

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our very first year as St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to celebrate what has been an extraordinary first year together.

One year ago, our 64 schools came together to form one Catholic family, united by our shared mission:

Forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

Whilst each of our schools continues to cherish its own unique identity, traditions and community, we have spent this first year building something special together; a Trust where we learn from one another, support one another and work together so that every child can flourish.

One of the greatest joys of this year has been seeing our pupils begin to experience what it truly means to belong to the St Gabriel family. Children from across all 64 schools have come together in ways that simply weren't possible before. Together, they formed our very first St Gabriel Choir, representing the Trust at the Birmingham Diocesan Education Service Leadership Conference with great pride. They have learnt and performed the same two songs, Our Hearts Come Alive and Chosen for Greatness, singing in harmony as one family.

Throughout the year, pupils have also learnt about the St Gabriel Characteristics, explored what it means to live as Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, created beautiful St Gabriel wings as a symbol of our shared identity, celebrated Mass together and begun building friendships with children from schools across our Trust. These experiences have begun to help our young people recognise that whilst they belong to their own school community, they are also part of something much bigger.

We are excited that this is only the beginning. As we enter our second year together, children will have more opportunities to meet, learn with and celebrate alongside pupils from across our Trust through shared events, enrichment activities, sporting opportunities, chaplaincy, music, leadership and curriculum projects.

Alongside these opportunities for our pupils, colleagues across our schools have worked together with remarkable generosity, sharing expertise, supporting one another and continually striving to provide the very best education for every child. Together, we have celebrated successful inspections, strengthened teaching and

learning and continued to improve the experiences and opportunities available to all of our pupils.

Year One has been about becoming One Trust. Year Two will be about transforming together through the power of questioning minds, continuing to ask the right questions, learning from one another and pursuing ambitious achievement so that every child, in every classroom, can realise their God-given potential.

None of this would be possible without the partnership we share with you. Thank you for the trust you place in our schools each day, for your encouragement, your support and for working alongside us in the education and formation of your children.

As the summer holidays begin, we hope your family has the opportunity to rest, spend precious time together and create many happy memories. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September as we continue our exciting journey together as one St Gabriel family.

May God bless you and your families throughout the summer and continue to guide us all in His love.

Thank you for being part of our first year. We look forward with great hope and excitement to all that lies ahead.

With every blessing,

T Ellis

Toni Ellis
Chief Executive Officer



St Gabriel
the Archangel
Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

A Summer Holiday Prayer for Pupils and Families

Loving Father,

As another school year comes to an end, we thank You for all that we have learnt, the friendships we have made and the memories we have shared together.

We thank You for our families, our teachers, our school staff and everyone who has cared for us throughout the year. We thank You for helping us to grow in knowledge, confidence and faith, and for reminding us each day that we are deeply loved by You.

As the summer holidays begin, bless every family across our St Gabriel community. Fill our homes with laughter, love and peace. Give us time to rest, to enjoy being together and to make wonderful memories with the people we love.

Keep safe all who are travelling, protect those who are staying close to home and be especially near to anyone who may be feeling worried, lonely or unwell. Help us always to notice those who need a friend, a smile or a helping hand.

As we enjoy the beauty of Your world, may we wonder at Your creation, care for the gifts You have given us and remember to thank You for the simple joys of each new day.

Inspired by St Gabriel the Archangel, help us to continue being Christ-centred pilgrims of hope throughout the holidays. May we show kind hearts through our kindness to others, use our questioning minds to keep learning and discovering, grow in our thirst for knowledge and always seek to live with a hunger for justice, standing up for what is right and treating everyone with dignity and love.

As we look forward to a new school year, help us return refreshed, full of hope and ready to continue growing together as one St Gabriel family.

We place ourselves, our families, our schools and all those we love into Your loving hands.

May St Gabriel the Archangel watch over us, pray for us and inspire us always to be messengers of Your hope and peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.