



Saint Thomas More R.C. Primary School

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher, Joanne Butterworth, Deputy Headteacher: Anna Quigg

Assistant Headteacher: Sarah Cassidy

17th June 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

You will be aware that in the Autumn term our Governors applied to become part of the St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Academy Trust (STOCCAT), a move which would give us access to additional resources and support for our children. Our Bishop is keen for all schools to become part of Diocesan Academy Trusts.

In Spring we were informed that the Department for Education (DfE) had approved the application and since then we have been working through the lengthy formal conversion process, aiming for a start date of Autumn 2025.

However, we have recently received formal notice from the Diocese of Salford saying that, due to budgetary concerns, STOCCAT needs to pause our conversion, and a new target date of Autumn 2026 has been set by The Diocese and the DfE. This delay is to give us the opportunity to create the strongest possible foundation for our future as an Academy.

The Governors, the Diocese, and Trust Leaders all remain fully committed to St Thomas More becoming part of this broader Catholic organisation and emphasise that this is only a temporary pause. In the interim, we continue to work closely with the St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Academy Trust, and our next review with them is scheduled for the end of the Autumn term.

We are now working to understand the full implications of this delay and planning how best to meet any challenges it brings. Rest assured that day to day nothing changes, and the school will continue to operate as normal.

As soon as we have additional information from the Trust and the Diocese, we will share it with you and keep you updated on developments throughout the new academic year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Butterworth

Headteacher

Mr Flint

Chair of Governors

We Love, We Learn, We Live with Christ

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