

# Catholic Academy Trust Consultation

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024





Lord God of heaven and earth,
you revealed your only Son to every
nation

by the guidance of a star.

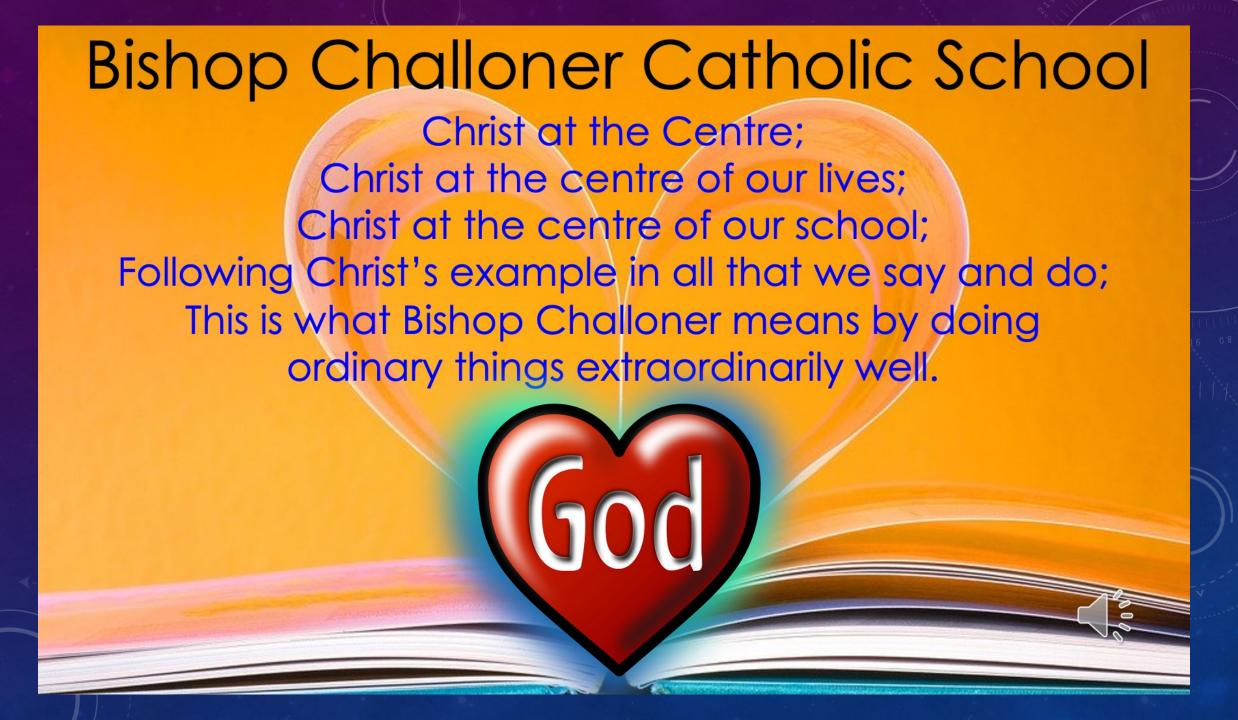
Bless this school and all who inhabit it.

Fill us with the light of Christ

That our concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS





# CAT Strategy in Context

- 80% of secondary schools, 40% of primary schools and 44% of special schools in England are academies (as of October 2023).
- All Catholic Diocese in England have a plans in place to form Catholic Academy Trusts for all their schools to protect Catholic Education.
- The DfE has stated that all school in England should have plans to join a MAT (Multi-Academy Trust) by 2030.
- There are currently 50 Academies in 8 CATs across the Diocese of Westminster, with growing engagement in all Family areas
- All schools in the Diocese will have plans to join a CAT by 2025.



## FOREWORD FROM THE CARDINAL...

Now we are living through times of considerable hardship for many ..... We have to see, be clear, and readjust. This means taking difficult decisions, marked by realism, about resources. In such circumstances it is right to look for economies that can be achieved by structures of cooperation, between schools within the same locality and within the wider family of schools. This is not an enforced 'master-plan', as you well know. It is a measured and appropriate response to the reality we face. The alternative, individual schools in isolation, will lead not only to conflict but also to the decline that eventually accompanies isolationist policies. "

Extract from Cardinal Nichols' address to the Diocese of Westminster

Headteachers Conference February 2018

## THE DIOCESAN VISION FOR THE CAT PROGRAMME

- To be inclusive and open to all Catholic schools in Hackney and Towe Hamlets
- To provide pupils with the best life chances and educational outcomes in Catholic communities imbued with gospel values and with Christ at the centre.
- Develop the professional expertise by recruiting and retaining the best staff
- Develop existing links and partnerships with other Schools.
- Benefiting from shared economies of scale and efficiency savings
- School leaders, teachers and Governors can combine skills, share thinking and tackle challenges together;
- Protect, secure and develop Catholic education













## Our Proposal....



#### Is that

- Cardinal Pole Catholic School
- Bishop Challoner Catholic School
- St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
- St Monica's Catholic Primary School
- St Anne's and Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Form a new Catholic Academy Trust to be known as Lux Mundi Catholic Academy Trust

In time all Catholic schools in Hackney and Tower Hamlets will join the Lux Mundi CAT.

## HOW DO WE BENEFIT?

- Economies of scale and increased resilience
- Greater collaboration
- Coordination and support from an Executive Leader
- Shared back-office functions
- Great access to capital funding
- Able to reclaim VAT
- Recruitment and retaining the best Catholic Leaders and staff
- Protect, secure and develop Catholic Education through a network of Family CATs supporting schools







### WHAT WILL NOT CHANGE....



Ethos of our School



The Staff Team



Our School Uniform and Curriculum



Governors will continue to serve on a Local Governing Body



PAN London Coordinated admissions process



Current admission policy will continue to apply



The timings of the current school day



The terms and conditions of employment







The legal status and governance arrangements



The current Governing Body will become a Local Governing Body



The Trust Board will have strategic oversight



CEO to lead the strategic development of the Trust



Funding direct from ESFA not through the LA

### Governance Structure



Members (5)

Archbishop, Auxiliary Bishop, Vicar General or A Diocesan Trustee, RCDOW Director of Education, RCDOW Financial Director

Trust Board (6)

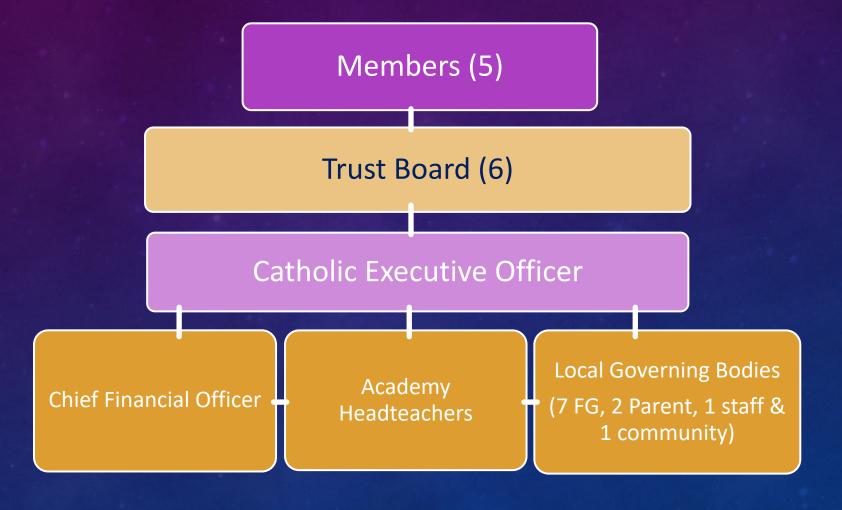
Catholic Foundation Directors appointed on a skills basis and a Catholic Executive Officer accountable to the Board

Local Governing Body

Formed from existing Governing Bodies, responsible for day to day running of schools with Headteacher









### WHY NOW?



Preserve the future of Catholic Education



Opportunity to shape the local agenda



Growing pressures on School budgets



Falling roll in parts of the Diocese



Reduction in capacity of Local Authorities to support schools



Central to national education policy



#### WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Consultation ending 9th February

Results reported to School's Governing body in February/March

Governors to review and decide whether or not to proceed

Hold a TUPE consultation with unions and staff

Transfer land, existing SLAs and contracts to the CAT

Introduce Trust wide Finance system

Target Conversion date of 1st September





## THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONTRIBUTIONS