REPORT OF

**EUROPEAN NETWORK OF SACRED HEART SCHOOLS**

**CORE TEAM MEETING**

**JUNE 23rd and 24th 2022 VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

**HYBRID MEETING**

**Present**: Christophe Corda, Headteacher of Nantes ( President); Hilary Thompson, Coordinator for England and Wales (Secretary); Sr Paqui Rodríguez Muriel RSCJ, Member of Coordination Team for Spain (by Zoom); Fernando Orcastegui , Director Spanish Network (by Zoom); Birgit Gmeindl-Oser, Coordinator for Central Europe/ Headteacher Gymnasium Sacré Coeur, Vienna (Treasurer); Noreen Heenan, Coordinator for Ireland, Scotland and Malta; Joanna Attard Pulis, Headteacher of Senior School, Malta; Elaine Siegler, Headteacher Junior School, Malta; Reinhard Hallwirth (vice treasurer), Archdiocese, Vienna. Mariolina Cervelli (vice secretary), Maria Teresa Bernardi**,** Istituto Sacro Cuore della Trinità, Rome. Also, Tiziana Petruccelli joined the group for this session as a member of the Emmanuel Community in Rome who are supporting the upcoming Conference

**Apologies:** Maria Luisa Campa (Vice President), Headteacher, Istituto Sacro Cuore della Trinità, Rome. Christophe Blanchard, Head of Tutelle, France.

**Special Reception at St Stephen’s Cathedral**

Delegates were invited to join colleagues from schools across the Archdiocese celebrating the end of the academic year and the contribution of individual staff to the ethos of their schools. There are 3 major Sacred Heart institutions in the Archdiocese.

**Update since the last Meeting**

This was the first time that colleagues had been able to share face to face the effects of leading schools and networks through the pandemic: lessons learned and the impact on students and teachers. There were great similarities in stories of pandemic times, but some variation in the recovery. There was disillusion for some staff, for others great energy felt at the return followed by fatigue, great pressure to regain standards all around; re-infection hampering progress…

**The Annual Report** was discussed and accepted. As we had not met since 2019 it was slightly more than an annual report! It drew attention to the development of online conferences, particularly with the support of the RSCJ JPIC International Team. 3 conferences were held over 15 months, involving staff, students and RSCJ. We held our now regular Prayer Projects and proposed a day of reflection on Europe Day in 2022. The issue of needing translators was raised as was the hope that more schools and individuals would send articles for the website. We were pleased that the Coreteam now has representation from the Irish/Scottish and Maltese Network: a benefit from meeting on Zoom during the pandemic.

**Change in officers**

Hilary Thompson stood down as Secretary

Noreen Heenan was elected as Secretary

All other posts remained in place

President: Christophe Corda Vice President: Maria Luisa Campa

Treasurer: Birgit Gmeindl-Oser Vice Treasurer: Reinhard Hallwirth

Vice Secretary: Mariolina Cervelli

The tasks Hilary did outside of the role of secretary have been divided across the Coreteam.

**Review of our Aims (see** [**https://www.sacrecoeur-europe.net/aims**](https://www.sacrecoeur-europe.net/aims) **)**

The aims continue to be appropriate for our work together. All expressed the need to build back and improve ways to support exchanges again and find ways to help teachers to connect with each other: explore having teacher training sessions, teacher exchange. Move to having a Network Plan for developments with targets.

**Planning the European Headteachers’ Conference in Rome 2023**

Much of our time was spent exploring themes and practicalities for the Conference to be held in Rome in October 2023. The representatives from Trinita have been contacting hotels and exploring possibilities for the venue and meals. Contact will be made with the Superior General and a “Save the Date” email will be sent out in September. Maria Luisa will write a fuller letter of invitation at a later date.

**Date of next Meeting**

Monday 17th October 2022 by Zoom