

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Education Service

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Marie Ryan BA (Hons), MA, MCIL

Director, Education Service

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Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back after what I hope was a restful and enjoyable Summer. Last year was a very busy and successful year for schools and academies across the diocese and I hope that everybody managed to switch off and relax for as much of the holiday as possible. Despite our only being one week into the new academic year, things are already moving apace and August already feels a little way behind us!

Congratulations! May I begin this letter by congratulating primary and secondary schools and academies alike on some outstanding outcomes for children and young people. Headlines SATS data published on 10th July showed that a large number of diocesan primary schools and academies had achieved very highly. Despite the change to numerical grades and the uncertainty caused by key reforms to GCSE, secondary schools are celebrating some excellent results at GCSE and A-level. Particularly important is the fact that these successes at primary and secondary alike are achieved within, not at the expense of, a distinctive Catholic ethos. Our schools and academies are places in which children and young people learn how to be more than just good workers; they learn to be good citizens who look beyond their own needs, to those of others.

Newly appointed Headteachers: We welcome the following newly appointed Headteachers and hope they will be very happy and fulfilled in their new positions:

- Siobhan Andrews – Interim Headteacher, St Mary Magdalene’s, Bexhill
- Paula Best – Head of School, St Polycarp’s
- Paul Gallagher – Interim Head, Annecy
- Paul Gower – Head of School, Salesian School

I know they will be made to feel welcome and hugely supported by their colleagues in school, the deanery and across the diocese. We will shortly be sending out invitations for new Heads and their Diocesan professional partners to attend an Induction for new Heads at Dabcec. We hope they will all be able to join us.

Recruitment: As many of you will be aware, the diocese has undergone a restructuring process over the past few months and there have been changes to various departments as a result. Here at the DES we are currently recruiting for three part-time positions with an anticipated start date of January 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter: .6 Lead Education Officer; .4 Adviser for Secondary RE and Catholic ethos; and .3 Standards Officer. Full details are available at www.abeducationsservice.org.uk with a closing date of 17th September. Interviews will be held over the period of Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th October 2018. I would be very grateful if you would bring these positions to the attention of any staff who may be interested.

On behalf of all at the Education Service, I wish you a very happy and rewarding new school year!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie". The script is cursive and elegant, with a long tail on the letter 'e'.

Marie Ryan

