Please see below the statement from Mr Cameron Robson, Chair of The Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust

Appointment of a new Executive Headteacher

Following a rigorous and competitive recruitment exercise involving members of the Trust Board, the Chairs of the respective Academy Councils, Monsignor Grogan and representatives from the Diocese, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Ben Lavin to the position of Executive Headteacher for St John the Evangelist and St Winefride's schools. Mr Lavin joins us from the Salford Diocese, where he is currently the Head teacher of a large primary school. We are very excited that Mr Lavin will soon be leading our two schools, as well as sharing his experience with other senior leaders across the Trust. Subject to the usual legal checks and notice periods, we expect Mr Lavin to start with us on 10th June 2019, and I am sure you will join with us in offering him a very warm Yorkshire welcome into our community.

From the beginning of January, until Mr Lavin starts with us, the schools will be very ably led by our recently appointed interim Headteachers - Mrs Kenyon at St John's and Mrs Walsh at St Winefride's, and I know you will generously continue to give them your unstinting support in the months ahead as they continue the excellent work for which the two schools are rightly known.

It only remains for me, on behalf of the Trust Board, and our school communities, to offer our very best wishes to Mrs Spillane and Mrs Cairns for a long, healthy and fruitful retirement. Our debt of gratitude to these outstanding Headteachers, both of whom have worked tirelessly for their schools, and on behalf of the Trust and wider Catholic education, cannot easily be measured, but I know you will join with us in offering them our thanks, love and prayers for the future.

May I wish you and your families a Happy and Holy Christmas, and a peaceful New Year.

Cameron

Cameron Robson,

Chair, Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust

18 December 2018