

Mrs Hilary Meyer – New Head teacher of Virgo Fidelis Convent Senior School



Mrs Hilary Meyer has been appointed as the Head of Virgo Fidelis Convent Senior School with effect from June 2018. She replaces Ms Jocelyn Lewis who was Interim Head from September 2017 following the retirement of Sister Bernadette in July 2017 after many years of service.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to thank Sr Anne Marie Niblock, head teacher at Notre Dame for seconding Ms Lewis to us. I also want to thank Ms Lewis for her hard work over the last two terms and wish her well as she prepares to return to Notre Dame at the end of this half term. Mrs Alex Fernandez, Deputy Head Teacher will become Acting Head Teacher until Mrs Meyer's arrival.

Mrs Meyer is currently Head of Sixth Form at Coloma, an oversubscribed and Ofsted rated outstanding all-girls school in Shirley, Croydon where she has worked for the last 18 years. During that time she has been Head of a very successful music department. As a member of the Senior Leadership team at Coloma she has worked to develop Teaching and Learning and as Head of Sixth Form to maintain and improve standards. Like Virgo Fidelis, Coloma is a Catholic Girls' school where faith, love and respect are the core values which underpin the ethos of the school.

As a graduate of Royal Holloway College, (University of London) Mrs Meyer studied Music, and also has an LRAM from the Royal Academy of Music. She completed her PGCE in Liverpool and has an NPQH from the Institute of Education in London. Mrs Meyer is married with two children and lives in Surrey.

Mrs Meyer was selected following a recruitment process that started in May 2017, involving Emmaus Recruitment, Octavo Partnership, Croydon's education department, The Diocese and a panel of Governors appointed to act on behalf of the Board of Governors.

On accepting the post Mrs Meyer said "I am truly delighted to be joining Virgo Fidelis and working with the students, parents and staff. I think that all students should have access to the best quality education and will do all in my power to ensure that the girls at Virgo Fidelis achieve the highest possible standards. I feel strongly that all girls should aspire to reach their full potential and attain the best results they can. Gospel values are at the heart of all I believe and do, and through those values of mutual love and respect, equal opportunities can be fully achieved. I take up this post in challenging times, but am ready for this opportunity and I have the energy and vision that the school needs to succeed. I look forward to meeting and working with you all".

Over the remainder of this term Mrs Meyer will spend time getting to know our school, liaising with our Senior Leadership Team, staff, governors, pupils and other members of our wider school community.

This is an exciting time for our school. In our 170th year and with a new Head at the helm, we continue working towards academic, pastoral and sporting excellence all in the name of God.

We wish Mrs Meyer every success in her new role and I am sure that you will warmly welcome her to our school and community.

Femi Oresanya
Chair to the Board of Governors