

Back to School Sunday



The start of a new school year is a great time to highlight the work of all those in education, the staff and pupils, and to pray for them.

Many churches mark the start of the new school year by incorporating prayer for schools into one of their services in September.

Here are some simple ideas to help your church to pray depending on how much time you have and how interactive you want to be during your morning service.

- 1** Invite a teacher or an adult with another role, and then a pupil, to say briefly where they will be the same time tomorrow. (Ask them in advance and maybe give them the questions to think through.)
 - ◆ What will you be doing this time tomorrow?
 - ◆ What do you enjoy most about being in school?
 - ◆ What's challenging or difficult?
 - ◆ How can we pray for you?
- 2** The service leader can then pray for those interviewed.
- 3** Everyone who will be in school tomorrow can be asked to stand if they're comfortable doing so. Then either the service leader prays for them or ask those near them to reach out a hand and pray for them.
- 4** Before the service, or at this point, give a post-it note and pen to everyone to write down as a reminder one thing they will pray for tomorrow for people at school.
- 5** Some people in the congregation may wish to follow this through and form a regular prayer group for their local school (see <https://www.prayforschools.org/get-involved/>)

If you'd like to do even more to mark 'Back to School Sunday' take a look at this brilliant page of resources from SU Scotland

<https://www.suscotland.org.uk/bsg>

Alternatively check out the resources for Education Sunday, 8th September 2024

<https://cte.org.uk/educationsunday2024/>

