



## **St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

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**Headteacher: Mrs M Tucker - BA Hons, PGCE**

It is the intention of the governing body/trustees to seek a variation from the Office of the Schools' Adjudicator, in relation to Catholic practice. Granting of this variation is, at this time, pending.

### **Variation to admissions arrangements for September 2021 - 2022**

The governing body of St Thomas of Canterbury has adopted a statement on Catholic practice. Set out below is a copy of the statement that has been placed on the 2021-2022 admissions page on our website. This statement has also been communicated by email to Merton Local Authority and local primary schools where the admission authority is not Merton Local Authority. The statement will also be included in correspondence and presentations with parents and carers.

#### **Statement:**

Admissions Clarifications (Covid-19)

St Thomas of Canterbury Roman Catholic School Admission Arrangements 2021 – 2022

Parents and carers applying for places in Nursery and Reception in the academic year 2021 – 2022 are asked to note the following statement in relation to the Mass attendance oversubscription criterion set out in St Thomas of Canterbury's admission arrangements:

On the advice of the Education Commission of the Archdiocese of Southwark, the governing body of St Thomas of Canterbury Roman Catholic Primary School has agreed the following statement in order to clarify how its faith-based oversubscription criteria will be interpreted while churches are closed or attendance at church is not possible due to Covid-19. This statement has been shared widely with parishes by the Education Commission in order to ensure that determinations made by parish priests concerning regular practice of the faith are being made on a consistent basis.

The suspension of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass was announced on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Is a parent or carer attended Mass at a particular parish (or parishes) prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 then they will be considered to have attended Mass in that Parish (or parishes) regularly since that time. This will remain the case until the Sunday obligation is reintroduced by the Bishops.

Mrs J Walls & Mrs N Sisarello  
Joint Chair of Governors  
October 2020