

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY



November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Academy Conversion Consultation Joining the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy

The cohesive working of the Catholic partnership with St Thomas More Catholic First School and the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Company has continued to strengthen. This has been due to the skill, commitment and hard work of both students and staff, alongside essential support from parents.

The Governors of St Thomas More Catholic First School will be voting on joining the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Company and in turn becoming an Academy. We would like to know the views of parents and other stakeholders, so that they can be considered as an important element in the discussions alongside other information.

As you may be aware, there are many educational changes happening nationally particularly in relation to how schools are organised. The Governing Body of St Thomas More Catholic First School has been discussing how the school can make sure that it can retain and secure its current ethos and individual nature in the future.

It has considered all options carefully, considering both national and local issues. As a result, it has taken the pragmatic decision to consult with parents, staff and other stakeholders on converting to Academy status and joining the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Company.

This starts a process that allows the Governing Body to determine whether it is in the school's best interest to pursue this status. The consultation stage will run from **Monday, 11th November to Noon on Monday, 2nd December 2019.**

We have a webpage for the consultation www.lourdesmac.org.uk/consultation where a wide range of information can be found, and consultation responses can be submitted.

On Wednesday 13th November from 1.30pm – 6.30pm, there will be an opportunity to receive more information and discuss issues with Directors and Senior Officers of the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic MAC at the St Thomas More Catholic First School Parents consultation.

The issue of converting to Academy status, under the school's own pace and direction, is not about trying to change the school; it is to ensure that the school is best placed to protect its individual nature and ethos. This may well be the best way to safeguard the school's autonomous future allowing them to continue to support the community.

I would like to thank all parents in advance for taking the time to engage with this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Ann Cullwick

Project Support Officer
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic MAC