

THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

ST ANDREW'S VILLAGE 1 FRANCIS THOMAS DRIVE #01-01 SINGAPORE 359340 TEL: (65) 6288 8944 FAX: (65) 6288 5538

Bishop of Singapore: Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah Assistant Bishop: Rt Revd Low Jee King Archdeacon of Singapore: Rt Revd Low Jee King

23 May 2019

COVER LETTER TO VICAR/PIC/DEAN'S ENDORSEMENT FOR AN APPLICATION TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ONE IN AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL UNDER PHASE 2B

Dear Parent/s,

I am Rev Joshua Sudharman, Chairman of the Education Board of the Diocese of Singapore. I represent the Bishop of Singapore in matters pertaining to our Anglican schools. Please allow me to explain the purpose of the captioned form and the criteria that schools will apply in determining if your application to register your child in an Anglican school under Phase 2B will be accepted.

The form is to establish that at least one parent is a bona fide member of an Anglican parish and demonstrates active commitment to the church community. This criterion of demonstrable commitment is necessary as Phase 2B of the P1 registration process consists of 3 sub-groups, as spelt out in the MOE website:

- a. For a child whose parent has joined the primary school as a parent volunteer not later than 1 July 2018 and has given at least 40 hours of voluntary service to the school by 30 June 2019.
- b. For a child whose parent is a member endorsed by the church/clan directly connected with the primary school.
- c. For a child whose parent is endorsed as an active community leader.

Categories (a) and (c) both require demonstrable commitment, and therefore so must category (b).

The form requires Vicars/Priests-in-Charge(PICs)/Deans to answer 4 questions pertaining to the parents' membership, attendance, service and care group involvement, and to answer 'Yes' for each parent with a church stamp.

The objective criteria we are using for endorsement are that the father should have received at least 3 stamps, with a stamp for the first two questions being required; <u>OR</u> the mother should have received at least 3 stamps, with a stamp for the first two questions being required.

If these criteria are met, and the Vicar/PIC/Dean endorses the application with his signature, the form will be accepted by the school without requiring any further comments by the Vicar/PIC/Dean.

However we do realise that some may narrowly miss out on the minimum of 3 stamps because of circumstances beyond their control. In such a situation, the church is prepared to make some concessions. Nevertheless we cannot do away with all objectivity and fairness while making these concessions.

So in cases where a parent is <u>short of 1 stamp</u> to meet the criteria of a minimum of 3 stamps (i.e. can only get 2 stamps in total), and there are factors beyond the parent's control why getting a 3rd stamp was not possible, the Vicar/PIC/Dean may have the discretion to write an explanatory note in the box provided <u>in lieu of the 3rd stamp to meet the criteria</u>, and endorse the application with his signature. Such a form will still be accepted by the school, i.e. a form endorsed by the Vicar/PIC/Dean containing <u>2 stamps</u> for a parent, <u>AND</u> an <u>explanation from the Vicar/PIC/Dean in lieu of a 3rd stamp</u>. (See Appendix for outcomes of various permutations.)

In cases where a parent has not been able to get even 2 stamps, the application will not be accepted by the schools as it falls too far short of the criteria. Vicars/PICs/Deans have been advised not to endorse such applications, and even if some Vicars/PICs/Deans do (out of kindness) endorse such a form, the schools have been instructed not to accept them.

We know this may come as a disappointment to those whose applications are not accepted, but we need to do our best to hold in tension the need for objectivity and fairness in the process on one hand, and the need for grace on the other.

Above all, we pray that God Almighty, for whom nothing is too difficult, will bless and prosper the education of your children, whichever schools they are in.

Yours sincerely,

Rev Joshua Sudharman Chairman, Education Board

Diocese of Singapore



DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

VICAR / PIC / DEAN'S ENDORSEMENT FOR AN APPLICATION TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ONE IN AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL UNDER PHASE 2B

THIS IS THE ONLY FORM THAT WILL BE RECOGNIZED BY OUR DIOCESAN SCHOOLS. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS FORM AND REGISTRATION UNDER PHASE 2B DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A GUARANTEE OF A PLACE IN OUR SCHOOLS.

| Full Name of Child | |
|--|--|
| Birth Certificate No. | |
| Date of Birth | |
| School Applied For | ☐ St Andrew's Junior School ☐ St Hilda's Primary School ☐ St Margaret's Primary School |
| | |
| Full Name of Father | |
| NRIC / Passport no. | Contact/Mobile no. |
| Current Parish Membership | |
| Areas of Active Contribution to Church Life & Ministry | |
| Full Name of Mother | |
| | |
| NRIC / Passport no. | Contact/Mobile no. |
| Current Parish Membership | |
| Areas of Active Contribution to Church Life & Ministry | |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICAR / PRIEST-IN-CHARGE (PIC) / DEAN :

| | Please mark box CHURCH STAMP | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | YES for the FATHER | YES for the MOTHER |
| 1. According to your Parish Records, have the child's parents been Baptised AND Confirmed Members of your church for at least the last 12 months? | | |
| 2. Have the child's parents been attending your Parish's worship services at least twice a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | |
| 3. Have the child's parents been actively contributing to the life and witness of your church through serving and giving over the last 12 months? | | |
| 4. Have the child's parents been attending one of your Parish care/cell groups at least once a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | |
| Name & Contact no. of Cell Group Leader (if any) : | | |
| Remarks from the Vicar / Priest | | |
| ECLARATION OF ENDORSEME | | |
| name of Vicar / PIC / Dean) | Vicar / PIC / Dean* of | (name of Parish / Deanery) |
| upport the application of | | |
| n an Anglican School under Phase | 2B. | |
| | | 0.5 (0.0 / 5) |
| Please delete accordingly | (Signature o | of Vicar / PIC / Dean & Date) |

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Examples:

| | Please mark boxes below with a CHURCH STAMP if the answer is | es below with a f the answer is |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| SCENARIO 1 | YES for the FATHER | YES for the MOTHER |
| 1. According to your Parish Records, have the child's parents been Baptised AND Confirmed Members of your church for at least the last 12 months? | (Church's Stamp) | |
| 2. Have the child's parents been attending your Parish's worship services at least twice a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | (Church's Stamp) | |
| 3. Have the child's parents been actively contributing to the life and witness of your church through serving and giving over the last 12 months? | | |
| 4. Have the child's parents been attending one of your Parish care/cell groups at least once a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | (Church's Stamp) | |

Scenario 1: OK

| | Please mark boxes below with a CHURCH STAMP if the answer is | Please mark boxes below with a HURCH STAMP if the answer is |
|---|--|--|
| SCENARIO 2 | YES for the FATHER | YES for the MOTHER |
| According to your Parish Records, have the child's parents been Baptised AND Confirmed Members of your church for at least the last 12 months? | | (Church's Stamp) |
| 2. Have the child's parents been attending your Parish's worship services at least twice a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | (Church's Stamp) |
| 3. Have the child's parents been actively contributing to the life and witness of your church through serving and giving over the last 12 months? | | (Church's Stamp) |
| 4. Have the child's parents been attending one of your Parish care/cell groups at least once a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | |

Scenario 2: OK

| | œ | | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--|---|---|
| es below with a f the answer is | YES for the MOTHER | | | | |
| Please mark boxes below with a CHURCH STAMP if the answer is | YES for the FATHER | (Church's Stamp) | | (Church's Stamp) | |
| | SCENARIO 3 | 1. According to your Parish Records, have the child's parents been Baptised AND Confirmed Members of your church for at least the last 12 months? | 2. Have the child's parents been attending your Parish's worship services at least twice a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | 3. Have the child's parents been actively contributing to the life and witness of your church through serving and giving over the last 12 months? | 4. Have the child's parents been attending one of your Parish care/cell groups at least once a month (on average) |

With Vicar's Explanatory Note in "Remarks from the Vicar".

Scenario 3: OK

Note: OK because Vicar's comments can be taken in lieu of required stamp for criteria 2 for father.

| | Please mark boxes below with a CHURCH STAMP if the answer is | Please mark boxes below with a HURCH STAMP if the answer is |
|---|--|---|
| SCENARIO 4 | YES for the FATHER | YES for the MOTHER |
| According to your Parish Records, have the child's parents been <u>Baptised AND Confirmed Members</u> of your church for at least the last 12 months? | | |
| 2. Have the child's parents been attending your Parish's worship services at least twice a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | |
| 3. Have the child's parents been actively contributing to the life and witness of your church through serving and giving over the last 12 months? | | (Church's Stamp) |
| Have the child's parents been attending one of your Parish care/cell groups at least once a month (on average) over the last 12 months? | | (Church's Stamp) |

With Vicar's Explanatory Note in "Remarks from the Vicar".

Scenario 4: Not OK

Note: Not OK because Vicar's explanatory note can only be taken in lieu of one of the 2 required stamps for criteria 1 and 2 for mother.

With Vicar's Explanatory Note in "Remarks from the Vicar".

Scenario 5: Not OK

Note: Not OK because each parent falls too far short of the criteria of 3 stamps.