

20 December, 2018

To all members of staff, governors and parents of the St Margaret's Voluntary Controlled Primary School Community

It has become apparent to Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC) and to the Worcester Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) that the St Margaret's school community has become increasingly fractured. A member of the Worcester DBE has now spent several days speaking with all members of staff in an attempt to understand the reasons for this and has given his preliminary feedback to members of the governing body.

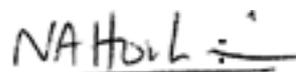
The purpose of this letter is not to repeat those reasons publicly or to attribute blame. It is, rather, to request that all members of the school community make a commitment to treat each other with respect and to remember the Christian ethos upon which the school is founded. At a time when emotions are high, it is good to take time to pause and to reflect on the impact that our behaviour might have on others in our community.

Dudley MBC and the Worcester DBE have made additional plans to continue to support the leaders of the school and these plans will come into force in the New Year. Following this we would like to invite all parents to meet with ourselves and the governors on **23rd January 2019 at 6:00 pm**. The education and wellbeing of the children at St Margaret's must be our focus and it would be beneficial for them as well as all those who work in, with and for the school if the focus of the community could return to being the flourishing of all. The four Learning Principles make clear that the school has committed itself to offering an education that is rooted in Christian values and the needs of individual children, enabling them to develop wisdom and courage during their time at St Margaret's. All must play their part in making this a reality. Whilst acceptable for any member of the school community to make a complaint or bring concerns to the attention of the leaders and governors, it can never be acceptable for anyone to speak or to write publicly in a derogatory manner about other members of the school community. This must stop if the school is to recover, to become a community that is reconciled, and to continue to offer children a high quality Christian education.

We would therefore ask that each person takes time to reflect over the Christmas holiday and to start the new school term committed to the rebuilding of the St Margaret's school community. We will be in touch again in the New Year with details of the support being put in place.



Dr Margaret James
Diocesan Director of Education



Neil Hoskinson
Head of Education Outcomes Dudley MBC