

Diocese of Hallam - Schools Together

Newsletter 25th June 2021

Hallam Schools Together



Development of
Catholic Multi Academy Trusts

“By working together, we can create something bigger and better than we could do separately”

Hallam Headteachers—June 2021

Welcome to this bumper edition of the newsletter with a number of attachments. Please check your emails to ensure you have received everything. A complete list is at the foot of the newsletter

Since the last newsletter our focus has been...

1. To finalise the details for our **Foundation Directors** and we are delighted to announce the appointment of the first tranche of Directors to St Clare and St Francis CMATs. Pen pictures are circulated by email with this newsletter and will be posted on the website. Directors are looking forward to meeting many of you at the briefing sessions this week.
2. Working through the CEO selection procedures:- Trustees have issued a statement setting out the outcome of the process so far and this reads:

STATEMENT FOR STAKEHOLDERS ON CEO RECRUITMENT

“Over the past two weeks Diocesan Trustees, Directors, Headteachers and Chairs of Governors have been engaged in the process of interviewing candidates for the positions of CEO for the St Clare and St Francis Catholic Multi Academy Trusts. As befits such important appointments, and as those of you who have been involved will I am sure attest, the process has been rigorous and robust. Unfortunately, we have to inform you that at the end of the process the Selection Panel were unable to make an appointment to either of the posts. The Selection Panel has been very impressed with the abilities of candidates. However, the Panel were just unable to find a match between the undoubted talents of the candidates to the skills and experience required now to support the establishment and initial development of the CMATs. The Diocesan Trustees through the MAT Steering Group will now work with the CMAT Directors to determine what next steps to take in order to secure the leadership support required to carry forward the CMAT development.”

Many thanks to all who gave their time to support this important work!

3. School Improvement Theme Group presentation to Headteachers - this took place on 17th June and was well received by Headteachers. Feedback has been invited via an online form and your views will be taken into account in developing the next stage. To be in a position to present a bespoke strategy for Hallam at this stage in the CMAT project, with the support of Headteachers, is an achievement and a reflection of the skill and experience of our school leaders. This bodes well for future collaboration and support between the two CMATs. Philip Patterson will provide an update at the briefing events this next week.
4. Finalising the project document to access the £100,000 Diocesan Pilot Fund recently announced—we have been given feedback from DfE to submit the bid in the next week.
5. Preparing for the Briefing Sessions for Chairs of Governors and Headteachers to be held this week, 30th June for St Clare and 1st July for St Francis. We attach a programme for the events containing a zoom link, an FAQ document responding to your recent questions and a draft Governance Arrangements document.
6. Finalising the Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning Reports for all our schools which will be discussed by the MAT Steering Group on 2nd July before being released to schools to support budget planning.

Since the last newsletter you have been ...

1. Responding to requests for due diligence. Many thanks to everyone who has sent in their documents so far. The priority is the budget information and we ask all voluntary aided schools to send the current year budget monitoring report and 3yr budget forecasts to Phil Curtis by 28th June. We also need the current year budget monitoring reports for academies together with the BFR. Although this is not due to the ESFA just yet it would be really helpful to have your BFRs as soon as they are ready.
2. Continuing work in the Catholic Life and Ethos Theme Group. Alan Dewhurst will give an update at the briefing events this week.

REMINDERS

28th June: your land and property questionnaires please to Neil Weightman

28th June: budget information should be sent to Phil Curtis

9th July: contract registers to be updated and forwarded to Cecilia Emery

Coming up ...

- ◆ 30th June and 1st July 5.30pm - briefing sessions for St Clare and St Francis CMAT Chairs of Governors and Headteachers.
- ◆ Further guidance on asset inventories following requests from schools

Check that you have received all the documents for this week!

- ◆ **Director Pen Pictures**
- ◆ **Programme for Briefing Events**
- ◆ **Frequently Asked Questions**
- ◆ **Governance Arrangements**

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR STAFF AND GOVERNORS

The next newsletter will be sent out on Monday 12th July 2021

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**TWO HIGHLY EFFECTIVE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUSTS
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO ACHIEVE ONE
VISION**