1 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

The St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust, as the admissions authority, is the Proposed Admissions Arrangements, from September 2024, for our former Voluntary Controlled (VC) Primary Schools in the Diocesan MAT. As determined by the School Admissions Code, we are required to consult on these arrangements and are inviting comments on the proposed changes.

Proposed Changes:

1. To promote increased inclusion and to ensure that local children are prioritised, the Trust is proposing an amendment to the Admissions arrangements to remove church attendance from the over subscription criteria of former Voluntary Controlled schools in the Diocesan MAT. Over subscription criteria are only applied if there are more applicants than places.

Following consultation last year, Suffolk County Council will remove church attendance from their VC Schools Admissions Policies from September 2023. The Diocesan MAT proposed change will therefore bring Diocesan MAT former VC schools in line with the rest of the VC schools in Suffolk and most VC schools across the country.

**Please note that this proposed change will not have any impact on the Christian character and ethos of the schools or the education provided.**

A copy of the proposed admissions policy is available on the school website. Alternatively, if you require a paper copy, please contact the school office.

How to respond to the consultation

You can give your views by:

* Following this link [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2FPages%2FResponsePage.aspx%3Fid%3DnAqZZJlnQkSYj8uLnp27fznQWZBhsAxIq1Rv35Qs-w5UMzNGMDRKM1RWTVY2RVNYOEpMQlNHRzBLMC4u&data=05%7C01%7CDanielle.Himsworth%40cofesuffolk.org%7Cd7d0153621c84b895d1f08dab1bac788%7C64990a9c67994442988fcb8b9e9dbb7f%7C0%7C0%7C638017713001481750%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=NU2p4jwPxKGFqsSmE05ICvf0RcC81c5B3bUnH7iuKVA%3D&reserved=0)
* emailing [sue.todd@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:sue.todd@cofesuffolk.org) (please use ‘Admissions CONSULTATION’ in the subject heading);
* writing to Sue Todd, Deputy Diocesan Director of Education, St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich, IP1 1UQ

Responses must be received no later than 18.00 Friday 16th December 2022.

All responses will be considered by the DMAT Board before making a final decision.

Jane Sheat CEO