



# Trinity Catholic High School

Headmaster: Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA

January 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian,

**Re: Dr Bryony Mathew, British Ambassador to Iceland – Importance of Languages**

I am writing in regards to a very special masterclass to be delivered on Tuesday 31st January at 3.30pm – 4.30pm in St Joseph's common room. The master class will be led by Dr Bryony Mathew, British Ambassador to Iceland. Dr Bryony Mathew was appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to Iceland in August 2021.

After studying Experimental Psychology, Dr Mathew did a Master's in Biological Anthropology at Durham and a PhD in Neuroscience at UCL. She joined Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service in 2005 and has served in London, Bangalore, and Beijing. Dr Mathew has also written two children's books, demonstrating the breadth of careers available to young people. Dr Mathew speaks eight languages.

The main talk will focus on Dr Mathew's own career experiences with a specific focus on languages and why languages are important useful and fun as well as talk a little more broadly about how young people can decide what they want to do after school. Language learning is important for a variety of reasons. It can improve communication skills, open up job and educational opportunities, and provide access to different cultures. Additionally, it can enhance cognitive abilities, such as memory and problem-solving skills, and even improve mental health. Additionally, speaking multiple languages can boost the ability for multitasking and decision making. Finally, it can foster a sense of global citizenship and cultural understanding.

This masterclass will include an opportunity for students to ask questions and is open to all students interested, but is especially important for students considering their options in Year 9 as well as students currently studying languages at KS4 and KS5. We hope that this will be a rewarding experience and a chance for students to ask some insightful questions.

Should you have any queries about this master class please feel free to contact me here at Trinity. I attach a link to confirm attendance below, which is to be completed by 30 January. Failure to confirm attendance will mean that the student will be unable to attend.

**Main School Office**

**Upper Site:** Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TP Telephone: 020 8504-3419

**Lower Site:** Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TB Telephone: 020 8504-8946

www.tchs.org.uk info@tchs.org.uk  @TCHSWoodford



Diocese of Brentwood

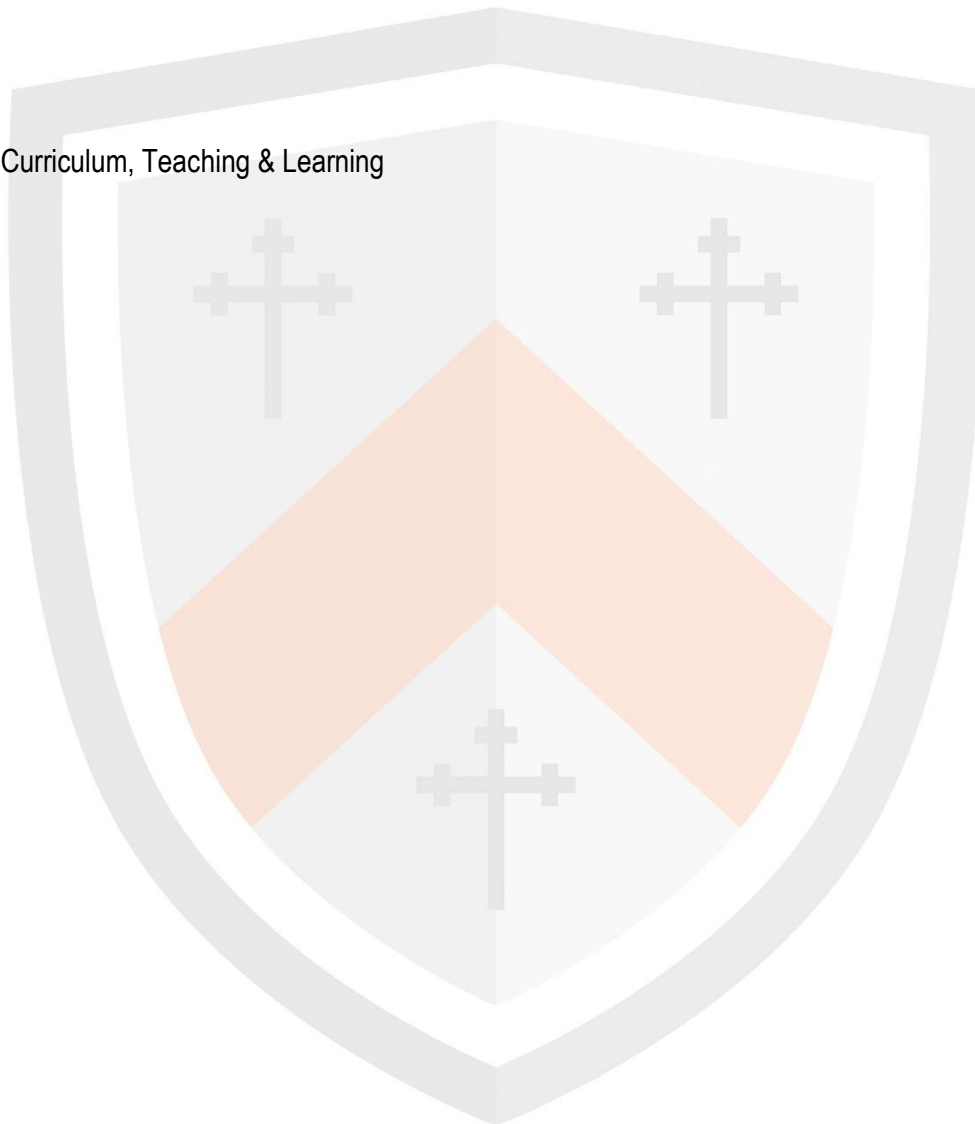


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Yours sincerely

Mr D Baker  
KS4 Director of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning



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