



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Prospectus 2021–2022



Mission Statement

We share in Christ's life so He can guide our thoughts, words and actions



Laburnum Drive, Walmley,
Sutton Coldfield, B76 2SP

Phone: 0121 675 2158
E-mail: enquiry@holycross-sch.net www.holycross-sch.net
Part of St John Paul II Multi-Academy Trust



We are delighted to welcome you to our school, which is part of the St John Paul II Multi Academy Trust and we hope that this is the beginning of a very happy, cooperative and successful partnership.

As you can see from our Mission Statement, as a Catholic School, we believe that Jesus is at the centre of everything we do and we therefore strive to create an environment where all children are happy and safe and able to fulfil their potential.

Our school (along with an on-site pre-school nursery) is a very caring and successful learning environment where Ofsted said:

'This is an ambitious school with a strong focus on maintaining a Catholic ethos and strengthening the curriculum.' (Ofsted 2016)

We were awarded an 'outstanding' judgement in our last RE inspection (September 2015) where it was stated:

'The school provides an Outstanding Catholic life which is greatly appreciated and beneficial to all in the community. It is a school, where children grow and thrive in their faith.'

A child's school life is a milestone and we want to do everything possible to ensure it is a calm, stimulating and enjoyable process.

This booklet is designed to give you as parents and carers all the information you need to feel confident about your child's school life.

We hope that you find this useful and that you and your child will enjoy an active and happy life at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School.

If you require any other information or you wish to look around the school, please contact the school office for an appointment.



Miss T Cotter
Executive Principal



Miss K Crowley
Head of School

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Contact details

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Laburnum Drive

Walmley

Sutton Coldfield

B76 2SP

School Office: **0121 675 2158**

E-mail: enquiry@holycross-sch.net

Web site: www.holycross-sch.net

Holy Cross Pre-School Nursery / Kids' Club **0121 675 1191**

Times of Sessions

8.35 to 8.50 Children arrive 8.50 Start of school

11.55 to 12.40 EYFS and Year 1 Lunchtime

12.00 to 12.40 Years 3 and 4 Lunchtime

12.20 to 13.05 Year 2 Lunchtime

12.35 to 13.15 Years 5 and 6 Lunchtime

3.05 EYFS and KS1 3.10 KS2 End of the day

Local Governing Board

Mr Kevin Grady (Chair)

Miss Teresa Cotter

Ms Mireia Mangual

Mrs Karen McGuigan

Dr Chris Davies

Mr Andy Hunt (Staff Rep)

Miss Katrina Crowley

Mrs Mary Hope

Mr Morgan Williams

Father Neil Bayliss

Mrs Mathai Smitha

List of Staff

Executive Principal

Miss Teresa Cotter

Head of School

Miss Katrina Crowley

Inclusion Leader

Miss Emma Lovelock

EYFS

Mr Andy Hunt

Year 1

Miss Caitlin Nash

Year 2

Miss Abigail Stevens

Year 3

Mr Richard Mayor

Year 4

Miss Emma Lovelock/Mrs Mary Hope

Year 5

Mr Dan Rowlands

Year 6

Mrs Hayley Norton

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Aimee Hayward

Ms Laura Atkins

Mrs Victoria Burton

Ms Jackie Fitzpatrick

Mrs Joanna Jupp

Miss Sarah Cotter

(Before and After School Club) Miss Zara Osborne, , Miss Hannah Blunt, Mrs Julie Keeley, Mr Michael Smith, Mrs Angela Hammond, Miss Alison Barron-Exhall.

School Receptionist

Mrs Jane Knibbs

Catering Supervisor

Mrs Tammy Watts

Lunchtime Play Coordinators

Mrs Gemma Gilhooly, Mrs Charlie Carney

Mrs Claire Wheeler, Miss Kerry Lovelock.

Admission Criteria

1. Baptised Catholic children (see note 2 below) who are in the care of a local authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989), and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parish of Holy Cross and St Francis who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission and have a signed letter of endorsement, on the Supplementary Information Form, form from their parish priest confirming their attendance at a Catholic church.
3. Baptised Catholic children living with the Parish of Holy Cross and St Francis, and have a signed letter of endorsement from their parish priest confirming their attendance at a Catholic church.
4. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parish of Holy Cross and St Francis who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission but do not have a signed letter or endorsement from their parish priest.
5. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parish of Holy Cross and St Francis but do not have a signed letter or endorsement from their parish priest.
6. Other baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission and have a signed letter of endorsement from their parish priest confirming their attendance at a Catholic church.
7. Other baptised Catholic children who have a signed letter of endorsement from their parish priest confirming their attendance at a Catholic church.
8. Baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission but do not have a signed letter or endorsement from their parish priest.
9. Other baptised Catholic children but do not have a signed letter or endorsement from their parish priest.
10. Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (children in care) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989), and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
11. Non-Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission.
12. Non-Catholic children.

Attendance

We aim for 100% attendance and children should only not attend school if they are unwell. Last year our attendance was **97.7%**, and as a school we are striving to improve upon this in the coming year.

If your child is ill and unable to attend school, please ring and inform the school office by **9.30am** of the reason for absence and likely date of return. If possible, all medical appointments should be made for outside of the school day. Your cooperation is appreciated.



Punctuality

It is very important that your child arrives on time for school before the bell goes at **8:50am** to avoid disruption at the start of the day. The gate opens at 8:35am to enable children to have a calm start to the day. Please collect your child promptly at the end of the day to avoid causing any anxiety. If you are delayed, please contact the school office so that the class teacher can be informed. If your child is being collected by another adult please send a note into the class teacher, or call school office 675-2158.



Holidays

Holidays **must be avoided in term time** to minimise disruption to your child's education. The school will provide holiday dates in advance so holidays can be booked avoiding term time dates. Our school follows Government guidelines in regard to holidays and therefore holidays in term time **will not be authorised**. Parents requesting holidays in term time due to extenuating circumstances need to complete a request form stating the dates and the reason for requesting the time. The Principal decides whether or not the holiday absence will be authorised. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Behaviour and Wellbeing

All the staff are responsible for your child's welfare and care while they are in school.

A child's class teacher has a special duty and interest in those in their specific class.

The Executive Principal takes overall responsibility for the welfare of all the children and therefore any sensitive or serious concerns will be referred by staff to the Executive Principal who will decide on the appropriate course of action.

It is important that parents keep the school informed of any circumstances that might affect their child's behaviour and /or performance in school so that the school can support the child appropriately.

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is committed to the safety and welfare of all its pupils and all adults in the school follow the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures. The school will take appropriate actions, in line with the policy, to safeguard children; including on rare occasions the involvement of external agencies.

The school believes that a calm, stimulating and happy environment is one in which children can flourish and high standards of behaviour are expected and encouraged at all times. The school has a clear and agreed Behaviour Policy which is clearly understood by all. A copy of this and of relevant policies are available on the school website or on request from the school office.

Safeguarding

The school is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of all our children, and we have four staff who are Designated Safeguard Leads (DSLs).

From September 2021, Holy Cross Catholic Primary School will be taking part in a joint operation involving Birmingham Children's Trust, Birmingham City Council, and West Midlands Police. This will formally be known as Operation Encompass. Operation Encompass has been established to help schools provide in-school support to children who have been present at, exposed to or involved in any domestic abuse incident. We know that children can be significantly harmed, physically and/or emotionally, during these situations, and that it also negatively affects their learning and behaviour in class. Therefore, as part of the Operation Encompass procedure, and to help mitigate the resulting negative impact, the school will now receive a confidential phone call or email from West Midlands Police before 9am the morning after a child or young person has been witness to, or involved in, any reported domestic abuse incident. If you have any further questions about this, please do not hesitate in contacting the school office.



Inclusion

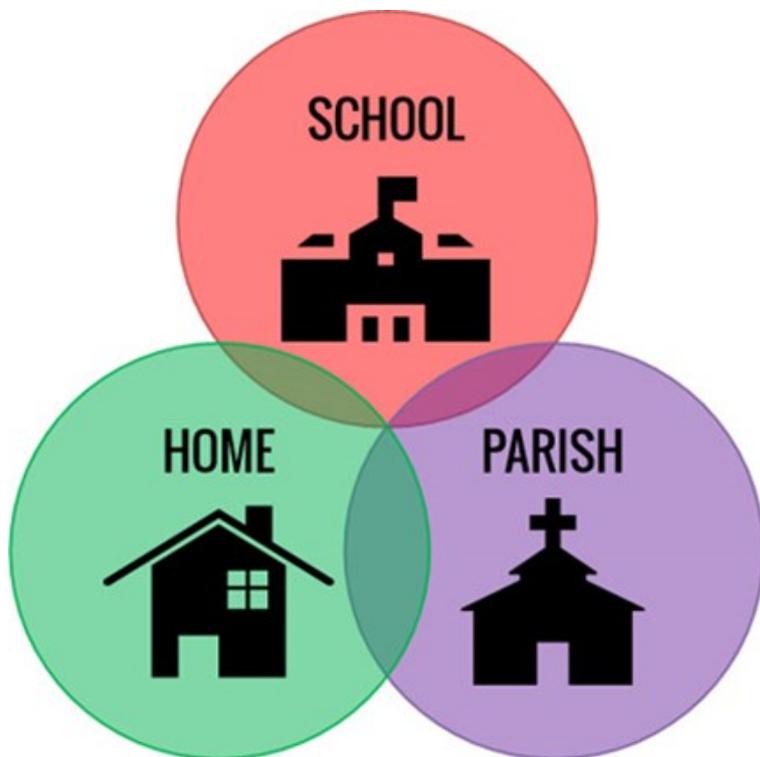
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is committed to Inclusion and strives to provide an education that is suited to the individual child's needs. The more able and/or those with specific moderate learning difficulties or have English as an additional language are supported through an extended or differentiated curricular approach. When necessary, Pupil Profiles are drawn up and reviewed regularly. Our Inclusion lead is Miss Lovelock.

Complaints Procedure

Any concerns about the curriculum or any other school related matter should be addressed in the first instance with the appropriate class teacher. Any further complaint should be addressed to the Head of School who will investigate on an informal basis. In cases of the parent still being dissatisfied after discussion with the Executive Principal, they have the right to put the complaint to the Chair of the Governors; Mr Kevin Grady. A copy of the Complaints Procedure is available on request.

Home/ School/ Parish Partnership

Central to the success of your child's education is the home/ school/ parish partnership. The school has a clear 'Home/ School Agreement' which details our commitment to ensuring your child has a successful education at Holy Cross. We expect all members of our community to participate fully in this partnership which is based on respect, good communication and commitment. All new families to the school will be given a copy of the Home/ School Agreement to sign. Please also refer to the school's Homework Guidance which will greatly support each child to reach their full potential.



The School Curriculum

Teaching and Learning in the Foundation Stage (Reception) is in line with The Foundation Stage Curriculum.

The Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is grouped under seven areas of learning:-

3 Prime Areas:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Physical development

Communication and Language

4 Specific Areas:

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding of the world

Expressive Art and Design



Children in all Nursery and Reception classes work within the Foundation Stage Curriculum. This means that there are close links between Nursery and Reception classes, which makes for a smoother transition for your child. The areas covered in Reception Class are described as *Early Learning Goals*.

Early Learning Goals

The Early Learning Goals form the final part of the Foundation Stage Curriculum, and it is these goals that the children will be working towards achieving by the end of their year in Reception Class. These Early Learning Goals provide a smooth transition to the National Curriculum, which begins in Year 1.

Key Stages One and Two

After the Foundation Stages, comes Key Stages 1 and 2 (Years 1-6). The school follows the National Curriculum : R.E, RSHE, English, Mathematics, Science and Computing, History, Geography, Art and Design, P.E, SMSVC/Character Education, Music and Spoken Language.

Assessment

The children follow planned programmes of study and are assessed at regular intervals to determine how well they are progressing. At the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) and Key Stage 2 (Year 6), the children are tested more formally and the results in these assessments are made known to parents. In Year One, all children will complete the Year One Phonics screening check.



Religious Education

This is a Catholic School and prayers are said each day. Please help your child to say the traditional prayers at home and try to attend Mass regularly. Children should have a basic concept of God and Religion. As a Church School, we like to stress the Gospel virtues of honesty, truthfulness, obedience and respect for adults as well as for each other. In Key Stage 2, the Year 3 children receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. The children in Year 6 are prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Parents are asked to attend meetings in preparation for these Sacraments.

Extra Curricular Activities

These activities are provided throughout the year, they vary from season to season or with the staff expertise available. We have enjoyed a variety of sports and activities e.g. football, cricket, rounders, netball, tennis, tag rugby, Art club, film club, choir and dance. If your child is involved in any after school activity, please ensure that he/she is collected promptly.

Year Six are offered a residential experience in the Summer term.

School Uniform

Available from Mapac and Clive Marks. Our school website has a direct 'Uniform' link which will take you to the Mapac and Clive Marks website where you can order all items of school uniform on line.

Winter Term

Bottle green skirt/pinafore dress or grey trousers

White blouse/shirt and red tie

Bottle green cardigan or jumper with school logo

Plain white sock or plain red or green tights (with skirts)

Sensible dark, low heeled school shoes - no trainers/no fashion boots

Grey socks (with trousers)

Trousers must be school cut, not flares or fashionable styles.

Please note jumpers and polo shirts should bear the school logo.

Please note when children start school in September they wear Summer Uniform.

Summer Term

Green check dress (not striped)

White socks (with dresses)

Polo shirt with school logo

Grey trousers/shorts

Grey socks (with trousers/shorts)

Bottle green cardigan or jumper with school logo

Sensible dark, low heeled school shoes - no trainers/no fashion boots

PE Kit Black shorts
 Dark green T shirt with school logo
 Black pumps
 Drawstring P.E. Bag
 Round green neck sweat shirt with logo (optional)

Haircuts should be sensible, neat and clean, without extremes of fashion such as colours, tram-lines, patterns, partly shaved heads etc. These styles may be fun and fashionable but are not deemed appropriate for school. Long hair should be tied back discreetly for hygiene and safety reasons. Hair bobbles/accessories should be red, green, black white or neutral.

Apart from stud earrings (one stud per ear) and watches, children may not wear jewellery, for safety reasons; any jewellery will be removed. Nail varnish and make up must not be worn. Children who wear stud earrings will need to remove them on PE /swimming days.

Children will need to bring a school bag suitable for reading books, letters etc. everyday. Book bags with the school logo are recommended as they are lightweight and are the right size for letters and reading books. These are available from Macpac. www.mapac.com or email sales@mapac.net. or at Clive Marks. Please ensure your child's name is clearly visible. Children are also asked to bring in a transparent water bottle (clearly labelled) so that they have access to drinking water throughout the day.

In order to limit the sharing of resources and the risk of transmission, parents are asked if all children from Years 1-6 could bring in a **small clear plastic pencil case** (named) containing a ruler, Pritt stick, sharpener, small selection of colouring pencils and pens. Handwriting pencils and pens will be provided by the school. The pencil cases will then stay in school on their desks. Here is a useful link <https://www.wilko.com/en-uk/wilko-pvc-pencil-case/p/0261328>. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Emergencies

We **must** be able to reach every child's parent, a relative or friend, in case of emergency. We ask all parents to fill in a form giving at least two emergency contact numbers. We also use a system called 'Parent Mail' which enables us to send you an email message straight to your mobile. In the interests of your child, please keep us up to date about any changes in your contact details.

You will be informed of any illness or injury occurring during the day of which the school thinks you should be aware. In the event of a serious accident, every effort will be made to contact you; if this is impossible, the child will be taken to hospital for treatment and you will be contacted as soon as possible.

Please do not send your child to school if he or she is unwell. We do not have the facilities to care for sick children, and illnesses soon spread. If your child has been sick or suffered with diarrhoea they need to stay at home for 48 hours.



Parents' Consultation Evening

There will be opportunities throughout the year to discuss your child's progress with his/her teacher. There are two Parents' Evenings during the year, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term. You will be notified of these dates in advance; you are required to book your appointment via Parent Mail.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:-

Please make sure your child is in school by 8.50am (The gate will be opened from 8.35am and closed at 8.50am) and collected from school at 3.05pm EYFS & KS1 and 15.10 KS2 by the Main School entrance.

If you arrive late for school, i.e. the gate is closed, please press the buzzer for the school office. You will then be asked to accompany your child to the main entrance where you will need to sign your child in, and provide a reason for lateness.

If you want to see the teacher, please make an appointment via the school office either email enquiry@holycross-sch.net or call (0121) 675-2158 and he/she will see you at a mutually convenient time.



Outdoor provision

For children in Early Years, some learning activities will take place outdoors as this enhances young children's learning. Please provide you children with a sensible outdoor coat and wellington boots. We have a Forest School on site and each class will take part in Forest School activities throughout the year.

Healthy Snacks (we are a nut-free school)

Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 will have a healthy snack each morning before playtime. This will consist of a portion of fruit or vegetable. This will be provided free of charge. No other snacks are allowed during the school day. Drinking water is available throughout the day. Children can bring in a piece of fruit, vegetable, breadsticks or plain rice cakes from home; no other snacks are permitted. Children to bring in plastic drinking bottles clearly labelled with their name and class. These should be refilled at home every morning with fresh drinking water, no juice or squash is allowed.

Please do not let the children bring toys or loose money to school, as these items are easily lost or broken.

All money being sent into school must be in a sealed envelope. Please write your child's name, class and reason for the money being sent in, on the front of the envelope.

Sickness/Absence

If your child is ill/unwell in the morning before school, please do not send him/her to school. Please telephone (0121 675 2158) on the first day of absence before 9.30am and send a note of explanation on the day they return.

If your child requires medication during the school day, school staff are only allowed to administer medication that has been prescribed by a doctor for four times a day. Please make sure that it is still in the original container and you have signed the permission slip (held in the office) to allow us to administer it. If you make alternative arrangements then please let your child's teacher know who will be coming to administer the medication to your child.

If your child suffers from any allergies, please ensure that you have informed the school as this information is recorded for the safety of your child.



Meals

The kitchen staff provide a healthy cooked lunch every day. A school lunch costs £2.35, and should be paid for in half termly advance via your +Pay Parent Mail account. Details will be given in school newsletter. Application forms for free meals are available from the school office. If you wish your child to change from school meals to sandwiches notice must be given in writing half term in advance.

Your child may bring in a packed lunch if you prefer. Lunchboxes should be labelled with your child's name. Confusion leads to distress when items get mixed up or become lost. Drinks should be in plastic containers; cans or glass bottles are not allowed for safety reasons. We are a healthy eating school. Guidance is provided for parents on how to ensure your child receives a healthy packed lunch.

Wraparound Care (Kids' Club)

We offer Wraparound care in the form of a Breakfast and After School Club. The hours and charges for these two clubs are as follows...

7.50-8.40am — Morning Session — £4.50.

3.20-4.30pm — £5.00 and 4.30-5.30pm — Afternoon Sessions .

Both afternoon sessions £9.00.

Registration fee £25.00 (£35.00 per family) per academic year.

Full day (before and after school) - £13.50 per day

Late collections after 5.30pm - £5 (per child) and for every 15 minutes or part of thereafter.

We hope all the points we have mentioned will help your child to settle into school life quickly. This should help him/her gain confidence and self assurance and be able to enjoy and take a full part in school life.

Please contact Miss Zara Osborne on (0121) 675-1191

