

Catholic Academies Trust (CAT) Oversight Committee

Date: Tuesday 4th March 2025

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Bowen House & Online

Opening Prayer

The meeting began with a prayer, asking for guidance, wisdom, and blessings for the discussions ahead.

Updates on Recent Developments

Trust Expansion:

- Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) continue to grow, with several schools successfully joining trusts and others in the process of transition.
 - Schools undergoing transition are being supported to ensure a smooth integration.
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Celebrating School Successes

- The importance of appropriately celebrating school achievements was discussed, with an emphasis on thoughtful communication and timing.
 - Positive engagement with the wider community remains a priority.
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School Improvement

- Ongoing efforts to enhance student outcomes across trusts were noted.
 - A review of improvement strategies is planned, with data analysis to support future planning.
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Leadership and Governance

- Leadership development and planning were discussed as key priorities.
 - Trusts are encouraged to maintain strategic planning to support continuity and effectiveness in leadership roles.
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Catholic Identity and Pastoral Engagement

- Schools remain committed to fostering a strong Catholic ethos in leadership and throughout school life.

- Positive collaboration between schools and local parishes was recognised, with further engagement encouraged to support pastoral care.
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Academisation Planning

- Schools preparing to join MATs are being supported with clear planning and communication.
 - Engagement with school leaders and stakeholders is ongoing to facilitate a smooth transition.
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Financial and Operational Oversight

- Financial planning and sustainability continue to be monitored.
 - Schools receive support to ensure effective use of resources and long-term stability.
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Action Points

- A review of improvement strategies will take place, with input from trust leadership.
 - Strategic leadership planning will be developed further.
 - Continued engagement with clergy and parish communities will be encouraged.
 - Support for financial planning will be provided where needed.
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Any Other Business

- Updates from recent meetings and staffing developments were shared.
 - Ideas for future strategic planning were discussed and will be followed up.
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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CAT Oversight Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday 29th April 2025 at 3 PM** at Bowen House.