

Acolytes who are subordinates of the council

Sir – I was surprised to read in your online edition that because I am a supporter of the Inclusive Schools Campaign, Lord True thinks I am an acolyte, that is, a person who attends a priest and performs subordinate duties, as assisting at the altar, lighting and bearing candles, etc.

The acolytes are all on his side of the argument.

If he intended the wider figurative sense of “novice” he is still wrong.

The campaign comprises a wide cross-section of Twickenham residents, from veterans who have been active in the public life of the borough for at least as long as the noble lord to young families who just want a good local school for their children.

The idea that what they all have in common is a dedication to the activism of the British Humanist Association is risible.

The association has backed the judicial review because it sees it as a test case, which may become as significant as the Greenwich judgement of 1989 (which established that maintained schools may not

give priority to children for the sole reason that they live within the local authority).

It is in the interests of both sides to have this point of law decided: the council, I am sure, does not wish to act unlawfully.

CHRISTOPHER J SQUIRE
Richmond Road
East Twickenham