

FAITH IN ACTION AWARD

POPE FRANCIS

‘Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the Gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!’



FAITH
IN ACTION

SINCE 2016... (THE LAUNCH)

THIS YEAR :
2,073

Next year we hope to
keep this number as
high, if not better.

2016-2017: 446

2017-2018: 762

2018-2019: 942

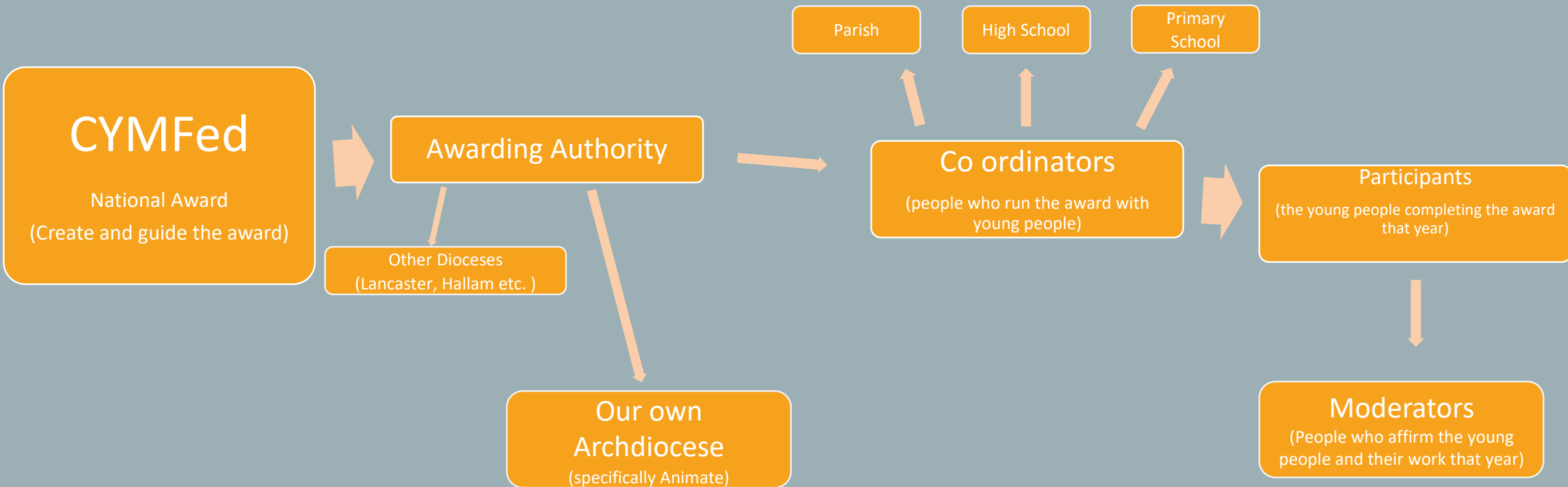
2019-2020: 1273

2020-2021: 542

2021-2022: 697

2022-2023: 823

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE AWARD?



SUMMARY OF THE AWARD

There are four levels of award: Pin, Bronze, Silver and Gold.

The awards 'home base' is either in a parish or a school.

Participants accrue credits of service in their parish and / or school and the wider community.

The Faith in Action Award builds on what young people already experience in serving others, asking them to reflect upon it so that they may find new ways of living out and exploring their faith.

There is an opportunity for both guided reflections, through group reflection points (4 reflections) and personal reflection, through journaling.

At the end of the scheme, participants submit a final piece of work for affirmation before being awarded their Faith in Action Award.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FROM CYMFED FOR THIS AWARD

The Faith in Action Award is designed to be flexible. However, to ensure the integrity and consistency of the Award, there are a few mandatory requirements to follow:

Participating Organisations must be registered with an Awarding Authority ✓

4 reflection points in a minimum of two meetings and must cover a minimum of six hours ?

Each reflection point must cover God's story, Church story and Personal story ?

Gaining credits for service in two places ("home and away") after Pin level ✓

Young people must submit a final piece of work for moderation ✓

Young people must journal through the award showing service and reflection on that service and *submit the journal with their final piece of work (Come back to)* ✗

A celebration must take place at the end of the award year to celebrate the achievements of the young people who have completed the Award ✓

Please take a moment to look at our response to the expectations of the award and see if you agree.

AWARD

LEVELS

UPDATED BY CYMFED THIS YEAR

AWARD BADGES AND TITLES OF EACH AWARD HAVE CHANGED THIS YEAR.

NEW LEVEL NAMES

Pin, Discovery – Bronze, Service – Silver, Leadership – Gold, Innovation,

OLD LEVEL NAMES

Pin, Seeking – Bronze, Belonging – Silver, Vocation – Gold, Mission

OLD BADGES



NEW BADGES



PIN AWARD – USED TO BE SEEKING NEW DISCOVERY



Pin Level is for young people of Year 6 age (10/11), or older. It is designed to allow young people to discover how faith shapes lives, thus acting as a stepping stone to the higher award levels. The requirements of Pin Level should fit alongside existing structures within your parish or school and should be undertaken as a class or group.

Having taken early steps in establishing a personal relationship with God, participants begin to see that this relationship has an outward and visible effect upon them and those around them. As they seek to know God better, they become aware that others, of all ages, are trying to do the same. This draws us together in community. Seeking to serve the community helps us discover even more about ourselves, each other and God.

BRONZE AWARD – USED TO BE BELONGING NEW SERVICE



Bronze Level rewards service in faith and helps participants understand how faith binds people together so that they all belong to the community we call the Church. This award level is accessed by young people no younger than Y7 school age. Young people engaged in this level will begin to see that their faith and action not only makes them belong to a community, but makes them responsible in some small way for the well-being of all others who belong, too.

To achieve this level, participants need to regularly play a substantive role in school or parish events which show that they understand belonging to community involves responsibility for it and also take a role in events away from their home base. Young people who have achieved Pin Level of the award may wish to carry on the same involvements such as reading and serving in their Parish. However, at this level, young people should be more active in their participation. Award Leaders can encourage young people in being more active.

SILVER AWARD – USED TO BE VOCATION

NEW LEADERSHIP



Requiring a level of leadership, Silver Level encourages young people to ask themselves "What kind of person do I really want to be?" In answering this question, young people begin to discern their vocation as a gift from God and responding to that gift in faith. As a result of journeying through this award level, participants should realise what they do is a direct consequence of the kind of person they are. It requires more than just 'doing good'. 'Being' good people shaped by the desire to answer God's call is a different endeavour to 'doing' good things. Participants are challenged to respond to that call.

Silver Level recognises and encourages a maturity of faith which is expressed in terms of leadership and initiative.

If entering the award scheme at this level, young people must show evidence of not only playing an active role in activities, but taking the lead. If following on from bronze level, the service may be shown as development / improving understanding.

GOLD AWARD – USED TO BE MISSION NOW INNOVATION



Gold Level not only requires ongoing commitment to active service, but innovation. This award promotes new spiritual and personal growth. It rewards a maturity of faith which leads to innovation and development in terms of outreach and missionary work on behalf the Church community. Participants will clearly see the link between their growth and the well-being of those they hope to serve.

To achieve this level, participants must have first completed Silver Level before progressing to Gold. As with every award level progression, more credits of service are required. However, Gold Level challenges participants to be true missionary disciples. This is evidenced through a committed approach to regular acts of service and involvement and evidence of innovation and development. As a missionary disciple, some acts of service would have to be done independently outside of existing parish structures for the missionary aspect to really mean something. This could be, for example, taking a leadership role on a Lourdes pilgrimage, organising a charity fundraiser. The individual would be expected to take ownership of these events and organise their involvement appropriately. They would be expected to engage in wider issues surrounding the events in which they are participating and so come to a broader understanding of the Church's call for engagement in the corporal works of mercy.

DISCUSSION/
FEEDBACK TIME

REFLECTION POINT SESSIONS

The format for Reflection Points is based on the good practice through modelling the RCIA model of Catechesis. This includes:

- The Good News - *Sacred Scripture*
- The Church Story - *Teachings of the Church (Catholic Social Teaching, Apostolic Exhortations etc) and the stories of the lives of the Holy men and women*
- Personal Story - *The personal reflection of the participants based upon their experience*

Reflection Point downloads are available from the CYMFed members area.

Personal Note – From a Diocesan view I think that it's important that we meet our young people where they are at. If this means that including the 'catholic social teaching' input , for example, in a reflection may be too much for them, then don't. This is completely up to you as the co ordinator.

REFLECTION POINTS

NEW

LOVE

- We are loved
- Loving our neighbour

SERVICE

- Building the Kingdom of God
- Servant Leadership



DISCUSSION/
FEEDBACK TIME

CREDITS

THE ACTIVE WORK FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE CHANGED FROM A TIME SYSTEM TO CREDITS.

MORE INFORMATION REGARDING CREDITS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CYMFED WEBSITE AND EXAMPLES ARE GIVEN FOR LEVELS SILVER AND GOLD.

THESE ARE CYMFEDS EXPECTATIONS

Level	In- School/ Parish Credits	Out-of-School/ Parish Credits	Expectations
PIN Discovery (Year 6 +)	20	0	Taking a lead role in school events which serve others.
BRONZE Service (Year 7 +)	20	10	Taking a lead role in school events which serve others (20 Hours) Taking a lead role in events outside of school (10 Hours)
SILVER Leadership	20	15	Taking a lead role in school events which serve others (20 Hours) Taking a lead role in events outside of school (10 Hours) AND Organising an event independently (5 Hours)
GOLD Innovation	20	20	Taking a lead role in school events which serve others (20 Hours) Taking a lead role in events outside of school (5 Hours) Organising an event independently (5 Hours) AND Regular participation in service to others outside of school/ parish (10 Hours)

DISCUSSION/
FEEDBACK TIME

FINAL PIECES

Towards the end of their Faith in Action journey, young people submit a final piece of work which evidences their spiritual journey during the award. As the Faith in Action Award is accessible and inclusive, this final piece does not have to be an essay; we encourage young people to be creative as possible. Examples of the final piece of work could be:

Song

Written piece (no more than two sides of A4)

Artwork

Video

Presentation

Poem

Whatever medium the young person chooses to use for their final piece, it should show their experience, learning reflection and faith. Provided that the participant has engaged properly with the scheme and has been well-led through the reflection points, **with a well kept journal (?)**, there should be no question of passing or failing. Final pieces of work are moderated, not marked.

It is in this moderation that their leaders can provide encouragement to the young person.

The logo for 'FAITH IN ACTION' is displayed within a white square frame with orange corner brackets. The word 'FAITH' is in a large, bold, black sans-serif font, and 'IN ACTION' is in a smaller, bold, black sans-serif font below it. The word 'ACTION' has an orange underline.

FAITH
IN ACTION

JOURNALS

It has been advised from CYMFed that each final piece is given in with their journal.

There are two main reasons in which I find this to not be the case for our Archdiocese:

1. Although participants should reflect on their own journey through the year, I don't think all young people want to reflect on this by using only one medium (a journal).
2. A journal of any kind created by a young person can be a form of privacy. In my own personal view, I wouldn't want someone 'random' looking at all my worries, fears and experiences of faith.
3. The number of young people we have completing the award to the number of young people other Dioceses have doesn't compare. Some dioceses only have 30 max signed up, from our point of view and even yours this expectation is unrealistic.

Therefore, journals will not be handed in with your final pieces.

AWARD CEREMONY AND CERTIFICATE/BADGES

CYMFed have asked every awarding authority to have a ceremony each year, this year we will have two **Tuesday, 24th June and Wednesday, 25th June 2025 (Details to be confirmed)**

This is one of the main reasons for the award being created back in 2016. The award ceremony allows all young people to come together in one place and celebrate their own dedication and work throughout the year with others who have done the same.

There have been occasions when the numbers attending this ceremony have been lower than we would have liked.

While it is fine to have a ceremony in a school or parish, to not attend the diocesan event removes from the diocesan nature of the award. Having a diocesan event is an opportunity for the diocese, represented by the Archbishop, to thank and reward young people for what they have done. It is also aspirational in the sense that young people can see the numbers involved and aspire to want to do more in the future and see that they are not acting alone.

It is highly recommended that schools / parishes make every effort to attend the awards ceremony.

For this reason, certificate, badges and final moderated pieces will only be available to pick up from Lowe House after Wednesday, 25th June.

We have also had schools not pick up certificate, badges and final moderated pieces from Lowe House. Once again, this is a national award and the young people without their certificate will not be able to prove that they have completed it.

HOW DO I SIGN UP THIS YEAR?

CYMFed

WHAT THEY ASK YOU TO DO...

Some of you may remember the official Faith In Action Leaders Guide (72 pages). This book has now gone electronic, to access the information you must sign up and become a member. You can still use your old book if you prefer, though.

Visit faithinactionaward.co.uk/register, this should then give you admission to the back end of the website known as the 'members' area'.

Please note if you have any issues with this, we (Animate/ Archdiocese of Liverpool) cannot help with this.

You will have to contact admin@cymfed.org.uk.

Please do not contact Animate if you have queries with the CYMFed site as we cannot help with logging on or offer much assistance on how that site is run.

YOU MUST VISIT THE CYMFED LINK TO ACCESS THE NEW CHANGES AND RESOURCES - [HTTPS://FAITHINACTIONAWARD.CO.UK/REGISTER](https://faithinactionaward.co.uk/register)



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[Testimonials](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Members' Area](#)

[Home](#) » [Registration](#)

Registration

Register

To register with this website, please first read the terms and conditions below and then complete the form. Items marked with a * must be completed in order for your registration to be processed.

deemed to be using this website inappropriately.

Mandatory Requirements of the Faith in Action Award

1. Participating Organisations must be registered with an Awarding Authority.
2. Participants of the Faith in Action Award must take part in four reflection points. These can be covered in a minimum of two meetings, as long as the total time of reflection is a minimum of six hours.
3. Each reflection point must cover God's story. Church story and personal story (please see guidance on Reflection Points for more information).

HOW DO I SIGN UP THIS YEAR?

Archdiocese of Liverpool

WHAT I NEED YOU TO DO...

We need you to sign up your school/parish using Microsoft Forms.
Here is the link - <https://forms.office.com/e/HYrbMf5CbZ>

This must be completed by the 6th January to ensure your school/parish is enrolled.

Later on in the year I will send an update with new information and reminders but please feel free to email me throughout the year if you have any questions
– l.lynch@animateyouth.co.uk

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HEAD OVER TO ANIMATEYOUTH.ORG

Click Here



Registration

Please register your school/parish using this link <https://forms.office.com/e/HYrbMf5CbZ>

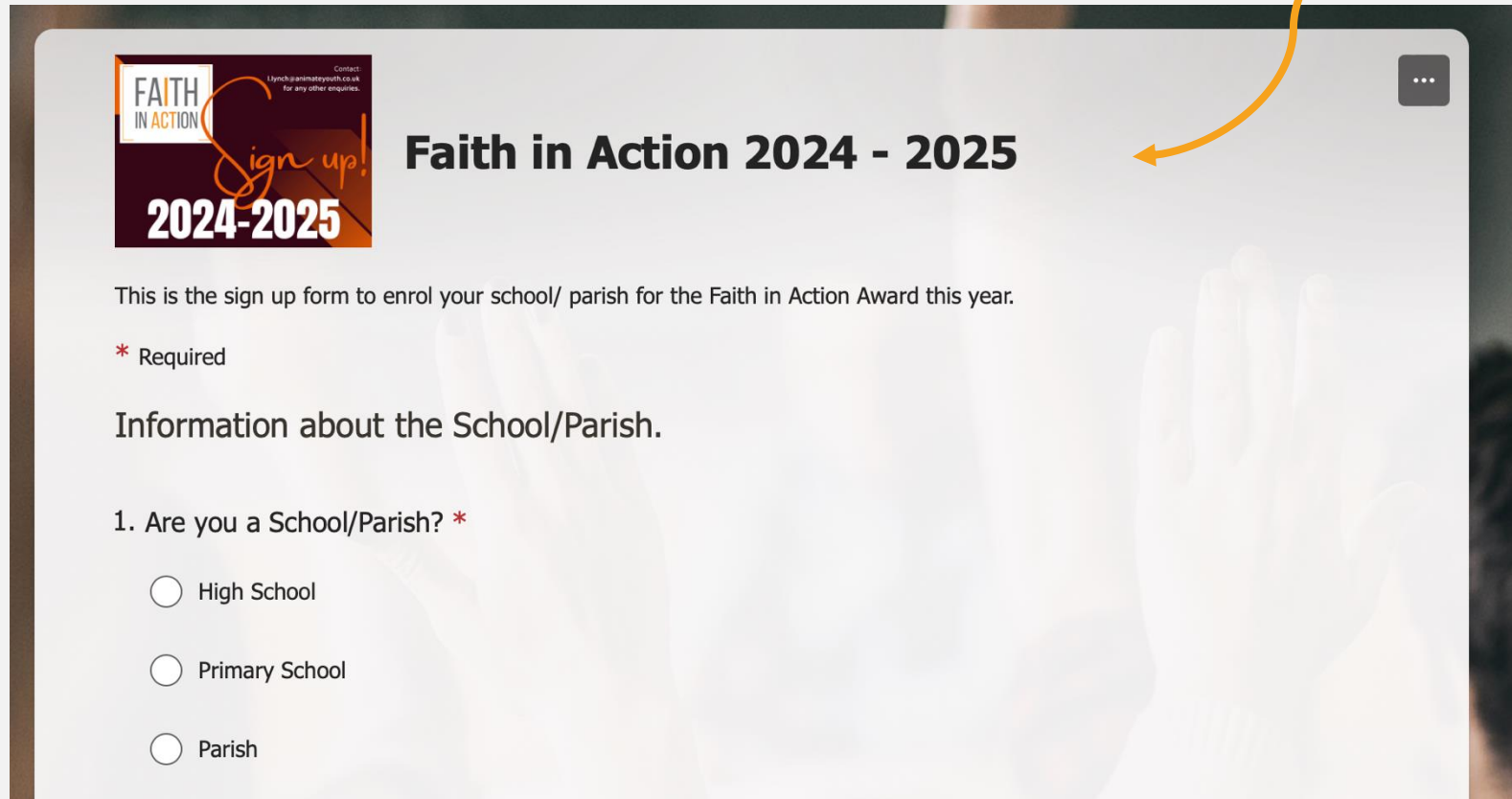
If you do not have access to the internet/emails please phone the office here and we can register for you (01744 740461/ 01744 460463).

We now use credits rather than hours. However, if you have been doing the award for a few years and feel more comfortable continuing as you have then please feel free.

Meetings

SIGN UP VIA MICROSOFT FORMS

(WHICH SHOULD LOOK LIKE THIS)



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Form interface. At the top left is a logo for 'FAITH IN ACTION' with 'Sign up! 2024-2025' written in a script font. To the right of the logo is the title 'Faith in Action 2024 - 2025'. Below the title is a paragraph: 'This is the sign up form to enrol your school/ parish for the Faith in Action Award this year.' Below that is a red asterisk followed by the word 'Required'. Underneath is the heading 'Information about the School/Parish.' followed by a numbered question: '1. Are you a School/Parish? *'. There are three radio button options: 'High School', 'Primary School', and 'Parish'. An orange arrow points from the top text to the form's title area.

FAITH IN ACTION Sign up! 2024-2025

Faith in Action 2024 - 2025

This is the sign up form to enrol your school/ parish for the Faith in Action Award this year.

* Required

Information about the School/Parish.

1. Are you a School/Parish? *

High School

Primary School

Parish

WE HAVE A NUMBER OF SESSIONS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE ANIMATEYOUTH.ORG – FAITH IN ACTION

Reflection Point 1

WE ARE LOVED

In this reflection point, we will explore what it means to be loved. Using the parable of the Prodigal Son, we will reflect on how God's love for us is unconditional and everlasting. We will then discuss how our experience of love affects the way in which we live our lives and love one another.

Below are some resources to help you with the reflection point. A guided video led by the Animate Team, and some timetables with attached resources so that coordinators can lead the reflection point themselves.



[We-Are-Loved-Primary-School](#) Download

[We-Are-Loved-High-School](#) Download

Four reflection points via YouTube led by the animate team. (If you are unable to lead the reflection points yourself).

Primary and Secondary sessions created by Animate for each reflection point.

QUESTIONS?

WHAT DATES ARE GOOD TO KEEP IN MIND?

YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SIGN UP AFTER THE 6th JANUARY 2025

DEADLINE FOR FINAL PIECES - Wednesday, 21st May 2025

(To be sent/dropped off at Lowe House, 99 Crab Street, St Helens, WA10 2BE)

MODERATORS/ VOLUNTEERS EVENING – Friday, 23rd May 2025

(If you would like to help with the award in other ways or know someone who will, please let me know - l.lynch@animateyouth.co.uk)

MODERATORS DEADLINE – Thursday, 19th June 2025

AWARD CEREMONIES –

Tuesday, 24th June 2025

Wednesday, 25th June 2025

More details to be confirmed.

FIA PHOTO REEL

This year we wanted the young people to be recognised for their work through social media, so other schools/ parents/ guardians could be a witness to their work.

For this to happen each time you lead or do work towards the award please tag us with

@animateyouth

#liverpoolfia

We would also like to create a photo reel with these images and videos for the end of the year to show parents/guardians and the community what the young people have been up to!

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THIS AS IT IS NOT IN YOUR BOOKLETS.

PARTICIPANTS

Last year's participants will soon be available
to see on animateyouth.org

ANY GOLD CANDIDATES FROM LAST YEAR???



We hope to make the same offer next year so make sure you sign up to do the FIA Gold Award at your school or parish in 2024-25 for Lourdes 2026!!

CALLING ALL FIA

GOLD

AWARD WINNERS FROM JUNE 2024

If you received a Gold Award in the Faith in Action Award in June 2024 you are eligible for a **£100 reduction** in the price of the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage.

1. Apply at liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk.
2. Contact the pilgrimage office within one week of application (admin@animateyouth.co.uk or 01744 740461) to inform us that you completed the Gold Award last year.
3. We will check the database and then simply reduce the overall cost you have to pay.

~~£710~~

Terms And Conditions
This offer only applies to those who completed their FIA Gold Award in the last academic year (2023-24).
Animate Youth Ministries will check the database they hold of names who completed the award last year. The decision made by Animate Youth Ministries will be final.
If you would like to check that your name is on the database before applying please contact admin@animateyouth.co.uk

£610

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