



7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our students back to the Academy, after the summer break. It was lovely to see so many smiling, enthusiastic young people ready to learn and fulfil their own mission, in line with the Academy's mission statement 'I have come that they may have life and live it to the full' (John 10.10).

September is often a time for new beginnings in terms of education; a new school year, new uniform, new books and new teachers. As students look forward to the prospects for the next academic year, we remember the words of Job (8:7) 'Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be' showing us that the future is in our hands and we can all make the most of the opportunities available to us.

As you will be aware, Mr Turton (Acting Headteacher) and a number of members of the senior team left the Academy, in the summer. I have been appointed as the Headteacher and I am both proud and privileged to take on this important role. The opportunity to lead our students in their 'journey of faith through education', is one which I am fully committed to and I know I will enjoy. I have been teaching for over 20 years and I have spent most of that time at Branston Community Academy, where I have been on the senior team for 5 years. I bring a wealth of experience with me and I hope to use this to move the school forward, positively impacting on the lives of the young people and staff at St Peter and St Paul's Catholic Academy.

Catholic education is unique in its ability to allow young people to grow in their faith, whilst also accessing a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum. Students will grow academically and socially, through a strong focus on the Academy virtues, virtues which will encourage them to be rounded individuals, who are able to thrive in the world away from school. As I take the Academy forward, students will have the opportunity to develop a range of important skills, which will allow them to flourish in their future goals. Students will be able to take part in an increased range of enrichment activities, particularly as we continue to re-build our school community after the Covid pandemic.

As a faith school, I will be looking to work with our local parishes, exploring opportunities for increased links and ensuring that our young people recognise the link between school, parish and home. I hope this will be coupled with a wider presence in the local community, allowing us to celebrate the success and achievements of students at St Peter and St Paul's Catholic Academy.

Over the next academic year, I hope to get to know the school community; students, staff and parents/guardians.

I will be in contact, over the coming weeks, to inform you of key dates in the Academy calendar.

I wish you all the best, as we thank God for giving us the courage to take on new challenges and move forward, together.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C F Hewerdine

(Headteacher)