



Friday 8th May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners

I hope that you and your families are keeping well and look forward to welcoming your children back to our school as soon as is safe for them and our staff. Even though we are not in school we are working and I want you to know that you are welcome to contact us about any matter.

You will recall that during the Autumn Term 2019 a public consultation took place with reference to our school joining the Our Lady and All Saints Catholic Multi-Academy Company. It was undertaken as per the Birmingham Diocesan Academy structure and in accordance with the Trustees of the Archbishop. In December 2019, together with the other 12 schools involved in this consultation process, we jointly published the outcome of this public consultation, which resulted in an overwhelming response for us to support our conversion process to academy status.

During the Spring Term 2020, all of the schools have been working in partnership via a Joint Headteacher and Chair of Governors Steering Committee, with support from the DES, Shadow Board of Directors and MAC Project Development Manager, to submit an Academy Order to the Department for Education to seek legal approval to form the academy Company. I am delighted to report that approval for each of the 13 schools took place at a Headteacher Board meeting with the Regional Schools' Commissioner on 23 April 2020. This means that the legal set up of the company can officially begin, giving access to additional grant funding to form and support our Academy growth and development. The date for legal conversion to the Company for each school has yet to be confirmed and will be decided once the guidance on schools re-opening, linked to Covid-19, is released by the government.

Behind the scenes, work is now actively taking place with regards to the central operational structure of the Company. We are continuing to work collaboratively with each school to further protect and support our Catholic education provision for the longer term.

I would like to thank our governing body and the staff at our school for the work they have undertaken in securing this academy order approval.

Finally, the logo and branding for Our Lady and All Saints Catholic Multi-Academy Company has now been agreed by the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors and we have included it on this letter - may we all stay '**Strong in Faith**' together. We will all be starting a new journey, a different way of moving forward, encouraging and supporting each other in our work and faith.

Best wishes,

Mr Paul Bentley, Our Lady of the Wayside Chair of Governors

Our Lady and All Saints Schools: Guardian Angels Catholic Primary, Birmingham - Our Lady's Catholic Primary, Birmingham - Our Lady of Compassion Catholic Primary, Solihull - Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Andrew's Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Anne's Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Anthony's Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Augustine's Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Edward's Catholic Primary, Warwickshire - St George & St Teresa's Catholic Primary, Solihull - St John the Baptist Catholic Primary, Solihull - St Peter's Catholic Secondary, Solihull - St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary, Birmingham.