



St Augustine's Catholic College

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HEAD TEACHER: J C Alsop MSc BA (HONS)

27th April 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of St Augustine's College from 1st September. I am delighted to have been appointed to this post and am looking forward to the move.

I have been a teacher for almost 25 years. Following a Maths degree at Oxford University, I completed teacher training in Liverpool. Since then I have worked in four schools; in Warwickshire, Kent, and Oxfordshire. I have taken on various management and leadership roles, including six years as Head of Mathematics, and a period as school timetabler. My main leadership role has been in my current school, The Oratory School near Reading, where I spent eight years as Director of Studies (Deputy Head Academic). I have been awarded the National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH), and an MSc in Educational Leadership from Leicester University. I have experience of school governance at both primary and secondary phases, and have been a Director of a Multi-Academy company.

St Augustine's College is an outstanding school, with many key strengths. My first priority is going to be to form a strong understanding of the organisation, its people and systems, so that these can be maintained and developed in the future. The next few years are likely to remain challenging for schools. The strength of St Augustine's is ultimately in its people - its excellent and committed teaching and non-teaching staff, its effective and knowledgeable governors, its engaged and supportive parents and carers, and the young people who are our students. It is my firm belief that, in education, it is through developing people that results are achieved.

The College's Catholic life and ethos is the foundation and centre of its other work. Academic results, personal development, and readiness for lives and careers - these are vital to any successful school. A Catholic school is distinctive since all these activities are achieved within a context of Faith. We want our young people to become ethically and spiritually aware and a force for good in the world - as well as successful academically and in their future lives.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the months ahead. In the meantime, do remember me in your prayers, as I prepare for the transition to the role of Headteacher of St Augustine's.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Forster