

April 2024

Newman Catholic Trust expansion application with St Bonaventure's (Bishopston), St. Joseph's (Portishead) and St. Patrick's (Redfield).

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors, and wider stakeholders of St Joseph's, St. Patrick's and the Newman Catholic Trust,

In line with the Trust's values and our continued commitment to transparency and open communication, we are reaching out to share some exciting developments with you. Building upon the strong foundation of collaboration within the Newman Catholic Trust, we are pleased to inform you that we have been in discussions with St. Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School regarding their potential inclusion in our Trust expansion application and the St Bonaventure's governing body have formally requested to be included in the Trust's application for expansion.

These preliminary discussions have been undertaken with the full formal backing of both the Diocese and the Regional Delivery Directorate/DfE. It is our collective aim to explore the possibility of welcoming St. Bonaventure's into the Newman Catholic Trust family, aligning with the vision set forth by Bishop Declan for all Catholic schools in the Clifton Diocese to be part of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

As with our previous discussions with St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's, this potential partnership with St. Bonaventure's reflects a commitment to the sustainability and continued strength of Catholic education in our region. By pooling resources and sharing best practices, we can ensure that all our schools thrive in the face of an evolving educational landscape.

The Trust's application will be submitted to the Advisory Board on the 20th of May. It is important to emphasise that this is the first phase of the application and, should it progress to a formal stage, there will be a comprehensive consultation process involving all stakeholders. We remain dedicated to keeping you informed every step of the way as we navigate through the legal processes and administrative timelines outlined by the Department for Education.

We recognise that news of this nature may spark questions or concerns. Rest assured, we are fully committed to transparency and will provide updates as discussions evolve. Should you have any inquiries at this stage, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Christopher Izuka (Chair of the Trust Board of Directors) or Dr. Daniel Doyle (Trust CEO) at enquiries@newmancatholictrust.com. Additionally, you can find further information on the Trust and our expansion plans on our website: www.newmancatholictrust.com.

We firmly believe that collaboration is integral to the success of our Catholic education system. By fostering an environment of open dialogue and partnership, we are confident that together, we can create a future that benefits all our schools and, most importantly, our students.

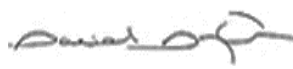
Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Catholic education.

Warm regards,

Regards,



Mr. Christopher Izuka (Chair of Trustees)



Dr. Daniel Doyle (CEO)