schools in meaningful ways.
- **Bible Verse:** “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” (Hebrews 10:24)
- **Interactive Element:** Display a map of local schools. Ask attendees to place pins on schools where they commit to praying or volunteering.

### 7. Vulnerable and At-Risk Students

- **Focus:** Pray for children experiencing challenges, such as poverty, neglect, or bullying.
- **Bible Verse:** “Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” (Psalm 82:3)
- **Interactive Element:** Set up a small jar where attendees can drop in written prayers for vulnerable students.

### 8. God’s Presence in Schools

- **Focus:** Pray for God’s light and love to be evident in schools through Christians and church partnerships.
- **Bible Verse:** “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)
- **Interactive Element:** Provide tealight candles for attendees to light as they pray for God’s presence to shine in schools.