



Maria Fidelis

Catholic School FCJ

Headteacher: Mrs H Gill, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

Growing together through Christ with courage, confidence and dignity

3 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers:

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I am delighted to inform you that Mark Anthony has been appointed as successor Headteacher of Maria Fidelis following the retirement of Helen Gill at the end of the 2022-23 academic year. The selection of Mr. Anthony followed a rigorous process which involved written applications and online exercises followed by two days of in-person panels, interviews, presentations and other activities. Competition for the job was fierce: we received seven applications from people who are currently deputy headteachers; of these we selected four to interview on-site on February 1st (the teacher strike day).

The recruitment panel consisted of six Maria Fidelis governors. In conducting our on-site assessments, we had valuable input from representatives of Camden Learning and the Diocese of Westminster plus two additional FCJ sisters. A panel of current students, representing year groups across the school, interviewed the candidates. These students, plus staff members who were on site, met and gave their written opinions on all four candidates. The recruitment panel is deeply grateful for these additional student and co-worker perspectives. They reflect the considered views of people who would need to interact with the new headteacher at school on a daily basis. Throughout the whole process, we were guided by our consultant Dame Joan McVittie, a retired headteacher and Ofsted inspector, and a former student of an FCJ school. Nicola Fulcher, the School Business Manager, and her team played a starring role in executing all aspects of this public sector recruitment process in an orderly and efficient manner.

Over the coming months, we expect Mrs. Gill and Mr. Anthony to work closely together to ensure an orderly hand-over. The members of the Governing Body share Mr. Anthony's ambitions for Maria Fidelis. We all want to make our school one that is recognised for being excellent in both academic and pastoral terms. Equally, we want to ensure that every Maria Fidelis student feels valued and appreciated as a uniquely gifted individual with much goodness to offer the wider community.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Anthony

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Carey

Chair of Governors



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