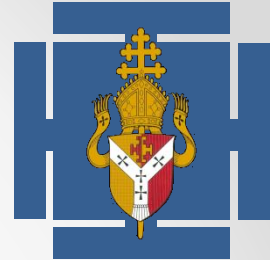
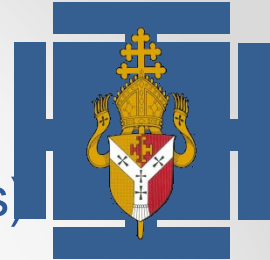


# Diocesan Academy Strategy Update



- Local and National Picture
- Levels of discussion and engagement
- Some key messages from the Academy Strategy Form returns
- Further information
- Support moving forward



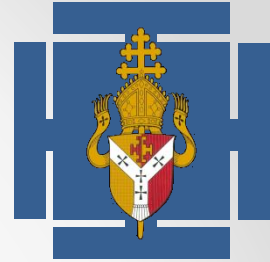
# The Context

- 238 Schools (202 Primary Schools and 36 Secondary Schools)
- 80,000 children
- 13 Local Authorities
- MACs

DATE	ACADEMIES	MACs
October 2014	57	11
April 2015	77	15
June 2018	101	18

- 50% of Secondary Schools and 41% of Primary Schools

# Number of Academies in England



- Catholic Academies

491 Catholic Academies in England out of 2142

**23% of all Catholic Schools are Academies**

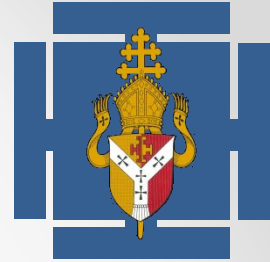
Based on 'current trends' of 50 per month...

December 2017 – 1091 (51%)

December 2018 – 1691 (79%)

September 2019 – 100%

# The Model – Key Characteristics



- A Family of Catholic Academies.
- A MAC consists of individual Academies run by a Board of Directors (with Local Governing Body).
- The Catholic character and ethos of each School is protected by a binding legal framework of conversion documents.

# Levels of discussion and engagement

- Very positive engagement from Chairs and Heads
- The DES Team has met with 180 Schools and over 550 Governors since January 2017
- A range of different responses and next steps have been agreed
- Key message is around building a local solution to forming and/or joining a MAC
- There is a clear need for practical support and guidance moving forward – DES Academy Project Lead

# Academy Strategy Forms

- 72% (73) of individual Schools anticipate that they will become an Academy within 24 months
- 11 of 18 MACs expect to expand within 24 months
- Whilst lots of research and discussions have taken place, there is a need for continued consideration and support – medium to long term
- For some this may mean a ‘staged’ approach
- Suggested groupings are moving forward in some areas and in some cases Solicitors have been appointed

# What Ofsted are saying

- 67 Academies Inspected since conversion.

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Previous Grade	2 (3%)	43 (64%)	21 (31%)	1 (1%)
Academy Grade	7 (10%)	48 (72%)	10 (15%)	2 (3%)

**21 Academies have improved their grade.**

**40 Academies have stayed the same.**

**6 Academies grades have decreased**



## What Ofsted are saying

- **67 Academies Inspected since conversion.**
- **Grade profile Good or Outstanding moves from 67% (45 Schools) to 82% (55 Schools)**

## All Schools to become 'Academy Ready'



- Secure knowledge and understanding of what becoming an Academy means
- Effective working partnerships with other Schools
- Shared sense of vision with other Schools
- Establish and communicate a realistic timescale for conversion to a Multi-Academy Company (MAC)

## Key Principles of the Strategy



- Catholic Education at the heart of the mission of the Church – Secure, Protect and Improve
- Based on local dialogue and engagement but no School should work in isolation
- A medium to long term strategy
- Many options are available – DES providing direction not dictate

## Some 'new' developments



- No employees on the Board of Directors
- Increasing clarity and information on the role of...

## **a Catholic Senior Executive Leader**

- <http://www.bdes.org.uk/mac-executive-leadership.html>
- Over the next 12 months we anticipate significant movement across Schools in the Archdiocese

## Key Messages



- ‘It is the expectation of the Archbishop and Trustees that all Catholic Schools under the Trust Deed, will in time, convert to Academy Status’
- ‘The Archdiocese sees the long term future of its Schools as being part of a Multi Academy Company with other Schools in their local area’
- The DES will be requesting termly updates from ALL Schools and will continue to offer support to all Schools
- <http://www.bdes.org.uk/academies.html>
- Scheme of Delegation/Due Diligence/FAQs/Supporting Guidance



## The Future (1)

- ▶ Schools will be able to convert as and when they are ready to go. This does mean some are sooner and some will be later.
- ▶ Our task is to build the “mission” and “communion” of our schools through this strategy. The method we have adopted is constructive dialogue rather than imposition.
- ▶ At the same time we reserve the right to “direct” schools towards the make up of a new or merged MAC depending on evidence and need including standards, socio economic, leadership and local Church structures.



## The Future (2)

- ▶ A family of Catholic Schools in academy companies that are fit for the Catholic mission of education
- ▶ Schools that continue to respond to the challenges of securing, protecting and improving Catholic education
- ▶ Schools that find a new security rooted in mission and leadership and preserved through high quality education and financial sustainability.