



September 2009

Dear Parent/Carer

It is amazing that we are starting our second full year as the first Academy in Nottinghamshire. It has been a real delight to welcome our students back at the start of term. At the same time we welcome our new Year 7 students and those who are returning with us in the Sixth Form.

In August, we had two wonderful days when our students received their first examination results. A Level results saw a large rise in student performance when compared to last year (and previous years). The A Level point score rose by 25% and there were many happy faces when the vast majority achieved the results they needed to move onto their chosen destinations. For most of these students their choice was a University education. A week after A Level results we received our GCSE results which saw a similar rise in the number of students getting five or more high grade passes. We are delighted with these improvements but we will be working hard to ensure even further improvements for our Year 11 and 13 students this year.

The success of our GCSE students has led to a large increase in the number of students starting in our Sixth Form this September. We have also seen a large increase in the number of students who have joined us in Year 7. We are heartened by this as it shows a rapidly increasing confidence in what The Samworth Church Academy has to offer. This gives us an even greater sense of purpose. We will move on energetically to achieve our goals and our long term vision. I am confident that you will hear of many opportunities for our young people in the weeks and months ahead.

I would like to thank all parents in anticipation of their continued support for their own children and our work in the Academy. The students have returned immaculately dressed and properly equipped. Thank you again for your support on these matters.

As well as the many wider activities we do have some important events in the weeks ahead. In September we have our open evening on 15th, of course everyone is welcome. In addition we have open days on 16th and 17th September. We also have a prestigious business event which includes a visit from Lord Digby Jones, an internationally acclaimed businessman based in the Midlands. In October we have a "Topping Out" ceremony, an event that celebrates the securing of our new building from the elements. The new building is on track and we expect to move in on time next year.

When we move into our new building there will be a lot of work involved in packaging, moving, unpacking and getting ready to start work. This process is well planned and will need us to make arrangements for this period.

The Academy will be closed to all students who are not taking examinations from Wednesday 26th May until Tuesday 8th June 2010. The new building will be opened for business on Wednesday 9th June.

Part of this period is the normal Spring Bank Holiday week when the Academy would have been closed for students. You should note that examinations will take place as normal. This means that



students taking external examinations will not be affected by these additional days. We thought this information would be useful to parents who may be planning holidays for next year but, as always, parents should take great care to ensure that any holidays do not clash with important examinations.

Thank you again for your continued support. We look forward to more hard work, fun and even more success for our young people.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Griffiths', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Griffiths
Principal