



St Louis Regionalate

131 Beaufort Downs, Rathfarnham, Dublin, D14 X9V3

Tel: (01) 493 4194 email: regionalate@stlouisirl.ie

10th December 2020

Dear Parent,

On behalf of the Sisters of St Louis we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you for supporting the leadership team, teachers and support staff of St Louis Grammar School, Killeel in delivering education to your child during this very difficult and challenging time.

We want to share with you our intention to transfer ownership and trusteeship of St Louis GS to the St MacNissi's Educational Trust of the Down and Connor Diocese. With fewer Sisters involved in educational leadership and the Irish Region of the Sisters of St Louis direct role in education in decline, and as we age, now is the right time for us to make this change.

Catholic Education is Gospel centred and is a process of human growth beginning in the home and continued in schools and lived throughout life. It is person centred and promotes the dignity, self-esteem and full development of each person, within a context of community and the common good.

The Sisters of St Louis are committed to Catholic education and are proud of their contribution to the education mission of the Church in Killeel, Ballymena and throughout Ireland over the past 160 years as they now seek to ensure, through this transfer, the future of Catholic education anew in these St Louis schools.

The St MacNissi's Educational Trust was established in 2004 to bring together into a single body, the trusteeship of the many Catholic schools established by and associated with the parishes and Diocese of Down and Connor, (currently 160 schools.) Its purpose is to hold in trust these schools for the Catholic community and to preserve and develop the family of Catholic schools within the Diocese, at the service of the local community and wider society. The Trust exercises the functions of a school trustee as provided for in the legal framework relating to publicly grant aided or funded schools and works closely with the Department of Education, the Northern Ireland Commission for Catholic Education and its executive arm, the Catholic Schools Trustee Service, the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools and The Education Authority.

In addition to the identity and mission process, the Sisters of St Louis and the St MacNissi's Educational Trust will work to affect the due diligence needed for the eventual transfer of property and enterprise. We will be supporting the leadership and teaching staff with bespoke training.

The transfer in trusteeship does not have any impact on your child's education, nor will it have any bearing on the day to day running of the school.

Charity Name: Sisters of St Louis, Irish Region CRA: 20014729 CHY: 7147

Trustees: Uainín Clarke SSL, Mary Connellan SSL, Anne Jordan SSL, Mary Kearney SSL, Anne Murray SSL, Marion Reynolds SSL, Eithne Woulfe SSL



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We would also like to acknowledge the generations of dedicated lay and religious who taught, staffed, acted as Board of Governors, supporters or in other capacities for their great generosity and determination to provide a Catholic education for thousands of our young people in St. Louis GS, Killeel.

In conclusion, change brings challenges but also great opportunities and on behalf of the Sisters we would like to assure you of our support and prayers during the transition and in the years ahead. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Fr Gerard Fox, Trustee and Vicar for Education for the diocese or Sr. Eithne Woulfe via the school or directly.

Wishing you all a peaceful, healthy and joyful family Christmas,

Uainín Clarke SSL

Regional Leader

Eithne Woulfe SSL

Trustee

Mary O'Connor SSL

School Trustee