

The Maximilian

A monthly newsletter for governors within the Archdiocese of Southwark

Edition 98
May 2022

The reinstatement of the obligation to attend Mass 5th June 2022

As I am sure you are aware, on the 18th March 2020, the Bishops of England and Wales suspended the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, due to Covid 19 pandemic. As a response to this position, a significant number of our schools sought a variation from the Office of the Schools' Adjudicator, relating to how practice was evidenced. As of June 5th 2022, Pentecost, this suspension of the obligation will be lifted. The wording of the variation put in place was such that schools will be able to remove the statement, setting the change to the admission arrangements, without the need for any action or approval.

The admissions authorities will need to make clear on their website and as part of their arrangements that the change is being made and evidence will be based on attendance at Mass, as it was prior to the 18th March 2020. Individual applicants may have specific exemptions for not being able to attend Mass and this must be treated in an open and fair way, by both parish priests and schools.

You may choose to use or adapt this wording, to make clear the new position.

From the 18th March 2020 through to the 5th June 2022 the Bishops of England and Wales suspended the obligation to attend mass in England and Wales. As of the 5th June 2022, Pentecost, the Bishops will lift the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Parents applying for a place at xxxx, under a faith based criteria will need to complete a Supplementary Information Form. Evidence of practice will be measured by frequency of attendance at Mass as validated by either a priest or minister, as was the case prior to 18th March 2020. These arrangements apply to the admissions round for 2023 and subsequent rounds.

Schools' energy survey

The current energy situation is challenging, and many schools whose contract is due to expire over the coming months are trying to get the best value when renewing their contracts. The DfE is contacting all schools in England to get basic data on current and future energy tariffs. They want to do as much as they can to help schools when it comes to renewing contracts and getting the best value for money and are asking schools to complete a short survey about their current and future energy tariff.

The survey will close on Thursday 2 June.

PG 1



Education recovery: guidance for governors and trustees

This guidance is intended to support governors and trustees to have effective discussions about education recovery plans within their school or trust. The governing board is the decision-making body of the school or academy trust, accountable and responsible for the school or academies in the trust. It is therefore vital that governors and trustees play an active role in providing support and challenge as schools and trusts continue to deliver education and help pupils recover from the impact of COVID-19.

[Education recovery: guidance for governors and trustees - GOV.UK](#)

Pupil Premium: new reporting requirements

The DfE has updated the statement template and provided completed examples for primary, secondary and special schools. Use of pupil premium must align with the DfE 's menu of approaches' from Sep 2022. Schools must publish, or update, a strategy statement by 31 Dec-annually using the statutory DfE template. The menu of approaches is based on guidance from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) following research into successful strategies.

The menu features three areas:

High-quality teaching

- Developing high quality teaching, assessment and a curriculum which responds to the needs of pupils
- Professional development on evidence-based approaches, for example feedback, metacognition, reading comprehension, phonics or mastery learning
- Mentoring and coaching
- Recruitment and retention of teaching staff Technology and other resources focussed on supporting high quality teaching and learning.

Targeted academic support

- Interventions to support language development, literacy, and numeracy
- Activity and resources to meet the specific needs of disadvantaged pupils with SEND
- Teaching assistant deployment and interventions
- One to one and small group tuition Peer tutoring.

Wider strategies

- Supporting pupils' social, emotional and behavioural needs
- Supporting attendance
- Extracurricular activities, including sports, outdoor activities, arts, culture and trips
- Extended school time, including summer schools
- Breakfast clubs and meal provision
- Communicating with and supporting parents.

Schools do not have to allocate pupil premium to every approach on the menu. EEF's guide to using pupil premium effectively recommends that you 'focus on a small number of priorities each year in



areas that are likely to make the biggest difference, with a focus on effective implementation'. Schools may be justified in funding items not listed where this is necessary to overcome specific barriers to student attainment, for example to meet acute needs around student equipment to ensure readiness to learn.

It is intended that the menu will help schools to ensure the activities they have selected are focused on raising disadvantaged pupils' attainment and help balance spending. The EEF recommend that you spend around half of your funding on high-quality teaching, and the other half between targeted academic support and wider strategies.

[Pupil premium - GOV.UK](#)

Crisis Fund

The Catholic Childrens Society operate a Crisis Fund which provides immediate financial support for families facing a crisis in their lives. Parish Priests and Headteachers can apply to this fund on behalf of a family and we will respond within 24 hours. This support can make a huge difference to families in desperate situations when they have nowhere else to turn. The details for The Catholic Children's Society are as follows:

73 St Charles Square, London, W10 6EJ

Tel: 020 8969 5305

Email: info@cathchild.org.uk

Too Good To Go

You may wish to share this information with your parents through your newsletters. Please click on the link and parents may opt to obtain the app or not. Food that would otherwise be discarded by either supermarkets or restaurants is sold at very reduced prices.

How does Too Good To Go work?

With Too Good To Go you can save food from the restaurants, cafes and stores that are on the app. Instead of having to throw away food at the end of the day, these places offer what they have in Magic Bags. The actual contents will be a surprise until you get there!

Find a meal near you, purchase it through the app and turn up in the store within the given collection time. Show the staff your order to receive your Magic Bag - and give them a high-five to celebrate that you just made a difference together.

1/3 of food is wasted so you're doing a great thing and hopefully having a bit of fun whilst you do it!

<https://toogoodtogo.co.uk/en-gb/>



Courses & Events

RSE in Catholic Schools: Roles and Responsibilities for Governors

7th June 2022 6pm-7.30pm

£25 Zoom

For: Governors

[Book](#)

Succession planning and recruiting 'reserved posts': Roles and responsibilities for Governors

Thursday 16th June 2022 6pm-7.30pm

£25 Zoom

[Book](#)



Repeated from April 2022 edition of the Maximilian.

Reminder of the main responsibilities of foundation governors

Foundation Governors are appointed for a four-year term by the Director of the Education Commission, on behalf of the Archbishop, to represent the interests of the Trustees of the Archdiocese or, in schools under the Trusteeship of a Religious Order, by the person approved by the Order to make such appointments to serve the interests of their Trusteeship, working under the authority of the Archbishop. Foundation Governors form the majority on a Catholic school's governing body. They have the responsibility of assisting the Bishop, by sustaining and developing the Catholic ethos and distinctive Catholic nature of the school in which they serve. They have a specific commission that takes the form of an undertaking to ensure that the school is at all times conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Archdiocesan Trust Deed. **All categories of governors in voluntary aided Catholic schools and academies are legally bound by either the Instrument of Government or the Articles and Memorandum of Association of their school or academy.** The Instrument of Government or Articles and Memorandum of Association contains a very important clause which specifies how the school/academy must be run.

It reads as follows:

"The school was founded by and is part of the Catholic Church. The school is to be conducted as a Catholic school in accordance with the Canon Law and teachings of the Catholic Church, and in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Archdiocese of Southwark, and in particular:

- a) religious education is to be in accordance with the teachings, doctrines, discipline and general and particular norms of the Catholic Church;
- b) religious worship is to be in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church:

and at all times the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic faith of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

This is a very clear statement to governors about the way in which they must conduct their school, and your particular attention is drawn to the last two lines, which prescribe that, in everything it does and in all aspects of its work, the school must serve as a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, a Catholic school is not one which merely follows the secular National Curriculum with Catholic religious education and liturgical worship bolted on, but rather an institution where Gospel values and the Catholic faith are at the heart of everything and permeate every facet of its work.

Guidance on Visitors and External Speakers

When inviting visitors and external speakers do consult the Diocesan policy. Please [click here](#).



Decree from Archbishop John Wilson

Please use the link below to view a Decree from Archbishop John stating that the appointment of a Chair of Governors in any voluntary-aided, academy or Independent school in the Archdiocese of Southwark must be a Foundation Governor.

[Decree](#)

