

Key Dates for Schools

Advent Term 2019/20	Schools and Academies need to decide whether you need to undertake a full consultation on your proposed admissions policy for 2021/22 intake. You MUST consult if changes are made or every seven years. Slight changes in wording may not require consultation – check your proposed changes with Debbie Main main@nores.org.uk Model policies are available on the NORES website and standard wordings are detailed below.
1 October 2019 – 31 January 2020	If you are consulting, it must be for a six-week period within these dates. Procedures for consultation are set out in the School Admissions Code 2014 .
28 February 2020	The deadline for finalising your 2021/22 policy. NORES and your LA MUST approve your admissions policy before publication. Schools and Academies MUST publish their 2020 admissions appeal timetable by 28 February 2020.
15 March 2020	Deadline by which you MUST : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have already secured approval for your 2021/22 Admissions Policy from NORES. If you are not changing your policy, you still need to inform us. • Send the determined policy to your LA admissions department • Publish the approved 2021/22 Admissions Policy on your school website.

Your Admissions Policy **MUST** comply with the [School Admissions Code 2014](#), available from the DfE website. [Information about appeals procedures can be found here.](#)

NORES Guidance – Collette Curtis, Director for School Development

There have been a number of rulings from the [Office of the Schools Adjudicator](#) in recent years which your Admissions Policies need to address. In particular look for:

- A) the wording on your section on supporting the Catholic ethos of the school. The model CES policy agreed with the adjudicator is

“We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.”

- B) if you use a definition of other Christians. The revised wording is

“All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.”

- C) Keep it simple. If you do not use subscription criteria i.e. you do not fill your places with either practising Catholics or baptised Catholics then do not use the certificate of practice, use a certificate of baptism. Do not use additional supplementary forms.

For more information and model policies go to the [NORES website](#) or contact Debbie Main main@nores.org.uk