



16 May 2011

Dear Chair of Governors/Headteacher

ACADEMIES

Bishop Séamus and the Trustees have asked me to inform you that they are 'open to the possibility' of diocesan schools converting to academy status.

However, they wish to consult all Catholic schools in order to listen to the views from Headteachers, Governing Bodies, Staff and Parents before making a 'decision in principle' about the conversion to Academy Status.

Different dioceses are at different stages with regard to the Academy debate. In common with a number of other dioceses our Trustees are simply trying to access the views of others before making this significant decision for Catholic schools in our Diocese.

Accordingly I would be grateful if you would complete the attached survey and return it to the Spirituality, Formation and Education Service by Monday 13 June.

In the light of requests made at our Diocesan Academies Conference on 13 April I am also enclosing a paper on Academies which you may find helpful.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely

Joe Hughes
Director