



Holy Cross
Multi-Academy Company

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July 2019

Newsletter

June has been another busy month as the seven Holy Cross Catholic MAC schools have worked through the final stages of converting to academies.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to all Chairs of Governors, Headteachers and School Business and Office Managers who have done a fantastic job of responding to all of the requests for information from our legal team. You all deserve a massive bouquet!



We're on track!

All School Governing Bodies have now met and approved the *Draft* Articles of Association and the *Draft* Funding Agreement which needed to be submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) on Tuesday 2nd July.

These two documents set out the way in which the new Company will operate and receive its funding from the Secretary of State.

The final academy documentation will be submitted to Governing Bodies for approval later this month and will then be signed off by members of the Shadow Board.

From **Monday 2nd September** the Holy Cross Catholic MAC central team will be located at:

Holy Cross Catholic MAC
c/o St Augustine Catholic Primary School
Heathcote Street
Radford
Coventry CV6 3BL

Telephone: 02475 186 555



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Reminder for Governors

Wherever possible, we hope and want existing Local Governing Body members to continue in a role after we have converted to academies and would like to encourage them to complete the relevant forms as soon as possible.

Foundation Governors

As a member of the new Local Governing Bodies under the academy structure there is a need to complete and return a new Foundation Governor application form which is available on the BEDS website at: <https://bit.ly/2JCohwk>

Parent and staff governors will need to submit an Undertaking to the Archbishop of Birmingham which is on the BEDS website at: <https://bit.ly/2JDUfrN>

It would be helpful for completed forms and Undertakings to the Archbishop to be submitted to Rebecca Tonks, Admissions and Governance Adviser, BDES (r.tonks@beds.org.uk) as soon as possible.

The final countdown.....

By Thursday 1st August the DfE will require confirmation that Commercial Transfer Agreements have been agreed and the terms of land leases have been agreed with the Local Authority.

By Friday 2nd August the DfE will require copies of approved funding agreements and confirmation that leases are agreed by all parties.

By Tuesday 13th August the Education and Skills Funding Agency require the MAC's bank details.

We are working closely with our legal partners to ensure that we meet these timescales.





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Spotlight on Schools

The most important thing about Holy Cross MAC is the family of schools who are working together to deliver an excellent Catholic education. This month's spotlight includes three of our Primary Schools, **St John Vianney Catholic Primary School**, **St Augustine's Catholic Primary School** and **St Thomas More Catholic Primary School**.

St John Vianney



St John Vianney is located in Mount Nod Way, between Broad Lane and Dunchurch Highway. The school has places for 210 pupils aged between 4 and 11 years.

Welcome to St John Vianney where Christ is at the centre of everything we do. We have one school rule which is:

Love one another as I have loved you

We strive to promote the values of our Christian faith throughout our daily life. We provide a religious syllabus, which develops our children's knowledge and understanding of our faith. However, more important to this school are those values, which we try to relate to all the aspects of our life within the faith community of St John Vianney Parish.



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St John Vianney is a happy and caring school where every child is known and loved. We seek to challenge and support all our children and make them excellent citizens of the future, knowing how important it is to do their best and care for those around them.

We are conscious of the necessity to provide our pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum and constantly review and evaluate the achievements of the school. Our curriculum is exciting and engaging, aiming to bring the humanities alive through first - hand experience wherever possible. We aim to provide both high academic and non- academic standards, a good faith basis and involvement in the wider community. Moreover, developing the whole child by enabling them to acquire knowledge, appreciate their creative abilities and master the challenges of physical education and sport.



St John Vianney School strives to achieve its aims through a strong partnership between governors, staff, children, parents and Parish. Most of our governors are parents or past parents and members of our Church community. We believe that this improves the level of co-operation and the sense of shared commitment and responsibility. We believe that we can only achieve the best for your child by close co-operation between home and school. Without the involvement of parents, our task is that much more difficult and less

enjoyable. We hope that parents will take a close interest in what their children are doing in school and will encourage learning and its importance in later life.

It is our view that Primary School years lay the foundations for a lifetime of learning and work hard to cultivate the fundamental partnership between Home and School by welcoming parents to become involved in their child's education.



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St Augustine's

St Augustine's Catholic Primary is located in Heathcote Street in the heart of Radford. The school is a happy and vibrant two form of entry school with a Nursery. As a school we aim to work in partnership with parents, guardians, the parish and the Academy family of schools to support our children and families on their journey of Faith. As part of the family of God we work hand in hand.

'To listen to God's call, to learn from God's word and to share God's love through service.'



Our extensive grounds include a Forest School site which is used to develop a range of skills with pupils, a Thrive nurture room, a sports Muga and counselling facilities.

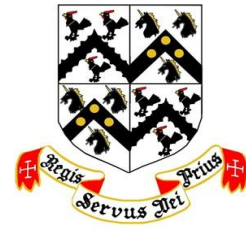
Our staff here are committed to working together to support our children to be the best they can be spiritually, morally, academically, mentally and physically. We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that will both engage and educate our pupils shaping them into caring future disciples and knowledgeable, responsible citizens.



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St Thomas More

St Thomas More is a two form entry school situated in a suburban residential area of south Coventry, a 30-minute walk from the city centre. The school is housed in a modern building which opened in September 2014 and we have very generous grounds which include a large field, allotment, forest school, a pond and a chicken pen.



St Thomas More's motto is **"Learn and Grow as God's Holy People"** and this underpins everything we do at the school. We believe that every child should be encouraged and supported to achieve their God-given potential and that it is our responsibility to get the best out of all of our students – academically, socially and spiritually. We are a very diverse, multi-ethnic community with a highly inclusive ethos. Children are happy to come to school here and they thrive on the nurture and support offered.

We are committed to academic excellence and are always keen to innovate, using research-based methods to develop and improve our practices further. We keep our curriculum under constant review so that it is appealing and relevant to our current situation and we place great emphasis on the importance of a consistent approach from



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Nursery to Year six. Our children's learning experience is very hands-on: an example of this is our maths mastery programme which focuses on underlying mathematical concepts and number sense through the use of manipulatives all the way from Reception to Year 6. We see it as our duty to produce well-mannered, respectful and motivated young people and our behaviour and discipline policies are reflective of this. Children leave St Thomas More with all the qualities they need to make a positive contribution to society.



We have excellent relationships with our local parish and the children make good use of the church. Our vocation to Catholic life is evident across the curriculum and throughout the school. Our families are very supportive of our ethos and work well with school leaders to ensure positive outcomes for all. Many parents comment that St Thomas More is like an extension of the family.

The school received a highly positive Ofsted inspection in January 2018 and we aim to build on this as we continue to improve and push ourselves to be the best we can possibly be.



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Whatever your plans are for the summer, we would all like to wish pupils, families, staff and governors a happy, sunny and peaceful time.

We look forward to working together in the new academic year.

The Holy Cross Catholic MAC Leadership Team:

Marina Kelly - Catholic Senior Executive Leader
Martyn Alcott - Chief Finance and Operating Officer
Chris Billings - Headteacher, Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School
Emma French - Acting Headteacher, Cardinal Newman Catholic School
Peter Burke - Headteacher, Christ the King Catholic Primary School
Helen Forrest - Headteacher, St Augustine's Catholic Primary School
Michael Doyle - Headteacher, St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
Veronica Gosling - Headteacher, St John Vianney Catholic Primary School
Sarah Collins - Headteacher, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

and Holy Cross Catholic MAC Directors:

John Teahan (Chair)
Tony Cawley
Laurence Moore (Finance)
Katherine Marston (School Improvement)
Robert Ridley
Dal Youssef
Keith Ainsworth



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