

## St Margaret's, King's Lynn

Vicar: The Revd Christopher Ivory B.Sc., Dip.Th.

St Margaret's Vicarage St Margaret's Place King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 5DL Telephone: (01553) 767090

25 February 2005

To all Headteachers

## School Visits to St Margaret's Church

We are always pleased to welcome pupils to visit St Margaret's and hope that if you have not already brought children from your school to visit this ancient and splendid priory church, you might consider doing so in future. We would be willing to help with your visit, to talk about the building, worship, the Christian faith or whatever.

There is however a caution that goes with the welcome: we must ask that all visits are arranged with us in advance. The church is available most of the time, but if your visit was not planned and coincided, for example, with a funeral you would not be able to come into the church. We also have to take care for our own position regarding matters of health and safety. So, prior to the visit, we have to be sure that you have carried out your own risk assessment, that you have noted the potential hazards in and around the church, steps for example, and that you have sufficient staff to keep children safe and under control. I am sure that you are aware of all these issues and have all the necessary procedures in place. However, I am also aware that there have been some occasions when groups of children have been brought to the church without prior arrangement and I have to make it clear that under our own health and safety requirements such groups cannot be admitted to the building.

No doubt you understand the constraints that we have to live with, but equally making arrangements is very simple: please phone Liz James, the Church Administrator on 01553 772858, 9.30am - 1pm Monday to Friday, and she will be pleased to make arrangements with you. She will ask you to simply confirm in writing that you have planned your visit taking into account your own health and safety policies and that you can provide adequate supervision for the children to keep them safe and under control in the church.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

The Revd Christopher Ivory Vicar