

DIOCESE OF SALFORD

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October 2019

Dear Colleagues

I do hope the new term has started well for you all.

My name is Mark Mountcastle and I am headteacher at St Hugh of Lincoln in Trafford.

In addition to this role I was appointed in July 2019 as Catholic Senior Education Leader of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT). Emmaus covers the south of our Diocese including the Local Authorities of Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Tameside and Trafford.

Regardless of where you currently sit regarding the academy agenda I feel it is important to share regular updates and progress, so at least once every half term I will send out a brief overview.

Over the summer we applied to create the CMAT and it will go before the headteacher board at the DfE this month where we expect an empty CMAT will be created. Following that, interested schools will apply or be invited to join if and when appropriate to their school communities.

As part of the structures we have appointed three Directors, Lynne Tommony, Dr James Mullkeen and Cathryn Anderson and a secondary advisor Alison Burrowes.

In addition a steering group has been established and has met twice at Newman College in Oldham. Before the summer all schools were invited and we now have a group of 12 headteachers, cross phase and with representation from all LAs. We have planned half termly meetings for the whole year and now we have established the terms of reference for the group we can move forward with the detail. The next meeting is on the 14th November where we will begin to shape the key documentation. I will email again following the meeting.

I understand we are all at different stages within the academy agenda and for some it maybe a case of years away; however I have been attending a number of cluster groups and governor meetings to share more information. If this is something you would be interested in please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

M Mountcastle

Department for Education

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