13 February 2020

Dear Consultees

Following our recent consultation period relating to our proposed Admissions Policy for the academic year 21/22, I write regarding the outcomes of this process.

The final admissions policy for 21/22 can now be found on our school website. There are a few very minor alterations in the final policy and one major change relating to categories 2 and 3.

In the **draft policy** categories 2 and 3 of the Oversubscription Criteria read as follows:

*2. Catholic children of regularly practising Catholic families who are resident in the parishes of the Basingstoke Holy Ghost, Tadley (St Michael Bishopwood Road and St Oswald Abbey Park) and Hook. (see note 9)*

*3. Catholic children of occasionally practising Catholic families who are resident in the parishes of the Basingstoke Holy Ghost, Tadley (St Michael Bishopwood Road and St Oswald Abbey Park) and Hook. (see note 9)*

In the **final policy** these categories now state:

*2. Catholic children of regularly practising Catholic families who are resident in the pastoral area of North West Hampshire*

*3. Catholic children of occasionally practising Catholic families who are resident in the pastoral area of North West Hampshire*

In making this distinction between the Holy Ghost Parish and the North West Hampshire Pastoral Area, the final policy is more closely aligned to those of other local Catholic Schools. It also means that any Catholic siblings of pupils on role, living outside the Parish of Holy Ghost Basingstoke, will not be subject to the disadvantage that existed in the draft policy.

I’d like to thank those people who responded to our consultation and shared their views. These were helpful in our decision making process. We are mindful that there will always be differing viewpoints, some of which conflict with each other, and that it is impossible to produce a policy which can equally benefit everyone. We believe, however, that the final policy fully preserves the School’s Catholic character and our obligations to ensure that the Catholic families and those in the wider community might continue to benefit from the strong provision here at St Bede’s.

Yours faithfully



Katie Strickland

Chair of Governors