

RELIGION & THEOLOGY TIMELINE

Sedbergh was founded as a Chantry School, meaning Christian worship and faith were there from the beginning. The School has produced a steady stream of ministers serving in a wide range of areas including academia and as bishops. The subject of RS continues to flourish at the School with current Upper Sixth pupils intending to pursue study at degree level.

Rev. Paul Sweeting, Chaplain

- 1500's
- 1600's
- 1700's
- 1800's
- 1900-50
- 1950-1999
- 2000-2005
- 2005-present

Ernest Inman

1901-06
Won the Wilson Run in 1905 and 1906. Ordained in 1911. A gunner in WWII then became Chaplain at Lichfield Theological College 1920-1929.



1900

Henry George Hart published a book of sermons.

1900

A Bishop's Licence was granted for "the performance of Public Worship in the new permanent Chapel of the Sedbergh Grammar School". This allows the chapel to be used for worship at baptism, confirmations, funerals and memorial services as well as the regular worship events.



1897

Stone chapel built. Master Bernard Wilson (1876-1913) was instrumental in raising money for the stone chapel and 1200 subscribers donated funds. A design was created by Paley and Austin architects. The foundation stone was laid in June 1895 by Bishop Boyd Carpenter of Ripon. The service of dedication was conducted on 9th October 1897 by the Bishop of Ripon.



1890

Wooden chapel built. The structure which was close to the current Boer War memorial was formally opened by the Bishop of Richmond. In November 1893 a storm damaged the building and worship returned to St. Andrews Parish church.



1883

Headmaster Henry George Hart moved worship to a chapel he established in the ground floor of the Old School, now the library.



Henry Clarke

c.1860
Co-wrote 'History of Sedbergh School 1525-1925' with Headmaster W. N. Weech. Dedicated the Cloisters in capacity as Archbishop. 1903 emigrated to Australia. 1905 became first Archbishop of Melbourne and Metropolitan of Victoria.



1959

Chapel extended to accommodate growing number of pupils, paid for by Thomas (P 24-28) and Gilbert (P 25-28) Hudson. The pews for the extension were given by Sir Wavell Wakefield (SH 12-16).

The Right Reverend Professor N Thomas Wright

Powell House 1962-67
In 1973 he received a BA in theology. 1975-81 fellow and chaplain at Merton College, Oxford and at Downing College, Cambridge. Assistant professor of New Testament studies at McGill University, Montreal 1981-86, then chaplain, fellow and tutor at Worcester College and lecturer at the University of Oxford 1986-93. Dean of Lichfield Cathedral 1994-99. Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey in 2000. In 2003, he became the Bishop of Durham. Retired in 2010 and became Research Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at St. Mary's College, St. Andrews. Awarded a Doctor of Divinity by the University of Oxford. The author of over 70 books, he is highly regarded in academic and theological circles. School Governor 2000-11.



The Venerable Nick Barker

Evans House 1963-68
After taking a theology degree at Oxford, and studying for ordination at Trinity College, Bristol he was curate at St. Mary, Watford from 1977 to 1980, Team Vicar of St. James & Emmanuel, Didsbury 1980-86, then Team Rector, St. George, Kidderminster 1986-2007. He was the Archdeacon of Auckland and Priest in Charge of Holy Trinity, Darlington, Diocese of Durham from 2007 until retirement in 2017. A School Governor 2011-present, he is the representative for the Lord Archbishop of York on the School Board.



1965

Christian Study Group established. Now known as TGI Thursday, the group meets weekly with the Chaplain and visiting speakers to discuss current affairs such as the Parable of the Good Samaritan, religious art, Amnesty International and 'Grill the Chaplain'.

Chris Griffin

Staff 1998-2017
Chaplain 1998-2005
Chris was Chaplain for 7 years and was also a soccer coach (2nd XI) and played an essential part in the formative years of girls at Sedbergh.



1991

The most recent stained glass window is at the west end of the extension and was given by Michael Adams (W 46-50) and his family. It depicts School House set in the surrounding fells with local flora and fauna with the inscription "Benedicite Omnia Opera...All ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord".



2005

Cloisters were renovated and a service of rededication was conducted by the Very Reverend N. T. Wright.

Reverend Paul Sweeting

2006-present
Chaplain
Paul began his teaching career at Lancaster Grammar then trained for priesthood at St. John's College, Durham. After beginning his ministry in Blackburn he moved to the Falkland Islands where he spent 3½ years in charge of the largest parish in the world including South Georgia and the British Antarctic Territory. Paul became School Chaplain in 2006. He is a reservist RAF Chaplain and spends time in the holidays assisting with chaplaincy at RAF stations as far afield as Lossiemouth (NE Scotland) and Honington (Suffolk).



2018

The Lord Archbishop of York Dr. John Sentamu visited the School to participate in a Q&A session with pupils as part of the Moving Mountains Mission organised by the Diocese of Carlisle.

2019

Chapel Appeal raises over £50k



Rochester Cathedral

Walker King

c.1760
Scholar and fellow of Corpus Christi College. He was prebendary of Peterborough 1794, Canon of Wells 1796, prebendary of Canterbury 1803 and prebendary of Westminster 1827. He was Bishop of Rochester from 1809 until his death in 1827.



2019

An Appeal was launched to improve the lighting in the chapel.

School Chaplains

J. H. Mackie 1882 – 1902	G. P. Wedgwood 1954 – 1956
S. C. Sharland 1902 – 1924	D. W. Fox 1957
A. J. K. Martyn 1924 – 1931	T. A. Harman 1957 – 1987
E. F. L. Henson 1926	A. L. Martin 1975 – 1984
N. V. Gorton 1927 – 1934	R. N. Myerscough 1984 – 1985
H. Poole 1927 – 1935	P. J. D. Allen 1988 – 1993
E. W. S. Packard 1931 – 1938	R. J. O. Harrison 1989 – 1991
E. J. Sumner 1938 – 1944	R. G. Laird 1993 – 1998
A. T. I. Boggis 1938 – 1974	C. D. Griffin 1998 – 2005
J. P. Newell 1943 – 1953	P. L. Sweeting 2006 – present

Dates may overlap because more than one person may have held the post of chaplain at one time or the dates on record are for the full span of the individual's career at Sedbergh however they were chaplain for a shorter period.