

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 Prayer for the St Gabriel the Archangel Family

Loving God,

As another school year draws to a close, we pause with grateful hearts to thank You for the many blessings You have poured upon our St Gabriel the Archangel family.

Thank You for every child and young person who has grown in wisdom, confidence and faith; for every member of staff whose kindness, dedication and vocation have shaped lives each day; for our families, parishes, governors and communities who walk alongside us in our shared mission of forming Christ-centred pilgrims of hope.

We thank You for the countless acts of generosity, encouragement, perseverance and love that so often go unseen but have made an extraordinary difference to others. Bless each person for all they have given throughout this year.

As the summer begins, grant us the gift of true rest and renewal. May this season be filled with laughter, peace and precious moments spent with those we love. Help us to notice the beauty of Your creation, to delight in simple joys and to find new strength in Your presence.

Protect all who are travelling, keep our families safe and bring comfort to those who may find this season difficult or lonely. May every member of our Trust know that they are cherished, valued and they are never beyond Your loving care.

Inspired by the example of St Gabriel the Archangel, may we continue to be messengers of hope, sharing kindness with generous hearts, seeking wisdom with questioning minds, growing in our thirst for knowledge and living with a hunger for justice wherever You call us.

As we prepare for a new academic year, fill us afresh with courage, joy and hope, so that together we may continue to serve a mission greater than ourselves and help every child entrusted to our care to flourish in the fullness of life that Christ promises.

We entrust our schools, our families, our colleagues and our communities into the loving care of St Gabriel the Archangel.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.