



# PORTSMOUTH AND WINCHESTER DIOCESAN ACADEMIES TRUST



To all parents  
St Francis Catholic and Church of England Primary Academy  
Newport Road  
Ventnor  
Isle of Wight  
PO38 1BQ

30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents,

## Welcome to the Portsmouth and Winchester Diocesan Academies Trust

As you will know, tomorrow officially marks the start of St. Francis becoming a member of the Portsmouth and Winchester Diocesan Academies Trust and it is my joy and privilege as Chair of the Trust to welcome you and your children as part of our extended Trust family.

Although legally this is a new start for the School – now “Academy” – the commitment of the Trust is very much that we maintain and build on the unique ethos of St. Francis - a partnership of Catholic and Church of England Dioceses serving families in the Ventnor and wider community, as together we work to provide the best possible educational and pastoral opportunities and outcomes for your children.

As an Academy, rather than a Local Authority School, responsibility for employing and supporting the staff and ensuring provision of resources for St Francis lies primarily with the Trust, and we are directly answerable to the Regional Schools Commissioner at the Department for Education. To help us at the local level, we have a newly reconstituted Local Governing Body for St. Francis, comprising main Trust Board directors (including myself), alongside other people with the appropriate skills and commitment and from the Autumn term, a staff representative and parent governors. The initial members of the LGB are in place already, and include Mr Mick Pye and Mrs Louise Rogerson from the former Governing Body. The first meeting of the new LGB will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Additionally, I am delighted to be able to inform you that, subject to some paperwork finalisation, we have appointed a new Principal for the Academy, Mrs Fiona Perkins, who will be leading the Academy for the academic year 2017-18. Fiona comes with a wealth of teaching and school leadership experience, and I know that you will enjoy getting to know her. Fiona is planning to be in St. Francis for the last two days of this current term to meet with parents and staff, and she is very much looking forward to joining you.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to wish you and your children a good final few weeks of term, and a wonderful summer break when it eventually comes.

Yours sincerely,

G.A. Collins

The Venerable Gavin Collins  
Chair of Portsmouth & Winchester Diocesan Academies Trust



THE CHURCH  
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