



ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Specialist in Humanities

Principal:
Karen Colligan

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Our Ref KCO/CTA

4th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Re. Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Multi-Academy Trust – A Diocesan Family of Schools

Following a meeting held with Diocesan officers yesterday we wanted to write to let you know about the plans for our College to join the Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, along with our family of Catholic Schools in Kirklees and Calderdale. We already work quite closely together but being part of the Trust will benefit all our schools in creating stronger collaborative partnerships with one another as one family. It will ensure strategic and structural solidarity, securing Catholic education for your children in the Diocese of Leeds for the future, and also within our geographical area. We are hopeful we will be able to convert next year, aiming for September 2020.

There are three schools already in this Trust:

- Sacred Heart Catholic Primary, Sowerby Bridge
- St Malachy's Catholic Primary, Halifax
- St. John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy, Dewsbury

The rest of us – 13 in total – are planning to join together next year.

We are sure you may have questions, and we want to assure you that as children and parents your journey with us will continue in the way it always has. The staff will remain the same (unless they are advancing their career, or we have maternity leave etc which could happen anyway); the uniform will stay the same and we will still be called All Saints. The academy name will be on the letterhead and school sign, and visible in other places such as our website to affirm the name of the family to which we will belong.

Let us assure you that our family of schools led by the Trust Board and Diocese share a vision of unity NOT uniformity. The Academy Trust will be a company by law but NOT a business, and it will support the growth of our schools and our Mission. The conversion to be part of the Trust is a natural next step for us to formalise the work we already do within our Catholic family of schools. We will also continue to work with our non-Catholic schools as we always have.

Where it began:

In October 2011 the Diocese of Leeds published its guidance to governors "Building the Future: Considering Multi-Academy Trusts". The document presented a very clear description of how schools could convert to academy status. It proposed a framework of how five multi-academy trusts could be structured to offer parents a provision of Catholic education from 3-19 years. Since then, and over the course of the past few years, over half of schools have joined their assigned multi-academy trust.





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Following on from this document, last year, Bishop Marcus instructed all our schools to begin the process of joining their local multi-academy trust within their defined geographical area. The Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (BPSCMAT) is our local trust and includes all the Catholic schools in Kirklees and Calderdale.

The governors of all the 13 remaining schools have adopted a resolution to join the BPSCMAT.

As a result of this decision and as part of this process, we are informing our parents to provide an opportunity for you to make comments or ask questions. All our schools will be holding an information meeting for parents/carers at their own school. Our meeting will be on **Thursday 17th October at 6pm** and you are invited to attend. At the meeting, the Governors and Principal will inform you of the pathway and process to becoming an academy and answer any questions which you may have.

Should you have any questions, please send them to academyconversion@aschc.com by Monday 14th October so that we can ensure they are addressed in the meeting.

There is also more general information about academies on the DfE website:
<http://www.education.gov.uk/academies>

This letter will be on our website, for your convenience, under the Parent tab.

Ahead of the meeting we thank you for your continued support as we move forward together on this new and exciting journey.

Yours sincerely

Ms K Colligan
Principal

Mr C L'Estrange
Chair of Governors