KE

KOINONIA EDUCATIONAL

Expert Educational Consultancy

Education for the Common Good

RESEARCH · POLICY · LEADERSHIP · COACHING

"A growing community of hand-picked, highly experienced academics, policy-makers, leadership coaches and researchers, sharing a passion for the common good."

Prospectus · 2026

United Kingdom · USA · Slovakia · Poland · Ukraine

koin-ed.org · koinonia-educational.com

WHO WE ARE

Values-Driven Educational Excellence

Koinonia Educational Ltd brings together a specially selected community of serving school leaders, current policy-makers, leading UK and international academics, and ICF-certified leadership coaches. We provide relevant, actionable insights from those living the daily challenges of the global education sector.

Our roots lie in the Koinonia Schools' Project, a ground-breaking collaboration of primary, secondary, and international schools, led by Director Simon Uttley and developed in research partnership with St Mary's University, Twickenham. Now in our tenth year, KoinEd Associate Scholars are active across the UK, USA, Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia, and beyond.

> *"We offer a space for peer-reviewed online publication, expert-led public speaking, bespoke research, and executive coaching — all grounded in the shared conviction that education is at the service of the common good."*

Our mission is to gather the best speakers, practitioners, researchers, and coaches for the benefit of the broader education community. As a not-for-profit, we value collaboration, integrity, cultural responsiveness, and a passion for lifelong learning.

WHAT WE OFFER

Our Services

Consultancy & Keynotes

Inspiring keynotes, workshops, and seminars from active leaders sharing proven, practical strategies. Our speakers bring the authority of current headship, professorial research, and policy-making combined. We are proud co-convenors of the Slovak Educational Leadership Conference.

Executive Coaching

Confidential, one-to-one coaching for senior leaders, delivered by experienced and ICF-qualified peers. Our coaching is rooted in real school leadership and the latest behavioural science, including AI-augmented coaching methodologies.

Bespoke Educational Research

Custom research solutions from practitioners and academics that deliver actionable, institution-specific insights. Whether action research, policy review, or ethnographic study, our associates design and deliver with rigour and relevance.

Educational Resource Development

Curated, high-quality educational resources and expert guidance — including peer-reviewed online publication through the Koinonia Educational Press.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

In partnership with Thoughtful (formerly Sapere), we support the implementation of philosophical enquiry in schools — building critical thinking, oracy, and epistemic resilience among young people.

CPD & Formation Programmes

From the Shepherding Talent programme for aspiring Catholic school leaders to bespoke INSET provision, our experts design and deliver professional development that genuinely transforms practice.

OUR PEOPLE

Director & Associate Scholars

Dr Simon Uttley — DIRECTOR

Director, Koinonia Educational Ltd

Educational Leadership · Philosophy of Education · Catholic Social Teaching · Executive Coaching

Simon Uttley is the founder and Director of Koinonia Educational Ltd. A secondary school Principal of more than 21 years' standing, he holds professorships at the University of Notre Dame (USA), London, and is a Visiting Research Professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham. He is also Executive Co-Chair of the Slovak Educational Leadership Conference, a CSI School Inspector, and a global Ambassador for Thoughtful. His expertise spans conference speaking, leadership training, professional coaching, philosophy of education, and Catholic Social Teaching.

Contact: simon@koinonia-educational.com

Sadie Blyth

Headteacher, St Joan of Arc School

School Leadership · Safeguarding · Looked After Children · Wellbeing · Catholic Inspection

In a recent milestone for KoinEd, Sadie Blyth has been appointed Headteacher at St Joan of Arc School. A CSI-licensed inspector, designated safeguarding lead, and designated teacher for Looked After Children, Sadie brings deep expertise in strategic school data analysis, disadvantaged and vulnerable pupil provision, mental health awareness, and teacher wellbeing.

Contact: sadie.blyth76@gmail.com

Dr Kevin Flint

Formerly Reader in Education, Nottingham Trent University; Visiting Professor, Stord/Haugesund University College, Norway

Philosophy of Education · Professional Doctorates · Qualitative Research · Work-Based Learning

With a career spanning school science teaching, mountaineering instruction, and academic leadership, Dr Kevin Flint brings genuinely distinctive philosophical perspectives to educational research. Author of Rethinking Practice, Research and Education (Bloomsbury, 2015) and co-author of Rethinking the Education Improvement Agenda (Continuum, 2012).

Contact: Kevinjflint053@gmail.com

Dr Caroline Healy

Course Lead, MA in Catholic School Leadership — St Mary's University, London

Catholic Identity · Formation of Leaders · Higher Education Policy · Widening Participation

A Fellow of the Higher Education Academy with degrees from the Universities of Wales, Massachusetts, and Brunel, Dr Healy has held higher education roles for over 30 years. Since 2015 she has served as General Secretary of the Catholic Association of Teachers, Schools and Colleges for England & Wales, and in 2022 was elected to the Executive of the World Union of Catholic Teachers. Awarded the prestigious International Marist Brothers Medal in 2023.

Contact: caroline.healy@stmarys.ac.uk

Judy L. Hutchinson

Senior Associate Director, Notre Dame Global — University of Notre Dame, USA

International Education · Study Abroad · Student Formation · Catholic Higher Education

A senior international education professional with the University of Notre Dame since 2007, Judy served as Director of Student Affairs for Notre Dame's London Programme (2013–2018). A doctoral researcher examining how mission informs internationalisation strategy in Catholic higher education.

Contact: jhutchinson@nd.edu

Professor John Lydon KC*HS

Professor of Catholic Education — St Mary's University, London

Catholic School Leadership · Spiritual Capital · Religious Charisms · Moral Theology

Holder of a PhD from the University of Surrey, John Lydon is a globally recognised authority on Catholic education. Professor at both St Mary's University, London, and the University of Notre Dame, and a Visiting Professor at the Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomás in the Philippines. Executive Editor of the International Studies in Catholic Education journal.

Contact: john.lydon@stmarys.ac.uk

Panos Malakoudis

ICF Award-Winner; Forbes Coaches Council Member; ICF UK Board Director

AI & Coaching · Leadership Development · Behavioural Transformation · ICF Coaching

KoinEd's Distinguished Associate Scholar, Panos Malakoudis, brings 25 years of leadership experience. At Microsoft, he led the coaching strategy for over 75,000 employees and pioneered a Guinness World Record AI-augmented coaching initiative yielding $76M in value and a 670% ROI. An ICF UK Board Director and AI Coaching Coalition advisor.

Contact: Panos.malakoudis@citiumsolutions.co.uk

Dr Louise McGowan FRSA

Headmistress, St Claudine's Catholic School for Girls, London

Catholic Headship · Autoethnography · Lay Faith Leadership · Social Justice

With 32 years in secondary education, 25 in senior leadership, and 15 in headship, Dr Louise McGowan EdD is one of the most experienced Catholic school leaders in the country. Her autoethnographic scholarship — published by Springer and Routledge — offers first-person perspectives on faith, leadership, social justice, and post-pandemic headship.

Contact: lmcgowan@stclaudines.co.uk

Dr Ann Marie Mealey

Archdiocese of Southwark; formerly Director of Catholic Mission, Leeds Trinity University

Ethics & Values · Faith & Society · Mission Strategy · Social Justice · G20 Policy

A qualified ethicist with an international profile, Dr Ann Marie Mealey works at the intersection of ethics, values, faith, and civic life. She designed the first institutional mission strategy for a faith-based university in the UK and has had her research included in official communiqués for the Values 20 group, which shapes G20 policy.

Contact: annmmealey@rcaos.org.uk

Dr Paul Rowan

Assistant Headteacher (Catholic Life & Formation), Beaulieu Convent School, Jersey

Catholic Theology · RS/RE Reform · Apologetics · G.K. Chesterton · Faith & Culture

Dr Paul Rowan is a theologian, author, and broadcaster. He served on the Catholic Education Service's team developing the new RS GCSE/A Level for England and Wales (2014–2017). A member of the Board of Religious Studies of the Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Catholic Theological Association of Great Britain.

Contact: dr.paul.rowan@outlook.com

Emma Swinn MBE

Co-Director, Thoughtful; Visiting Research Associate, King's College London

Philosophy for Children · Philosophical Enquiry · Cognitive Development · Social Enterprise

Emma Swinn was awarded an MBE for services to innovation in the 2020 New Year Honours. As co-founder of The Philosophy Foundation and now Director of the national charity Thoughtful, she has built one of the UK's most distinctive educational organisations. President of SOPHIA (European Foundation for the Advancement of Philosophy with Children).

Contact: emmaswinn@sapere.org.uk

Shingirirai Hopkins

Doctoral Researcher in History; Educator, Hugh Faringdon Catholic School

Decolonising Curriculum · African History · Oral History · Citizenship Education · Global Learning

Shingirirai Hopkins brings together classroom teaching, doctoral research and public engagement. Her doctoral work examines women, land and belonging in Zimbabwe from the colonial period to the Fast Track Land Reform Programme. She contributes to research-led curriculum and decolonial education initiatives, connecting academic research with classroom and public educational practice. A participant in the Horasis Global Meeting 2025, she contributes to discussions on sustainable development and skills for the future.

Contact: s.hopkins@hughfaringdon.org

Bhavn Khaira

Group Head of Transformation, Emagine

Executive Coaching · Career Coaching · Transformational Coaching · Organisational Change

Bhavn Khaira has worked in change and transformation for 25 years, spanning technological, business, and people change across financial services, retail, utilities, manufacturing, mining, and the public sector. As Group Head of Transformation at Emagine, she brings cross-sector insight to executive and career coaching, supporting leaders navigating significant structural and organisational change.

Contact: Bhavn.khaira@gmail.com

Dr Vanessa Mitchell

Vice Principal, Blanchelande College, Guernsey

Pastoral Leadership · Student Wellbeing · Psychology · Whole-School Leadership · Inspection Readiness

Dr Vanessa Mitchell holds a BSc (Hons) and PhD in Psychology and brings over 15 years of experience in senior educational leadership, including roles as Assistant Head, Deputy Principal, Head of Sixth Form, and Head of Department. She has led schools through inspection, achieving outstanding judgements in all areas. A published researcher and former GSA Pastoral Cluster Lead, she led her school to the Wellbeing Award for Schools accreditation, embedding wellbeing as a whole-school cultural priority.

Contact: drvamitchell@gmail.com

Dr Joel Arda

Senior Leader; EdD, St Mary's University, Twickenham

Digital Strategy · AI in Education · Workload Leadership · Online Learning Platforms · GDPR

Dr Joel Arda leads digital strategy at St Michael's Catholic College, encompassing AI integration, online learning platforms, information systems, GDPR compliance, and a 1:1 laptop programme. His EdD research, completed at St Mary's University, examined how assistant headteachers can optimise teaching staff workload in maintained secondary schools and academies. He brings a distinctively practical perspective on digital leadership in Catholic secondary education.

Contact: joelarda@outlook.com

Dr Donna Maria Poade

Research Lead, Space, Place and Wellbeing — Falmouth University

Psychological Wellbeing · AI Ethics in Education · Ethical Leadership · Qualitative Research · Higher Education

Dr Donna Maria Poade's expertise sits at the intersection of ethics, education, wellbeing, and emerging technologies. As Research Lead for Space, Place and Wellbeing at Falmouth University, and a trainee psychotherapist, she combines academic rigour with compassionate practice. She is currently leading a large collaborative project examining the safe and ethical use of AI for mental health and wellbeing in higher education. She is also External Examiner for two UK institutions and founded an annual wellbeing festival in Cornwall.

Contact: Donna.poade@falmouth.ac.uk

EXECUTIVE COACHING

Meet Our Coaching Team

KoinEd's coaching provision is delivered by ICF-certified coaches who bring the lived experience of leadership in education and beyond. Our coaching is confidential, one-to-one, and shaped around the realities of leading schools, trusts and educational organisations. All coaches are governed by the International Coaching Federation (ICF) Code of Ethics and combine professional rigour with genuine practitioner insight.

"Coaching is an ongoing process lasting throughout professional life."

Coach Simon Uttley

Director, Koinonia Educational · Professor of Education, University of Notre Dame, London

Simon is a serving Headteacher with over twenty years in school leadership, alongside academic posts as Professor of Education at the University of Notre Dame, London, and Research Visiting Professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham. He offers one-to-one coaching for headteachers, senior leaders and aspiring leaders, drawing on lived experience of headship, governance and inspection, alongside ICF-informed coaching practice. As a serving school leader, Simon brings the perspective of someone still in the chair, facing the challenges and the excitement that go with the role.

School Leadership · Headship · Governance · ICF Coaching · Catholic Education

Contact: simon@koinonia-educational.com

Coach Panos Malakoudis

ICF Award-Winner · Forbes Coaches Council · ICF UK Board Director

Panos is an ICF Award-winner, Forbes Coaches Council member and ICF UK Board Director, with 25 years of leadership experience and a global perspective. At Microsoft, he led the coaching strategy for over 75,000 employees and pioneered a Guinness World Record AI-augmented coaching initiative yielding $76M in value and a 670% ROI. As an AI Coaching Coalition advisor, Panos specialises at the intersection of leadership, behavioural transformation and emerging technology. He brings enterprise-scale coaching credentials and a distinctively forward-looking focus on how leadership evolves alongside AI. For educational leaders thinking about the future of their organisation as much as the present, he offers a rare and authoritative vantage point.

AI & Coaching · Behavioural Transformation · Leadership Development · Enterprise Coaching

Contact: Panos.malakoudis@citiumsolutions.co.uk

Coach Bhavn Khaira

Group Head of Transformation, Emagine

Bhavn Khaira brings 25 years of experience leading change and transformation across financial services, retail, utilities, manufacturing, mining and the public sector. As Group Head of Transformation at Emagine, her career spans the technological, structural and human dimensions of organisational change at the most senior level. Bhavn offers executive, career and transformational coaching for leaders navigating significant change — in role, organisation or sector. Educational leaders today face the same forces reshaping every other sector: structural change, technological shift and pressure to do more with less. Bhavn brings cross-sector insight from leaders who have navigated those pressures, offering a wider and highly practical lens on the challenges facing schools and trusts.

Transformational Coaching · Executive Coaching · Career Coaching · Organisational Change

Contact: Bhavn.khaira@gmail.com

Our Approach to Coaching

Confidential · ICF-Regulated · Practitioner-Led · Reflective · Sustainable

Every coaching engagement begins with a 30-minute exploratory conversation to understand your context and goals. Sessions are delivered online or in person, shaped entirely around you and your leadership priorities.

Confidential Reflection · Coaching creates protected space for educational leaders to reflect openly, examine challenges carefully and think with greater clarity and perspective.

Ethical Practice · Our work is guided by the ICF Code of Ethics, clear professional boundaries and internationally recognised standards that prioritise trust, integrity and accountability.

Sustainable Leadership · We support leaders in building reflective, sustainable habits for the long term.

Practitioner Insight · All of our coaches have worked in or alongside educational organisations. Their coaching is grounded in an understanding of what school leadership actually demands — from governance to inspection, from staff wellbeing to strategic transformation.

ICF Standards · KoinEd coaches operate under International Coaching Federation standards, assuring clients of ethical practice, competence and accountability.

"Whether navigating leadership complexity, career transition or organisational change, coaching provides structured space for thoughtful professional reflection."

DIRECTOR'S BLOG & RESOURCES

Recent Publications & Articles

The Koinonia Educational Press and Director's Blog offer a space for peer-reviewed reflection, policy analysis, and practitioner scholarship. Below is a review of the most recently published articles from our network.

May 2026 · Director's Blog · Simon Uttley

What is Truth?

A major scholarly article exploring the challenge of teaching truth as a philosophical concept in schools. Ranging across the history of philosophy from Plato and Aristotle through Descartes, Dewey, and Tarski to contemporary analytic and pluralist theories, the piece proposes Socratic questioning, thought experiments, case-based reasoning, and cross-curricular integration.

February 2026 · Director's Blog · Simon Uttley

'Every Child Achieving and Thriving' — The KoinEd Summary and Further Questions

An authoritative analysis of the Government's landmark Education White Paper (DfE, February 2026). Uttley provides a comprehensive phase-by-phase summary covering SEND reform, curriculum and assessment change, the new enrichment entitlement, workforce strategy, and the move to universal school trust membership.

February 2026 · Director's Blog · Simon Uttley

Character Education in Special Educational Needs: Developing Virtue and Flourishing

Drawing on Aristotelian virtue ethics, this article argues that holistic character education is not an enrichment of schooling but its very foundation — particularly for pupils with Special Educational Needs. Practical strategies include peer mentoring, restorative approaches, and personalised character targets within EHCPs.

May 2026 · Director's Blog · Simon Uttley

KoinEd Distinguished Associate Scholar Sadie Blyth Appointed Headteacher at St Joan of Arc School

Koinonia Educational celebrates the appointment of Distinguished Associate Scholar Sadie Blyth as Headteacher of St Joan of Arc Catholic School in Rickmansworth from September 2026 — a proud moment for the KoinEd community and a testament to the calibre of practitioners within our network.

KOINONIA EDUCATIONAL PRESS

Submission of Articles for Consideration

The Koinonia Educational Press is a peer-reviewed open-access e-journal publishing scholarly and practitioner articles at the intersection of educational research, leadership, policy, faith, and the common good. All submissions undergo a double-blind peer review process.

Short Article — 1,500 Words

Concise, focused contributions offering a practitioner perspective, research summary, policy commentary, or reflective case study. Ideal for serving leaders, emerging researchers, or those introducing a new idea to the field.

Format: Abstract (150 words max) · Main text · Up to 15 references · Up to 1 figure · Author biography (75 words)

Full Article — 3,500–5,000 Words

Substantive scholarly or practitioner articles presenting original research, theoretical analysis, literature reviews, or in-depth policy critique. Empirical, conceptual, and methodological contributions are all welcomed.

Format: Abstract (200 words max) · Keywords (4–6) · Subheadings · Conclusion · APA 7th references · Up to 3 figures · Author biography (100 words)

Submission Guidelines

- Submit as a Word document (.docx) with no identifying information in the body text. A separate cover sheet must include: title, author name(s), affiliation, contact email, and ORCID if available.
- References must follow APA 7th Edition. All in-text citations must correspond to the reference list.
- Work must be original, previously unpublished, and not currently under review elsewhere. Where research involves human participants, include a brief ethics statement.
- Initial decisions are provided within eight weeks. Accepted articles are published open-access at no charge to authors.

Submit to: **press@koinonia-educational.com**

JOIN THE COMMUNITY

Becoming an Associate Scholar

Koinonia Educational Associate Scholars are a carefully curated community of outstanding individuals whose work advances the frontiers of educational research, policy, leadership, and practice. Membership is by invitation and selection.

Associate Scholars are selected on the basis of demonstrated excellence across one or more of the following areas:

- Excellence in educational research, with a peer-reviewed publication record
- Significant impact in educational policy-making at the national or international level
- Distinguished leadership in educational institutions, including headship and trust leadership
- Expertise in leadership development, including qualified coaching (e.g. ICF accreditation)
- Widely recognised contributions to educational discourse, including through media, public speaking, or policy consultancy
- Contribution to faith-based education, Catholic Social Teaching, or values-driven institutional formation
- Eminent scholarly work whose influence is acknowledged across the international education community
- Practitioner-scholar integration: bridging the academic and professional worlds with credibility in both

KoinEd Associate Scholars benefit from a global peer network, publication opportunities through the Koinonia Educational Press, a platform for keynotes and CPD delivery, and collaborative research partnerships across the UK, USA, Europe, and beyond.

We invite applications from those who feel they meet the criteria above. Upon receipt of an expression of interest at the email address below, we will send you an application form, along with a request for two referees. All applications will be reviewed by our Board.

To be considered, please send your expression of interest to: **AssociateScholar@koinonia-educational.com**

GET IN TOUCH

Start the Conversation

Whether you are looking for a conference speaker, INSET provider, bespoke leadership consultancy, policy guidance, executive coaching, or access to our peer-reviewed resources — we are here to support you.

Contact Details

Phone: 0203 432 3243
Email: admin@koinonia-educational.com
Address: Room 360, 60 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 2EW
Web: www.koin-ed.org · www.koinonia-educational.com

Our Partners

St Mary's University London

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School

Securus

Education Partnership Board Reading

© 2026 Koinonia Educational Ltd · Not for profit · All rights reserved

Education at the Service of the Common Good