21st May, 2008

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Outcome of the meeting held on 20th May 2008 to discuss changes to Durham Johnston over-subscription criteria

The meeting held to discuss the new over-subscription criteria was very well attended – many thanks to those who came, contributing to a constructive discussion and to Nigel Martin who provided helpful background information.

The outcome is that **we have decided to raise a group objection to the new criteria with the Schools Adjudicator on the grounds that these are unlawful and fail to comply with the terms of the Schools Admissions Code 2007.** Vanessa Kind will act as the nominated representative on behalf of the group. A working party will meet to compose the objection letter. We are pleased to include as many families as possible in the group objection, subject to meeting the eligibility criterion which is that:-

"you are the parent or guardian of a child who has attained the age of two but is not above compulsory school age and who has been, is or will be eligible to apply to the school whose arrangements are the subject of the objection." (Schools Adjudicator website, http://www.schoolsadjudicator.gov.uk/object1.cfm)

To register your objection, please provide this information:-

- Names and Surnames of both parents
- Address
- Names and dates of birth of child/ren
- Contact telephone number
- Email address (this will only be used by us)

This can be done via the School Office or by email to Vanessa.kind@btinternet.com. The last date to register your objection with the group will be **Friday 6th June, 2008.** Individual parents can also register objections – while, as far as we can tell, there is nothing to specifically prohibit doing both, please let us know if you are sending an individual objection then we can indicate this on the list. **All objections must be received at the School Adjudicator's Office by 12th June 2008.** Note that we cannot offer any guarantee as to the outcome and that the Adjudicator's decision will be binding on all parties.

A presentation giving information about how to object is available on the St. Margaret's School website (http://www.st-margarets.durham.sch.uk/ under "parent information"), from Vanessa Kind (see email address above) or Nigel Martin's website (http://nigelmartin.mycouncillor.org.uk/).

Best wishes,

Vanessa Kind and Sue Lyons
Y5 parent / St. Margaret's Parent Governor Y5 parent / St. Margaret's Foundation Governor