

**GREENWOOD TREE ACADEMY TRUST**  
**Growing Together Achieving Together**



**Resilience    Respect    Responsibility**

17th July 2020

Sent by email to all members of the GTAT community

Dear All

**Proposal for variation to the admissions arrangements for September 2021**

As Chair of Trust, I write to confirm that the Trust Board on behalf of:

- Frome Valley CE First School
- Piddle Valley CE First School
- Puddletown CE First School
- St Mary's CE Middle School

resolve to propose that a variation be made to the admissions arrangements for admission to Year Reception and Year 5 in September 2021, in respect of the over-subscription criteria relating to church attendance. All applications for admission within these year groups will continue to be processed via Dorset Council.

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 admission 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.

***Sent electronically***

Chair of Trust  
Greenwood Tree Academy Trust

Representing:

- Frome Valley CE First School
- Piddle Valley CE First School
- Puddletown CE First School
- St Mary's CE Middle School