

**Proposal for variation to the admissions arrangements for September 2021 –  
St John’s CE First School, St Michael’s CE Middle School, Emmanuel CE  
Middle School, Witchampton CE First School**

As Chair of Wimborne Academy Trust, I write to confirm that the Trust Board propose that a variation be made to the admissions arrangements for admission to the schools listed above for Year R (first schools) and Year 5 (middle schools) in September 2021, in respect of the over-subscription criteria relating to church attendance.

The variation requested is that "In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship".

This request is made in order that parents seeking admission to the school can readily determine what the admissions oversubscription criteria are and how they may be met, and thereby enable the school to deal lawfully, fairly and transparently with admissions matters in the exceptional circumstances of the COVID19 pandemic.

For convenience, given that we understand a large number of similar requests are being made, the Trust Board consents to the Diocese submitting this request on our behalf, along with those of other schools making such requests for this variation.

This request is made in accordance with the DfE guidance on governing body business during the pandemic, as it is a matter of importance and is time limited, given the relevant admissions timescales.



John Dickson

Chair of Trustees

Wimborne Academy Trust