

Diocese of Hallam - Schools Together

Newsletter - 26th March 2021

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
(Helen Keller)*

Headteachers, please share this newsletter with your staff and Chairs of Governors/
Chairs of Trusts, please share with your governors/Directors.

The new MAT Project webpage is now live on the Diocese of Hallam website. Go to <https://hallam-diocese.com/> Find MAT Project page under the Schools tab or click on the joined hands picture on the front page. All the information we have shared so far has been posted on the page together with a Frequently Asked Questions document for Staff.



Latest News

Since the last newsletter we have been reviewing due diligence, responding to requests for support, receiving feedback from a diocesan wide headteacher group, responding to questions from governing bodies, meeting with RSC and DfE to prepare for Headteacher Board and drawing up draft ICFP reports for each school.

w/c 15.3.21 Call for expressions of interest in Catholic Life and Ethos Theme Group - there are now about 30 expressions of interest! Alan Dewhurst will let you know arrangements of meetings etc

w/c 15.3.21 The first meeting of the School Improvement Strategy Theme Group took place to scope out the work and agree how to move forward

16.3.21 MAT Steering Group met and recommended the appointment of SATIS for the recruitment of CEOs and CFOs and Winckworth Sherwood for legal support. Trustees approved both recommendations. We will forward more information about recruitment and about legal support after Easter.

17.3.21 Schools Dept meeting with MAT Development Group to review more positive feedback from RSC regarding recent inspections in the Diocese and to plan support for schools with Schools Resource Manager Adviser (SRMA) visits.

17.3.21 Schools invited to start thinking about naming the MATs. Further information about voting will be issued after the Easter break.

23.3.21 Meeting with Doncaster Local Authority to start working together on the MAT Project.

25.3.21 Meeting with DfE to plan for RSC Headteacher Board on 29th April.

25.3.21 FAQ for staff (initial version) prepared and ready for the website.

Coming up next

- ⇒ **After the Easter Break we will forward a Summer Term work plan together with a communication timeline and template documents for you to use with your parents**
- ⇒ **Last few 121 meetings with Headteachers to discuss how we work together on the individual road maps. Please book your appointment if you have not already done so.**
- ⇒ **Phil Curtis is finalising the Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning (ICFP) reports and these will be ready to share by mid May - these will reflect latest available forecasts.**
- ⇒ **Draft proposals for timing and phasing of the MATs.**
- ⇒ **Recruitment for the new CEOs, CFOs and Directors for the MAT Boards - we will share news about the arrangements after the Easter Break**
- ⇒ **Support for budget setting.**

REQUESTS

Business Manager Contact Details - thank you for forwarding details. If you have not already done so please forward email contact details to Cecilia Emery

Budgets - the accuracy of our forecasts depends on us having the most up to date information about your budgets. Please send in your current year budget reports to Phil Curtis.

Recruitment Insert - we know it is a busy time for recruitment. So that all those looking to join one of our schools is aware of the MAT project we have provided an insert for you to use in your recruitment packs. This is available on the webpage and also attached to this newsletter as a word document so that you can edit with the name of your school.

Please share this newsletter with your staff and governors

Contact your MAT Project Leads

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We are available to support outside of meetings and in addition to the scheduled 121s. Please get in touch whenever you need to.

The next newsletter will be sent out Monday 26th April 2021.

"The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful. And this occurs through a rich path made up of many ingredients." Pope Francis