



10th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you again to provide a further update regarding the ongoing strike action at St Cuthbert's.

We know how difficult this continues to be for families. The disruption to your children's education and the uncertainty this creates is not something we take lightly, and we are very sorry for the impact this is having on your children and on your wider family life.

Over the past few weeks, we have continued to work to move the situation forward. We have been in contact with both unions to arrange mediation through ACAS and will continue to pursue this. At the point that mediation is scheduled, we will share further proposals with unions with the aim of bringing this dispute to an end.

As we have said from the beginning, the Trust Board's focus is on improving standards at the school. Our goal is that, over time, significantly more Year 11 pupils leave St Cuthbert's with strong outcomes in English, Mathematics and across the curriculum than has been the case historically. We believe this matters for every child's future opportunities. However, we also recognise that, at present, your children are not receiving the consistency they deserve, and for that we apologise.

Alongside this, we have listened carefully to feedback from parents about the need for a stronger voice in the work of the school. In response, we will shortly begin the process of a parental election so that a parent representative can sit on the Trust Intervention Committee.

This will be an open process, where parents are able to nominate themselves, and the wider parent body will elect a representative. Subject to the completion of the necessary safeguarding checks, we hope that the successful candidate will be able to observe the final Trust Intervention Committee meeting of the year. This approach is supported by the Salford Diocese, the Local Authority and the Department for Education.

We have also been focusing on how best to support pupils through this period and beyond it. We know that many parents are concerned about gaps in learning, and rightly so. For that reason, Mrs Keenan has developed a recovery plan, which we are sharing with you alongside this letter.

This plan has two parts. The first focuses on the immediate term, setting out how remote education will be strengthened while disruption continues, so that pupils have clearer structure and more consistent access to learning. The second looks ahead to when all pupils are back in school full time and focuses on how we will address gaps in learning, rebuild routines, and support pupils to regain confidence and make progress.



MAKE CHRIST *known*;
MAKING LIVES *better*



We hope this provides reassurance that there is a clear and considered approach in place to support your children both now and in the longer term.

We also want to reiterate that the work to amend the school's structure does not result in redundancies for staff. This was an early concern and was addressed quickly. We have continued to look at ways to adjust our plans as discussions have progressed, with the aim of finding a way forward and we remain committed to.

We know many parents have taken the time to share their concerns with us. We continue to update responses to these on the school website, and we want to reassure you that all feedback is taken seriously. We share your frustration that this situation remains ongoing.

At all times, the focus of the Trust is to improve the standards and overall experience for pupils at St Cuthbert's. We believe this is urgently needed so that your children are able to achieve outcomes that open up the opportunities they deserve as they move on to the next stage of their lives.

We will continue to keep you updated and, once again, we are sorry for the continued disruption.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Foley
Trust CEO

John McAuley
Chair of the Trust Board

Peter Riley
Chair Trust Intervention Committee

