

HEADTEACHER: Mr S. Chiswell, BA Ed (Hons) NPQH
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs L. Waldram, BSc (Hons) PGCE

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June 6th 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

cc All Governors, Monsignor Kevin McGinnell, Collette Curtis

Proposed Academy Conversion and membership of St Alban Catholic Academies Trust for St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Following a recommendation from the Governing Body to investigate the advantages of academy status and for St Mary's to join the St Alban Catholic Academy Trust, a decision has been made to go out to consultation. This decision has been made in full consultation with the Catholic Diocese of Northampton, in order to strengthen the future of Catholic Education.

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School would become an academy at the same time, joining the other Catholic schools already in the multi academy trust: Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School, St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School and St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary School. Other Catholic Schools from the Luton, Dunstable and Houghton Regis partnership of Catholic schools are due to join at some point in the future.

The school's change in status will have very little noticeable impact on the day to day operation of our school. The name of the school will remain the same, including the title of "school" not "academy" and the current school uniform.

We are now opening consultation with all interested parties to seek their views. This consultation will continue until **14th July 2017**. We would also like to invite you to a meeting with the Headteacher, governors and members of the St Alban Catholic Academies Trust on **Monday 19th June at 6.30pm** in the school hall. The meeting will last for approximately 1 hour and will include an opportunity for you to ask questions.

If following consultation, which ends on the **14th July 2017**, the Governing Body decides to continue with the academy conversion process, then we would expect to convert to academy status and join the multi academy trust on 1st September 2017 at the earliest.

The main purpose of this letter is to engage you in the process and to hear your views. Any decision to change our status will ultimately be taken by governors taking into account the best interests of our pupils and having consulted with all interested parties.

Please address your views to:

Mrs Pauline Cotton, c/o St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Caddington, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. LU1 4BB
or stmaryscadd@cbc.beds.sch.uk

Throughout the consultation period we will have a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section on academy conversion on the school website and we will keep you informed of progress.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Pauline Cotton
Chair of Governors