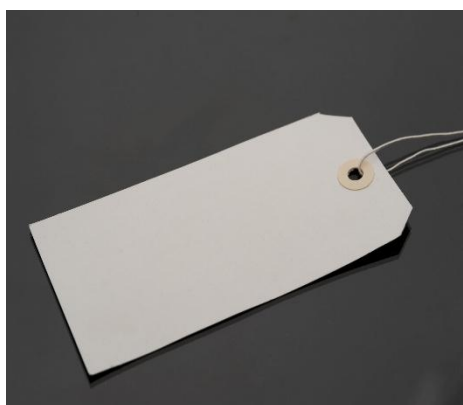


# Year 6 Leavers Days 2026

Cathedral Leavers Days Art Installation Guidance



## Introduction

Welcome to the annual booklet outlining the plans for our popular art installations that will appear at our cathedral leavers services in the summer. There has been great anticipation about this year's plans, following last year's beautiful hanging animal pictures, which went on to be replicated in other churches and schools, both in the UK and abroad.

This year in our 'Bags of Hope' project sees schools and parishes focussing on the theme of "Displaced Persons," exploring the challenges faced by migrants and refugees from diverse backgrounds and countries. Inspired by the book *The Suitcase* by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros, the project highlights the significance of a backpack for those seeking safety and hope amidst loss and displacement.

Through various activities, installations, and collaborations with local and national organizations, we have been aiming to foster compassion, empathy, and understanding among children, students, and adults. The project encourages schools, parishes, and individuals to engage in meaningful actions, such as donating Paddington Bear backpacks to displaced children and participating in creative competitions like The Sanctuary Foundation's "No Place Like Home" Poetry & Art Competition.

Together, we believe that we can make a difference by embracing Biblical values of welcoming strangers and standing up for those in need. Schools and parishes have joined us in this journey of hope and advocacy as we work to create a culture of kindness, understanding, and support for displaced individuals. **This booklet outlines the details of art installations that will appear at the Cathedrals and Christchurch Priory to celebrate that work and inspire others.**

Thank you again for your support for this important project. We are always pleased to hear from schools and parishes about work being completed around our projects which we then often share with others via our publications. The full Bags of Hope booklet with a wealth of ideas and associated RE teaching, is linked below. <https://winchester.anglican.org/education-schools/resources-for-schools/project-booklets-and-resources/>

Please share both booklets and our vision with other Anglican parishes and clergy, in our diocese and beyond. Equally, we have community schools and other denominations who enjoy using our ideas – so please feel free to share widely!

*Jeff*

**Jeff Williams**  
**Director of Education**



## Installation overview

Our end of year installations are incredibly popular with the children, many of whom bring their families to see the completed work in the days and weeks following the services. We had a record number of families and friends visiting last year. But of course, it is not just the children who enjoy the artwork. The installations have drawn appreciative comments from tourists and worshippers visiting the cathedrals. Last year cathedral staff again expressed their disappointment when it came time for the installations to be removed! The installations provide a platform for the wider public to see the incredible way that our church schools bring Christian values, vision and understanding to young people, families and parishes.

**As last year, this year's displays will be installed in the days leading up to the services and will be in place before the start of the first day.** This allows schools attending the first few days of services to see the completed installation.

## The two-part plan

There are two aspects to our plans this year.

Firstly, we are planning large displays showing a sea of thought-provoking luggage labels, designed to highlight the plight of refugees. Each child attending a service is asked to create an A5 luggage label in a particular colour which will display a link or QR code to the school's Bags of Hope work, a prayer for refugees, information about a refugee etc. **More details and a template follow later in this booklet.**



Secondly, schools are invited to buy and donate a backpack and/or a cuddly Paddington Bear which we will arrange to be passed on to displaced child or young person.

**The Education Team will collect your labels, along with any backpacks and bears, from schools so that the finished displays can be created in time for the first day of the Leavers Services.**

As you can appreciate, we have many dozens of schools across Portsmouth and Winchester Dioceses. So that we don't have to go to each school individually, we are grateful to a selection of headteachers who have their school to be a collection point for surrounding schools. The list of collection point schools appears at the end of this booklet.

**All schools should deliver labels, bags and bears to their collection point school in the week beginning Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June and no later than Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Please note: The arrangements for schools attending Christchurch Priory will be communicated to those schools at a later date.**

## Luggage Labels

### You will need:

The label template contained in this booklet

Yellow, orange or red card (**please refer to the tables below to find the colour you need for your school's labels**)

Thin matching coloured ribbon for your label tie

White plain paper

A hole punch

1. Please photocopy the template onto the coloured card. You should be able to get two out of an A4 piece of card.
2. Cut a rectangle of white to fit on to your luggage label (one side only), leaving a centimetre border of the coloured card showing.
3. Please discuss with the children what they would like to put on their label that would **highlight their work on displaced people**. It may be a QR code linking to their work, information about a refugee or a display in school, it could be a prayer about refugees, facts about refugees or an inspirational quote from a famous refugee.
4. Please glue the paper on to the card, remembering to leave a 1 cm border.
5. Print your school's name on the back of the label in small print.
6. Finally, please use the hole punch to create a hole where you see the black dot on the template and tie your coloured ribbon (ribbon 20cms long should be fine) to your label.



Yellow card
Ropley
Binsted
Chawton
Sparsholt
Whitewater
Western
Barton Stacey & Micheldever
Woolton Hill
Pilgrims Cross
Long Sutton
Bartley
Bramley
St Martins
Preston Candover
Ecchinswell
Lockerley
Milford on Sea
Andrews Endowed
St Francis
Whitchurch
Sherborne St John
St Marys Southampton

Orange card
John Keble
Twyford St Marys
St Lukes Sway
Kimpton & Appleshaw
Vernham Dean
Compton
All Saints
Charles Kingsleys
St Bede
Bitterne
Silchester
Longparish
Highfield
West Tytherley
Romsey Abbey
Overton
William Gilpin
St Marys Bentworth
Dogmersfield
Breamore & Hyde
Medstead

Red card
St Marys Old Basing
Hordle
Selborne
Amport
Oakley
Bursledon
Hurstbourne Tarrant
Clatford
Bransgore
Abbotts Ann
Cranford Park
St Lawrence

St Johns Basingstoke
Otterbourne
Kings Somborne
Bentley
St Faiths
St James West End
Brockenhurst
St Marks Hatch Warren
South Baddesley
Four Marks
Andover

## Backpacks and Paddington Bears

We have tried to create an installation that does not require a large budgetary outlay for schools this year. This is because we are acutely aware of school budgets, but also because we would like each school to consider buying a backpack and/or a cuddly Paddington Bear that we will then donate to a displaced child or young person. It may be that you would like to ask the children to raise money for this, or you may wish to approach your church or PTA. One backpack and/or bear from each school would be fantastic.



**If your school would like to donate a backpack or Paddington, please could we ask that these also have similar luggage label (A4 size) attached with the name and picture of your school on. You may also like to include a QR code linked to the school website.**

The list of collection point schools is below. Please make sure that your school's labels, along with your bear and/or backpack if you are donating either, are delivered between **1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June.**

### Collection point schools

**Please remember: The arrangements for schools attending Christchurch Priory will be communicated to those schools at a later date.**

<b>St Mary's CE Junior School, Old Basing</b>	<b>St Bede CE Primary School, Winchester</b>
<b>Andover CE Primary School</b>	<b>Highfield CE Primary School, Southampton</b>
<b>St Lawrence CE Primary School, Alton</b>	<b>St James CE Primary School, West End</b>
<b>Wickham CE Primary School</b>	<b>St Mark's CE Primary School, Hatch Warren</b>
<b>St Alban's CE Primary School, Havant</b>	<b>Brighstone CE Primary School, Isle of Wight</b>
<b>Horndean CE Junior School</b>	<b>St George's Beneficial CE School, Portsmouth</b>

Further information about the leavers services in Winchester Cathedral, Portsmouth Cathedral and Christchurch Priory will follow for schools.



