



St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

A Mercy Academy committed to excellence

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Dear Parent/Carer

Last year the Government promised to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools. This policy had proved to be an effective ban on any new Catholic schools as our Bishops ruled that opening a Catholic school that turned away Catholics for being Catholic was against Canon Law.

The 50% cap was a policy that specifically targeted Catholics as Catholic schools are popular with parents of all faiths and none. Last September the Government acknowledged the cap was unfair to the Catholic community and pledged to scrap it. The Conservatives even included a commitment to remove it in their manifesto.

Unfortunately, the feedback we are getting is that the Secretary of State for Education is thinking about U-turning on this and breaking the Government's promise to Catholics.

The Catholic community now needs to make its collective voice heard and tell the Secretary of State that this level of discrimination against Catholic schools, parents and children will not be tolerated.

As such we are urging you to write to the Secretary of State and their MP expressing their concern that this promise to our community could be broken. These letters can be easily sent by following this link, <http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/> or more directly by following this link, <http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/item/1003640-safeguard-the-future-of-catholic-education> and inserting your postcode and clicking 'send'.

Also, it would be hugely appreciated if you could share this link with as many people as possible. It is important that we have our voice heard in order to maintain our special ethos of Catholic Education in England and Wales.

The deadline for responses is 4th December 2017

Thank You for your support

Mrs M Shepherd

M. Shepherd.

Head Teacher

