



3 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

As we begin a new school year, I am writing to you to formally recognise and celebrate the formation of the new organisation to which your child's school belongs. As you will remember from Peter Giorgio's letter last term, Bishop Patrick has decided to establish four large Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts ('CMATs') across our diocese to support our schools, to create greater opportunities for the children educated in them, and to improve outcomes for all.

For my team and I, this is a responsibility we take on with tremendous excitement and a sense of profound importance; we look forward to working with the headteachers and staff across the 22 catholic schools in Leicester and Leicestershire to make a genuinely positive difference to the lives of all 8,000 young people in our care.

What does the CMAT mean for your child/children?

The existence of the CMAT will provide new ways for our schools to work together. Children will benefit from the expertise of staff from across the schools, and they will have increased opportunities to work with young people from other schools also. Training for our staff will provide even greater quality in our classrooms, and better value for money will mean that more resources can be focused in those classrooms.

What does the CMAT mean for you as a parent or carer?

There will be very little change for you. You will continue to work with and contact your child's school in exactly the same way that you always have, expecting the same support, care and very high standards for your child that you have always received. All who work in our schools enormously appreciate the partnership between school and home – it is *critical* to the success of each young person. Please continue to support your child's school by: communicating with the school regularly; attending parents' evenings and information sessions; and, sharing any concerns at the earliest opportunity so that they can be resolved.

We are truly blessed to belong to a family of schools which, with Christ at the heart of all that we do, shares a common mission to prepare our young people for a wholesome, fulfilling, active life in the future. Our commitment to you as parents is to care for, support and educate your child to the highest possible standards.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the next months and years.

God bless,

Neil Lockyer
Chief Executive Officer

