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Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you today to apologise for not formally letting you know about our annual trip to St Nicholas' Church.

We ensure that every parent signs the local trip consent letter when a child joins our school, and we do usually let you know when a local visit is going to take place. However, I failed to do this and I am sorry for any distress this may have caused.

I can assure you that as Headteacher, it is my responsibility to keep pupils safe, assess risks and hazards, and identify steps to take to remove, minimise and manage those risks and hazards. Our Offsite Educational Visits policy states that for local visits, our ratio is 1 to 10 in Key Stage One, 1 to 8 in Reception and 1 to 4 in Nursery. A total of 22 adults accompanied the children from the school gate to the church - the same as when we took the whole school on a coach to the Towngate Theatre recently.

I have also received a number of complaints regarding the appropriateness of taking the children to St Nicholas Church because of the issues that have been reported in the press recently. I can assure you that this visit was about the children learning about the Christian celebration of Christmas and not the location.

Once again, my sincere apologies for my oversight.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards



Mrs S Dorrington
Headteacher
Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery
Long Road
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Learning is a journey, not a destination