



Education & Skills  
Funding Agency

Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0207 3407058

Sent via email:

Chair of Governors: Madeleine Spinks [mspinks99@gmail.com](mailto:mspinks99@gmail.com)

Headteacher: Peter Kyle [head@stmarysprimarydilwyn.co.uk](mailto:head@stmarysprimarydilwyn.co.uk)

Hereford Diocesan Board: Sian Lines [s.lines@hereford.anglican.org](mailto:s.lines@hereford.anglican.org)

Ref: CI-0026607

10 December 2020

Dear Madeleine,

Thank you for your request to vary the admission arrangements of St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Dilwyn for 2021 by changing the faith-based admission criteria to take into account places of worship being closed during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, agrees that the COVID-19 pandemic could be considered to be a major change in circumstances necessitating a change to admission arrangements in some circumstances.

The RSC, agrees that it will be necessary to modify the faith-based admission criteria, as set out below:

***Adding to the policy:***

*Clarification to the term 'Christian Criterion':*

***"Parents/carers will be required to complete a school information form (SIF) outlining their involvement in the worship, life and work of a Christian faith church supported by the appropriate church minister. Christian faith is defined as being an adherent to the Christian trinity."***

***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 admissions arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.***

The RSC therefore approves this variation request and the academy should update its 2021 admission arrangements accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

*Lilian Da Cunha*

**Lilian Da Cunha**  
Academies – South Central & East  
Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)