

Regulations for Admission into Church Schools, Malta Year 1 Primary 2020-2021 Applicants born in 2015

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

1. CRITERIA 1:

a. Children from Church Homes.

- b. Church School Employees or Employees of the Secretariat for Catholic Education may register their children in the same school where the parent works**, or in a school of the same religious entity. Since the Archbishop's Seminary and the Sacred Heart College are schools of the same religious entity, employees at The Archbishop's Seminary may register their daughters at the Sacred Heart College and vice versa, employees at the Sacred Heart College may register their sons at The Archbishop's Seminary. Reference to this criterion will hereafter be "**children of employees in the same school**".

Curriculum Heads of Departments of the Secretariat for Catholic Education may register their children in the same school where they teach three times a week.

The parent should at least have been in post for one year from the beginning of the next scholastic year and has to still be *full-time* employed with the school at the beginning of the next scholastic year. This is not applicable to those employed long-term on *Full-Time Reduced Hours*.

Children of employees at the following schools may be registered in the same school where the parent works, or in a school of the same religious entity, if the schools have vacant places (vide Para. 1.5):

Boys: De La Salle, St. Augustine, St. Benild (Stella Maris College), St. Paul's Missionary College, and the Archbishop's Seminary. Employees at the Sacred Heart College may register their sons at the Archbishop's Seminary.

Girls: Our Lady Immaculate, St. Dorothy Żebbuġ, St. Dorothy Sliema, St. Joseph Blata l-Bajda, St. Joseph Paola, St. Joseph Sliema, St. Monica Birkirkara, St. Monica Gżira, St. Monica Mosta, St. Jeanne Antide College Primary School Gudja, St. Jeanne Antide College Immaculate Conception Secondary School Tarxien, and the Sacred Heart College. Employees at the Archbishop's Seminary may register their daughters at the Sacred Heart College.

Boys and Girls: St. Aloysius College, St. Albert the Great, St. Francis Birkirkara, Cospicua, Imsida, Luqa, San Ġwann, Siġġiewi and Sliema, Theresa Nuzzo Hamrun and Marsa.

- c. Children whose siblings are attending a Church School during scholastic year 2019-2020** may be registered in the same school as their sibling/s or in a school of the same religious entity. This is not applicable to the siblings of Sixth Form students at St. Aloysius College Birkirkara. Since the Archbishop's Seminary and the Sacred Heart College are schools of the same religious entity, girls whose brothers attend The Archbishop's Seminary may be registered at the Sacred Heart College and vice versa, boys whose sisters attend the Sacred Heart College may be registered at The Archbishop's Seminary.

The use of the word Sibling stands for children who are residing in the same house and form part of the same family. This also applies to other siblings when they live with the family for a number of days. In such cases, one is to present the relevant documents. The siblings' criterion includes the children adopted or in foster care by the family, as siblings within the same family. The Siblings Criterion may also apply in other years if there are vacancies.

In a school for girls only, the Siblings Criterion will not apply if the applicant is a boy, and vice-versa. In this case, the applicant may apply under the Other Applicants Criterion (Para. 3).

- d. **Children attending a Church School who wish to be transferred to another Church School** of the same religious entity. This applies between the Schools of St. Dorothy Sliema and Żebbuġ; between the Schools of St. Joseph Blata l-Bajda, Sliema and Paola; and between the Schools of St. Monica Mosta and B’Kara when the sibling already attends St. Monica B’Kara or when the parent is employed at St. Monica B’Kara.
- e. **Exemption from Regular Attendance in case family is abroad for serious reasons.** The admission of children who were exempted from attending the Church School they were registered in as their parents were going to be abroad for a serious reason. These children attend the school chosen during the process of entry of the previous year.
- f. **Kindergarten 2 pupils of Church Schools without Continuity.** These pupils participate in the Choice of School Ballot.
- g. **Children of Church School Employees or Employees of the Secretariat for Catholic Education who cannot attend the same school where the parent works.** Reference to this criterion will hereafter be “**children of employees in another school**”.

The parent should at least have been in post for one year from the beginning of the next scholastic year and has to still be *full-time* employed with the school at the beginning of the next scholastic year. This is not applicable to those employed long-term on *Full-Time Reduced Hours*.

The Primary Schools of St Albert the Great College and St Aloysius College are receiving many applications from siblings and children of employees of their own schools. Therefore, they will not be accepting children of employees in another school and the remaining available places will be offered to other applicants (Criteria 3).

Children of employees in another school may apply under Criterion 1g and participate in the Choice of School Ballot. According to the rank order established by the ballot, they would choose a school from the following:

Boys: De La Salle, St. Augustine, St. Benild (Stella Maris College), Archbishop’s Seminary and St. Paul’s Missionary College.

Girls: Our Lady Immaculate, St. Dorothy Żebbuġ, St. Dorothy Sliema, St. Joseph Paola, St. Joseph Sliema, St. Monica Birkirkara, St. Monica Gżira, and St. Jeanne Antide College Primary School Gudja.

Co-ed schools: St Francis B’Kara, Cospicua and Msida and Teresa Nuzzo.

Others: Initially St. Joseph Blata l-Bajda and St. Monica Mosta cannot offer placements because places in Year One are filled by respective students proceeding from Kinder Two. The filling of any vacated places is according to the Church Schools Entry Criteria.

An application has to be filled under Other Applicants Criterion 3 if these employees wish to register their children in one of the schools mentioned above and in the schools listed hereunder:

Co-ed: St. Albert the Great and St Aloysius.

For children of employees in another school one is to choose if to apply under Criterion 1g and participate in the Choice of School Ballot but with restricted choice of schools, or apply under Criterion 3 Other Applicants and take part in the Participation Ballot. If they proceed to the Choice of School Ballot, they would make their choice by rank order from all the schools.

- 1.1 Criteria 1a–1g are hierarchically structured: children who were exempted from attendance are admitted first, then children from Church Homes, followed by children of employees in the same school, then Siblings, those requesting a transfer, children from Church Schools without Continuity, and then the children of employees in another school.
- 1.2 Applicants under Criteria 1a-1d will be accepted if the number of applications is not greater than the vacant places in the relevant school/s. If the number of applicants is greater, children who were exempted from attendance are admitted first, then the children from Church Homes followed by children of employees in the same school, then the applicants whose siblings are going to be in the same Church school, then applicants whose siblings are going to be in a school of the same religious

entity, and then transfers. A ballot takes place amongst the applicants of a group when the number of applicants in that group is greater than the number of places.

- 1.3 If the number of vacant places is sufficient to cater also for all the children of Church Schools without Continuity but not for all the children of employees in another school, a ballot takes place for the children of these employees. The applicants who rank first will be able to take part in the Choice of School Ballot together with children from Church Schools without Continuity. If the number of vacant places is not enough for all the children from Church Schools without Continuity, the Choice of School Ballot will be held for applicants of this criterion only.
- 1.4 Children from Church Schools without Continuity and the children of employees in another school participate in the Choice of School Ballot together with Other Applicants of Criterion 3.
- 1.5 For the sake of transparency, the lists of names and criteria of applicants by school are published on www.church.mt
- 1.6 Initially some schools cannot offer placements i.e schools which feature a 0 in the 'Number of Places' column of Table in Para. 6. However a vacancy may arise in these schools either during the Choice of School process or due to other reasons. The vacated place will be offered according to the Criteria Hierarchy and/or according to the rank order established by the ballot. Henceforth, one is to apply if interested in a placement in a school which does not have vacant places (see also Para. 18.4).
- 1.7 During the Choice of School process a vacancy may arise in a school for which applicants under Criteria 1a-1d had not been awarded a place. In this case, such a vacancy will be offered according to the criteria hierarchy and relevant rank order.
If a vacancy arises for which one of Criteria 1a-1d may be applied, this takes precedence even over the General *Waiting List*.

2. CRITERIA 2 – SERIOUS CASES:

A number of children needing the assistance of an L.S.E., children considered as social cases and refugee cases are accepted.

- 2.1 The Regulations that govern admission in Church Schools of Serious Cases and of children who themselves or their parents sought asylum when they came to Malta, are being published as separate documents, entitled: *Regulations for Admission into Church Schools, Malta 2020-2021 – Serious Cases* and *Church Schools Entry 2020-2021 Regulations for Asylum Seekers*, respectively. The Regulations for Serious Cases and for Asylum Seekers form part of these same Regulations. These documents are available on www.church.mt
- 2.2 The Regulations provide for the entry of:
 - **Serious cases of Criteria 1** i.e. Serious cases of children from Church Homes, children of employees in the same school, siblings, transfers, exempted from attendance, children from Church Schools without Continuity, and children of employees in another school.
 - **Serious cases of Criteria 3** i.e. Serious cases of Other Applicants.
- 2.3 **Children who need the assistance of an L.S.E.** – This Criterion includes children who:
 - are statemented and need the assistance of a Learning Support Educator (L.S.E.) or similar, and for whom the schools can provide an individualised educational programme (IEP).
 - have started or are about to start the statementing process at the Statementing Moderating Panel or at the C.D.A.U.
 - have or will have certification from an educational psychologist or similar, which can lead to the assistance of an L.S.E. or similar.
 - are applying for entry in kinder one and whose autism screening resulted in the possible requirement of L.S.E. support.

Relevant documents are to be submitted with the application.

- 2.4 Children who already have a statement of needs and who by application day have requested its review or appealed the Statementing Board's decision must apply as a Serious Case. The Commission of Serious Cases studies and takes decisions regarding such cases.
- 2.5 A request may be presented to the Admissions Board when an applicant with a statement and supported by an L.S.E. has registered progress and the parents, the school and the psychologist deem that he may advance without assistance even when the process at the Statementing Board to terminate the support has not yet been completed. The Admissions Board is to receive all relevant documentation so that it will be able to determine if the application is to proceed in mainstream or as a serious case.
- 2.6 Applications in mainstream have to be filled for children with a statement of needs reading '*Learner's needs to be met by Class Teacher*'. The application is to include the Statementing document issued by the Statementing Moderating Panel and the most recent psycho-educational report.
- 2.7 Applicants who fail to apply as indicated above and are registered in a Church School, will lose their right of enrolment in the Church School.
- 2.8 **Social Cases.** Children under *Care Order* fall in this category. The category does not cover cases which are presented with only one of the following reasons: children of unmarried mothers; separation in marriage; adoption; fostering. Also see Criteria 1c regarding adopted and fostered children.
- 2.9 **Asylum seekers.** Children who themselves or their parents sought asylum when they came to Malta. A small number of places in Church Schools is being allocated to these children.
- 2.10 Asylum seekers who need the assistance of an L.S.E. as described in Para. 2.3 must apply according to the Regulations for Serious Cases as Other Applicants or according to the case itself.
- 2.11 Applicants for whom an application was not originally filled as a Serious Case, but result as requiring the support of an L.S.E., will be placed in the relevant category of applicants and a ballot will be drawn as explained hereafter. Two groups of numbers will be presented: one group with numbers from 0 to 9, and another group with numbers from 0 to the number of tens of applicants. These two groups of numbers represent the units and the tens. A number is drawn from each group. The two numbers that are drawn will make up the applicant's number. It is probable that another applicant will already have the same number. If it evolves that these two applicants are in the chance of choosing a place and only one place is available, a ballot will be drawn for them to determine who will be awarded the place in question. This process does not cancel the choices already made.

3. CRITERIA 3 – OTHER APPLICANTS

- 3.1 Amongst Other Applicants there may be siblings who are applying for the same year of entry (twins) or other years of entry. Whenever possible siblings will be enrolled in the same school.
- This also applies to Serious Cases if the possibility exists. Serious Case applicants of Criteria 1 are enrolled first. If the School has a vacant place for Shared L.S.E. and the applicant requires a Full-Time L.S.E., the School would be unable to accept the applicant in that particular case.
- On the Application Form, each sibling must declare who the other sibling is and which Year of Admission the latter is applying for. If this requirement is not adhered to, the Criterion for Siblings will not apply. This also applies for Girls.
- 3.2 Should the number of total applicants from Church Schools without Continuity and children of employees in another school be greater than the number of vacant places, applications from Other Applicants would not be filled.

4. SUBMISSION OF MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION

- 4.1 The Application under Criteria 1b (children of employees in the same school), Criteria 1c (siblings) and Criteria 1d (transfers) is also an application for Criteria 3. Therefore, there is no need for another application to be submitted. Those who do not wish to retain their Application under Criteria 3 are to contact the Board according to Para. 22. There are instances where the Application under Criteria 3 does not apply (see para. 4.7 and 4.8).

- 4.2 Those applying under Criteria 1b (children of employees in the same school) cannot apply under Criteria 1g (children of employees in another school) too and vice versa. This is unless both parents work in two separate church schools and Criteria 1b would apply for one parent and Criteria 1g would apply for the other parent.
- 4.3 Applicants under the Criterion of Exemption from attendance (Crit. 1e) may also apply under the Criterion of Other Applicants (Crit. 3).
- 4.4 Applicants under the Criterion of Schools without Continuity (Crit. 1f) are not to apply also as Other Applicants (Crit. 3) because they will participate in the Choice of School Ballot.
- 4.5 Applicants under the Criterion of children of employees in another school (Crit. 1g) have to choose to either apply under Criterion 1g and participate in the Choice of School Ballot or apply under Criterion 3 Other Applicants and take part in the Participation Ballot.
- 4.6 The situation might present itself whereby an applicant would be able to submit an application both under the Criterion of children of employees in the same school (Crit. 1b) and also under the Siblings' Criterion (Crit. 1c). In this case one may also apply as Other Applicants (Crit. 3).
- 4.7 The situation might present itself whereby an applicant would be able to submit an application both under the Criterion of children of employees in the same school (Crit. 1b) and also under the Criterion of Schools without Continuity (Crit. 1f). In this case one is not to apply also under Other Applicants (Crit. 3) because through the Criterion of Schools without Continuity one would already be participating in the Choice of School Ballot.
- 4.8 The situation might present itself whereby an applicant would be able to submit an application both under the Siblings' Criterion (Crit. 1c) and also under the Criterion of Schools without Continuity (Crit. 1f). In this case one is not to apply also under Other Applicants (Crit. 3) because through the Criterion of Schools without Continuity one would already be participating in the Choice of School Ballot.
- 4.9 Applicants from a Church School with both a Primary and Secondary Level, but who wish to attend a different Church School may do so without forfeiting their place in the school where they are currently registered. In this case, they may apply as Other Applicants (Para. 3 and 10).
- 4.10 Applicants under Serious Cases are not to apply under another Criterion. If the Church Schools Admissions Board concludes that the application is not to proceed under serious cases, it will be placed under the relative criterion – view the Regulations for Serious Cases Para. 12.
- 4.11 Applicants who may submit more than one application will be asked to make their final choice of school (either their current school or the new one) on the Choice of School day.

5. **APPLICANTS' YEAR OF BIRTH – Eligible applicants have to be born in 2015.**

The Board will consider requests for exemptions from this Regulation in the light of specific reasons, including cases where applicants would have repeated a year. These requests, together with relevant documents and other information requested by the Board, are to be addressed in writing to the Church Schools Admissions Board as indicated in Para. 22, not later than fifteen days from application dates. The Church Schools Admissions Board decides if the exemption request should be granted.

6. THE SCHOOLS WHICH ACCEPT CHILDREN IN YEAR ONE ARE:

BOYS' SCHOOLS	Locality	Mainstream Places	Serious Cases
De La Salle	Cottonera	86	6
St. Augustine College	Marsa	67	5
St. Benild (Stella Maris College)	Sliema	64	5
St. Paul's Missionary College	Rabat	42	6
The Seminary	Rabat	67	5
Total Boys		326	27

GIRLS' SCHOOLS	Locality	Mainstream Places	Serious Cases
Sacred Heart College	St. Julians	67	4
Our Lady Immaculate	Hamrun	47	1
St. Dorothy	Sliema	26	2
St. Dorothy	Żebbuġ	7	0
St. Joseph	Blata l-Bajda	1	0
St. Joseph	Paola	8	0
St. Joseph	Sliema	15	1
St. Monica	Birkirkara	21	1
St. Monica	Gżira	13	3
St. Monica	Mosta	0	0
St. Jeanne Antide College Primary	Gudja	8	6
Total Girls		213	18

SCHOOLS BOYS AND GIRLS	Locality	Boys		Girls	
		Mainstream Places	Serious Cases	Mainstream Places	Serious Cases
St. Albert the Great Primary	Valletta	10	2	9	3
St. Aloysius Primary	Balzan	0	0	0	1
Theresa Nuzzo	Marsa	0	0	0	0
Total Boys and Girls		10	2	9	4

- 6.1** The total vacancies for girls in mainstream is 222. The total vacancies for girls under serious cases is 22. The total vacancies for girls in mainstream and under serious cases is 244. The total vacancies for boys in mainstream is 336. The total vacancies for boys under serious cases is 29. The total vacancies for boys in mainstream and under serious cases is 365.
- 6.2** The total of serious cases includes children who need the assistance of an L.S.E., Social Cases and Asylum Seekers. If necessary the number of places offered in mainstream and for serious cases might vary but the total number of places offered would not be less than the published amount.
- 6.3** During the first scholastic term, an exercise is carried out by St. Francis Schools to identify the number of students who will be transferring from St. Francis Kinder Schools to St. Francis Primaries. The vacant places in each of St. Francis Primaries will be published once this exercise is finalised.
- 6.4** Initially some schools cannot offer placements because the places are filled by the children who are promoted from Kinder 2. If a vacancy arises in these schools, the vacant place will be offered according to the Criteria Hierarchy.

7. RELIGION:

- 7.1 The aim of Church Schools is to impart a civic and Christian education to children according to the ideals of the Catholic Church as expressed in the Church Documents on Christian Education. Church Schools offer the teaching of the Catholic Religion, which includes Catholic Ethics. Church Schools will not offer an alternative subject to the teaching of the Catholic Religion.
- 7.2 St. Paul's Missionary College only accept candidates who present a Baptism Certificate of the Catholic Church or a Certificate stating acceptance in the Catholic Church.
- 7.3 St. Augustine College, the Seminary, Our Lady Immaculate Ħamrun, St Dorothy Żebbuġ and Sliema, St. Monica B'Kara, Gżira and Mosta, and Sacred Heart College accept applicants who present a Baptism certificate of the Catholic or a Christian Church.
- 7.4 The other schools accept Catholics, Christians and Others.

8. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

- a. Catholics and Christians are to present the Baptism Certificate.
- b. Abstract of the Birth Certificate from the Public Registry.
- c. Presentation of ID Card of the mother and/or father. A photocopy of ID Cards is not required.
- d. 1 passport-size photo of the applicant.
- e. The Declaration re Data Protection and Privacy signed by the parents or guardians. This Declaration may be downloaded from www.church.mt
- f. The Declaration Educational Programme, filled by the Head of School. This Declaration may be downloaded from www.church.mt
- g. The filling of the application by one parent, or a representative of the parents, indicates that the parents agree about the application.
- The signature of both parents on the application form is necessary when the Courts have decided that the care and custody is joint and when both parents have legal rights re the education of their children. In such cases the relative legal document is to be presented.
- The application is invalid if one parent disagrees or is uninformed and has not given his/ her consent.
- g. Separated parents should present the most recent document that defines the children's custody and educational responsibility.

Besides the documents listed in Para. 8a-g, the following documents per criterion are also required:

gh. **If applying according to the Criterion for Children from Church Homes:**

A Declaration on the appropriate form signed by the Director of the Home to show that the child is a resident in the Church Home. This Declaration is to be made on the same day of the application. The preferred choice of school is also to be indicated. The Declaration may be downloaded from www.church.mt

h. **If applying according to the Siblings Criterion:**

- i. The Birth Certificate from the Public Registry of the other sibling/s already attending a Church School;
- ii. A photocopy of the identity cards of both parents; and
- iii. A Declaration on the appropriate form filled in and signed by the Head of School where the other sibling attends. This Declaration is to be collected from the school on Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2019 between 9:00 and noon. The Declaration may also be downloaded from www.church.mt
- iv. In the case of adopted or fostered children, a certificate from the Agency concerned declaring the adoption or the fostering of the child.

h. If applying according to the Criterion of children of employees in the same school, transfers, School without Continuity or children of employees in another school:

A Declaration on the appropriate form, filled and signed by the Head of School.

This Declaration is to be collected from the school on Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2019 between 9:00 and noon. The Declaration may also be downloaded from www.church.mt

On the same days, the employees of the Secretariat for Catholic Education may collect the Declaration filled and signed by the Delegate for Catholic Education.

i. Applicants with a Statement of Needs that reads “Learner’s needs are to be met by Class Teacher” are to present the Statement of Needs and the most recent psycho-educational report.

APPLICATIONS

9. Parents may apply for Church School Entry either by means of an:

- **Application online or**
- **Application in one of the Schools which serve as centres**
- **Only one application per criterion for the same applicant is accepted.**

9.1 APPLICATIONS CRITERIA 1

Applications of the following Criteria: Children from Church Homes, children of employees in the same school, Siblings, Transfers, children exempted from attendance, children from Church Schools without Continuity, and children of employees in another school (Para. 1a-1g), are filled either:

- online on <https://church.mt/applications> from Friday 22 November to Monday 2 December 2019 OR
- in one of the following Schools serving as centres where personnel in charge receive the requested documents and fill applications:
The Seminary Rabat, St. Angela School Zabbar, St. Michael’s School St. Venera, Monday 25 (surnames A-C), Tuesday 26 (surnames D-M) and Wednesday 27 November 2019 (surnames N-Z), between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Application forms are not downloaded or collected beforehand. Documents referred to in Para. 8 are required.

9.2 LATE APPLICATIONS OF CRITERIA 1

- online on <https://church.mt/applications> from Monday 9 December to Wednesday 18 December, 2019 OR
- at the Archbishop’s Curia on Tuesday 17 December 2019 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

10. APPLICATIONS CRITERIA 3 OTHER APPLICANTS (Para. 3):

- online on <https://church.mt/applications> from Tuesday 28 January to Friday 14 February, 2020 OR
- in one of the following Schools serving as centres where personnel in charge receive the requested documents and fill applications:
De La Salle Cottonera, St. Paul’s Missionary College Rabat, St. Michael St. Venera; Monday 3 February (surnames A-C), Tuesday 4 February (surnames D-M), and Wednesday 5 February, 2020 (surnames N-Z) between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

Application forms are not downloaded or collected beforehand. Documents referred to in Para. 8a-g are required.

10.1 LATE APPLICATIONS CRITERIA 3 OTHER APPLICANTS (Para. 3):

- online on <https://church.mt/applications> from Friday 21 February to Monday 2 March, 2020 OR
- at the Archbishop's Curia or St. Michael's School, Cannon Road St. Venera on Thursday 27 February 2020 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

10.2 Parents/ guardians who submit an application online for Criteria 1, including Serious Cases Criteria 1, are to contact Admissions Office as per instructions in Para. 23 should they not receive an acknowledgement by Monday, 13 January 2020.

Parents/ guardians who submit an application online for Criteria 3, including Serious Cases Criteria 3, are to contact Admissions Office as per instructions in Para. 23 should they not receive an acknowledgement by Monday, 16 March 2020.

11. FEES – These are charged to help cover administrative costs:

11.1 Fee on Application €15.

Fee for a Late Application €20.

11.2 A registration fee of €50 is paid on enrolment.

11.3 Numbered lists indicating the names of those who applied according to Criteria 1a-1g will be published on www.church.mt

BALLOTS

12. There will be two Ballots: PARTICIPATION BALLOT and CHOICE OF SCHOOL BALLOT.

12.1 In the eventuality that an applicant's name is not included in the ballot, the Church Schools Admissions Board will hold another ballot as explained hereafter. Three groups of numbers will be presented: two groups with numbers from 0 to 9, and another group with numbers from 0 to the number of hundredths of applicants. These three groups of numbers represent the units, the tens and the hundreds. A number is drawn from every group. The three numbers will establish the applicant's number. It is probable that another applicant will already have the same number. If these two applicants are in the chance of choosing a place and only one place is available, a ballot will be drawn for them to determine who will be awarded the available place.

13. PARTICIPATION BALLOT – GIRLS: Thursday 26th Marzu 2020 and BOYS: Friday 17th April 2020

This Ballot will select the **Other Applicants** who will be entitled to participate in the 'Choice of School' Ballot. The Ballot is open **ONLY** to **Other Applicants (Para. 3)** and it ranks all the applicants. Separate Rank Orders, one for girls the other for boys, will be established by two Participation Ballots.

13.1 The number of **Other Applicants** entitled to participate in the 'Choice of School' Ballot will be equal to the number of places remaining after the total of mainstream places awarded under the Criteria of children in Church Homes, children of employees in the same school (Para.1b), siblings, transfers, children who resume school who had been exempted from attendance, Kinder 2 pupils of Church Schools without Continuity, and children of employees in another school (Para. 1g), (Para. 1a-1g), and siblings who are applying for the same year of entry (twins) or other years of entry (Para. 3.1), is deducted from the total number of places available in all of the schools together (Para. 6, boys = 336, girls = 222).

13.2 The Participation Ballot will be held at the Catholic Institute, Floriana, tel. 7925 2965. The ballot for **GIRLS** will be on Thursday 26th March 2020 and will begin at 12:30 p.m. The ballot for **BOYS** will be on Friday 17th April 2020 and will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The drawing of the ballot will be streamed live, direct on www.church.mt In the event that due to technical problems the transmission is not broadcasted live, a recording of the sessions will be uploaded the soonest if circumstances permit.

13.3 The Rank Order established by the Participation Ballot will be published on the Curia Website www.church.mt The application number, name and surname and the respective placing on the Rank Order will be published. **No information will be given over the phone.**

14. **CHOICE OF SCHOOL BALLOT - GIRLS : Wednesday, 1st April 2020 and
BOYS: Wednesday 22nd April 2020**

This ballot will establish a Rank Order which determines the procedure for the actual Choice of School: the applicant drawn first will be entitled to choose first; etc. The following will participate in the Choice of School Ballot: Kindergarten 2 pupils of Church Schools without Continuity (Para. 1f) and children of employees in another school (Para. 1g), and Other Applicants (Para. 3) as determined by the Participation Ballot (Para. 13). The total number of vacant places will be published on the day of the Choice of School ballot.

14.1 The total number of places to be awarded by the Choice of School Ballot will be the total number of remaining mainstream places **AFTER** the number of places awarded under the Criteria of children in Church Homes, children of employees in the same school, siblings, transfers, children who had been exempted from attendance (Para. 1a-1e), and siblings who are applying for the same year of entry (twins) or other years of entry (Para. 3.1) is deducted from the total number of places available in all of the schools together (boys = 336, girls = 222, Para. 6).

14.2 The Choice of School Ballot will be held at the Catholic Institute, Floriana, tel. 7925 2965. The ballot for **GIRLS** will be on Wednesday 1st April 2020 and will begin at 11.30 a.m. The ballot for **BOYS** will be on Wednesday 22nd April 2020 and will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The drawing of the ballot will be streamed live, direct on www.church.mt In the event that due to technical problems the transmission is not broadcasted live, a recording of the sessions will be uploaded the soonest if circumstances permit.

14.3 The Rank Order established by the Choice of School Ballot will be published on the Curia Website www.church.mt The application number, name and surname and the respective placing on the Rank Order established by the draw will be published.

14.4 **Parents who are to attend the Choice of School will be informed of the result by post** and will be reminded of details regarding the actual Choice of School as per Para. 15 and 16. They will also be informed about the number of vacancies available in each school. **This correspondence is sent to parents about a week before the Choice of School. No information will be given over the phone.**

CHOICE OF SCHOOL

15. **Girls:** The Choice of School will be made at the Sacred Heart College San Ġiljan, tel. 2133 6238

Rank Order 001 – ZZZ*	Saturday, 9th May 2020	9:00 a.m.
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16. **Boys:** The Choice of School will be made at The Seminary Rabat, tel. 2145 5497

Rank Order 001 – ZZZ*	Saturday, 16th May 2020	9.00 a.m.
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*ZZZ represents the number established in Para.14.1

17. It is imperative that parents/ guardians are present to make their choice of school according to their rank order, on the day and at the time and place indicated above. Latecomers will still retain their right to effect choice of school according to their Rank Order. However, choices already made will stand.

17.1 It is the parents' responsibility to be present for the choice of school or to authorise someone else to be present in their stead. When the parents are absent for the choice of school due to an emergency, the Admissions Board may try to reach the applicant's parents and if necessary register the applicant on their behalf, in the school of their choice where vacant places are still available. If this procedure is not adopted, this cannot be interpreted as a shortcoming on the part of the Admissions Board. It would be beneficial if during the Choice of School, parents who opt not to send their child to a Church School inform the Admissions Board of their decision.

18. Parents may choose their preferred school as long as vacant places are available.
- 18.1 Parents may choose an alternative school, once their preferred school is filled up, by filling the 'Schools Preference Form' as indicated in Para. 18.4. They may even inform us of their preferred school.
- 18.2 Parents may even opt not to register their son/ daughter and indicate their preferred school by filling the "Schools Preference Form' as indicated in Para. 18.4, without losing their place on the rank order as established by the Choice of School Ballot Para.14.2.
- 18.3 The 'Schools Preference Forms' are used when a place is vacated. This is offered according to the Admissions Criteria Hierarchy, and/or to the highest ranking applicant in the Choice of School Ballot who had preferred that school but could not choose it.
- 18.4 Parents indicate their order of school preference by writing a number next to the name of five schools, the digit 1 being the highest preference and so on. Parents interested in schools which have no vacancies, and which in the Schools Table of Para 6 have a 0 in the Number of places column, can indicate their preference as well.
- When processing the 'Schools Preference Form', the only schools taken into consideration will be those indicated by the parent as having a higher preference than the applicant's school of enrollment. The parent's indication of schools with a lower preference than the applicant's school of enrollment will not be considered.
- 18.5 If vacancies remain once this process has been concluded, the next applicant on the list will be called. He/she will also be asked to fill the 'Schools Preference Form'.
- 18.6 In certain schools, the school attendance of applicants who fill a vacated place after the beginning of the scholastic year might be postponed to the next scholastic year.
19. The rank order established through the Participation Ballot and the Choice of School Ballot serves as the general waiting list and remains active till 30th June 2021 for admission in year one primary for scholastic year 2020-2021.

OTHER INFORMATION

20. Children registered in a Church school are obliged to attend regularly the school which they registered in, from the beginning of the scholastic year.
- 20.1 An exemption from attendance for a period of one scholastic year may be given when parents are going to be abroad for a serious reason, for example employment, health or study. In such cases parents are to write to the Admissions Board informing of their need, the duration of their stay abroad and are to send any relevant documentation that proves that they are going to be abroad for a serious reason.
- Parents can ask for an exemption for a second scholastic year by writing to the Admissions Board and by providing the necessary details. The Board will inform the parents about its decision, which decision is final. The place reserved for the child will not remain available if the exempted child does not attend school by the stipulated date.
21. **All information provided to the Church Schools Admissions Board in relation to oneself or ones child which according to the Data Protection Act 2018 is "Personal Data" will only be processed in accordance with the said Act – view Para. 7e.**
22. The Board can be contacted at: The Secretary, Church Schools Admissions Board, Secretariat for Catholic Education, 16, The Mall, Floriana, FRN 1472, or: cynthia.cassar@maltadiocese.org
23. Anyone who does not receive a reply as indicated in these Regulations within a week of the relevant date should contact the Board.
24. Investigation of infringement of these Regulations follows the Infringement Procedures published on www.church.mt. Infringement of Regulations may lead to the exclusion from school of the child and anyone involved. Allegations are to be reported as per the infringement procedures and are to be addressed to: The Delegate for Catholic Education, Secretariat for Catholic Education, 16, The Mall, Floriana, FRN 1472, tel. 2779 0060, email: charles.mallia@maltadiocese.org

25. The Regulations for admission to year one kindergarten, year two kindergarten, year one primary and form one secondary are published every scholastic year. It is necessary that a fresh application be filled for every new scholastic year.
26. **These Regulations for Church Schools Entry apply for entry in this scholastic year. It is possible that in the future they might be changed. It is possible that the situation in schools may change in the future. Therefore it is not guaranteed that present opportunities will also be available in the future. Opportunities may remain constant, they may decrease or increase.**
27. **Decisions of the Church Schools Admissions Board and of the Commission for Serious Cases are final.**
28. **The Maltese language version prevails in case of discrepancies between the Maltese and English language versions of these Regulations.**