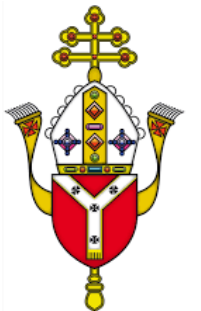


'Loving and Learning Together as Jesus Taught Us'

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

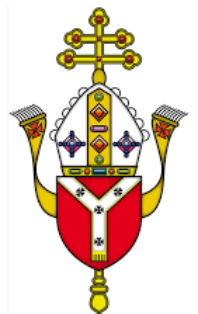
Consultation on the proposal to
convert to Academy Status as part of
the All Saints Catholic Academy
Trust





Welcome and Introductions

- St Catherine's Governors Academy Working Party
- St Catherine's Staff
- Stephen Wheatley, ASCAT CEO
- Justin Wilson, Academy Implementation, Diocese of Westminster



Housekeeping:

- 18 slides altogether
- This meeting will not be recorded
- Questions will be taken at slide 17
- Justin will be taking minutes and making notes of questions and queries which will be included in the consultation report shared at the end of the stakeholder consultation.





Diocese of Westminster

Diocesan Academy Strategy in Context

- 82% of secondary schools, 43% of primary schools and 47% of special schools in England are academies (as of June 2024).
- All Catholic Dioceses in England have plans in place to form Catholic Academy Trusts for all their schools to protect Catholic Education.
- There are currently 58 Academies in 9 CATs across the Diocese of Westminster, with growing engagement in all Family areas.
- All schools in the Diocese will have plans to join a CAT by 2025.

Foreword from the Cardinal...

“Now we are living through times of considerable hardship for many We have to see, be clear, and readjust. This means taking difficult decisions, marked by realism, about resources. In such circumstances it is right to look for economies that can be achieved by structures of cooperation, between schools within the same locality and within the wider family of schools. This is not an enforced 'master-plan', as you well know. It is a measured and appropriate response to the reality we face. **The alternative, individual schools in isolation, will lead not only to conflict but also to the decline that eventually accompanies isolationist policies.** “

***Extract from Cardinal Nichols' address to the Diocese of Westminster
Headteachers Conference February 2018***



Diocese of Westminster

The Diocesan Vision for the CAT programme

- To be inclusive and open to all Catholic schools
- To provide pupils with the best life chances and educational outcomes in Catholic communities imbued with gospel values and with Christ at the centre
- Develop the professional expertise by recruiting and retaining the best staff
- Develop existing links and partnerships with other Schools
- Benefiting from shared economies of scale and efficiency savings
- School leaders, teachers and Governors can combine skills, share thinking and tackle challenges together
- Protect, secure and develop Catholic education

Why now?



Preserve the future of Catholic Education



St Catherine's will lead and shape the local agenda



Growing pressures on School budgets



Whilst St Catherine's continues to be oversubscribed; many Catholic Schools have a falling roll. ASCAT will protect these schools.



Reduction in services and capacity of Local Authorities to support schools



Remains an important part of Catholic Education policy

Our Proposal

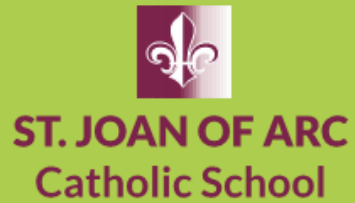
Following a period of growing collaboration and work together, the Governors of St Catherine's believe that the time is now right to convert to an Academy and as part of the All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT)

ASCAT is currently comprised of the following schools

- Saint Joan of Arc Catholic School
- Holy Rood Catholic Primary School
- Divine Saviour Catholic Primary School
- St Johns Catholic Primary School
- St Roses Catholic Infant School
- St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School
- St John Fisher Catholic Primary School
- St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
- St Albert the Great Catholic Primary School
- JFK Catholic School
- St Cuthbert Mayne Catholic Junior School

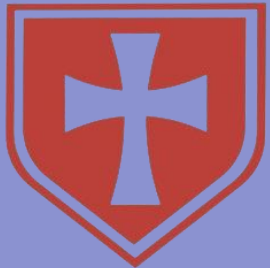


ASCAT current schools



St Ursula

Watford, Rickmansworth and the surrounding areas



St Albans Hub

St Albans, Harpenden, London Colney, Potters Bar



St Mark

Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted (Dacorum)

Diocesan Academy Strategy



Barnet



St Ursula



St Albans



St Mark

How will we benefit?

- Economies of scale and increased resilience
- Greater collaboration
- Wider administration support
- Greater access to capital funding
- Able to reclaim VAT (on capital works)
- Recruitment and retaining the best Catholic Leaders and staff
- Protect, secure and develop Catholic Education through a network of Family CATs supporting schools



What will not change?

- The ethos of St Catherine's Primary School
- The St Catherine's staff team
- Our St Catherine's Curriculum
- St Catherine's School Uniform
- St Catherine's Governors will still continue to serve on a Local Governing Body (Including Parent Governors)
- Our current St Catherine's Admissions Policy will continue to apply
- The timings of St Catherine's school day
- Terms and conditions of employment

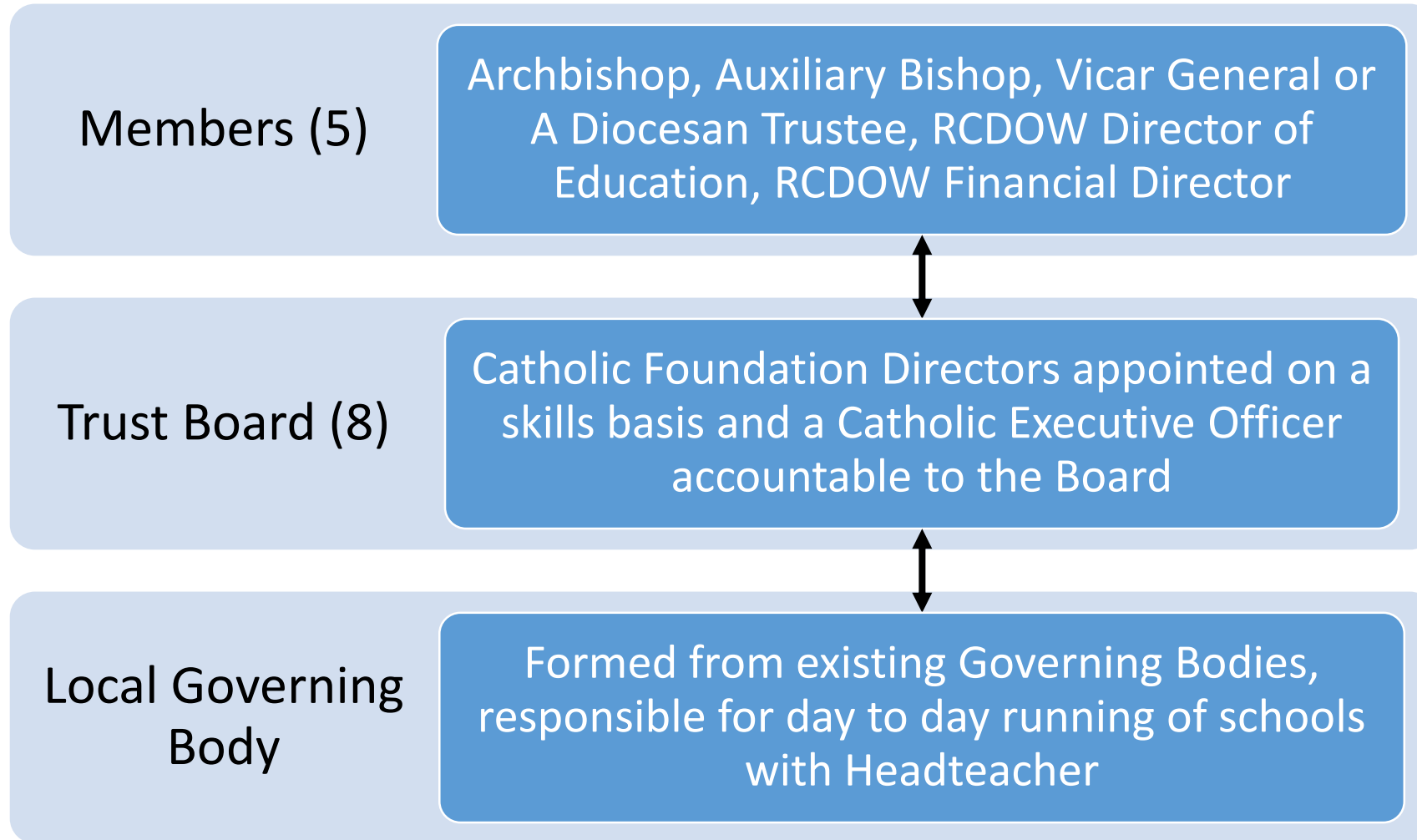


What will change?

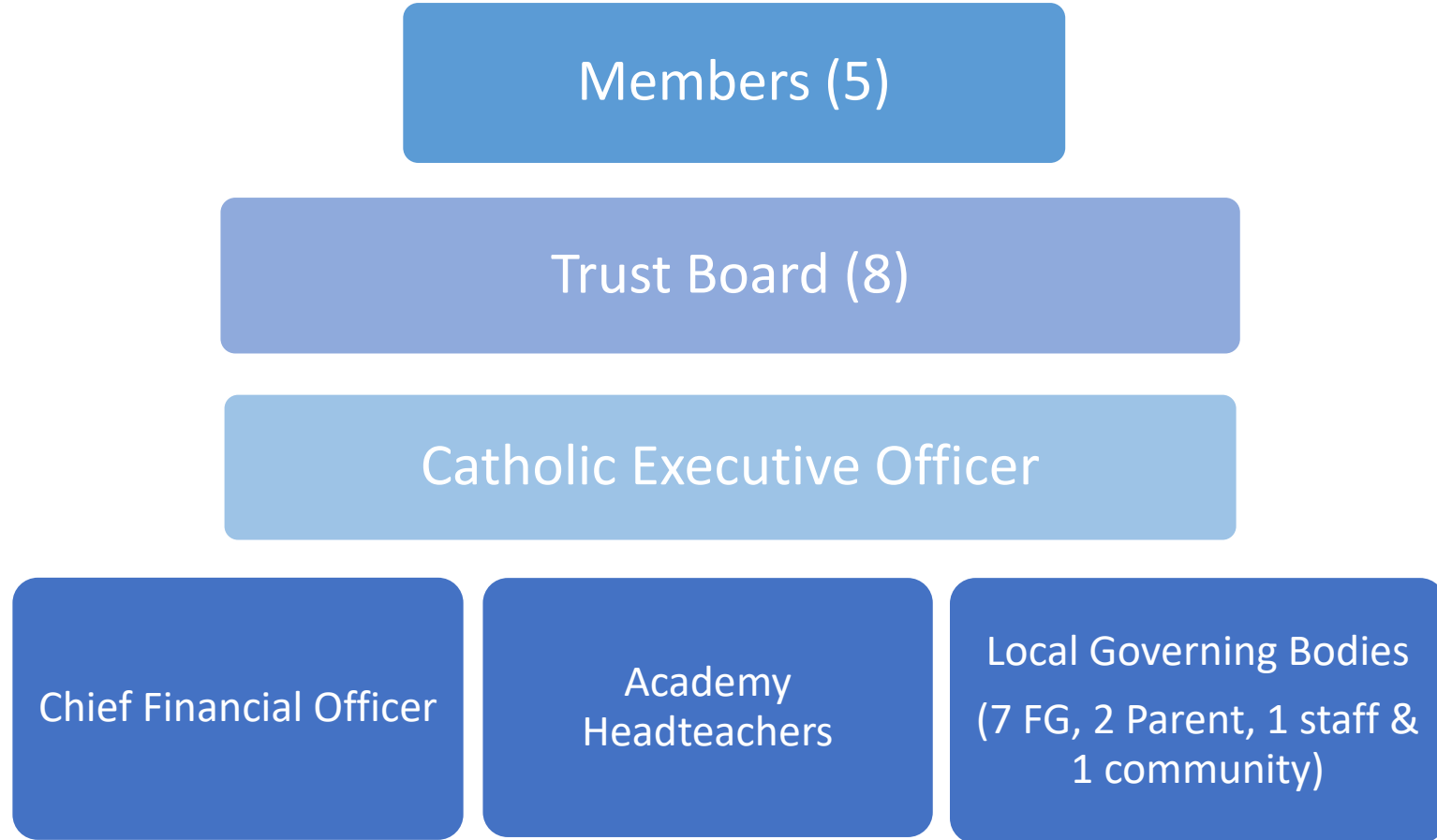
- The legal status of St Catherine's Primary School and its governance arrangements
- The current St Catherine's Governing Body become a local governing body
- The Trust Board have strategic oversight of all Trust schools
- A CEO who leads the strategic development of the Trust
- St Catherine's School is funded directly by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as opposed the Local Authority



Governance Structure



Organisational Structure



What are the next Steps?



If the Governors choose to proceed we will:

- Hold a **TUPE consultation with unions and staff**
- Transfer **land, existing SLAs and contracts to the CAT**
- **Introduce** Trust wide Finance system
- Target Conversion **date** of 1st September 2025

Any Questions....



Thank you for
your time and
contributions

