



5th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Bishop Bosco's vision for schools in the Diocese of Clifton is for us to work more closely together through formal collaboration, strengthening our Catholic community. He has therefore asked that all Catholic schools in his Diocese join one of three Multi-Academy Trusts that have been set up to enable this to happen more formally. The most local one to St Peter's is the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust (LWCET) which covers the Gloucestershire and Swindon geographical areas. Almost all of the Catholic schools in Gloucestershire are already members of this Trust.

A Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT) is a group of Catholic schools that choose to work together as one family. These schools share the same values, faith, and mission, and they support each other to give every child the best possible education.

Here's what it means in practice:

- **Working Together:** Schools in the Trust share good ideas, resources, and expertise so teaching and learning can keep improving.
- **Keeping Our Catholic Identity Strong:** All schools in the Trust follow the teachings and values of the Catholic Church, supporting children in their faith and spiritual development. By its very nature a Catholic school remains a place of belonging for any family who choose to educate their child there whether they are of Catholic faith, another faith or no faith – this does not change.
- **Local Leadership:** Each school still has its own Headteacher/Principal and staff, but they are supported by the Trust so they can focus on what matters most—helping pupils grow and develop.
- **Stronger Support:** The Trust helps schools with things like finance, training, buildings, and long-term planning, ensuring stability and high standards.

In short, a Catholic Multi Academy Trust helps our schools work together as one community, strengthening both education and faith for all our children. Importantly, each school will retain its individual character despite working closely with other schools.

Over the last few months, the Governors of St Peter's Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre have begun learning more about LWCET and this week marks the start of a time of engagement with the parents and carers of young people at the school so that we can learn more about each other and consider what it might be like for St Peter's to join the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust.

Parent and carer information sessions are being planned and so to ensure they include the information you would like to know, we are inviting questions from you to form these information sessions. It is important to us all that you're kept fully informed. It may be that you'd like to know what it's like for a school to work in a Multi-Academy Trust, whether uniform will alter or how this will benefit your child/ren. Your questions are likely to be very different to that of the school staff and so I would like to invite you to send any questions to questions@lwcet.co.uk by Thursday 11th December so that we can use them to shape our parent information sessions.

Thank you for your support and engagement as we take this important information-gathering step together towards the Bishop's vision for all of his schools.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Charlotte Blanch
LWCET Chief Executive Officer

lwcet.co.uk

Little acts, great love, big difference