



# ST MARY'S

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL LEYLAND

01 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the Archbishop of Liverpool, The Most Reverend John Sherrington, has announced plans to move all 220 secondary and primary schools within the Archdiocese into Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts (CMATs).

Whilst this plan may take some time to be fully implemented every school, including St Mary's, has been assigned to a CMAT with a timeframe as to when they might expect to join. St Mary's, alongside all the Catholic schools in Lancashire and Sefton, will be placed in the Pope Francis Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. You can find out more about the Pope Francis Trust at their website which can be found here: <https://www.pfcmat.org/>

Not all schools will join at the same time, with our school placed in Wave 2. This means that St Mary's may expect to join the Pope Francis Trust at some point in the 2027-28 academic year.

I will, of course, keep you up to date with the process and there will be opportunities in time for us to arrange parental meetings to explain matters in greater detail.

The reality of this for your child is that very little will change. They will still attend school here on Royal Avenue, and still have the very best education and pastoral care delivered by the same dedicated and skilled staff.

If you have any questions then please do get in touch with me via the usual means.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Thompson

Headteacher

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

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