

## 2018/19 Admission Policy Amendment

The CES recently issued the following guidance to Churches Together in England (CTE) regarding membership of their organisation and how this should be considered in relation to Admission into Catholic Schools:

*Definition of children of other Christian denominations* “Children of other Christian denominations” means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging God’s revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God’s will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and of CYTUN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

January 2017

<http://www.cte.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=184381>

The guidance from CTE does contain a disclaimer:

*The Catholic Education Service has most helpfully advised that the criteria for church commitment should include all 'churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title)'. Download their advice **but be aware that it may take time for school admissions policies to reflect it.***

[http://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234692/Home/About/Member\\_Churches\\_of/CTE\\_membership\\_and/CTE\\_membership\\_and.aspx](http://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234692/Home/About/Member_Churches_of/CTE_membership_and/CTE_membership_and.aspx)

When we, as a school, were made aware of the guidance in March of this year we expected to adopt it for the 2019/20 policy as the 2018/19 Admission Policy was determined following consultation on 7 December 2016, some months prior to the guidance being issued.

However the advice of the Office of the Schools Adjudicator is that the policy should be amended to reflect the guidance from the Catholic Education Service. This amendment is required to comply with recommendations made by the Catholic Education Services as our faith organisation and to bring clarity to the policy.

Therefore we have made suitable amendments to the policy and additional information forms to reflect the revised guidance. These have been agreed by the Governing Body, are provided on our website and have been circulated to the Local Authority, the Diocese, our feeder schools and Notre Dame High School.

Should you have any queries regarding the policy then please contact Mrs N J Brady, Clerk to the Governors on 0114 2743537 or email [n.brady@allsaintslearning.co.uk](mailto:n.brady@allsaintslearning.co.uk)