A picture containing logo

Description automatically generatedDefinition of Practising Catholic

All inspectors must be practising Catholics who are committed to the Church’s educational mission. Applicants’ eligibility against this criterion will be determined by a reference from their parish priest (or equivalent) or the parish priest (or equivalent) where they regularly attend Mass.[[1]](#footnote-1) This reference would need to confirm, to the best of the priest’s knowledge and belief, that:

1. the applicant complies with the obligation[[2]](#footnote-2) to participate in the Mass on Sundays and holydays of obligation;
2. the applicant has received the Sacrament of Confirmation;
3. there is no moral or canonical impediment which precludes the applicant from receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist regularly, and that he or she does receive it at least once a year;
4. the applicant provides for the needs of the Church.

In addition, candidates will be asked to confirm on their application form and in their interview that they are practising Catholics.[[3]](#footnote-3)

1. This is not required for applicants who are clerics or religious. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. An obligation that was suspended during the Covid pandemic (see <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/43836-2/> and can. 1245) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For a fuller exposition of ‘practising Catholic’ see: Mgr Marcus Stock, *Christ at the Centre: Why the Church Provides Catholic Schools*, Revised (London: Catholic Truth Society, 2012), pp.26-34 https://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/images/Christ\_at\_the\_Centre\_1.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-3)