



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Miss S. Molloy

9th May 2024

Dear Families

The Governing Body of Our Lady of the Rosary's RC Primary School has made the decision to join the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust (CAT). Our school is now entering a period of information sharing with all stakeholders. This period will run from 9th May to 22nd May. During this period, families will have the opportunity to ask questions and understand more about Emmaus CAT.

Background Information

The Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust is one of three Catholic Academy Trusts serving the Diocese of Salford. The Catholic Academy Trusts have been set up to take forward Bishop John's vision for Catholic education in the Diocese. It is Bishop John's wish and expectation that the Diocese will have three strong Catholic Academy Trust by 2030.

After careful consideration over several years and detailed discussions with the Diocese and Emmaus CAT, the Governing Board are to proceed with joining the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust.

The Bishop's vision that has been shared with school leaders and governors over the past couple of years, is that all Catholic schools in the Diocese of Salford will join a Catholic Academy Trust. Emmaus CAT is the Trust that Trafford Catholic schools have been assigned to and will join.

The rationale behind the Bishop's vision for all schools moving towards academisation is to make sure that we protect, preserve and promote Catholic education in the Diocese of Salford. The Catholic Academy Trust model will ensure that the uniqueness of each individual school is celebrated and the unique contribution of each is recognised, appreciated and protected. It will also mean that no individual school will be left isolated or vulnerable in a rapidly changing and complex environment. The aim is also to enable greater collaboration, adding strength and capacity to the Catholic system and ensuring that all schools are supported.

This is an exciting opportunity for OLOR to join this growing family of Catholic schools, protecting Catholic education for the future and the Catholic nature of our school, and working more collaboratively with others. Other schools will benefit from the strategic way we run our school, our aspirational vision and continual developing journey, always striving for the best outcomes for all pupils. OLOR will benefit from working closely with other schools across the CAT and the sharing of best practice. We are excitedly looking forward to the future. By joining the Emmaus CAT, we will be able to participate in the strategic direction, not only of OLOR school, but other schools in the Emmaus CAT.

Our Governing Body's priority is to support Bishop John's vision, enabling our school to continue to provide an excellent Catholic education for its pupils, retaining our unique qualities and strengths whilst maintaining the school's role at the heart of our local parish and community. Having reviewed all the information available and having met with the CEO (Daniel Copley) of

the Emmaus Trust on numerous occasions, the school's Board of Governors have made the decision to start the process of joining the Emmaus Trust this summer term.

We are working towards a conversion date in summer 2025. We have attached a "Frequently asked questions" sheet which hopefully will answer many of your initial questions. I have also added a section to our school website in Key Information, which provides more information about Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust for you to read.

Having read the information provided, please feel free to email the school office your views/comments rosary.admin@trafford.gov.uk There will be an information sharing session for parents on 15th May at 3.20pm in the Wellbeing Cabin, on the school site.

This is an very exciting time for OLOR and an important time for Catholic education, as we work collaboratively to secure the future of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Salford and the communities and parishes we serve.

Kind regards

S. Molloy
Headteacher

P. Moore
Chair of Governors