



St Elphege's Catholic Schools

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Executive Head Teacher: Mr M Jones

Head Teacher: Mr L Hawkes

Deputy Head Teachers: Mrs R Duffy & Mrs N Hawkes

Friday, 05 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

I hope you have all had a wonderful and restful summer break and managed to spend time with family and friends. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and happiness and it is great to see how quickly they are settling into their new classes.

I would like to extend a particularly special welcome to all the children and families who are new to St Elphege's this year. We are delighted that you have chosen our schools, and we look forward to getting to know you and supporting your children as they begin their journey with us. We are also looking forward to meeting our new Nursery and Reception children as they start at St Elphege's throughout next week.

This year, we are delighted to welcome some new members of staff to our team: Ms Harris (Sparrows), Ms Goodman (St John), Mr Framp (St Paul), and Ms Abdelkhaleq (St Oscar Romero). Please do take the opportunity to say hello and introduce yourselves when you see them around school - they would love to meet you and learn more about our community.

On the subject of new arrivals, I'm pleased to share some wonderful news with you all. Yesterday, Mr and Mrs Hawkes welcomed a beautiful baby girl to their family, weighing a healthy 8.4lbs! Both baby and Mrs Hawkes are doing wonderfully well and are looking forward to heading home from hospital today or tomorrow.

You may recall that up until now, Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust (SFCAT) had been operating with an interim CEO. I'm pleased to share that Michael Feely has been appointed as the substantive CEO of SFCAT from 1st September. In fact, he came to St Elphege's yesterday and visited all classes so your children may have mentioned to you. Michael is very much looking forward to visiting our schools regularly, which means you'll have plenty of opportunities to meet him and hear his vision for our trust. His commitment to visiting schools frequently reflects the collaborative approach that is so important to us at St Elphege's. Michael has asked me to circulate a few words as way of introduction which I will include at the end of this letter.

On behalf of all the staff, we look forward to another successful year working in partnership with our wonderful community. Your support and kindness is truly appreciated as we all work for the success and happiness of our children.

Wishing you all the very best for the year ahead.

Mr M Jones
Executive Head Teacher



SANCTA FAMILIA

CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

I am delighted to have been appointed as CEO of Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust. Our aim is to grow and nurture our family of exceptional Catholic schools across south London.

It is such a privilege to be asked to lead Sancta Familia and bring together and share the best aspects of our wonderful Catholic schools. We know that as a family of schools, we will be stronger together and I am so excited to be working with you on our journey.

I'd like to thank all headteachers, members of the interim executive team, and directors (as well as many others) for all of their efforts in establishing Sancta Familia. I am sure that with the expertise we have in our schools, combined with the students, families and communities we serve, there is no doubt that we will become one of the top performing Trusts in the country over the next few years.

Before my appointment, I was Regional Director for London and South at Lift Schools, a national multi academy trust (MAT) of 57 schools. Prior to working at Lift, I was principal of Dixons City Academy, an outstanding school in Bradford, and the flagship school of one of the highest performing MATs in the country. Before this, I was the sole Deputy Headteacher of Our Lady's Catholic High School in Hackney, and as a practising Catholic, I am delighted to return to Catholic education. I will be visiting schools regularly and I am looking forward to meeting you all. If you see me, please do say hello.



Michael Feely, CEO Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust