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STONYHURST FOUNDATION
STONYHURST
CLITHEROE
LANCASHIRE BB7 9PZ

PRESS RELEASE – 19 NOVEMBER 2020:

MARK THOMPSON OS APPOINTED INAUGURAL PATRON OF THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION

The Stonyhurst Foundation (the “Foundation”) is pleased to announce that Mark Thompson OS has been appointed as the inaugural Patron of the Foundation.

The Stonyhurst Foundation is a registered charity focused exclusively on widening access to Stonyhurst. The goal of the Foundation is to remove financial barriers, making a Stonyhurst education available to as many young people as possible.

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school for 3–18 year olds. Founded in 1593, it is the oldest continuously active Jesuit school in the world.

The position of Patron within the Stonyhurst Foundation is an honorary position. It recognises outstanding commitment to the Foundation and support for its ethos and aims. The Foundation intends to appoint a number of Patrons over time.

Stephen Withnell, Stonyhurst Foundation Director, comments:

“Mark is an alumnus and a passionate supporter of Stonyhurst. He is a former Director General of the BBC and a former CEO of the New York Times. His appointment comes at a pivotal time for the Foundation, as we seek to deliver an ambitious strategic fundraising plan, a plan which aims to make the Stonyhurst Foundation the most ambitious provider of bursaries and fee assistance in Catholic education in the UK. Mark’s unparalleled leadership experience in the business and charity sectors will be of enormous benefit to the Foundation as we move forward.

Mark Thompson, Stonyhurst Foundation Patron, comments:

“I know from my own experience how Stonyhurst can change lives. World-class teachers like Peter Hardwick and Freddie Turner SJ opened my mind and the school gave me a confidence and independence that has served me well ever since. The Stonyhurst Foundation will make this unique education available to so many more young people, and that's why I am so pleased to endorse it.”

I’m tremendously excited about the Foundation’s mission and the potential to grow its philanthropic income. I look forward to working with the Trustees to raise funds and help achieve the Foundation’s ambitions, and to build on the wonderful support of its donors and ambassadors.”

Telephone: 01254 827276 Email: manager@stonyhurstfoundation.com

Website: www.stonyhurstfoundation.org



Note to Editors

About The Stonyhurst Foundation

The Stonyhurst Foundation is a revolutionary new independent charity established to widen access to a Stonyhurst education. It is unique: no other Catholic independent school has a comparable Foundation dedicated to widening access for the public benefit. It will grant fee assistance on both a 'means blind' and a 'means tested' basis.

Full details can be found at www.stonyhurstfoundation.org

About Stonyhurst College

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school for 3–18 year olds. Founded in 1593, it is the oldest continuously active Jesuit school in the world. It has an 800-strong student body comprising the 500 pupils of Stonyhurst College plus the 300 pupils at its preparatory school, Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall. Stonyhurst was nominated in the category of 'Public School of the Year' in the 2020 *Tatler Schools Awards*.

Pupils come from throughout the United Kingdom as well as from abroad. The school offers the International Baccalaureate in addition to UK public examinations. Boarding is available from the age of seven. The school is located on a 1,000-acre rural estate near Clitheroe in Lancashire.

Full details can be found at www.stonyhurst.ac.uk

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