Education Admission Forum	EAF/03/12		
Date: 21 February 2012			

Information Only Item

Applications for Roman Catholic Secondary Schools

Report by School Planning and Admissions Manager – School Planning and Admissions

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 As requested at the last meeting, to provide the Forum with an update on the number of preferences expressed for Roman Catholic secondary schools in Essex for September 2012 (as compared with the previous admission round).

2. BACKGROUND AND DATA

- 2.1 In 2011, following extensive consultation, Essex County Council took the decision to amend the home to school transport policy to remove the subsidy for travel to faith school, whilst retaining it for low income families. The subsidy is removed for new entrants to both primary and secondary schools with effect from September 2012. This decision does not affect the eligibility of pupils attending faith schools who have a statutory entitlement to free transport.
- 2.2 The Forum asked for some comparative data, once the closing date for applications for secondary school places for September 2012 had passed, to compare the number of applications made for September 2012 for Roman Catholic secondary schools with the data for the 2011 admission round.
- 2.3 A summary of the data is provided below for the Forum's information.

Year 7	School	1 st Prefs	2 nd Prefs	3 rd Prefs	4 th Prefs	Totals
2011	B Ursuline	168	135	56	66	425
2012	B Ursuline	171	120	64	68	423
2011	De La Salle	146	113	87	54	400
2012	De La Salle	155	119	83	50	407
2011	St Benedict's	146	100	65	36	347
2012	St Benedict's	131	110	71	49	361
2011	St John Payne	160	113	81	50	404
2012	St John	147	99	93	63	402
	Payne					
2011	St Mark's	148	94	77	38	357
2012	St Mark's	153	97	93	54	397