



This letter does not form part of the All Saints'/St Mary's CE Primary School Admission Policies. It is written to pastorally support applicants for Nursery, Reception and In-Year places and to clarify the clergy role within the process in respect of applications at the schools for 'church' places.

October 2016

Dear Parents,

**Applications to the Parish of Putney Primary Schools by regular attenders of
St Margaret's Putney, St Mary's Putney and All Saints Putney:
St Mary's Foundation and All Saints Category 4 Admissions**

As you make your application for a church place at one of the Parish of Putney's church schools this year we thought it might be helpful for you to understand the Clergy's role in the allocation of Church places. From the outset it is important to understand that we have no discretionary power in the selection process whatsoever. Places are allocated strictly according to the criteria set out within the Governing Bodies' published Admission Policies (copy enclosed).

Parents also ask for places to be awarded on compassionate grounds. Some of these cases are very sad indeed however, neither school is able to award places on compassionate grounds. Both schools do prioritise children with exceptional social or medical need within their admissions policies. Details of the criteria for exceptional need and the evidence required are outlined in the Admissions Policy of each school. The clergy cannot influence the schools' decisions on this.

It is helpful to us if you make yourself known at some point during the application process, so that if necessary, we can put names to faces (and it helps us enormously if you attach your photographs to your application). We are always happy to listen when people are anxious, sad or disappointed but our pastoral responsibilities can be compromised by an expectation that we can influence a decision in a child's favour. Please read the school's Admission Policies very carefully. Please do feel free to ask any questions you might have to ensure that you fully understand the requirements. We hope that this letter is helpful and that it removes any misunderstanding concerning our role in the school admission process.

With best wishes,

Canon Ailsa Newby

The Rev'd Chris Eyden

The Rev'd Ann Brodie

From:

**Canon Ailsa Newby,
The Rev'd Chris Eyden &
The Rev'd Ann Brodie,
Parish of Putney**

**Helpful information
explaining the
Clergy role in
pupil admissions**