

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

**Headteacher:** Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

17 January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Over the last 18 years, I have written numerous letters home to parents, but this is without doubt one of the most difficult of them all.

Before the Christmas season I informed Liz Cluett, Chair of Governors, that it is my intention to step down as Headteacher of Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College at the end of the Summer term 2025. I will be continuing as CEO of the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust in a part time capacity.

It is the right time for me to move on; nearly two decades of demanding 65-hour work weeks have taken their toll. In addition to working for the Trust, and continuing my charity work, I would like to spend more time with my wife and our remarkable adult children. I sincerely hope that they share this sentiment!

Having led the school since September 2007, I am immensely proud of Oaklands and the extended community. It has been a genuine privilege to fulfil my vocation serving a Catholic community, bolstered by an exceptional Leadership Team and a committed cadre of teachers and support staff over the years. Additionally, the unwavering backing from a dedicated and highly professional Governing Body has been instrumental in achieving the school's vision.

The steadfast support from parents, carers, our clergy, my colleagues at the Diocese, and the broader community has been invaluable, and I am profoundly appreciative of their contributions. Above all, it has been a genuine pleasure to witness the development of thousands of students throughout their educational journeys. This experience is a distinctive honour for any headteacher, and it has continually inspired and motivated me throughout my tenure.

For obvious reasons, it is important to note that I shall remain in post and be fully committed to the headship at Oaklands until the end of the academic year.

The decision to announce my departure to you now and my colleagues earlier this week aligns with my long-standing commitment to uphold transparency, integrity, and clarity in all my actions since the very beginning. I am confident that Oaklands is currently in a robust position, as evidenced by the positive outcomes of our recent Catholic School Inspection; very few schools get outstanding in all areas. Oaklands can approach the future with a sense of optimism and assurance.

Please continue to keep the school and the Governing Body in your prayers as they discern the next stage for the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Quinn', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mr Matthew Quinn  
**Headteacher**