Dear Time Travellers,

My name Diana, I’m Head of Education here at the Minster. The staff, volunteers and I have been working hard planning your visit - Time Travelling is one of our favourite weeks of the year. I’m excited to meet you, please come and say ‘hello’ if you see me.

People often ask ‘why is it called Time Travelling?’ There are lots of reasons. Let’s think first about TIME. The Minster is medieval; the oldest part is over 900 years old. To build it, a smaller Anglo-Saxon church was knocked down. Before that, we think Roman Gods were worshipped in a temple or shrine nearby. You will follow in their footsteps - your feet will tread the same path as those who were here 1500 years ago…. We are all connected in TIME by the Minster’s long history.

Next, TRAVELLING. A pilgrimage is a journey to a place which means something to you. The Minster is important to all of us in Nottinghamshire because it’s our Cathedral – it contains evidence of our local and national history. You will TRAVEL here by bus (most of you), where you’ll be met by your pilgrim guide, who will make sure you don’t get lost as you travel around the Minster on foot. Some people say that life is a pilgrimage. Christians believe God is with them as they travel from birth to death – the destination is heaven. I hope that helps.

I’d like you to remember TLC: Travel Learn and Connect. Pilgrims Travel to a special place; Learn about themselves and others; and Connect – to a place, new friends and those in the past. On your pilgrimage, you’ll do 6 activities. You will find out how Christians worship and why we believe in helping others; you’ll hear Bible stories and learn about the building, learning about the people who work here. You will meet new people and sing songs when we get together at the start and end of the day. Do your best to listen, learn and make connections, joining in as much as you can.

When pilgrims leave, they usually take a souvenir home. You will make something to keep, and we will give you a ‘journal’ as a reminder of your pilgrimage. The Minster is a big, beautiful, building with lots of amazing things to see – from enormous arches to tiny carved mice….like this one.

If you’d like to find out more before you come, google “Southwell Minster” to see hundreds of images. Here are a couple to get you started. You can watch our ‘Introducing Southwell Minster’ film here https://youtu.be/BUWqQ6C4RM

With best wishes,

Diana and the Time Travelling team 😊
One of the things people remember about the Minster are the ‘pepperpot’ towers. You’ll spot them straight away.

This is a person: see how small they look next to the Minster’s door. You will enter through this door.

Look at the bright colours in this stained glass window. There are lots of them which tell stories from the Bible.

Our stone green men are easy to spot. Their faces are surrounded by leaves. They are world famous!