

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

Dear Parent and Carers

As the academic year draws to a close, we wanted to share some exciting news concerning an important milestone for the academy and to set out our vision and ambitions for the future.

When our school was established in 2008, it was fortunate to have the support of two founding sponsors, the late Sir David Samworth and the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham. Over the years this association has made a very positive contribution to the school.

Since 2018 the school has been part of the family of schools within the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham Multi-Academy Trust (SNMAT). With that change both the leadership and governance of the academy moved to a new position, and both sponsors ceased to have an official sponsor role. In light of this, SNMAT and the Samworth family, through their representatives the Samworth Sponsor Group (SSG), agreed the school's name should be changed to reflect the current situation.

Over recent weeks, we have gathered the views of staff, students and the wider school community regarding the proposed change of name. We are delighted to report that, following the completion of the consultation process, the name chosen by our community, and by far the most popular choice, is **Sherwood Church Academy**.

This new name will take effect from **1 September 2026**, and our uniform and logo will remain the same.

With thanks to suggestions from our school community, this name was added to our original shortlist and ultimately selected as the one that best reflects our Christian ethos, our strong local identity, and our ambitious vision for the years ahead.

In total, 672 responses were received in the survey, and 87% supported Sherwood Church Academy as their preferred name. We are grateful to everyone who shared their views and helped shape this important decision.

Whilst our name will be changing, our values, ethos and commitment to every student remain the same, reflecting the positive direction of travel for our academy, and forming part of our wider journey of improvement, growth and ambition.

## Academy updates

During this term, the academy has celebrated a number of notable achievements, including two students progressing through regional athletics competitions to compete at national level

in the English Schools Athletics Championships. A huge congratulations to both students, we are incredibly proud and wish them every success in their future events.

We have also recently enjoyed our annual Prom and had the pleasure of seeing our students recognised and celebrated at the Academy Awards event.

Our Year 7 students will soon be visiting Boughton Woods in Northamptonshire for their annual residential trip. We hope this exciting experience creates lasting memories and provides opportunities for personal growth, teamwork and adventure.

Looking ahead, on 14<sup>th</sup> July we will be hosting our popular outdoor Decades Festival. Organised by both staff and students, the event will welcome members of the local community to join us for some 1980 's-inspired nostalgia, entertainment and celebration.

Finally, we would like to wish all of our students the very best with their upcoming exam results. We recognise the hard work, commitment and resilience they have shown throughout the year and are proud of all they have achieved. We remain committed to supporting every student as they take their next steps and continue their educational journey with confidence and ambition.

As we look forward to welcoming new and returning students in September, we remain committed to creating a caring, supportive and aspirational environment where every student can thrive, grow in confidence and achieve their full potential as part of Sherwood Church Academy. This marks not simply a change of name, but the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our academy, and we look forward to working with our families and community as we continue that journey together.

Yours faithfully,

Carl Bennett  
Head of School

Clare Barber  
Executive Principal

Sukwinder Bassi  
Interim CEO of SNMAT