

Vicariate for Education

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Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

All Parents and Carers,
Catholic Schools within
The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.

25 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want firstly to thank you for the support that you give to our Catholic schools. I am very proud of all that they achieve on behalf of your children.

I am writing to inform you of upcoming changes for our Catholic schools. Presently across the Diocese most of our state funded schools fall into two categories, either Voluntary Aided or Academies. Bishop Philip has recently written to all schools confirming the decision made by the Diocesan Trustees that all Voluntary Aided schools will become by the end of the school year 2029-2030.

Schools in and north of Andover and Basingstoke will join the Mother Teresa Catholic Academy Trust. Schools in and south of Winchester will join the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust.

This approach is in line with other dioceses and will ensure that our schools not only remain true to their Catholic mission, but will also provide the necessary support and collaboration to ensure our schools and children thrive in an increasingly complex educational landscape.

In the Autumn Term we will publish a timetable of when your child's school is likely to become an academy. The process to become an academy takes many months, so nothing will happen straight away.

I would like to reassure you at this point that the name of the school, the school uniform and the things that make your school unique will not change because the school becomes an academy.

Once the schedule of conversion dates has been decided your school will let you know which year your school will become an academy. In the months leading up to school's conversion you will receive further information.

Should you require more information about academisation this will be found on the Diocese website, later this year.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,

Canon PJ
Episcopal Vicar for Education



**Under the
Patronage
of St. Pier
Giorgio
Frassati**