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Headteacher: Peter Coldwell B.Ed. (Hons)

*"To live, love and learn in a caring Christian Community"*

11th May 2020

## **Re: Catholic Academy Trust**

Dear Parents,

This letter updates you in respect of our consideration of forming a Catholic Trust. Owing to recent events, my plan to write towards the end of last term has been a little delayed, but I am now in a position to be able to update you. Each Headteacher in the Deanery is also sending this same letter to their parent community today.

Last term, the Diocese appointed several existing governors across our Deanery to become Foundation Directors (the 'governing body' of an Academy Trust). Also, each Headteacher and each governing body met with Andrew Celano, CEO Designate and Adrian Leggett, the Diocesan Academisation Implementation Officer to discuss some of the details in the proposal of forming a Trust.

This term, each governing body will raise queries for the Diocese and Foundation Directors to respond to. At this point each governing body should then be in a position to decide whether or not they believe the formation of a Catholic Trust is, in principle, the best future for our schools. Alongside that, the Application submission referred to in my previous letter will be completed and submitted.

Once the schools have that application feedback from the DfE (through the Regional Schools' Commissioner), governing bodies that are ready to recommend consideration of conversion will do so via consultation within their communities. That stage will not happen before next academic year at the earliest, and very much depends on how backlogged the DfE is with other applications and other matters.

The Headteachers are unanimously very positive about the advantages of becoming a Catholic Trust together, but please be reassured, as previously stated, no decision has been made, and all schools will write to their parent body again before we get to the point of consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Coldwell  
Headteacher