

St Francis update 17th December 2021

Dear colleagues

Since issuing our newsletter earlier this week the Diocese has received the good news that St Francis and St Clare have received formal approval by the Regional Schools Commissioner. We are now finally in a position to make St Francis Catholic MAT a living, breathing, family of schools and put abstract aspirations into tangible action to help us all work together for the benefit of the young people of Hallam. Thank you for your support during this process, wherever you are on this journey. We recognise that there have been bumps and difficulties along the way and we will continue to work with you.

We will now build and shape St Francis Trust together. The approval of St Francis Trust means that we have now been able to submit our bid to the Trust Capacity Fund (TCaF) to the Regional Schools Commissioner. We have requested funds to cover initial set-up costs, system and infrastructure investments to benefit the St Francis Trust as a whole. This reduces costs to schools in St Francis Trust and helps us get effective systems in place from the outset. We will also be applying for grants from additional funding sources in the coming months.

With very best wishes

Helen McLaughlin

Chair St Francis Catholic Multi Academy Trust