

Cathedrals Plus Conference 2025 Feedback Summary. A total of 37 feedback forms were received, although not everyone scored every activity, nor commented.

		Excellent	Good	Average	Below Ave	% Good/Excellent	Comments
1.	How well did the conference meet your expectations & needs?	33	4	0	0	100%	Loved it! Thanks all
2.	Relevance to your work	31	5	1	0	97% <i>One person=3%</i>	Lots of useful practical ideas Workshops very relevant – keynotes not so I found the range this year responded very well to visitor experience and event programming Wonderful Programme carefully thought out and really relevant
3.	Value and quality of the keynote presentations						Fascinating talks by all – very thought-provoking. All excellent and engaging. All very heavily ‘visitor’ focus but understand why as all education last year. Really good range of speakers – no overlaps
	1)Dee Dyas	23	12	1	0	97%	Great, but been done before Very similar to 2023
	2)Renie Chow Choy	29	7	0	0	100%	
	3)Dawn Champion	17	4	1	0	95%	<i>One person=5%</i>
4.	Wednesday workshops	27	6	3	1	89%	
	- Senses, Ely	15	1			100%	<i>Amazing! Very practical, useful, loads of great ideas, inspiring</i>
	- Tick Box, RE Hubs	3	2			71%	<i>Very rushed x2</i>
	- Growing Faith, Youth Ts	0	2			50%	<i>Not quite as expected (most said this), maybe misfocused for educational session?</i>
	- Banning F word	9	1			100%	<i>Excellent</i>
4.	Thursday workshops	29	6	0	0	100%	
	- Science & Faith, Jen	5	1			100%	
	- 0-60 P'b events, Tim	9	3			100%	<i>Excellent - Appreciated the honesty</i>
	- Cath.Classroom, Steve & Toni	15	2			100%	<i>Fabulous! So many ideas to take back & use, so practical & useful</i>
5.	Cathedral tours	19	23	2	0	94%	
6.	Optional trips	21	5	2	0	93%	
	- Tower Tour	10	1			92%	<i>All the comments listed here refer to the Mosque visit -</i>
	- Mosque	10	1			100%	<i>Very welcoming & engaging, so hospitable, welcoming, Rizwan was amazing, outstanding, informative, I came away humbled & blessed</i>
	- City Walk	1	3			67%	
7.	Pre-conference information and general admin	26	10	1	0	97%	
8.	Hotel & Catering	22	12	2	0	94%	
9.	Peterborough Cathedral facilities	17	5	1	0	96%	Nearly everyone commented on helpful, amazing, welcoming staff (<i>but a few comments about the cold too!</i>)

10. What was of most benefit to you on this conference?

Nearly every response referred to Sharing Ideas, Networking and meeting colleagues (seeing old friends & making new). Many also said they were inspired by hearing about others' work, and appreciated the time to think, reflect, connect and have conversations with others in similar work environments.

11. What might you do differently as a result of having attended?

Several answers stated a review or revamp of the type of activities and tours they offer – making them more interactive and/or more for SEND, but mostly had gathered so many ideas they'd need time to think these through and share with others back at their setting!

A number were intrigued by the Contested Heritage talk and will look at their monuments and consider how to approach their interpretation for visitors.

Some will take back messages about donations, funding and a new approach to expand and develop resources.

12. What specific improvements to a residential conference would you suggest?

It was heartening to read references about us responding to feedback from last year – eg. Providing breaks/down time in the programme, allowing time to explore the host cathedral and to discuss what they'd experienced with others after sessions. There were several requests for next time to be in a warmer building *despite our many reminders that it will be cold!* One person suggested a dance after the dinner!

13. Any themes that you would value in future conferences (be they online or residential)?

No two answers were the same here, so below are just a few of the responses.

- Working with volunteers & volunteer training
- Contested Heritage / inclusion & interfaith histories
- Not pilgrimage (*again!*)
- Digital / tech info
- Engaging with older students (KS3 - 5)
- Adjacency
- Working across departments among the cathedral staff – music, worship, learning & events “Connecting the Dots”

The overall average mark out of 10 for the conference was 9.3 (last year it was 8.6). 😊

The overall feedback was extremely positive, with additional comments added to thank the organisers and all the staff & volunteers at Peterborough.