18th December 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is the strategy of the Diocese of Westminster to group its schools into Families of Catholic Multi-Academy trusts to further strengthen and protect its Catholic schools and their Catholic ethos.

The Governors are assured that the academy model being proposed by the Diocese would preserve the uniqueness of the school, the autonomy of its Headteacher in her responsibility in leading the day to day management of the school and the ability of its Governors to make decisions for the good of the school, its pupils and its staff.

The Governors of St George’s only make decisions that they truly believe are of a strategic and long term benefit to the school. During the parent and staff consultations, there were many views expressed both for and against. The Governors, over a number of meetings, considered these and the consequences for St George’s in the light of the Diocesan strategy for schools.

At a meeting earlier this month, after much deliberation, the Governors voted to convert the school to an academy. This is likely to happen sometime in the new year, and is due on the first of April 2019.

St. George’s is a strong, well-run and successful school. This new opportunity will only serve to strengthen its continued development and help it, together with the other schools* in the Trust, to face more successfully the harsher financial climate all schools will be facing in the next few years. It is our vision that St. George’s School will be part of a Catholic Academy Trust, a thriving centre of excellence in Catholic education that will be dynamic and outward looking. This will enable us to adhere to our core values as a Catholic community for the formation of our young people today and in the future.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Elton
Chair of Governors

*The schools which have voted to form this new Catholic Academy Trust are The Sacred Heart Language College, St. George’s Catholic Primary School, St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School and St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary.