

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Chair of Governors at St John's Catholic Primary School, I wanted to write to let you know about an important proposal for the future of our school and to invite you to be part of the conversation.

You may already have heard in the local press that the Archdiocese of Liverpool has launched its vision for the future of Catholic education, *A Family in Christ: Our Future Together*. As part of this, Catholic schools across the Archdiocese are being invited to join one of three Catholic Multi Academy Trusts.

Following careful consideration, the Governing Body is proposing that St John's joins St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust and converts to academy status. Before any final decisions are made, we want to hear from our parents, carers, staff and wider school community.

We know that many of you may have questions about what this means for your child and for St John's. That's completely understandable. We are committed to making sure you have clear information and plenty of opportunities to ask questions and share your views throughout the consultation process.

To help with this, we will be holding a **Parents' Information Meeting in September**, where governors and representatives involved in the process will explain the proposal and answer your questions. Details of this meeting will be sent out in September.

We also appreciate that not everyone is able to attend meetings, or you may think of questions afterwards. We have therefore created a dedicated email address where you can send any questions, comments or concerns during the consultation:

CMATconsultation@stjohnsprimaryschool.com

If you are happy for your question/s to be shared anonymously, we will use the questions we receive to prepare answers for the September meeting and to develop a Frequently Asked Questions document that will be available to everyone.

The consultation will run from 10th July 2026 – 11th September 2026, and we genuinely welcome your views. Our application for academy status will be informed by the consultation and subsequently reviewed by the Department for Education (DfE) and it is they, the DfE, who make the final decision on whether to give the school permission to become an academy.

What does the proposal involve?

The proposal is for St John's Catholic Primary School to become an academy and join **St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust**.

The Trust was established in 2021 and works with Catholic schools across the region to support high standards of education while keeping Christ at the centre of everything they do. Their work is built around five key priorities:

- Keeping Christ at the centre of all we do.
- Helping every child become a confident reader.
- Delivering an ambitious curriculum.
- Creating a culture where every child can succeed.
- Continuing to improve attendance.

You can find out more about the Trust and its mission on their website.

Why are Governors considering this?

Governors have carefully considered what this could mean for St John's, both now and in the future.

Joining the Trust would allow our school to work more closely with other Catholic schools, giving staff greater opportunities to share expertise and access high-quality professional development. It would also provide additional specialist support in areas such as safeguarding, school improvement, finance, estates, IT, governance and legal compliance. Most importantly, we believe the proposal has the potential to strengthen the excellent education and care that St John's already provides, while ensuring the school remains well placed for the future.

We understand that any significant change naturally raises questions, and we want to reassure you that throughout this process our focus remains exactly the same: providing the very best education and care for every child at St John's.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We hope you will join us at the meeting in September and, in the meantime, please do make use of the dedicated email address if you have any questions or would like to share your thoughts.

With best wishes,



Dr Jo McNeill

Chair of Governors

St John's Catholic Primary School

