

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



**SCHOOL
PROSPECTUS
2020 - 21**



Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governors, staff and pupils, it is a pleasure to welcome you to Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. There is something very special about Holy Cross, and we are very proud to have this opportunity to invite you to join our school community at the start of this important journey in your child's life.

Holy Cross is situated in beautiful grounds in East Cowes, overlooking the Solent. We are a one form entry school offering a stimulating place for learning, where children are nurtured and their talents are developed and celebrated. We offer a safe, secure and caring environment for your child to develop and grow in their learning, ensuring that both children and their families feel valued within our school community.

Our school vision is lived and embedded into the school's daily life, with a continuous approach of encouragement to our pupils to develop resilience, independence and persistence to succeed and achieve.

Selecting the right school for your child is one of the most important choices you have to make. We hope the insight we offer you into our school will make this decision a little easier. At Holy Cross, we recognise that transition from pre-school and nursery to 'big school' can be an anxious time for both parents and children, particularly if you are experiencing your child starting school for the very first time. Please be reassured – you know your child best and we will work in partnership with you to ensure that they make best possible start to their school career.

The children at Holy Cross are wonderful ambassadors, so if you would like more information and a tour of our school, the children and I would be delighted to show you around and provide a true insight into what we about at Holy Cross.

I look forward to meeting you.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tim Eccles'.

Timothy Eccles
Head Teacher



Holy Cross Mission Statement

We serve the people round us,
We care about the earth.
We learn and live in grace and peace by
putting Jesus first.
We find and use our talents,
We know we're loved by You.
We make our choices first by asking "What
would Jesus do?"

Holy Cross School Prayer

Father in heaven we give you today:
All that we think, and do, and say;
And we join it with all that was done by Jesus
Christ, your Son.

Amen

Holy Cross Vision Statement

To enable every child to discover their
talents, realise their potential and achieve
their dreams by living, laughing and
learning together, anchored in the love of
Christ.

C.A.R.E.S we aim to make every pupil
Confident, Aspirational, Resilient, Enquiring
& Spiritual





HOLY CROSS SCHOOL GROUNDS AND ACCOMMODATION



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is a one form entry school based in East Cowes. With beautiful Solent views, we are very privileged to be able to provide such a setting for the children to learn and develop.

The school is based in two buildings on the site. Reception Class and Year one can be found in the Annex with Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 based in the main school building.

Reception Class have their own outdoor garden space and we have a copse area for outside learning and forestry school work. Year one and the Reception class also have the opportunity to work and play in an outdoor environment all year round with the Annex having a lean to area, providing a learning environment

outside the classroom to be imaginative and provide the opportunity to discover their potential through play. We understand the value of learning outside of the classroom and the children enjoy using the whole school site to develop in their learning journey.



Our learning areas are designed to be nurturing to the children so they are able to develop in a

variety of settings across the school ground. We provide fun energetic working spaces across the school, with displays of the children's work throughout.

I like running the golden mile and following the feet around school!
Sienna, age 7

'I like building a den in the bushes then counting how many friends I can fit in'
Harry, age 5



HOLY CROSS STAFFING STRUCTURE

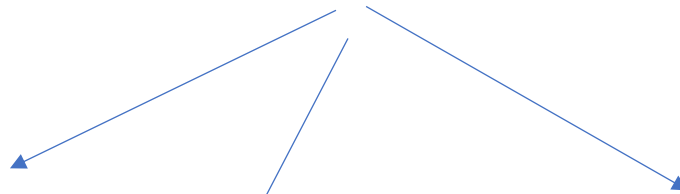
Timothy Eccles – Head Teacher
Sophie Collings – Assistant Head



SMT

Kathy Mather – Maths Lead & Year 6 Teacher
Lucie Banks – Literacy Lead & Year 5 Teacher
Robert Woodley-Thompson- Inclusion Lead
Kerrie Margetts – Finance and Administration Manager

Mark Wild – Site Manager



EYFS

Sarah Wild – EYFS lead
Emma Rayner – LSA

KS2

Sophie Collings – Year 3 Teacher
Becci Heng – Year 4 Teacher
Mim Muncer – Year 5 NQT teacher
Kathy Mather – Year 6 Teacher/ Maths Lead
Colette Long – LSA for Year 3 & 4
Jackie Crouch – LSA for Year 5 & 6

KS1

Imogen Downer – Year 1 Teacher
Lucie Banks – Year 2 Teacher/
Literacy Lead
James Mathias – Year 1 SNA
Jody Lacey – Year 2 SNA



Charlotte Spreadbury – HLTA
Jane Neill – HLTA
Kimberley Brett –
Administration Apprentice
Gemma Clarke – Clerk to
Governors
Becky Hall – MSA & Cleaner

GOVERNORS

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is a Voluntary Aided School. This status puts the responsibility of the school with the Governing Body rather than the Local Authority. The Governors at Holy Cross are the employers. The Governing body is a statutory requirement made up voluntary of voluntary members.

GOVERNORS:

Samantha Matthias	Parent Governor/ Chair/Safeguarding/English
Fr Jonathan	Foundation Governor/Catholic Life Collective Worship/R
Vicky Lauchlan	Foundation Governor / SEND
Stephen Hendry	Local Authority Governor / Health & Safety / ICT / PSHCE
Simon Craddock	Parent Governor
Timothy Eccles	Headteacher
Vacancy	Foundation Governor
Vacancy	Foundation Governor
Kathy Mather	Staff Governor
Gemma Clarke	Clerk to the Governors

If you would like to contact the Governing body, please do so through the clerk.

clerk@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk

ADMISSION TO SCHOOL

If your child is 4 before the 1st September, they are able to apply for a place at school. At Holy Cross we are a voluntary aided school, which has its own admissions authority. You will need to apply for a place at Holy Cross using the Isle of Wight Council Website www.iwight.com and also complete a Supplementary Information Form to the school. You can find this and our Admissions Policy on our Website www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk

Closing date for applications for the September 2021 intake is midnight Friday 15th January 2021. Supplementary Information Forms must be received by the school by 4.30pm on Thursday 14th January 2021.

In- Year applications for Holy Cross are welcomed. Information on how to do this can be found on the Isle of Wight Council Website, under admissions and ‘in-year’ applications. Should the year group you require be full, Holy Cross also offer a waiting list, that you are welcome to join. Should a space become available the school office will contact you to arrange a start date for your child. Our waiting list is not run on a first come first serve basis but is ranked in accordance with our ranking criteria, highlighted in our Admission Policy.

Please note evidence will be required to enable you to rank in certain places on the list.

School Access

Holy Cross takes site security very seriously. Access to the school and school site is controlled.

Morning access for parents and pupils is by the time-controlled gates. Gates will automatically open at 8.30am and lock again at 9.00am

Pupils attending Breakfast Club should access the site via the top pedestrian gate by the main gates.

All visitors should ring the gate bell for access. On entry they should report to the office where they will be asked to sign in and receive a Visitor Badge.

Strangers on site will be approached and questioned.

The school gates will automatically open again at 3.00pm for the collection of children

Pupils with permission to walk home will be dismissed at 3.10. All other pupils will be dismissed to their parents or guardians. Please telephone the school office if you are running late.

Parents and carers are encouraged to visit the school to meet the staff and view the facilities that we offer. We politely request that you contact the school prior to arrange a viewing.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Holy Cross is committed to providing high quality and inclusive learning opportunities for all pupils. Excellent attendance is key to maximising pupil progress and in raising standards of achievement. For children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital they arrive at school on time, everyday unless the reason for absence is unavoidable.

Good time keeping is a vital life skill, which helps pupils progress through their school life into the wider world. Arriving late to school is unsettling to the child and can create disruption to the class teacher and other pupils in class. Punctuality is expected by all pupils at Holy Cross.

WORKING IN PARENTERSHIP TO PROMOTE EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE.

It is our responsibility as your child's school to monitor every pupil's attendance to ensure we identify patterns or regularity in absence and act accordingly.

It is your responsibility as a parent or carer to ensure your child arrives to school on time every day. Where absence is unavoidable you must contact the school directly to inform us and supply written communication as to why, when your child returns to school. We ask all parents and carers not to take holidays during term time and where possible, ensure all medical

appointments are booked out of school hours. Where this is not possible we ask you to provide evidence of the appointment at the time of request.

All children are entitled to an education. At primary school age, they are dependent on an adult to get them to school and most are still reliant on adult support. Developing a good attitude to coming to school and arriving on time will establish good habits that will last a lifetime.

BEHAVIOUR

At Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, we strive to live by our school values and learn from our gospel teachings to ensure our expectations of good behaviour and respect for each other becomes a way of life for our pupils and our staff.

Through respect for the well-being of others we aim to provide a safe, secure and peaceful community in which children and staff can work and grow; free from intimidation or discrimination. At Holy Cross, we adopt a positive approach to the management of behaviour. We use positive language, encouragement and rewards for good behaviour and a clear, consistent approach for addressing unacceptable behaviour. We believe that being **Confident, Aspirational, Resilient, Enquiring and Spiritual** will enable them to thrive and do their best in our ever changing and challenging world.

TREAT OTHERS AS YOU YOURSELF WISH TO BE TREATED.

CURRICULUM



Holy Cross is committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures your child's development and learning journey is continually evolving, talking on new ideas and designed to promote growth and progress for every child.

New technologies are incorporated into the daily learning of the children to equip them ready for secondary school and beyond. We are proud to offer a variety of teaching strategies and methods, to ensure the curriculum enriches all our pupil's and provides them with the intrigue and excitement to learn. Each day is different at Holy Cross, but the structure of Maths, English, reading, RE and Science are focussed on. In addition to this we fulfil the curriculum with subject focussed work. This usually includes Geography, History, Language, Music, Art, Design Technology P.E and PSHE. The school has

collective worship as well as class worship each week, with a special Celebration Assembly on a Monday Morning.

Holy Cross is keen to teach the curriculum in a variety of ways, not just in the classroom, but through the environment and community we live in.

Children will experience a number of planned educational visits throughout each year group, both on and off the Island to widen and enhance their understanding of the subjects taught. Some of these trips include a residential to Paris, trips to the Science and National History Museum in London, Stonehenge and the Ancient Technology Centre.



During the school year we offer swimming lessons to Year 1 and 4 over a 6-week programme.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

Homework is set in each school year and will increase as your child progresses through the year groups to Year 6. Homework is set to support the learning that your child does in school. Children are expected to read every day at home and will be set weekly spellings and Maths Challenges to help with deepen their understanding in their core subjects. We encourage parents and carers to become involved in their child's education and ask that you read with your children and support in their weekly homework tasks. Parents and carers will also be invited into school through the school year to become involved in learning afternoons and parent meetings will also be held to guide and support you in educating your child.

Parent evenings are also held twice a year to allow you to understand where your child is in their learning journey and offer advice and support to maximise your child's potential.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

WRAP AROUND CARE

Holy Cross offer a wide variety of after school clubs throughout the week. Football, Dance Fusion, Ballet, Gymnastics, Tennis, Golf, Team Training and Film Club for Year 5 & 6. Cost of clubs vary dependant on the child's preferred choice. Our clubs are run by our Teachers and well as external coaches.

We also offer a Breakfast Club, open daily from 7.45am for pupils at our School. Breakfast Club costs £2.50 per day with no booking required. Children can enjoy Breakfast together and partake

'Breakfast club is fun! I enjoy playing with my friends before school and having breakfast all together' Logan, age 7

in some fun activities before joining the rest of the school at 8.30am on the playground, where their class teacher will collect them at 8.45am. Full supervision is given at all times.

SPORTS FIXTURES



The school compete annually in a variety of sporting events that take place across the Island.

KS2 Children participate in various Football and Tag Rugby fixtures. We are proud to be involved in the PEACH Games each year, Cross Country, Country Dance Festival to name a few.



SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

Each year the school will host a Nativity for KS1, celebrating the birth of Jesus, providing the children the opportunity to build confidence in performing. KS2 vary their school performances with Carol Concerts, Plays and readings each year. We build these performance and activities into the curriculum, encouraging children to develop in Music, Art, RE and Design Technology. The children are taught about the process of producing a performance as well as performing in the school productions.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT

We are always so overwhelmed with the support from our Parent Community. We encourage parent involvement with our school and value the continuous input our parents and carer's have to ensuring Holy Cross develops and thrives. You can get involved with our school in a variety of different ways, from joining the [Friends of Holy Cross](#) to help support and become actively involved in fundraising events. You can become a School Governor, becoming involved in the strategic development of the school, or you can become a volunteer helping in school and/ or on trips and events.

COMMUNICATION

“The school is a happy, friendly and caring community that is strongly valued by staff, pupils and parents”.

Ofsted report July 2019

We believe the key to a successful partnership between school, parents and carers and our community is communication. We have a weekly newsletter that is emailed out and also posted on the school’s website and Facebook page. We hold two parent’s evenings a year and send an annual school report home. We also offer a text messaging service, keeping you up to date throughout the school day.

The school office is manned from 8.15am to 4.15pm, should you need to contact the school. You can also email the school if you need to. Each class will send a letter home at the beginning of the school year, informing parents and carer’s of the expectations for the year to come and provide a leaflet informing you of what outcomes are to be expected of your child’s

learning by the end of that school year.

If there are any changes at home that may affect your child’s learning, we encourage you to inform us at school. Our doors are always open and will support families as best as we can.

Please ensure your contact details and address are kept up to date with the school office to ensure we can communicate effectively with you.

SAFEGUARDING

At Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, we are committed to establishing an environment which ensures that all its pupils are safe and feel safe. It is our duty to ensure all of our pupil’s welfare and their education is of the highest priority. The actions we take to prevent harm; to promote wellbeing; to create safe environments; to educate on rights, respect and responsibilities; to respond to specific issues and vulnerabilities all form part of the safeguarding responsibilities of the school.

Our school is a community and all those directly connected (staff, governors, parents, families and pupils) have an essential role to play in making it safe and secure. We have an ‘open door policy’ and welcome feedback, suggestions and comments contributing to this process that will improve the desired outcomes for children.

ETHOS Holy Cross Catholic Primary school recognises the importance of providing an ethos and environment within school that will help children:

- to feel safe
- to feel secure and respected
- to encourage them to talk openly
- to enable them to feel confident that they will be listened to.



“Leaders and governors do their best to keep pupils safe from harm. Pupils say that they feel safe in the school and they learn how to stay safe when they are online”. Quotation from ofsted report July 2019.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY
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Website:
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/holycrossprimary
Head Teacher: Mr Timothy Eccles



Christ our Light