

# THE FEDERATION OF ST. ANNE'S & ST. MARTIN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

*Learning to live by faith and to be known by love*



**St Anne's**  
Catholic  
Primary School



**St Martin's Catholic**  
Primary School

## From the Chair

A very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined our schools this term, and welcome as well to all the new members of staff across the Federation. It is wonderful to have you join our community which is focused on providing an inspiring education rooted in Gospel values. It has been another busy term for pupils and staff at both schools, with all working incredibly hard. I hope everyone gets a well-earned rest during the Christmas holiday.

## Governing Body Role

St Anne's and St Martin's are both run by a single governing body, made up of volunteers. Together, we are legally accountable for the schools to the diocese and the local authority, and oversee that both schools are running effectively and efficiently. We do this in a number of ways, working alongside the headteachers to provide strategic guidance and support.

## Changes to the Board of Governors

At the beginning of September, we held our first full meeting of the year, where Lucy Ring was reappointed as Chair and Yasmin Sanchez-Pearson was reappointed as Vice Chair. We have welcomed Noel Scott as a new Foundation Governor and George McAdden as a new staff governor for St Anne's. We will re-open nominations for parent governor in January.

## Governor Visits

One of the ways we oversee the schools is by visiting them regularly with an area of focus. This term different governors have visited both schools to look at various areas including Maths, English, Wider Curriculum, RE, safeguarding, special educational needs and disabilities. It has been a pleasure to meet staff and pupils and see the great work being done.

## School Priorities for 2022/2023

Each school has its own development plan, approved by the Governing Body. These School Development Plans consider various elements, for example the staff surveys from last year, academic results, financial aspects, and parent, diocese and local authority feedback. Whilst each plan rightly focuses on the specific needs of its respective school, there are broad themes, including efforts to further enhance progress in RE, writing and maths, as well as continuing to take steps to increase the number of pupils attending each school.

## Academy Strategy

We wrote in our summer bulletin about the Government's White Paper, which expects all schools to be in Multi-Academy Trusts by 2030. The Birmingham Archdiocese is working towards all Catholic schools in the Diocese joining Multi-Academy Companies (MACs). With 234 schools in the Diocese, it may take many years for the Diocese to work through all the schools, and so for us there is at this time no change. As a Federation, we are not actively considering joining a MAC at the current time. We will keep you informed of any changes to this position. There will be a period of full consultation as and when needed.

## Profile

One of the key areas of focus for each school continues to be increasing our profile in the local area with a view to increasing admissions. With this in mind, if you know anyone who would like to visit our schools before the primary school application deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023, do let them know that they can arrange a visit through the respective school office.

