



*Rev Cathy and Rev Jonny Blair*  
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Wed 6 October 2016

### **Open letter to parents of Applicants for Ashley school for September 2017**

We came as new vicars of St Mary and St John, Walton on Thames, in April 2016. We would like to welcome you to our churches whether you have been attending for some time or feel quite new yourselves.

We are convinced that a strong church and school relationship is good for the local community and are pleased to develop the link between Ashley Church of England Primary school and the church. Cathy has become a governor and has already done several assemblies for the whole school. Together with the school, we are committed to promoting Godly values in the community of Walton on Thames.

Admissions: We are aware of the responsibility that stands with the vicars of the church when it comes to admissions to the school and have been advised of the flurry of Supplementary Information Forms that come to the vicar to be signed in the Autumn each year.

If you will be applying to Ashley school under categories 6.1 or 6.2, we would like to invite you to meet both vicars and discuss the best way to develop your relationship with the church and to give your child the best opportunity of admission to the school. We don't know everyone yet, so it will be a good opportunity for us to meet parents. We strongly encourage at least one parent of each applicant to attend one of the meetings detailed below. Under outstanding circumstances, we may sign the form of a child whose parent was not at one of these meetings. We would also request that you let us have your form by the end of November 2016 if at all possible.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October            8pm    at St Mary's Church**  
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November       8.30pm at Ashley School Hall**

We would like St Mary's and St John's to be family friendly churches in which every family feels at home and plays their part. We have recently introduced a time at the start of the Church Services when the children and adults all worship together in church. We rejoice that all ages can come into God's presence together as a big family. We encourage you to take part in the forthcoming Services Consultation survey to let us know your thoughts. This is a faith journey for all of us and we look forward to your family being part of this journey with us.

Yours,

***Jonny and Cathy***  
Rev Jonny and Rev Cathy Blair